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**Date:** 12/5/2017 11:32:48 PM  
**Subject:** Provincial Cannabis Updates

Greetings Mayor and Council

Please find below a quick overview of the province's announcements today and the regulation of recreational marijuana.

Best

Sadhu

Sadhu Johnston  
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Today two reports were released today on Cannabis legalization and regulation in British Columbia:

- The Province of BC What We Heard Report

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PSSG0077-002017>

<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/217/2017/12/Cannabis-Regulation-in-B.C.-What-We-Heard.pdf>

- The UBCM Joint Provincial-Local Government Committee on Cannabis Regulation Report

<http://www.ubcm.ca/assets/Resolutions-and-Policy/Policy/Community-Safety/Marijuana-Regulation/2017-11-30%20UBCM%20Submission%20to%20Secretariat%20Re%20Cannabis%20Legalization%20in%20BC.pdf>

#### Brief Provincial Cannabis Regulation Summary:

In April 2017, the Federal government introduced two Bills in relation to the legalization of cannabis; Bill C-45 (the *Cannabis Act*) and Bill C-46 (amending the *Criminal Code* impaired driving provisions). While the federal government plans to regulate commercial production, provinces and territories will be responsible for how non-medical cannabis is regulated in their jurisdictions including: distribution and retail systems; compliance and enforcement regimes; age limits; restrictions on possession, public consumption and personal cultivation; and amendments to road safety laws

Following a public engagement process that spanned from September 25 to November 1, 2017, and informed by feedback from 48,951 British Columbians and 141 submissions from local and Indigenous governments and other stakeholders, today the Province released its *first policy decisions* on Cannabis Regulation.

- **Minimum age**  
British Columbia will set the minimum age to possess, purchase and consume cannabis at 19 years old. A minimum age of 19 is consistent with B.C.'s minimum age for alcohol and tobacco and with the age of majority in B.C.
- **Wholesale distribution of cannabis**  
Like other provinces, B.C. will have a government-run wholesale distribution model. The BC Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB) will be the wholesale distributor of non-medical cannabis in B.C.
- **Retail of cannabis**  
The Province anticipates establishing a retail model that includes both public and private retail opportunities and will share details regarding the model in early 2018.
- **Personal Possession**  
The Province anticipates

The Province *still has a number of key decisions to make as it prepares further for the legalization of cannabis* Decisions will be informed by the feedback collected through the public and stakeholder engagement, and on-going consultation with local and Indigenous governments and other key stakeholders.