



**TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA**

Monday, January 21, 2019

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

271 Sandwich Street South, Amherstburg, ON, N9V 2A5

For information pertaining to this agenda or to arrange for any additional accessibility needs please contact Tammy Fowkes, Deputy Clerk at tfowkes@amherstburg.ca

Information will be gathered in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA). All comments and communications received will become part of the public record unless you expressly request the Town to remove it. If you want to learn more about why and how the Town collects your information, write to the Town Clerk's Office, 271 Sandwich Street South, Amherstburg, ON N9V 2A5 or call 519-736-0012.

Pages

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST & GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 2019 Operating and Capital Budget

It is recommended that:

1. The 2019 Operating and Capital Budget presentation **BE RECEIVED**; and,
2. The 2019 Operating and Capital Budgets **BE TABLED** for final consideration after budget deliberations are complete.

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1 Windsor-Essex County Health Unit - Nicole Dupuis, Director Health Promotion

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That the delegation **BE RECEIVED**.

5. SPECIAL PLANNING REPORTS

5.1 Cannabis Retail Storefronts - Cannabis License Act

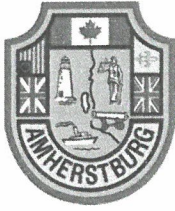
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It is recommended that:

1. The report from the Manager of Licensing and Enforcement dated January 14, 2019, regarding Cannabis Retail Storefronts – Cannabis License Act **BE RECEIVED**;
2. Administration **BE DIRECTED** to notify the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario that retail cannabis storefronts are permitted to operate in the Town of Amherstburg; and,
3. The Delegation of Authority Policy **BE AMENDED** to authorize Administration to provide comments to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario, on behalf of Council, with respect to a retail store authorization that does not meet the public interest of the Town.

6. ADJOURNMENT

That Council rise and adjourn at p.m.



Town of Amherstburg Delegation Request Form

I wish to appear before:

Council

Advisory Committee of Council Specify: _____

Date of Meeting: January 21st, 2019

Name of Delegate(s): Nicole Dupuis, Director Health Promotion / Melissa Valentik, Health Promotion Specialist

Address: 105 Ouellette Avenue, Windsor, ON N9A4J8

Phone: 519-258-2146 Email: _____

Attending as an Individual

Representing a Group/Organization Windsor - Essex County Health Unit
(Name of Group/Organization/Business)

Have you contacted Administration regarding this matter? Yes No

If yes, who? Nicole Rubli

Reason(s) for Delegation Request (subject matter to be discussed):
If the request is in response to an item on the agenda, please specify the item by agenda item #.

Cannabis Retail stores

(Use a separate page if more space is required or attach additional documentation.)

If your request is in response to an agenda item, are you in favour of the recommendation? If not, please provide your reasoning below:

Agenda not available yet.

****Speaking notes and presentation materials must accompany this request.**

Additional documentation attached? Yes No

Will a PowerPoint presentation be made? Yes No

Note: An electronic copy of the PowerPoint presentation is required to be submitted to the Town Clerk no later than 12:00 noon on the Friday before the meeting.

The completed Delegation Request Form is to be submitted to the Town Clerk, Town of Amherstburg, 271 Sandwich Street South, Amherstburg, ON N9V 2A5
Phone: 519.736.0012 Fax: 519.736.5403 or email pparker@amherstburg.ca.

For office use only:

Date request received: _____ Request Received by (initials): _____

Request relates to: _____

Staff Report: _____ Staff Name: _____

Personal information contained on this form is authorized under Section 5 of the Town of Amherstburg's Procedure By-law, for the purpose of contacting individuals and/or organizations requesting an opportunity to appear as a delegation before Council or an Advisory Committee of Council. The Delegation Request Form may be published in its entirety with the public agenda which is also posted on the Town's website. The Procedure By-law is a requirement of Section 238(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Please note that all meetings are open to the public except where permitted to be closed to the public under legislated authority. Questions regarding collection of the information on this form or additional accessibility requirements may be directed to the Municipal Clerk, 271 Sandwich Street South, Amherstburg, ON N9V 2A5, 519.736.0012.



Municipal Considerations for Cannabis Retail

Nicole Dupuis – Director, Health Promotion
Melissa Valentik – Health Promotion Specialist

Presentation Outline

- 1. Cannabis in Windsor and Essex County**
- 2. WE Board of Health Resolutions**
- 3. Retail of Other Legal Substances**
- 4. Cannabis and Vulnerable Populations/Areas**
- 5. Opt In/Opt Out**



Prevalence of Cannabis Use

Most commonly used illegal substance in Canada

- Past year use: 12% (15 years+)
- Higher rates among:
 - Men (15%) vs. Women (10%)
 - Youth, 15-19 (21%) and Young Adults, 20-24 (30%) vs. Adults (10%)
(Canadian Tobacco Alcohol and Drugs Survey, 2015)
- In **Windsor-Essex:**
 - Young Adults, 15-29 (23%) [95% CI: 14.6-31.4%] vs Adults, 18+ (9.5%) [95% CI: 7.9-11.3%]
(WECHU Community Needs Assessment, 2016)



Health Effects

Mental Health	Physical Health	Risk of Injury
Difficulty Concentrating	Coughing, Wheezing Shortness of Breath	Unintentional consumption/Poisoning
Poor Coordination and Psychomotor skills	Hyperemesis (uncontrollable vomiting)	Overdose
Impaired Memory	Bronchitis (lung infection)	Motor Vehicle Collision
Reduced Cognitive Function	Heart Disease	
Psychosis, Depression, Anxiety	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)	
Addiction/Dependence <i>Cannabis Use Disorder</i>	Cancer	

Windsor-Essex Board of Health Resolutions

January 2016

- Public Health approach to legalization
- Strong, health-centered, age-restricted regulation

October 2017

- Strict licensing, planning, and zoning regulations
- Collaboration amongst law enforcement and other stakeholders
- Promotion of *Lower Risk Cannabis Use Guidelines*

October 2018

- Municipalities OPT OUT of cannabis retail outlets
- Province limits: number, density, and proximity of retail outlets in a municipality or region
- Province allows municipal regulation through zoning and licensing regulation



Cannabis Retail in Ontario

- Minimum distance of 150 m (500 ft) between cannabis retail stores and schools.
- No cap on the number of retailers per municipality.
- Municipalities are prohibited from using licensing or land-use by-laws to control the placement or number of cannabis retail outlets.
- All private recreational cannabis retail storefronts to be stand-alone stores only.
- Retailers will not be permitted to allow anyone under the age of 19 to enter their stores.
- Zero-tolerance (enforced by AGCO) for any retailer who provides cannabis to anyone under the age of 19.



Cannabis Retail in Ontario

- Private stores will be permitted to open between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. on any day.
- 15-day consultation window for municipalities, stakeholders, and the public to provide feedback on retail outlet locations.
- Due to supply shortage, province will initially allow only 25 storefronts to operate starting April 1st through a lottery system.
 - Only permitted in municipalities with population of 50,000 or more.
 - West Region to receive 7 licenses for operators set to open April 1st.
 - Populations over 50,000 - Brantford, Cambridge, Chatham-Kent, Guelph, Hamilton, Kitchener, London, Niagara Falls, Norfolk County, Sarnia, St. Catharines, Waterloo, Welland, and Windsor



AGCO - Licensing Framework

Retail Operator License

- Allows you to operate one or more retail stores in Ontario.

Retail Store Authorization

- Permits store layout and location.
- 15-day public consultation window on location.

Cannabis Retail Manager License

- Most responsible person for operations of store.

Municipalities have the ability to Opt Out of cannabis retail storefronts up to January 22nd.



AGCO - Licensing Framework



Concerns for Municipalities

April 1st limitations on number and location are only temporary

- Reflects issues with supply chain
- Once remedied, retail storefronts will begin to open with limited restrictions

Minimal regulatory control for municipalities

- 150m from school is the only distance buffer
- Zoning and licensing authorities taken away from municipality
- 15-day consultation on storefront locations

Federal and provincial regulatory changes already planned for 2019

- Retail accessibility of edibles, topicals, and extracts
- Scheduled amendments to *Cannabis License Act* – December 13th



Concerns for Municipalities

Consumption permitted in all areas not covered by *Smoke-free Ontario Act*.

- Interaction with municipal smoking bylaws
- Smoking/loitering and nuisance concerns around retailers
- Fewer restrictions on where cannabis, tobacco and vapes can be used increases the risk of normalization, second-hand smoke exposure and impairment

Increased density and number of access points can lead to:

- Increased consumption and associated harms
- Normalization of use
- Decreased success in attempts to abstain from use
- Undermining of health warnings

Exposure to vulnerable populations:

- Children and youth
- Individuals seeking treatment for substance use
- Individuals susceptible to addiction or with mental illness
- Low income neighbourhoods



Summary of Evidence from Tobacco and Alcohol Retail

Retail outlet density contributes to increased consumption and harms.

1. Babor, T, Caetano R, Cassell S, Edwards G, Giesbrecht N, Graham K, Rossow I. (2010). Alcohol no ordinary commodity: Research and public policy (Second ed.). New York, USA: Oxford University Press. Ottawa, ON.
2. Popova S, Giesbrecht N, Bekmuradov D, Patra J. (2009). Hours and days of sale and density of alcohol outlets: impacts on alcohol consumption and damage: a systematic review. Alcohol Oct;44(5):500-16.
3. World Health Organization (2010). Global strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol. Available from: http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/msbalcstrategy.pdf
4. Borodovsky JT, Lee DC, Crosier BS et al. (2017). US cannabis legalization and use of vaping and edible products among youth. Drug Alcohol Depend 177:299-306. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28662974>
5. Mair C, Freisthler B, Ponicki WR, Gaidus A. NIHMS705271; The impacts of marijuana dispensary density and neighborhood ecology on marijuana abuse and dependence (2015). Drug Alcohol Depend 154:111-6. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4536157>

Retail outlet proximity to youth-serving facilities normalizes and increases substance use.

1. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of the Surgeon General (2016). Facing Addiction in America: The Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs, and Health. Available from: <https://addiction.surgeongeneral.gov/surgeon-generals-report.pdf>
2. Canadian Paediatric Society. Cannabis and Canada's children and youth (2016) Ottawa, ON: Canadian Paediatric Society. Available from: <https://www.cps.ca/en/documents/position/cannabis-children-and-youth>.

Retail outlet proximity to other sensitive areas may negatively influence vulnerable residents.

1. Mair C, Freisthler B, Ponicki WR, Gaidus A. NIHMS705271; The impacts of marijuana dispensary density and neighborhood ecology on marijuana abuse and dependence (2015). Drug Alcohol Depend 154:111-6. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4536157>
2. Alberta Health Services (2018). AHS recommendations on cannabis regulations for Alberta municipalities. Available from: <http://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Webinar-recording-Cannabis-and-Public-Health-AHS-Cannabis-Information-Package-for-Municipalities.pdf>

Fewer restrictions on where substances can be used may increase the risk of normalization, second-hand smoke exposure and impairment.

1. Smoke-Free Ontario Scientific Advisory Committee, Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Evidence to guide action: Comprehensive tobacco control in Ontario (2016). Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2017. Available from: https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/eRepository/SFOSAC%202016_FullReport.pdf.
2. Sparacino, CM, Hyldborg PA & Hughes TJ. Chemical and biological analysis of marijuana smoke condensate. NIDA Res Monogr 99(1990): 121-40.
3. Smoke-Free Ontario Scientific Advisory Committee. Evidence to Guide Action: Comprehensive Tobacco Control in Ontario (2010). Toronto, Ontario: Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion. Retrieved from <http://otru.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Evidence-to-Guide-Action-2010.pdf>
4. Linkenbach, J. The Main Frame: Strategies for Generating Social Norms News. Montana, US: Montana State University, 2002.
5. Smoking and Health Action Foundation. Secondhand Marijuana Smoke: Health effects of exposure (2016). Smoking and Health Action Foundation. Retrieved from: <https://nsra-adnf.ca/key-issue/secondhand-marijuana-smoke/>



Concerns for Municipalities

Lessons learned from Tobacco and Alcohol control:

- Retail outlet density contributes to increased consumption and harms.
 - Positive association between alcohol outlet density and excessive alcohol consumption and related harms.
- Retail outlet proximity to youth-serving facilities normalizes and increases substance use.
 - Schools with a greater number of retailers surrounding them have higher smoking rates.
- Retail outlet proximity to other sensitive areas may negatively influence vulnerable residents.
 - Higher concentration of tobacco retailers in lower income neighbourhoods.
- Less restrictions on where substances can be consumed increases the risk of normalization, exposure, and impairment.



WECHU Recommendations:

Opt Out

- One time window to **OPT-OUT** of retail stores in your municipality
- Can opt back in at later date
- ***Deadline – January 22nd, 2019***

Opting Out Allows for:

- Time to conduct a more formal public and stakeholder engagement process
- Integrate lessons learned from other Ontario municipalities
- Learn more about provincial regulations and the potential to create a local regulatory framework that is reflective of the best interests of Windsor-Essex Residents
- Mobilize stakeholders to respond within 15-day consultation window



Thank You

Nicole Dupuis; Director of Health Promotion
ndupuis@wechu.org

*Melissa Valentik; Health Promotion Specialist, Chronic Disease and Injury
Prevention*
mvalentik@wechu.org

[*wechu.org/cannabis*](http://wechu.org/cannabis)



REFERENCES

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- Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse. (2016). Clearing the smoke on cannabis: Highlights. Retrieved from <http://www.ccdus.ca/Resource%20Library/CCSA-Clearing-the-Smoke-on-Cannabis-Highlights-2016-en.pdf>
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities. (2017). Cannabis legalization primer: How municipalities can get ready. Retrieved from https://fcm.ca/Documents/issues/Cannabis_Legislation_Primer_EN.pdf
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities. (2018). Municipal guide to cannabis legalization. Retrieved from <https://fcm.ca/Documents/issues/Cannabis-Guide-EN.pdf>
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- Government of Ontario. (2018). Cannabis legalization. Retrieved from www.ontario.ca/cannabis
- Locally Driven Collaborative Project, cycle 2. (2014). Addressing Alcohol Consumption and Alcohol-Related Harms at the Local Level: A resource for public health professionals in Ontario. Retrieved from http://www.oninjuryresources.ca/downloads/news/LDCP_report_rev_Oct_14_6.pdf
- National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. (2017). The health effects of cannabis and cannabinoids: The current state of evidence and recommendations for research. Retrieved from <https://www.nap.edu/read/24625/chapter/1>



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- Parachute Vision Zero Network (2018). Cannabis and drug impaired driving: What's happening in Canada right now? Retrieved from https://static1.squarespace.com/static/58e54d1c4402436420372909/t/5a9ed91371c10bfaf031754f/1520359701449/PVZN-Case_Study_04-Cannabis_and_impaired-driving.pdf
- Smoke-Free Ontario Scientific Advisory Committee [SAC], Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Evidence to guide action: Comprehensive tobacco control in Ontario (2016). Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2017.
- Smoking and Health Action Foundation. (2016). Secondhand marijuana smoke: Health effects of exposure. Retrieved from https://nsra-adnf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/health_effects_of_exposure_to_secondhand_mj_smoke_2016-final2.pdf
- Tilson M. (2011). Reducing availability of tobacco products at retail: Policy analysis. Non-Smokers' Rights Association. Accessed from: https://nsra-adnf.ca/wpcontent/uploads/2016/07/Reducinq_Retail_Availably_policy_analysis_final_2011.pdf
- Warner, T., Roussos-Ross, D., & Behnke, M. (2014). It's not your mother's marijuana: Effects on maternal-fetal health and the developing child. Retrieved from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4254522/pdf/nihms626138.pdf>
- Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (2016). Community needs assessment report. Windsor, Ontario.
- World Health Organization. (2016). Cannabis : The health and social effects of nonmedical cannabis use. Retrieved from http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/cannabis_report/en/



WECHU Recommendations: *Proximity and Density*

That Cannabis-related businesses be:

- no less than **500m** from any *school, library, park, recreational centre* and any other *youth-serving facility*,
- no less than **500m** from *subsidized or low-income housing*,
- no less than **500m** from *correctional facilities, addiction and mental health facilities, hospitals and places of worship*, and
- no less than **500m** from any *alcohol, tobacco, or other cannabis-related business* (i.e., cannabis consumption lounges or production facility)



WECHU Recommendations: *Other Considerations*

That municipalities:

- Establish limits on the *number* of retailers in a geographic area to prevent clustering and reduce retail outlet *density*.
- Amend existing smoke-free by-laws to explicitly *include the word “cannabis”* in their definition of smoking.
- Work *collaboratively* with public health and school boards to consider impacts of legalization across different sectors.





THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG

OFFICE OF PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

MISSION STATEMENT: Committed to delivering cost-effective and efficient services for the residents of the Town of Amherstburg with a view to improve and enhance their quality of life.

Author's Name: Nicole Rubli	Report Date: January 14, 2019
Author's Phone: 519 736-0012 ext. 2251	Date to Council: January 21, 2019
Author's E-mail: nrubli@amherstburg.ca	Resolution #:

To: Mayor and Members of Town Council

Subject: Cannabis Retail Storefronts – Cannabis License Act

1. RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that:

1. The report from the Manager of Licensing and Enforcement dated January 14, 2019, regarding Cannabis Retail Storefronts – Cannabis License Act **BE RECEIVED**;
2. Administration **BE DIRECTED** to notify the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario that retail cannabis storefronts are permitted to operate in the Town of Amherstburg; and,
3. The Delegation of Authority Policy **BE AMENDED** to authorize Administration to provide comments to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario, on behalf of Council, with respect to a retail store authorization that does not meet the public interest of the Town.

2. BACKGROUND:

In April 2017, the federal government introduced Bill C-45, *The Cannabis Act*, and Bill C-46, *An Act to Amend the Criminal Code*. These pieces of legislation legalize, regulate and restrict access to recreational cannabis in Canada. The federal Bill C-45 is the overarching legislative framework that provides rules specifically to regulate the production, distribution, selling and possession of recreational cannabis. This Bill received royal assent in June 2018 and came into force on October 17th, 2018. This Act established the legislative framework for cannabis in Canada and has allowed provinces and territories to set or amend rules for recreational cannabis. The rules surrounding purchasing medical cannabis are not affected.

The *Ontario Cannabis Act, 2018* sets out the framework for cannabis in Ontario. This includes:

- Setting the minimum age to purchase, possess, consume and grow recreational cannabis to 19 years of age. (Federal act is 18 years of age)
- Ontario residents have the ability to grow cannabis plants, to maximum of four plants per residence.

The Cannabis Statute Law Amendment Act was passed in the Ontario legislature. The Act introduced the provinces model to allow the private sector to retail recreational cannabis in Ontario by April 1, 2019 and included amendments to the *Smoke Free Ontario Act* setting new regulations on the consumption of tobacco and both medical and recreational cannabis. As of October 17, 2018 people 19 years and older are able to buy and possess cannabis in Ontario. Currently the only legal way to purchase recreational Cannabis is through the Ontario Cannabis Store (OCS).

3. **DISCUSSION:**

Cannabis Retail Stores

As of April 1st, 2019 the operation of privately-owned cannabis retail stores will be permitted within municipalities that allow their operation. The Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) has been named as the regulator for privately run recreational cannabis stores with a focus on the safe, responsible and lawful sale of cannabis, consistent with the government's legislation.

The AGCO will issue three (3) types of licenses for cannabis retail: (reference AGCO Cannabis Retail Regulation Landscape attachment)

- Retail Operator Licence
- Retail Store Authorization
- Cannabis Retail Manager Licence

All owners and operators of cannabis retail stores are subject to the provincial *Cannabis License Act, 2018* and its regulations and the AGCO's Registrar Standards.

Ontario Regulation 468/18 sets out regulations for cannabis retail storefronts, some of these regulations include:

- Established limits on ownership concentration (a maximum of 75 stores per operator). This means there will be no caps on the number of licenses issued by the AGCO in each municipality.
- Stores will be permitted to operate between 9am-11pm, seven days a week.
- A distance buffer of 150 metres between retail stores and schools must be adhered to. (Attached is a map of the Town to demonstrate the impact of a 150 metre buffer from elementary and secondary schools)

- Federally licensed producers will be allowed to establish retail stores; however they will be limited to a single retail store that must be onsite at a production facility.
- No retail store authorization would be granted if the retail space where cannabis would be sold, is not enclosed by walls separating it from any other commercial establishment or activity and from any outdoor area, or could be entered from or passed through in order to access any other commercial establishment or activity, other than a common area of an enclosed shopping mall. Or if the premises at which the cannabis to be sold in the store would be received or stored would be accessible to any other commercial establishment or activity or to the public.
- No one under the age of 19 years of age is permitted to enter the cannabis retail store

Under Section 42 of the *Cannabis License Act*, municipalities cannot create a cannabis retail licensing program (no dual licensing system) nor will municipalities be able to designate cannabis retail as a separate land use from general retail uses.

However, each municipality has been given the opportunity to opt out of cannabis retail stores within its boundaries. Municipalities have until **January 22, 2019** to pass a resolution to opt out. If a municipality does not opt out, the province automatically considers them as having opted in. Municipalities that opt out of cannabis retail stores by January 22nd may pass a subsequent resolution opting in on a later date.

Should a municipality opt in to hosting cannabis retail stores, the AGCO has allowed an opportunity to provide comments on retailers that apply for a license. Specifically, upon AGCO's receipt of an application for a storefront licence, residents and municipalities will have 15 days to provide written comments to the AGCO. AGCO is not bound by the comments received but will consider comments with respect to public health and safety, protection of youth and restriction of access to cannabis, and prevention of illegal activities in relation to cannabis before making a final decision to issue a license.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) recommends that municipalities develop a municipal cannabis policy statement. Should Council decide to opt in, Administration will develop a policy for Council's consideration to identify sensitive areas and better guide retail outlet locations. The policy will communicate the 'public interest' for Amherstburg to the AGCO as defined in the Ontario recreational cannabis regulations. Once adopted the policy would be shared with AGCO upon receipt of an application for a retail store authorization for Amherstburg.

December 13th, 2018 Announcement – Ontario Takes a Phased Approach to Cannabis Retail Licensing due to National Supply Shortages

On December 13th, 2018 the Minister of Finance and Attorney General's office announced changes to the licensing process for recreational retail cannabis stores in Ontario. It was announced that due to severe cannabis supply shortages across the

country which is failing to meet consumer demand that retail cannabis stores will open in phases.

In the initial phase up to 25 licenses will be issued across the province so operators can open by April 1st, 2019 and remain open. Ontario Regulation 468/18 has been amended due to this announcement. The province has been divided up into regions with Amherstburg falling into the West region with Dufferin; Wellington; Hamilton; Niagara; Haldimand-Norfolk; Brant; Waterloo; Perth; Oxford; Elgin; Chatham-Kent; Essex; Lambton; Middlesex; Huron; Bruce; Grey; and Manitoulin.

The West Region will receive seven (7) retail store authorizations using a lottery system to determine who is eligible for the initial licenses to legally operate a store in Ontario. The lottery system held on January 11th, 2019 allowed for a fair and transparent process which was held by AGCO and monitored by KPMG.

It is **important to note** that municipalities that have opted out or have a population less than 50,000 would not be considered to host a store in the initial phase in the West Region, therefore Amherstburg would not be considered for the initial phase of store authorizations due to the Town's population, regardless of whether the Town opts in or out.

In the announcement from the Minister of Finance and Attorney General it was stated that once the province has determined that the federal government has provided for enough reliable cannabis supply, that Ontario will communicate the next phase to allow for additional retail stores.

Cannabis Task Force and Community Engagement

Throughout the legalization process, Administration has been very proactive in assessing the impact of cannabis and has kept abreast of the subject matter. Staff has monitored the potential impacts legalization of cannabis would have on the Town. In June 2017, Administration formed an Internal Cannabis Task Force comprised of representatives from Police, Fire, Planning, Building, By-law and Licensing operations. This Task Force continues to meet and evaluate the impacts of the current legislation and monitors the amendments to the legislation as they happen.

Administration has consulted with AMO for information and clarification on cannabis and has participated in cannabis related workshops, webinars and forums.

Members of Administration also sit on the Cannabis Advisory Committee founded by the Windsor Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) and comprised of representatives of the local municipalities, Police Services and school boards. This Committee allows the local municipalities to work collectively, sharing experiences and discussing potential approaches to ensure community safety as it relates to the legalization of cannabis.

Administration held a Cannabis Public Consultation/Information meeting on November 15th, 2018. The purpose of this meeting was to educate the residents on the cannabis legalization and to roll out the public consultation model on whether Amherstburg should host cannabis retail stores. The WECHU also attended and spoke to the attendees about the health effects of cannabis use. Approximately twenty (20) people were in attendance at this meeting.

To seek public input on the decision to opt in or out, in addition to the public meeting, a survey was conducted to understand the community's feeling toward cannabis storefronts. Talk the Burg was utilized to receive comment from the residents and answer a brief survey. The ability to participate in the online survey was not restricted to Amherstburg residents.

Results from the Talk the Burg Cannabis Storefront Survey showed that 501 people visited the Cannabis page. Of the 110 responses, 82 were in favour of hosting cannabis retail stores. The written comments received as well as the Survey results received on Talk the Burg form appendices to this report. Administration received 6 written comments with 5 people opposed to hosting cannabis stores and 1 in favour of retail storefronts.

Administration has been following local municipal decisions on whether they will host cannabis stores, below are the decisions at the time of the writing of this report:

Municipality	Opt In	Opt Out
Essex	✓	
Kingsville	✓	
Lakeshore		✓
LaSalle		✓
Leamington	✓	
Pelee Island	*Unknown at time of report*	
Tecumseh		✓
Windsor	*Unknown at time of report*	

Administration Recommendation – Opt In to Hosting Cannabis Retail Stores

The majority of residents who took the survey want cannabis retail stores, mostly quoting the possible increased tax revenue. Some indicated the opportunity to purchase a safe product through the retail stores. Should Council not permit cannabis stores, it may lead to illegal dispensaries that try to open to meet the public demand, thus undermining efforts by all levels of government to prevent youth access to cannabis and may require increased municipal and police enforcement to address illegal operations.

Cannabis is a legal product, for which there exists demand from residents. Whether or not cannabis should be legalized is no longer the debate. The retail sale of cannabis presents an opportunity to realize local economic impact in terms of job creation (retail positions), tax assessment and the ancillary purchase of goods and services. Local retail sales will also help to keep consumers shopping locally, stemming the outflow of dollars to other surrounding municipalities.

Although the Town is not able to designate cannabis retail as a separate land use from general retail uses, retail stores must be located in areas of the Town zoned for retail sales. Cannabis retail stores must purchase their product through the Ontario Cannabis Store and will only be permitted to sell cannabis products, accessories and

shopping bags as set out in the regulations. Cannabis edibles are not legal at this time, but the government is considering making them legal at the end of 2019.

The AGCO does have 20 years of experience as the Ontario regulator of alcohol, gaming and horse racing it can utilize its existing experience to regulate cannabis retail stores, building on its mandate to regulate in the public interest.

The province has committed to provide \$40 million in funding over two years to municipalities to help with the implementation costs of recreational cannabis legalization. Through the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund ("Fund") the first round of payments was received by the Town on January 9th, 2019 in the amount of \$11,733. For the second payment of the Fund the Province will distribute \$15 million between all the municipalities based on the following:

- If a municipality has not opted-out of hosting private retail stores in accordance with *Cannabis Licence Act*, it will receive funding based on the 2018 MPAC household numbers, adjusted so that at least \$5,000 is provided to each municipality.
- If a municipality has opted-out of hosting private retail stores in accordance with the *Cannabis Licence Act*, it will receive a maximum amount of \$5,000.

If the provincial excise duty revenues exceed \$100 million, municipalities that permit retail cannabis stores will receive a share of 50 percent of the surplus. The province will also set aside a contingency fund in the amount of \$10 million to assist municipalities that permit retail stores. The province has not yet indicated how these funds would be accessed or how they may be distributed. (Reference attached Minister of Finance's Letter to Municipalities)

If Amherstburg opts out of hosting retail stores the Town will receive one more payment of \$5000 and will not be eligible for additional funding, regardless if the Town opts in at a later date.

Enforcement

AGCO will be responsible for licensing and ensuring licensed businesses operate within the regulations. Police will be responsible for enforcement of cannabis allowances, impaired driving and illegal sales.

4. RISK ANALYSIS:

The *Cannabis Licence Act* leaves little control to municipalities to govern cannabis retail stores. The municipality cannot regulate where the stores are located other than distance setbacks from schools, nor can the Town control the number of stores located in the Town except that they must be located in zones that allow for retail stores. The lack of control could impact initiatives of the Town related to creating an overall sense of place with a heritage theme.

However, should Council decide to not opt out of the retail sales in Amherstburg, Administration will ensure to review proposed cannabis store notices from AGCO and

coordinate municipal input using the policy statement within the 15-day commentary period. This will ensure AGCO has every opportunity to take note of the Town's considerations, although they are not bound to agree with the submissions. Administration will gather information from various municipal departments as necessary, provide maps and be able to convey Town policy.

Should the Town opt out of hosting cannabis retail stores, it will lose any additional funding from the province to address possible impacts from the cannabis legalization. It could also lead to illegal dispensaries opening up in the Town to meet customer demand.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

The Town of Amherstburg has received the first payment under the Fund in the amount of \$11,733. This payment of funds was based on the following: 2018 MPAC Household numbers, a 50/50 split in household numbers between lower and upper tier municipalities and adjustments to provide at least \$5,000 to each municipality.

Should the Town opt in to host private retail stores in accordance with *Cannabis Licence Act*, it would receive further funding based on the 2018 MPAC household numbers, adjusted so that at least \$5,000 is provided to the Town. The second payment amount would be expected to be released in March 2019.

Should the Town opt out of hosting retail stores, it would receive a maximum of \$5,000 as the second payment, and would be ineligible for any additional funding.

If the provincial excise duty revenues exceed \$100 million, municipalities that permit retail cannabis stores will receive a share of 50 percent of the surplus. The province will also set aside a contingency fund in the amount of \$10 million to assist municipalities that permit retail stores. Although the quantum of these payments or shares is unknown at this time, Amherstburg would be eligible for this funding if the Town opts in.

The province has provided clear direction that this funding must be for the sole purpose of paying for implementation costs related to the legalization of recreational cannabis. Examples from the province of eligible use of the funds are:

- increased enforcement (e.g. police, public health and by-law enforcement, court administration, litigation);
- increased response to public inquiries (e.g. 311 calls, correspondence);
- increased paramedic services;
- increased fire services; and
- by-law / policy development (e.g. police, public health, workplace safety policy).

The Cannabis task force will meet and determine the impacts of the legalization and best use of the funds.

6. CONSULTATIONS:

The Planning division was consulted on the report and supported opting out due primarily to the lack of control related to location of the retail storefronts and potential impacts to creating a sense of place for Amherstburg.

As outlined above, a multi-disciplinary task force was consulted.

7. CONCLUSION:

It is understood that the decision to opt in or opt out is complex and is subject to criticism regardless of the decision. Administration has provided Council with the most complete and up-to-date information available as well as hosting an open house and accompanying survey to allow for public input and provide Council with feedback received.

The phasing by the Province would mean that Amherstburg would not qualify for a storefront regardless of the decision to opt in or opt out. It is possible that the implementation of phase 1 will result in amended rules and/or changes to the licensing procedure. Future phasing, and any amended rules and/or procedures that may accompany future phasing, is unknown at this time.

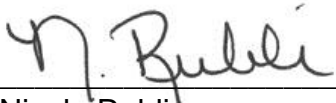
Administration recommends that the Town of Amherstburg opt in to hosting cannabis retail stores, recognizing the concerns of our community partners and stakeholders. Administration also recommends that the delegation of authority be granted and a policy developed to allow staff to provide comments to the AGCO on proposed storefront locations and other items of public interest within the 15 day time limit.

The Town's Community partners have voiced concerns over access to cannabis and the possible impacts to the community. The Town of Amherstburg will have no ability to regulate cannabis stores and while the AGCO has indicated they will consider concerns from the municipalities, they are not bound to follow them. Regardless of Council's decision, cannabis will be available to the residents through the online store.

It is important to note that opting out of cannabis retail does not prohibit the use of cannabis in Amherstburg, it only restricts access. Enforcement and other municipal costs will still be incurred, as it is anticipated that recreational cannabis use will still occur.

This report recommends that Council resolve to opt in to hosting cannabis retail stores. However, the following motion should be considered by Council if they decide to opt out of hosting cannabis retail stores:

That Council DIRECT Administration to notify the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario that the Town of Amherstburg opts out of hosting cannabis retail stores.



Nicole Rubli

Manager of Licensing and Enforcement

Attachments:

AGCO Cannabis Retail Regulation Landscape
Cannabis Store Setback from Schools Map
Survey Results
Minister of Finance's Letter to Municipalities

DEPARTMENTS/OTHERS CONSULTED:

Name:

Phone #: 519

ext.

NOTIFICATION :

Name	Address	Email Address	Telephone	FAX

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Cannabis Retail Storefronts - Cannabis License Act .docx
Attachments:	- cannabis_landscape_0.pdf_ n.pdf - Cannabis Store Setback.pdf - CannabisTownCorridor.pdf - Survey_Responses_Report.pdf - Minister's Letter to Municipalities.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Jan 16, 2019

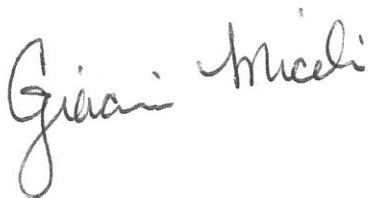
This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:



Mark Galvin - Jan 16, 2019 - 1:48 PM



Cheryl Horrobin - Jan 16, 2019 - 2:29 PM



John Miceli - Jan 16, 2019 - 4:31 PM



Paula Parker - Jan 16, 2019 - 4:37 PM



AGCO

Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario

Ontario's Cannabis Retail Regulation Landscape

Legal Cannabis Supply Chain



Health Canada regulates the cultivation and processing of cannabis and licenses producers, called "Licensed Producers".

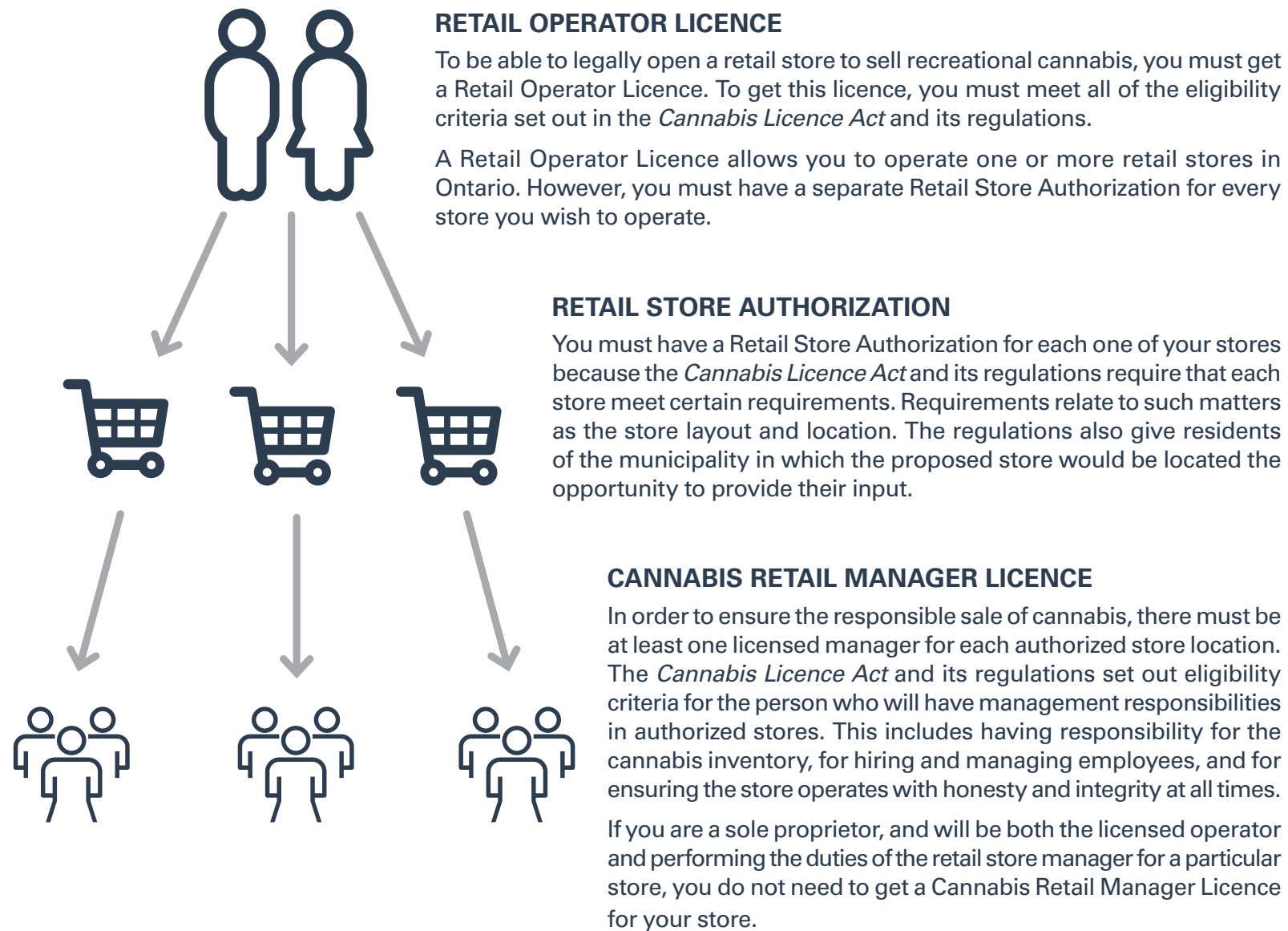


Licensed Producers are the only legal growers/producers of cannabis products in Ontario.



The Ontario Cannabis Store is a Crown agency of the Government of Ontario and is the only legal supplier (wholesaler) of cannabis for private retail stores in Ontario. The OCS operates the only legal online store for recreational cannabis sales in Ontario. The AGCO does not regulate the OCS.

The Licences and Authorizations you need from the AGCO



The Local Community

MUNICIPALITIES AND FIRST NATIONS RESERVES

Ontario municipalities have a one-time option to opt out of having cannabis retail stores in their communities. Municipalities have until January 22, 2019 to inform the AGCO if they wish to opt out. Municipalities that choose to opt out can opt back in at any time—but once they are in, they may no longer opt out.

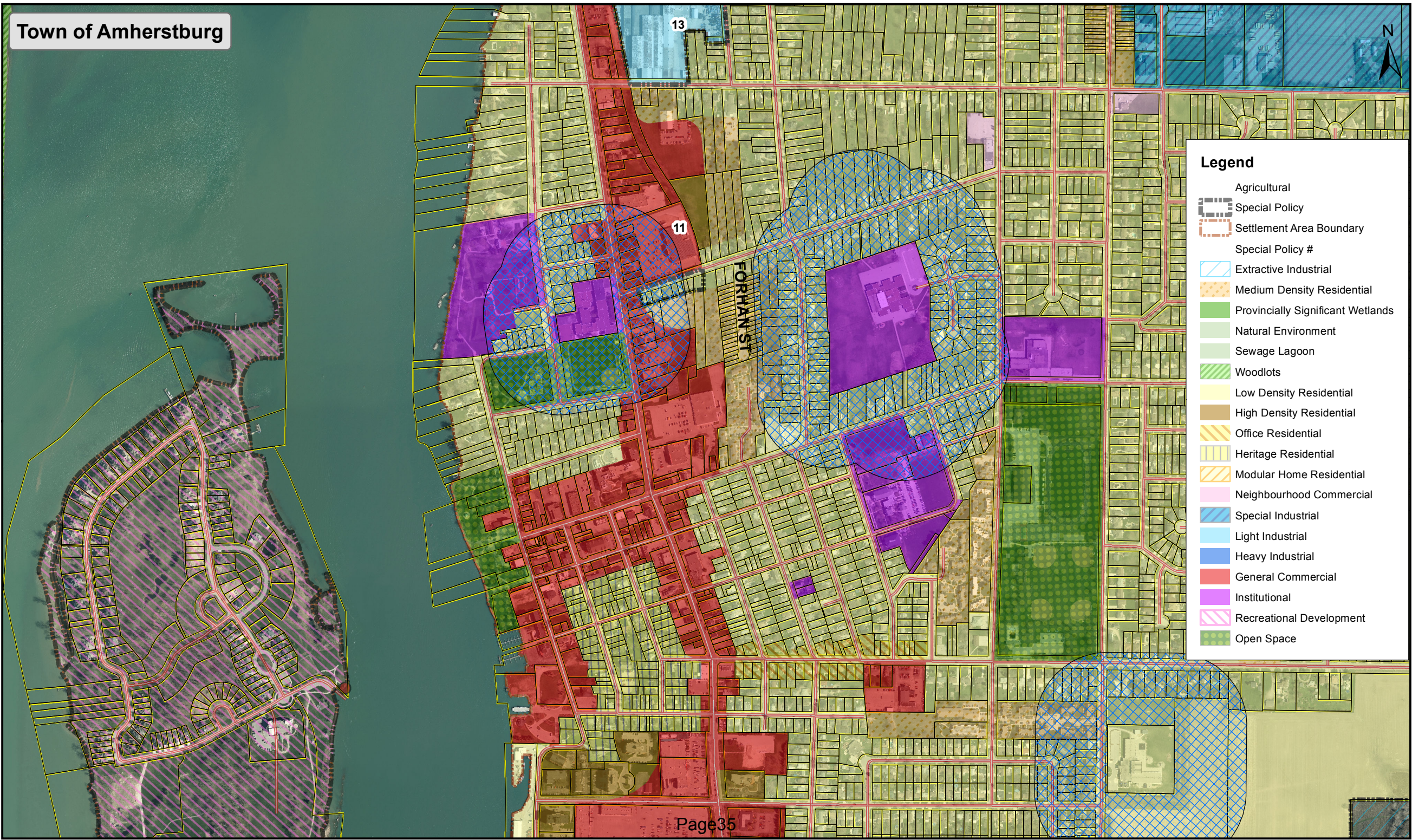
A cannabis store can only be located on a First Nations Reserve if it has the approval of the Band Council.

RESIDENTS

Residents in the municipality of a proposed cannabis store location have an opportunity to share their views with the AGCO before a retail store is authorized. The Registrar may refuse to authorize the store if it is in the public interest to do so.

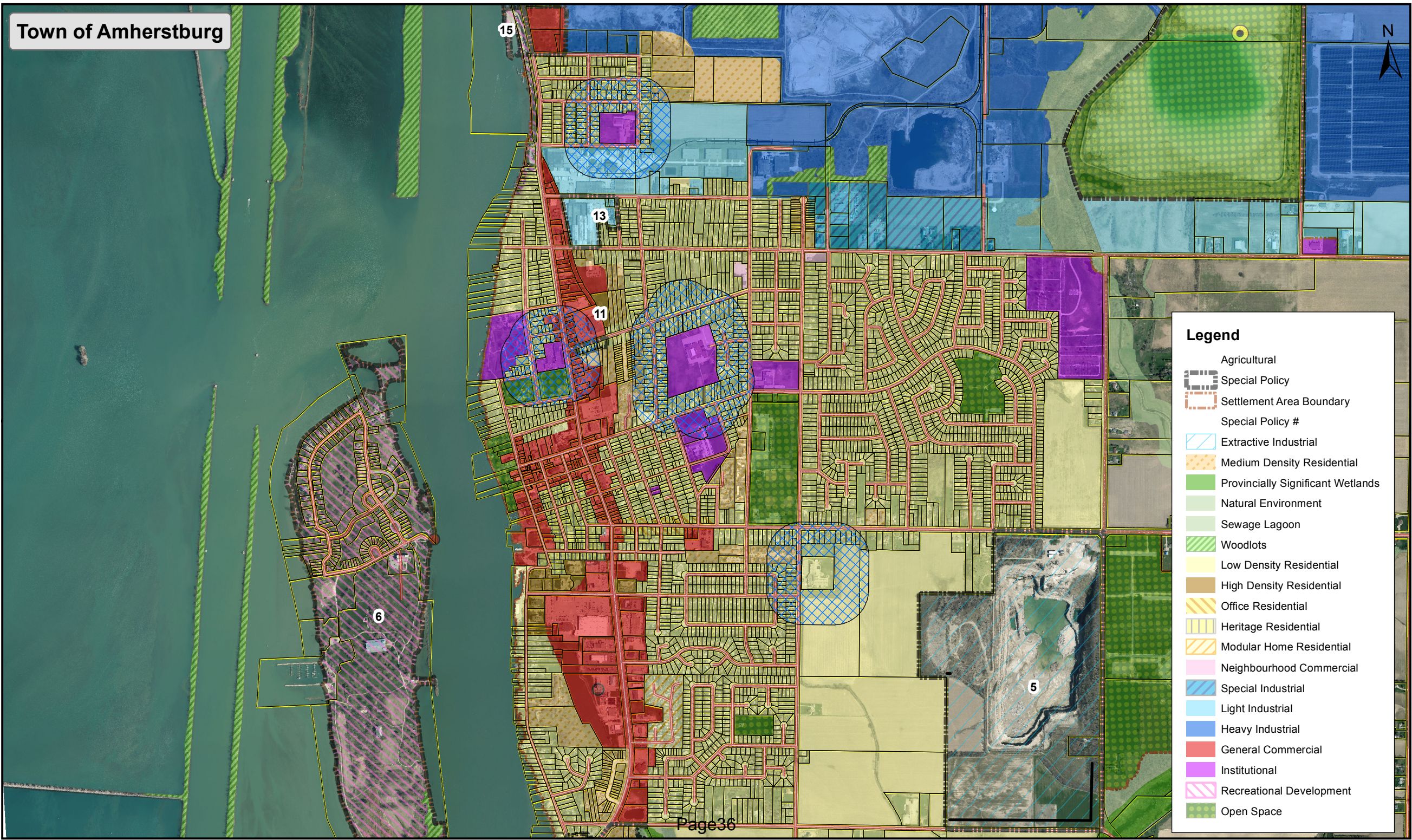
The only areas of public interest the Registrar can consider, as defined by the regulations, are related to public health and safety, protecting youth and restricting their access to cannabis, and preventing illegal activities in relation to cannabis.

For more information, visit us online www.agco.ca or call (416) 326-8700 or toll free 1 (800) 522-2876



Legend

- Agricultural
- Special Policy
- Settlement Area Boundary
- Special Policy #
- 11
- 12
- 13
- Extractive Industrial
- Medium Density Residential
- Provincially Significant Wetlands
- Natural Environment
- Sewage Lagoon
- Woodlots
- Low Density Residential
- High Density Residential
- Office Residential
- Heritage Residential
- Modular Home Residential
- Neighbourhood Commercial
- Special Industrial
- Light Industrial
- Heavy Industrial
- General Commercial
- Institutional
- Recreational Development
- Open Space



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 - Open Space

Survey Report

22 September 2017 - 02 December 2018

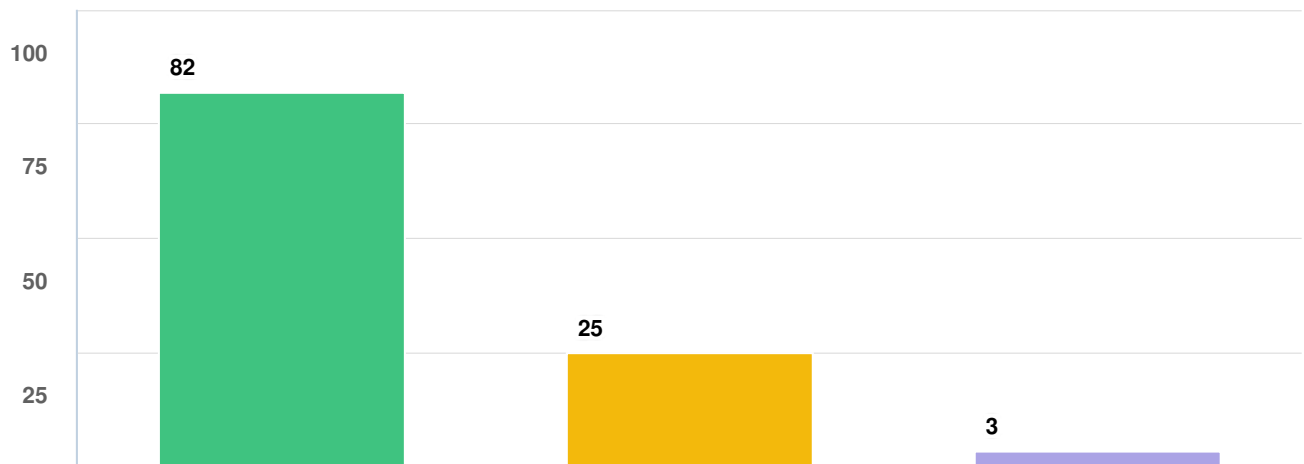
Cannabis Storefronts in Amherstburg Survey

PROJECT: Let's Talk Cannabis Storefronts in Amherstburg

Talk Amherstburg



Q1 Do you support the operation of cannabis storefronts in the Town of Amherstburg?



Question options

● Yes ● No ● Unsure

(110 responses, 0 skipped)

Date of contribution	Survey Response	
	Do you support the operation of cannabis storefronts in the Town of Amherstburg?	Do you have any other comments for consideration regarding the operation of cannabis storefronts in Amherstburg?
Nov 13 18 11:14:31 pm	Yes	If people are required to travel to another municipality to purchase they will do so. This increases the risks of drivers driving high when they could have easily walked or stop at a local store when it was convenient.
Nov 15 18 07:25:42 pm	Yes	No
Nov 13 18 03:24:01 pm	Yes	I believe that a Cannabis store will bring much needed commercial tax revenue to Canada. I am sure that the Province will highly regulate and monitor any Cannabis stores (much like LCBO stores) and therefore, the sale of these products will be safe and the products not sold to minors. Plus, we now have a Cannabis Clinic in Amherstburg, which will assist patients in obtaining products locally.
Nov 27 18 11:30:12 am	Yes	
Nov 17 18 10:59:32 am	Yes	
Nov 13 18 01:35:12 pm	Yes	Easy access to Marijuana for those who want to partake is critical to eliminating the influence of drug dealers in our community.
Nov 16 18 01:23:32 pm	Yes	allow only a certain number of storefronts
Nov 14 18 01:09:41 pm	Yes	
Nov 27 18 11:55:32 am	Yes	
Nov 23 18 06:38:18 pm	Yes	
Nov 17 18 11:31:50 am	Yes	Please bring more businesses and money into Amherstburg. We already have an LCBO and a Beer store, Sobeys sells beer, this is no different. Just a new way for the town to attract business.
Nov 17 18 03:16:01 pm	Yes	The Fed's have spoken, the province has spoken, the people have spoken. This is an easy decision.
Nov 16 18 02:07:37 pm	Yes	I see no reason for Amherstburg to opt out of Cannabis storefronts. If historically we were a "dry" community - no LCBO, no Beer Store, etc. - then maybe it would make sense to do so. In my eyes it is like any other legal recreational drug in spite of its recent legalization, and should be treated accordingly. So yes, I am in favour of cannabis storefronts in the Town of Amherstburg, and I appreciate the opportunity to provide my input.
Nov 20 18 08:53:30 am	Yes	
Nov 13 18 03:56:38 pm	Yes	
Nov 16 18 01:11:44 am	Yes	Great opportunity to host retail stores and receive the funding provided by the province. If we do not opt in, residents will just go to the closest neighbouring municipalities for access. We should capitalize on the economic opportunity. This Town had a lot to offer as the industry grows and expands to edibles and possible cannabis lounges ex: cannabis tourism/festivals and events .

Nov 14 18 09:39:21 am	Yes	
Nov 29 18 06:11:57 pm	Yes	Keep the tax dollars local and supporting local businesses.
Nov 15 18 10:35:46 pm	Yes	
Nov 13 18 01:56:06 pm	Yes	
Nov 15 18 09:38:06 am	Yes	There needs to be sufficient parking.
Nov 18 18 11:31:43 am	Yes	
Nov 14 18 12:10:46 pm	Yes	As long as they are licensed, law abiding and not a hang out for users, then why not
Nov 13 18 01:48:09 pm	Yes	I would prefer people imbibe in cannabis rather than alcohol. Less domestic violence and less effect on overall health.
Nov 13 18 01:53:36 pm	Yes	
Nov 13 18 02:15:53 pm	Yes	Would be great to have something local!
Nov 13 18 02:55:03 pm	Yes	A cannabis cafe would be nice to have a safe environment other than your own home to use cannabis.
Nov 13 18 04:06:15 pm	Yes	I feel it's great revenue for the towns and we need business. If we don't allow people who want it will get it anyhow and elsewhere.
Nov 13 18 07:48:40 pm	Yes	
Nov 14 18 08:48:22 am	Yes	
Nov 14 18 10:26:44 am	Yes	better to have it regulated and out in the open. generates sales,property and income taxes.
Nov 14 18 12:08:45 pm	Yes	People are going to buy cannabis regardless now and if the municipality can receive a little of the financial windfall or foot traffic generated, might as well.
Nov 14 18 02:46:45 pm	Yes	Allowing the storefronts will bring increased revenue to the town through business taxes, and will also create jobs for individuals within the town. The town allows the LCBO/beer store to have storefronts as well as Sobeys to sell beer, cannabis should be no different now that it is legalized. Not allowing them will only make consumers drive further to other storefronts that will open in neighbouring communities,

Nov 15 18 08:34:44 am	Yes	As long as there is going to be oil available we want it for health purposes not to get a high !
Nov 15 18 08:42:29 am	Yes	
Nov 15 18 09:06:38 am	Yes	
Nov 15 18 09:14:44 am	Yes	
Nov 15 18 09:23:15 am	Yes	We need this
Nov 15 18 11:07:05 am	Yes	This seems like an important area of growth and development that will be complementary to the Leamington pot industry.
Nov 15 18 11:32:05 am	Yes	
Nov 15 18 01:24:26 pm	Yes	
Nov 15 18 05:49:34 pm	Yes	Ya brought in Windsor police even though the town don't want it. Get this right and allow the fucking pot shops to set up shop in OUR town.
Nov 15 18 06:35:20 pm	Yes	This is the new generation. Guaranteed it's all ppl 50 + years old that are against it. The sales of marijuana is already happening in amherstburg whether it's a street dealer or a store front. Store front will at least make it a safer place for ppl to purchase it.
Nov 15 18 06:48:31 pm	Yes	I think it would be great to have. For county people to have close access to a store out here would be great. I dont see any downsides to opening storefront in amherstburg. I would like to know what downsides there would be from a opening stores that sell marijuana. Would you be able to provide some pros and cons for the people of Amherstburg to see? Creating businesses and local jobs would not hurt Amherstburg as i think we need to be able to employ more local residents.
Nov 15 18 08:13:17 pm	Yes	I would only want to ensure that there is a per capita limit on the amount of stores and size of stores in town. 1 would be sufficient.
Nov 15 18 09:04:13 pm	Yes	
Nov 15 18 09:32:57 pm	Yes	
Nov 15 18 09:59:12 pm	Yes	I'd rather keep the tax dollars in Amherstburg, so I support storefronts within town.
Nov 16 18 05:22:16 am	Yes	
Nov 16 18 06:47:49 am	Yes	

Nov 16 18 08:52:05 am	Yes	would suggest a bylaw to make certain there is location control in place, such as commercial area only, as well what steps are there to control the intensity of the aroma coming from the store. Others that I have spoken to seem to have a concern with the smell around their business or business that they would go to, which could be a deterrant
Nov 16 18 09:18:02 am	Yes	
Nov 16 18 10:53:14 am	Yes	
Nov 16 18 11:12:13 am	Yes	
Nov 16 18 12:36:40 pm	Yes	I think the store should be located near to or next to the LCBO if possible. It's then close to the police stations and away from schools
Nov 16 18 03:09:43 pm	Yes	
Nov 17 18 09:50:50 am	Yes	
Nov 17 18 11:18:35 am	Yes	
Nov 17 18 11:52:59 am	Yes	
Nov 17 18 02:58:46 pm	Yes	Would like to see discreet picture free signage, so it is not obvious, or making children curious as to what they are selling.
Nov 17 18 03:12:37 pm	Yes	
Nov 17 18 07:36:48 pm	Yes	
Nov 17 18 08:04:04 pm	Yes	I don't smoke cannabis. But I think it's a good opportunity for amherstburg. It will attract more people to our small town. More businesses the better.
Nov 17 18 09:17:46 pm	Yes	
Nov 18 18 04:30:49 am	Yes	
Nov 18 18 08:15:05 pm	Yes	Providing all regulations are met. A Cannabis store should be in Amherstburg. New business and tax generation will be guaranteed
Nov 20 18 12:20:02 pm	Yes	

Nov 19 18 06:40:40 pm	Yes	
Nov 20 18 03:53:01 pm	Yes	No
Nov 20 18 08:24:00 pm	Yes	
Nov 22 18 12:04:49 am	Yes	As a medical marijuana patient, I fully support the sales of marijuana via store front, further more amhurstburg had a "wine" festival yet people seem to have a negative opinion when it comes to legal marijuana.
Nov 22 18 08:23:21 am	Yes	I am in favor of cannabis store it will bring people to town that means more money for us
Nov 22 18 08:55:49 am	Yes	First consideration, using no cannabis is probably better than using cannabis as I believe insufficient studies exist to really support any perspective. However, what is known about cannabis and it's ill effects are no greater than the ill effects of alcohol, tobacco or fast foods all of which are legally distributed within our community at several different outlets. If somebody is willing to invest in a business, operate that business within the framework of the stated regulations and that they believe can generate a profit with a legal product why is there any discussion. Most negative views I believe are a
Nov 27 18 09:43:40 am	Yes	We should support the incremental tax revenue that the business would provide to the town. We allow alcohol to be sold with the town; cannabis is more than just a luxury item, unlike alcohol.
Nov 27 18 09:43:40 am	Yes	
Nov 27 18 09:48:24 am	Yes	
Nov 27 18 10:45:24 am	Yes	If beer and cigarettes are available storefront then this shouldn't even be an issue.
Nov 27 18 12:23:33 pm	Yes	
Nov 27 18 05:29:56 pm	Yes	
Nov 27 18 06:47:05 pm	Yes	
Nov 28 18 06:39:32 am	Yes	Subject to appropriate zoning, etc. guidelines
Nov 28 18 09:28:14 am	Yes	Say yes to free enterprise and let's get some tax revenue flowing for these type of operations so that everyone benefits including the residents who may be resistant to change.
Nov 13 18 02:40:53 pm	Unsure	I believe it is something that is going to happen. I just hope that it falls in line with the values of our town. If the store front is simple and doesn't overdo it it should be ok.
Nov 15 18 10:37:01 am	Unsure	

Nov 18 18 09:26:42 am	Unsure	
Nov 15 18 10:12:17 pm	No	I do not think that a historical, tourist town should be that focused on providing this sort of 'recreation'. We should stick with our beautiful view, our family oriented draw, that everyone participates it.
Nov 16 18 06:08:49 am	No	Yes Just like cigarettes, I don't want twelve year olds getting their hands on the stuff, and they will if there is enough around.
Nov 14 18 08:18:08 am	No	
Nov 27 18 11:22:04 am	No	No
Nov 13 18 02:19:54 pm	No	
Nov 15 18 08:00:43 am	No	Windsor would be a better location for the storefronts. We do not want it here.
Nov 15 18 07:30:48 pm	No	I know weed is now legal to smoke. But our young people don't need to have it thrown in their face. Teenagers are very impressed by their surroundings. Personally I cant stand the smell and when I come face to face with someone who has just smoked weed they seem like they don't understand anything. Act like idiots and show no respect for people. NO to the storefronts.
Nov 15 18 08:35:57 pm	No	
Nov 16 18 07:43:05 am	No	
Nov 16 18 09:19:41 pm	No	If approved would like to see similar smoking by law as in Toronto that prohibits smoking within "X" meters of any building entrance which includes store fronts, apartment entrance etc.
Nov 16 18 11:27:40 pm	No	
Nov 17 18 09:21:32 am	No	Opting out gives assurance that the Town maintains its reputation as a beautiful waterfront community with upscale dining, wineries etc. if cannabis retail stores are allowed, there is no ability to control how many stores will open and where, subject to certain restrictions. If we don't opt out now, we can't do so later. Let the larger urban centers take this on and evaluate it. We can opt in later if we want to once there is greater certainty on how this will play out.
Nov 17 18 04:54:55 pm	No	
Nov 17 18 08:26:36 pm	No	I really don't think this is the type of business we need to bring to this town. Maybe a cool arcade for kids to hang out. These are not the people who's business we want to draw in this town.
Nov 18 18 07:47:18 am	No	
Nov 18 18 01:43:08 pm	No	My suggestion would be 'not at first'. My guess is there will be a great deal of confusion as to what is a successful cannabis retail model, with a fair bit of business failures at the beginning. While it may be argued that being first into the market will be helpful, unless every other municipality in the county opts out there will be no major advantage to jumping in in the first wave. Also the 150m distance limit on schools (and no other limits) is problematic. If it gets improved later, but retail sites have

Nov 22 18 10:05:36 am	No	
Nov 27 18 10:53:11 am	No	
Nov 27 18 11:34:01 am	No	
Nov 27 18 12:16:41 pm	No	
Nov 27 18 01:15:37 pm	No	Get rid of the methadone clinic too.
Nov 27 18 01:41:15 pm	No	I do not want to see this in Amherstburg ever.
Nov 28 18 02:02:03 pm	No	We are new residents of Amherstburg moving from a densely populated city to a quaint town. We are extremely disappointed to learn that this lovely town would even consider "cannabis storefronts" as attractive. These stores do not enhance communities but rather detract from the great accomplishments of smaller locally run businesses. This is not the type of community we would wish to support. There is plenty of access to non-medical cannabis elsewhere in the area to satisfy those who wish to consume it. As concerned retired healthcare employee's we hope this town will not fall into the cannabis
Nov 28 18 02:09:35 pm	No	Store front shouldn't be visible to young children and merchandise should be behind a solid entity identical to tobacco.
Nov 28 18 04:27:43 pm	No	Legal yes - attractive tourist attraction - not in my opinion.



7th Floor, Frost Building South
7 Queen's Park Crescent
Toronto ON M7A 1Y7
Telephone: 416-314-6331

7^e étage, Édifice Frost Sud
7 Queen's Park Crescent
Toronto ON M7A 1Y7
Téléphone: 416-314-6331

November 20, 2018

Dear Head of Council (elect):

Recently, Ontario's Government for the People moved to a new cannabis retail model to meet our key priorities of combatting the illegal market and keeping our children and communities safe.

Today, the Province is beginning the fulfillment of its commitment to provide \$40 million in funding over two years to municipalities to help with the implementation costs of recreational cannabis legalization.

The Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund (OCLIF) will be distributed as follows:

- In early January, the first payment of \$15 million will be made to all municipalities on a per household basis, adjusted so that at least \$5,000 is provided to each municipality. This will enable all municipalities to proceed with their planned legalization activities.
- A second payment of \$15 million will then be distributed following the deadline for municipalities to opt-out under the *Cannabis Licence Act*, which is January 22, 2019.
 - Municipalities that have not opted-out as of January 22, 2019 will receive funding on a per household basis, adjusted so that at least \$5,000 is provided to each municipality. This funding will support initial costs related to hosting retail storefronts.
 - Municipalities that have opted-out will receive only a second \$5,000 each.
- The Province is setting aside \$10 million of the municipal funding to address costs from unforeseen circumstances related to the legalization of recreational cannabis, and priority will be given to municipalities that have not opted-out. Further details will be provided at a later date.

.../cont'd

- Finally, if Ontario's portion of the federal excise duty on recreational cannabis over the first two years of legalization exceeds \$100 million, the Province will provide 50 per cent of the surplus only to municipalities that have not opted-out as of January 22, 2019.

Our government is committed to respecting taxpayers and their hard-earned money. We believe municipalities have an obligation to do likewise.

As such, municipalities must use this funding to address the costs that directly relate to the legalization of recreational cannabis. Examples of permitted costs include:

- increased enforcement (e.g. police, public health and by-law enforcement, court administration, litigation);
- increased response to public inquiries (e.g. 311 calls, correspondence);
- increased paramedic services;
- increased fire services; and
- by-law / policy development (e.g. police, public health, workplace safety policy).

Lower-tier and upper-tier municipalities will receive a 50/50 split of the allocation. The household numbers will be split between the upper- and lower-tier, and the allocation calculated accordingly. Decisions to adjust the split in allocation and transfer funding can be made at the local level as needed. Upper-tier municipalities will receive funding in relation to opt-out decisions made by the lower-tier municipality.

The Deputy Minister of Finance will write to your Treasurer with further details on the administration of this funding and attach each municipality's specific allocation notice.

To assess the impact of the funding, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the City of Toronto have been asked to work with the Ministry of Finance to establish a process by which a sample group of municipalities can assess the use and impact of these funds. More information on this process will be provided at a later date.

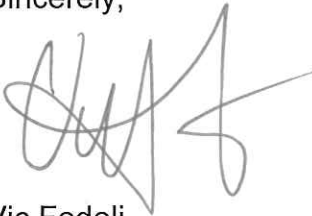
Our government is committed to building a retail system for cannabis sales that will help eliminate the illegal market and is safe and reliable with rules that keep cannabis out of the hands of children and youth, while keeping our roads safe. Complementary to this municipal funding, the Province continues to do the following:

.../cont'd

- Increase the capacity of law enforcement to help detect drug impaired driving through training. The Province has also created a specialized legal team to support drug impaired driving prosecutions, increased capacity at the province's Centre of Forensic Sciences, and has created a Cannabis Intelligence Coordination Centre.
- Support local boards of health (public health units) by providing a suite of tools and resources for enforcement of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017*, which includes rules for smoking and vaping of cannabis.
- Conduct an integrated public awareness campaign to communicate the rules and regulations for recreational cannabis and educate Ontarians about the health and safety measures in place to protect them.

We appreciate the efforts of municipalities in the implementation of the federal government's legalization of cannabis and look forward to continuing to work together.

Sincerely,



Vic Fedeli
Minister of Finance

- c: The Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Attorney General
The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Paul Boniferro, Deputy Attorney General
Greg Orencsak, Deputy Minister of Finance
Laurie LeBlanc, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Renu Kulendran, Ontario Legalization of Cannabis Secretariat, Ministry of Attorney General
Nicole Stewart, Executive Lead, Cannabis Retail Implementation Project, Ministry of Finance
Kate Manson-Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government and Planning Policy Division, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Dan Miles, Chief of Staff