

Framework drafted for retail sales of cannabis

The City has prepared a draft framework to guide the introduction of retail sales of cannabis in Penticton when it becomes legal in October. The framework was developed based on feedback received in a community-wide survey conducted this spring. Staff shared the draft framework with Council in July and are now reviewing it with the community in order to share a final version this fall.

“It’s great to have this summary of the community’s attitudes, tolerances and support for legitimizing the business of cannabis while also addressing concerns of public consumption, locations, and protecting our youth,” commented Mayor Andrew Jakubeit about the survey results.

The survey was completed by 1,151 participants. One of the key findings of the survey is that 78% of citizens support allowing legitimate cannabis businesses. Based on these results, staff drafted a proposed framework for regulating retail sales and public use. Some of the key features of the proposed framework include:

- Retail stores would be added as permitted uses in established commercial areas (excluding the lakeshores and neighborhood commercial). As a permitted use, rezoning applications would not be required for requests that meet regulations.
- Exclusion Zones (300 m) would be created around schools, select commercial areas (100 to 300 blocks of downtown and Front Street). Exclusion Zones would also be created between stores (300 m for those stores located downtown and 750 m for all other locations). The establishment of Exclusion Zones would essentially cap the number of stores to seven.



The Penticton Seniors’ Drop-in Centre was one of several locations visited by staff to discuss the legalization of cannabis with residents.

- The operations of stores would resemble the rules for liquor stores. Stores would be allowed to operate during similar hours (9 am to 8 pm seven days a week) and the sale of accessory items would not be allowed to exceed 20%. Security measures including video surveillance must be in place and operation at all times.

- Users would not be allowed to smoke or vape cannabis in public spaces. Use on private property in front or rear yards would be acceptable.

Areas that require further investigation are the process and requirements for a new business. “We received some great suggestions about the intake process for new business from the survey and have prepared a suggested approach but this will need to be refined depending on the direction of the province expected this summer,” says Blake Laven, Planning Manager. Some of the features of the process currently being considered include requirements for a business plan, security plan, and elevations of the store frontage.

The results of the survey, the draft framework, and information about upcoming engagement opportunities are available on shapeyourcitypenticton.ca.

Key findings from the cannabis survey include:

- 78% of participants support allowing retail sales downtown
- Preferred locations for retail sales include downtown and in established commercial areas but not along the city’s lakeshores or in neighbourhood corner stores
- 70% of participants support capping the number of stores at 8 or less (similar to the number of liquor stores)
- 86% of participants strongly support requiring a minimum distance of 200 m from schools
- 53% support prohibiting smoking or vaping cannabis in public.



Local Government Election 2018

Are you eligible to vote in the October local election? Is your name on the current list of electors?

If you are not sure you can find out by visiting City Hall, 171 Main Street, or by calling 250-490-2400. The office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday (excluding holidays).

Advance elector registrations will be accepted at City Hall until August 28. Elector registrations will not be accepted during the period of August 29 to October 20 but will be accepted on voting days.

Candidate Nomination Packages available

Candidate Nomination Packages are ready for pick up July 27. Stop by City Hall, 171 Main Street during regular business hours and ask to speak to the Chief or Deputy Chief Election Officer.

Candidate Bootcamp and Citizen School

Think you know Local Government? Local Government is a community effort that requires a team approach, and that includes you. Christina Benty, former Mayor of Golden and owner of Strategic Leadership Solutions will be facilitating a pre-election workshop called Candidate Bootcamp and Citizen School on August 31, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Seniors' Centre, 2965 South Main Street.

This community and candidate readiness educational workshop is a discussion about the questions: How do we embrace leadership practices that promote long term sustainability for our future generations? What are the roles and responsibilities of local government and its elected officials? What do I need to consider before running for office? How do we attract and elect

the best people for the job? Seating for this free event is limited – please RSVP election@penticton.ca or call for more details.

Do you have election questions? We'd love to answer them.

For more election information or on how to become an election worker, contact the following:

Laurie Darcus, Chief Election Officer at 250-490-2435

Dana Schmidt, Deputy Chief Election Officer at 250-490-2405

Email: election@penticton.ca

www.penticton.ca/elections



Spring into energy savings

Try these tips to save hot water and energy:

- **Wash full loads.** Run the dishwasher only when it's full to save hot water.
- **Make laundry cool.** Set your washing machine temperature to cold for most loads, and use a clothesline to dry laundry instead of a dryer.
- **Fix drips.** A tap dripping hot water every second could waste enough water to fill a

bath tub about every two days - 4,000 drips = 1 L; each bath = 45 L.

- **Switch, shorten and save.** Switching to a new water-efficient showerhead could save a family of four about 15,330 litres of hot water and 4.7 gigajoules of natural gas for water heating per year, compared to older showerheads.* Take shorter showers to save even more hot water and energy.

For more energy-saving tips, visit [FortisBC's website](http://FortisBC.com).



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