

Federal and Provincial Regulatory Approach

Federal Legislation

The Federal Government has stated its intention to legalize the sale of cannabis in 2018 July through the *Cannabis Act* (Bill C-45). This was approved by the House of Commons on 2017 November 27 and requires approval by the Senate and Proclamation before it is in force. It institutes a legal framework for all aspects of cannabis production and sales. The draft regulations have not yet been issued, but a framework for consultation on future regulations has been released and it includes:

1. Licence classes for cultivation, processing and sale;
 - Standard and micro production and processing;
 - Medical and non-medical sales;
2. Licensing and permits;
3. Security and tracking;
4. Classes of products;
5. Packaging and labelling;
6. Cannabis for medical purposes; and
- 7 Health products.

Provincial Legislation

An Act To Control And Regulate Cannabis was passed by the Alberta Legislature on 2017 November 30 and is waiting on Proclamation. This act primarily amends the *Albert Gaming and Liquor Act* and the *Municipal Government Act*. Key aspects of the act include:

1. Giving responsibility to the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) to regulate all aspects of cannabis including issuing licenses to private retailers;
2. Prohibiting cannabis sales to minors;
3. Prohibiting minors from the premises of a cannabis retailer;
4. Requiring private cannabis retailers to be stand-alone uses;
5. Prohibiting the consumption of cannabis in a cannabis retailer through provincial regulations (yet to be issued) or municipal bylaw;
6. Prohibiting vaping or smoking of cannabis in places where smoking is now prohibited in the *Tobacco and Smoking Reduction Act* or in a municipal bylaw, as well many outdoor public places;
7. Authorizing municipalities to pass bylaws respecting cannabis retailers; and
8. Authorizing the Government of Alberta to issue regulations that may include:
 - Separation distances for cannabis retailers from other types of uses;
 - Hours and days of operation for cannabis retailers;
 - The maximum amount of cannabis that can be sold at a time;
 - The retail prices of cannabis;
 - Display, distribution, purchase, sale, transport, giving, growing, possession, storage and use of cannabis;
 - Advertising, packaging, promotion and labelling of cannabis;
 - Prohibition on selling certain types of cannabis; and
 - Rules on the public use of cannabis.

The Act also includes an amendment to the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) that requires:

- a Land Use Bylaw to be consistent with the yet to be released regulations; and
- the Development Authority to not approve a permit that is inconsistent with the yet to be released regulations.

Consultation has been ongoing with the Province on what the Regulations will include. Although it is anticipated the City will have a preview of the Regulations, there could be changes when the Regulations are released after the Act is proclaimed.