

Cannabis is legal in Canada as of October 17, 2018. How will the new cannabis legislation affect communities?

The [Cannabis Act](#) creates a legal and regulatory framework for controlling the production, distribution, sale and possession of cannabis in Canada. The implementation of the new law will be a shared responsibility between the federal, provincial and municipal governments. The following are some key points communities should know:

- In Alberta, only those who are 18+ can purchase or consume cannabis, the same as alcohol and tobacco.
- To protect children and limit second-hand exposure, public smoking or vaping of cannabis is prohibited in the same places tobacco is restricted, as well as on any hospital property, school property or child care facility property, in or within a prescribed distance from:
 - a playground
 - a sports or playing field
 - a skateboard or bicycle park
 - a zoo
 - an outdoor theatre
 - an outdoor pool or splash pad

(Note that local laws may vary so know the Municipal bylaws in your community when considering where to consume.)

- No cannabis use is allowed in vehicles even by passengers. Like alcohol, cannabis must be secured away from drivers or passengers. Alberta has developed additional laws including zero tolerance for drivers on graduated licences.
- Adults can grow up to 4 plants per household from seeds bought from licensed cannabis retailers.
- Renters, condo-dwellers and those who live in multi-family dwellings may not be allowed to grow cannabis in their homes based on rules in rental agreements or condominium bylaws.
- Cannabis is grown by licensed producers across Canada according to quality and safety standards established by the Federal Government. It is sold in Alberta at privately owned Cannabis retail outlets. The province has set some restrictions on where cannabis stores can be located, the detailed rules are set by your local Municipal Government.

For more information on municipalities role in shaping how cannabis will be sold and consumed within their communities refer to [Cannabis Legalization in Alberta Municipalities](#)

Helpful Resources for condo owners, renters and landlords:

- [Information for tenants](#) (PDF, 388 KB)

- [Information for landlords](#) (PDF, 489 KB)
- [Information for condo owners](#) (PDF, 579 KB)
- [Information for mobile home site renters](#) (PDF, 396 KB)

Learn More:

Add:

Cannabis Let's Talk Documents

Communities often find it difficult to address issues around which there is divergent opinion and contested evidence. Addressing such complex issues as drug use, overdose prevention or drug policy requires that we come together as a community and build understanding between ourselves.

Currently on the Hub:

Cannabis is now legal in Canada. And although the laws have changed, the [health risks](#) and restrictions have not. With so much confusing information out there, AHS wants to clear the air and talk about what cannabis legalization means for you, the health risks that come with use, and what you can do to ensure you're being safe if you choose to use.

[And if you choose to use](#), choose lower-risk products, avoid mixing with alcohol, tobacco or other drugs, and do not use and drive.

- Cannabis is much more potent product than it has been in past
- Cannabis affects everyone in different ways. Use as little as you can and wait to see how you react.
- If smoking cannabis, limit it to a couple of puffs and wait at least ten minutes to feel full effects
- When eating/drinking cannabis it can take several hours to feel the full effect. Start with a small amount and wait for several hours before you take anymore.

¹ <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/page16023.aspx> retrieved on 5-Nov-18

[Learn more:](#)

[Alberta Cannabis Framework and Legislation](#)

Overview of key issues related to purchase, use, workplace impairment, driving, advertising and packaging, and more.

[Canada's Lower-Risk Cannabis User Guidelines \(infographic\)](#)

Includes 10 recommendations for using cannabis more safely, based on the best available scientific evidence.

[Cannabis Legalization in Alberta \(video\)](#)

Government of Alberta, Here's what you need to know about Alberta's cannabis legislation

Cannabis Let's Talk Documents

Communities often find it difficult to address issues around which there is divergent opinion and contested evidence. Addressing such complex issues as drug use, overdose prevention or drug policy requires that we come together as a community and build understanding between ourselves.

Cannabis Stats Hub

Statistics on Health, Justice, Economy and Prices

Drug Safe

A trusted source for Albertans to find vital information on reducing the harm of drugs and alcohol. Take the 'High Q' quiz!

Cannabis in Alberta

Know the rules and other resources

Alberta Cannabis Framework and Legislation

Setting the stage for the legal and responsible use of cannabis in Alberta

Planning for Cannabis

Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) website RMA Advocacy



Let's Talk Cannabis

