



February 27, 2017

The Honourable Ralph Goodale
Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness
269 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, ON K1A 0P8

The Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Room 451S, Centre Block
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

The Honourable Jane Philpott
Minister of Health
70 Colombine Driveway, Tunney's Pasture
Postal Location: 0906C
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

Dear Ministers Goodale, Wilson-Raybould, and Philpott:

On behalf of Alberta's over 270 urban municipalities, we are pleased to respond to *A Framework for the Legalization and Regulation of Cannabis in Canada*, the final report of the Task Force on Cannabis Legalization and Regulation.

AUMA is generally supportive of the Task Force recommendations contained in the report. We appreciate that some municipal implications have been acknowledged, but there are others that need to be considered:

- Municipalities need to be engaged in determining tax, price and use of the resulting revenue.
- Tax revenues should be available for municipal education, enforcement, and action to address any social issues that arise as a result of legalization.
- Labelling requirements should include a statement that it is illegal to have cannabis consumed by individuals who are minors.
- Clarification is required on the provincial regulation of distribution and retail sales:
 - Minimum standards should be set out in federal legislation so there are consistent and sufficient controls nationally upon which provinces can incorporate their additional provisions.

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- Municipalities will need to set bylaws on the location and operation of retail sale sites.
- Municipalities will also need to set bylaws on safety codes relating to all residential growth in conjunction with building code standards, as well as any applicable condominium and other cooperatively owned building requirements.
- Prospective property owners will need to know if a property that they wish to acquire, or that is in the area of a property they wish to acquire, has or is used for growth or sale activities.
- As the possession, production, and trafficking of marijuana remains illegal, AUMA supports and encourages law enforcement actions to address the illegal storefront distribution and sale of marijuana in Canada, including storefronts selling marijuana, commonly known as “dispensaries” and “compassion clubs.”

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the legalization and regulation of cannabis. We look forward to working collaboratively with your government on this important matter.

Sincerely,



Lisa Holmes
AUMA President

cc: Honourable Sarah Hoffman, Minister, Alberta Health
Honourable Kathleen Ganley, Minister, Alberta Justice and Solicitor General
Honourable Shaye Anderson, Minister, Alberta Municipal Affairs
Mr. Clark Somerville, President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Mr. Al Kemmere, President, Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties