

# Regulating Cannabis Businesses

## **The City's Land Use Bylaw regulates the use and development of property in the City by:**

- Identifying the allowable uses of property within different zoning districts.
- Defining development requirements such as: separation distances from other land uses, signage regulations, parking requirements, building size and height.

## **The legalization of cannabis for recreational use means that the City of Cold Lake must amend the Land Use Bylaw to address:**

- Where recreational-cannabis-related businesses may be located within the City.
- Separation distances from other land uses such as schools, health care facilities or parks.
- Regulations related to signage, parking.

## **Can the City ban the production and sale of cannabis?**

- No. As the sale and production of cannabis is legal at the Federal and Provincial level, the City does not have the jurisdiction to ban.

## **The Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) has mandated that cannabis retail outlets must be a minimum of 100 metres from any parcel of land:**

- Where a provincial Health Care Facility is located
- Where a school is located
- A vacant parcel of land intended for a future school (School Reserve)

## **The proposed Land Use Bylaw amendments also include the requirement that cannabis retail outlets must be located a minimum of 100 metres from any parcel of land:**

- Where a Public Park, Public Recreation Facility or Library is located
- Where a Child Care Facility is located

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## How is the Land Use Bylaw Changing to Address Legal Cannabis?

The Land Use Bylaw is being amended to include definitions of three types of cannabis-related businesses:

**CANNABIS PRODUCTION FACILITY** means an indoor facility, used for the purpose of growing, processing, researching, destroying, storing, packaging or shipping of cannabis by a federal government licensed commercial producer in accordance with federal legislation. This does not include the production of industrial hemp as defined by federal legislation. This use does not include Agricultural Operation (Extensive).

**CANNABIS RETAIL STORE** means a development used for the retail sale of cannabis authorized by provincial or federal legislation. This use includes the sale of Cannabis-related accessories but does not include the sale of liquor, tobacco or pharmaceuticals. This use does not include Cannabis Production Facility, Retail Store, or Medical Cannabis Dispensary.

**MEDICAL CANNABIS DISPENSARY** means a development where cannabis is sold to persons holding a valid prescription from a health care practitioner for its use in the treatment of medical conditions or symptoms in accordance with federal legislation. This use does not include Cannabis Retail Store, Cannabis Production Facility, and Retail, Convenience.

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## **Where Can Cannabis Stores Be Located?**

- The City is proposing that Cannabis Retail Stores and Medical Cannabis Dispensaries would be discretionary uses in the C1-Downtown Commercial, C2-Arterial Commercial, C3-Neighbourhood Commercial, LC-Lakeshore Commercial and RMX-Residential Mixed Use zoning districts.
- The proposed regulation would allow cannabis stores to operate in the same areas as Liquor Stores, which are also regulated by AGLC.

## **Where Could a Cannabis Production Facility be Located?**

- The City is Proposing that Cannabis Production Facility would be a discretionary use in the LI-Light Industrial and HI-Heavy Industrial zoning districts.

## **What Does “Discretionary Use” Mean?**

- A discretionary use means that the City may approve a permit for development, after taking into account the merits of the development application and the compatibility of the proposed development with the surrounding neighbourhood.
- Permits for discretionary uses are advertised in the newspaper and may be appealed by any person who deems themselves to be affected.