

TO: Mayors/Wardens, Councillors, All Units,
CC: Chief Administrative Officers/Clerk-Treasurers, All Units
FR: Lyle Goldberg, Manager, Member Relations
RE: CANNABIS CONSULTATIONS

We've been asked by the Department of Municipal Affairs to forward the e-mail below to the UNSM Membership:

Recreational, or non-medical, cannabis is expected to be legal in Canada by July 2018. The federal government plans to pass legislation that sets a [framework](#) for legalizing recreational cannabis. Within this federal framework, provinces and territories must make their own rules and regulations for sale, possession and use.

Nova Scotia is working hard to get ready and to ensure our provincial policies and laws strike a balance between making this product legal and protecting the health and safety of Nova Scotians, especially children and youth.

The Province of Nova Scotia has launched a public consultation so Nova Scotians can have their say. This is a significant change for Canadians – and for our province. As we develop rules and regulations for Nova Scotia, it is important we hear from everyone.

The Department of Municipal Affairs understands and appreciates that this change will impact municipalities and we want to hold several regional workshops specific to municipalities to have open and candid conversations on this topic.

At this point, the Province does not have all the answers, but we will share as much information as we can and get your input in specific areas related to:

- Setting the legal age for sale, possession and use of cannabis at 19 years;
- Managing the sale through a provincially controlled entity, like the Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation;
- Establishing penalties for drug-impaired driving; and
- Limiting places recreational cannabis can be used.

In addition, we will be looking to gather any additional concerns, questions, and suggestions for further consideration.

To that end, we would like to invite you to attend one of 4 sessions planned for the week of October 16th:

- The Port Hawkesbury Civic Center on October 16, from 12-3;
- The Truro Holiday Inn on October 17, from 12-3;
- The Old Orchard Inn in Kings County on October 18, from 6-9; and

- White Point on October 19, from 12-3.

Staff from DMA, Justice and the Nova Scotia Health Authority, among others will be on hand to answer questions, and listen to your thoughts and concerns.

To Register for this event, please respond to [Kath Zanth](#) by Thursday October 12th.

We look forward to your participation. Your feedback will help shape Nova Scotia's approach to the legalization of cannabis to ensure responsible use and a well-regulated market.

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