Hi! Are you here for the webinar? Thanks for joining us! We’ll begin shortly.

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Outline

- Background: The Alberta Policy Coalition for Chronic Disease Prevention

- Land-Use and Business Licensing
  - Michelle Fry, Alberta Health Services
  - Dr. Jason Cabaj, Alberta Health Services
  - Colton Kirshop, City of Edmonton

- Supporting Municipal Policy Change

- Closing and Questions
The APCCP: Who Are We?

Coordinating efforts, generating evidence and advocating for policy change to reduce chronic disease risk in Alberta
APCCP: Who Are We?

- Funded 2009-2011 by the Alberta Cancer Prevention Legacy Fund
  - Population Health Innovative Intervention - Research Project

- Currently funded by Heart and Stroke for 2018

- Built on the success of tobacco control, but expanded the policy scope to other behavioural risk factors for cancer and other chronic diseases.

- Housed at the University of Alberta, School of Public Health
APCCP Objectives

- Provide leadership in the *development, implementation, and evaluation of policy-related activities* for chronic disease prevention

- **Increase the capacity** of policy makers and decision-makers in Alberta to use policy as a strategy for chronic disease prevention

- Facilitate practitioners, policy-makers, researchers, and community organizations from various sectors working together to enhance public acceptance of policy-related activities
2018 Strategic Priority:
Smoke-free Alberta Communities

Support the creation of smoke-free communities (including cannabis)
OBJECTIVES

- Legalization overview
- Public health approach
- AHS recommendations
Cannabis Milestones

- **April 2017**: Federal government proposes legislation to legalize cannabis by July 1, 2018
- **June 2017**: Alberta launches two-month public consultation
- **Oct 2017**: Release of draft Alberta Cannabis Framework
  Second phase of engagement process
- **Nov 2017**: Introduction of Bill 26, An Act to Control and Regulate Cannabis, 2017
- **Nov 2017**: Bill 26 passes third reading
- **February 2018**: Provincial regulations released
- **Summer 2018**: Intended federal implementation date
Intent of Proposed Federal Cannabis Act

- Restrict youth access
- Protect young people
- Deter and reduce criminal activity
- Strictly regulate
- Protect public health
- Enhance public awareness of health risks
- Provide for legal production of cannabis

(Current program for medical cannabis will continue)
Alberta Cannabis Framework

Minimum age

Safeguards for sales (AGLC)

Buying cannabis (Storefront & Online)

Public consumption

Growing cannabis (indoor & outdoor)

Possessing cannabis

Drug-impaired driving

Impairment in workplaces

Advertising and packaging

https://www.alberta.ca/cannabis-framework.aspx#p6241s1
## Jurisdictional Responsibilities

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<th>Federal</th>
<th>Provincial</th>
<th>Municipal</th>
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<tr>
<td>Trafficking</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertisement &amp; packaging **</td>
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<tr>
<td>Impaired driving</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical cannabis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seed-to-sale tracking system</td>
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<tr>
<td>Production (cultivation and processing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age limit (federal minimum) **</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taxation</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Distribution and wholesaling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retail model</td>
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<td>Regulatory compliance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public consumption</td>
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<td>✓</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land use/zoning</td>
<td>✓</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

** provinces can impose additional regulation
Health Effects

The extent of risks and harms or benefits are unclear but cannabis isn’t benign either.
Relative Harms to Users & Others of Drugs

From Drug harms in the UK: a multicriteria decision analysis; Nutt David J & al; Lancet 2010 ;376:1558-65
Health Effects

**NO EVIDENCE OF HARM**
- Overall health effects: arteritis
- Cancer: lung, head, and neck cancers

**INCONCLUSIVE**
- Overall health effects: all cause mortality, atrial fibrillation, bone loss
- Mental health: psychosis in high-risk individuals, worse psychotic symptoms, suicide, depression, anxiety
- Cancer: bladder, prostate, penile, cervical, childhood cancers
- Brain changes: white matter, blood flow changes

**EVIDENCE OF HARM**
- Overall: driving, stroke, pulmonary function, cross-interaction with drugs, vision
- Mental health: psychosis, mania, neurological soft signs, relapse, dependency
- Cancer: testicular cancer
- Social effects: impaired driving
- Brain changes: decreased glutamate, changes in dopamine, poorer global functioning
- Neurocognitive changes: reduced memory, decreased efficiency
- Harms associated with use during pregnancy

https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/0239e5c2-5b48-4e93-9bcc-77f72f7bdc5e/resource/021d8f84-5d8b-4e21-b0bb-81340d407944/download/AHTDP-Cannabis-Evidence-Series-2017.pdf
Potency

- Potency today is much greater than in pre-2000
  - Due to growing methods and selective plant breeding
- THC consumption
  - Pre-2000 4.6mg/day
  - Today in WA 260mg/day
    - = 60x increase in daily THC consumption
Public Health Approach

The Paradox of Prohibition

Illegal Market
Gangsterism

Heroin
Cocaine
Methamphetamine
Cannabis (current state)

Corporate Profit

Tobacco
Alcohol

Medical Cannabis

Public Health

Prohibition
Defacto
Decriminalization
Decriminalization
Market Regulation
Legalize with Many Restrictions
Prescription
Legalize with Few Restrictions

Health and Social Problems

Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, www.drugpolicy.ca, concept from John Marks.
Public Health Priorities

- Minimize harm
- Protect health & safety of Albertans
- Prevent likelihood of use and problematic use
- Assess population health outcomes
- Address determinants of health & health equity
- Provide services
Support for Municipalities

Municipal information package

• Sent to mayors, council members and senior officials in mid-February
• Assist municipalities in making cannabis policy decisions that promote and protect the health of its citizens
• Evidence-informed public health approach
• Recommendations to help local leaders enact strong regulations that consider the potential health implications and unintended consequences on communities
AHS Recommendations - Land-use & business licensing

- Limit number of stores
- Hours of operation
- Community engagement as part of licensing
- Restrict signage and advertising
Retail

Key public health considerations:

- Limit the number of cannabis stores, and implement density and distance controls to prevent stores from clustering, while also keeping buffer zones around well-defined areas where children and youth frequent.
- No co-location with alcohol, tobacco and pharmaceuticals.
- Consider requirements for cannabis education and community engagement as part of the business/development licensing approval process.
- Limit hours of operation to limit availability late at night and early morning hours.
- Restrict signage and advertising to minimize visibility to youth and dampen favorable social norms.
“There are more medical marijuana dispensaries in Denver than Starbucks and McDonald’s stores”

The Denver Post
Limit Number of Stores

- Increased availability of medicinal dispensaries impacts current use and increases frequency of use (Morrison et al., 2014)
- Online sales are available
- Lessons learned from alcohol
  - 600% increase in the number of liquor stores since privatization in AB
  - Number & concentration of alcohol outlets likely have a significant effect on excessive consumption and alcohol-related harms
  - Research is clear, that as alcohol availability increases, so does the social and health harms to community.
AGLC does not regulate

- The number of cannabis stores in a municipality
- The location of stores and space between stores
- Municipal responsibility

Highlights the need for outlet density, and location of stores to be part of the municipal licensing process.
Limiting Stores

Limit numbers by:

• Number of permits/business licenses
• Separation distance/density
• Combination of the above.
Separation Distance & Density

- Important harm reduction tool to reduce
  - Access
  - Exposure
  - Normalization

- Research on alcohol and tobacco use highlight the need for stronger controls on density and minimum distance

- Density limits reduce neighborhood impacts and youth access (CCSA, 2015)
AHS Recommendations on Separation Distance

- 300-500m distance between cannabis retail outlets
- 300m between schools, childcare & community centres
- 100m distance from liquor and tobacco retail
- A square kilometer density restriction - reduce community impacts & youth access

Other places: parks, recreation facilities, places of worship
Mapping Your Community

- Map buffer zones
  - Sensitive areas
  - Various distances
- Use to balance
  - Availability
  - Public health protection
  - Public engagement results
AHS recommends 100m

- An effective harm reduction policy
  - help discourage co-use
  - simultaneous use of alcohol and cannabis doubles the odds of impaired driving, social consequences and harms to self
Limit Hours of Operation

- to limit availability late at night and early morning hours
- International evidence on alcohol availability shows that longer hours of sale increase the amount of alcohol consumed & rates of alcohol related harms.
- Most US legalized states limit hours to 10pm or mid-night.
- Edmonton administration recommends 11pm
- Red Deer council supports a 10pm close
- Staggered close time can be beneficial from an enforcement perspective

Recommend 10pm close & consult with surrounding communities
Advertising and Signage

- AHS recommends that municipalities include policy/bylaw considerations to limit advertising to dampen favorable social norms toward cannabis use.
- While it is important to implement the principles of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design, the physical appearance should not encourage or engage patrons.
Required Community Outreach/Engagement

AHS recommendation:
• Community engagement as part of the business licensing approval process

Example:
• Good Neighbour Agreements with affected community stakeholders at initiation, prior to application submission

• City of Denver requires applicants to list all registered neighborhood organization whose boundaries encompass store locations and outline their outreach plans to create positive impacts in the neighbourhood.
AHS Recommendations – Summary

• Limit the number of cannabis stores, and implement density and distance controls to prevent stores from clustering, while also keeping buffer zones around well-defined areas where children and youth frequent.

• Consider requirements for cannabis education and community engagement as part of the business licensing approval process.

• Limit hours of operation to limit availability late at night and early morning hours.

• Restrict signage and advertising to minimize visibility to youth.
Public Health Approach

The Paradox of Prohibition

Illegal Market
- Gangsterism
- Heroin
- Cocaine
- Methamphetamine
- Cannabis (current state)

Corporate Profit
- Tobacco
- Alcohol
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Prohibition
Defacto
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Decriminalization
Market Regulation
Legalize with Many Restrictions
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Legalize with Few Restrictions

Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, www.drugpolicy.ca, concept from John Marks.
Thank you

Questions?
Cannabis Legalization
Amendments to Zoning Bylaw 12800

Cannabis and Public Health Webinar Series
June 6th, 2018
Public Health and Safety

Balanced Approach to Community Livability

Business Friendly

Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Free Youth
| NOV/DEC 2017          | - Online survey 4100+ responses  
|                      | - 4 stakeholder workshops 75+ attended  
|                      | - 5 public information sessions 600+ attended |
| FEB/MARCH 2018       | - Circulation of land use framework |
| APRIL 2018           | - 3 Cannabis Stores information sessions |
| ONGOING              | - Sharing project updates  
|                      | - Responding to inquiries |
| ZONES                     | - Ideal locations are main streets, and commercial areas along major roadways  
|                         | - Do not restrict to industrial/out of the way locations                      |
| SEPARATION DISTANCES    | - Most important separation distance is from schools                         
|                         | - Some separation between stores is needed to prevent clustering              |
| APPLICATION PROCESS     | - Want an efficient, fair process                                            
|                         | - Clear communication with applicants desired                                
|                         | - Allow opportunity for smaller operators to compete                         |
### Commercial Zones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone Type</th>
<th>Zones</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>CSC, CB1, CB2, CHY, CO, CCA, JAMSC, UW, AED</td>
<td>- Key commercial zones throughout Edmonton and downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Use</td>
<td>CB3, CMU, HA</td>
<td>- Found in downtown/main street areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial-Business</td>
<td>IB</td>
<td>- Transitional zone, contains other commercial uses and in areas with good access</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LEGEND - CITY WIDE

Zoned for cannabis stores
(based on current zoning)
**SEPARATION DISTANCES**

| Urban Form and Corporate Strategic Development | Development Services | May 7, 2018 |

**FROM SENSITIVE USES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Uses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 200 m    | - Schools (elementary through high school)  
|          | - Public Libraries                        |
| 100 m    | - Public parks                            |
|          | - Public recreation facilities            |
|          | - Provincial health care facilities       |
LEGEND - DOWNTOWN

- Potential store locations
- 200 m from libraries
- 100 m from parks
- 200 m from schools
- 100 m from AHS

SENSITIVE USES
200 m
- Between cannabis stores
- Development Officer can reduce separation distance by up to 20 m
STRATHCONA
Potential store locations
100 m from parks
200 m from schools
LEGEND - SUBURBAN

- **Potential store locations**
- **100 m from parks**
- **200 m from schools**
| SAFE PEDESTRIAN EXPERIENCE | - No customer access from a lane  
|                           | - Storefront provides transparency  
|                           | - Exterior lighting and low landscaping |

| DEVELOPMENT PERMIT CONDITIONS | - Not valid until federal legalization  
|                               | - Expires within nine months of being issued |
Applicants submit **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

3rd Party completes **RANDOM SELECTION PROCESS**

City accepts applications at **ASSIGNED APPOINTMENT TIMES**

City reviews applications and **ISSUES PERMITS**

**CANNABIS STORES OPEN** subject to fed/prov/City approval

*Timing remains fluid*
ZONING BYLAW CHANGES TO ACCOMMODATE CANNABIS RETAIL STORES
Supporting Municipal Policy Change

Tools & Resources

Access a database of tools and resources to help make healthy public policy change easier in your community.
The Policy Readiness Tool

- The Policy Readiness Tool is an evidence-based tool to help foster healthy public policy.
- Intent is to make participating in policy change more accessible to non-experts and experts
- Developed by Dr. Candace Nykiforuk, School of Public Health, University of Alberta, in partnership with the APCCP.
The Policy Readiness Tool

A simple self-administered tool that:

- Helps users assess an organization’s readiness for policy change using a simple, self-administered checklist
- Readiness categories = Innovators, Majority Type, and Late Adopters.
The Policy Readiness Tool

Adopter Categories

- **Mostly A: Innovators** are described as “adventurous” and often serve as initiators or role models within their social networks.

- **Mostly B: The Majority** are described as “deliberate” because they require time to consider the evidence and determine whether to adopt a new policy.

- **Mostly C: Late Adopters** are described as “traditional” and may be skeptical of new ideas (without substantial evidence) or eager to maintain the status quo.
The Policy Readiness Tool

3. Provides targeted, evidence-based policy change strategies for taking action at each level of readiness.

Strategies to use with ‘Innovators’

Innovators tend to be passionate and forward thinking. When working with Innovators, remember that they take pride in being viewed as leaders. Be mindful of the vision that they have for their community or organization and their desire to leave a legacy for the future. Strategies should appeal to their adventurous side and generate excitement about the actions ahead.

- Provide Supportive Evidence
- Frame the Issue to Appeal to the Innovative Spirit of the Community or Organization
- Build Relationships with Champions from the Community or Organization
- Generate Decision-Maker Support
- Raise Public Awareness by Educating Community Members about the Issue
The Policy Readiness Tool

4. Recommends general evidence-based strategies and resources to foster healthy public policy.

General Strategies for Encouraging Policy Change

Below is a list of general strategies for working with communities and organizations (at any level of policy readiness) to encourage healthy policy change.

- Develop Organizational Knowledge and Support
- Understand the Social, Political & Economic Context of the Municipality
- Watch Closely for Open Policy Windows
- Frame the Issue in a Context that is Meaningful and in Terms of the Immediate and Long-Term Benefits of the Policy
- Take Advantage of Changes in Leadership
- Keep your Message Clear and Simple by Using Three to Five Key Messages
- Show Constituent Support for an Issue and Illustrate Benefits to the Community
- Build Partnerships with Communities
What Kind of Policies Can Be Used With the Tool?

- Designed to encourage and support healthy public policies in general, for example:
  - Smoke-free public spaces regulations
  - Injury prevention (e.g., helmet bylaws)
  - Nutrition policies (e.g., in schools or recreation facilities)
  - Social planning policies
  - Location/implementation of new green spaces or facilities
  - etc, etc

- Created with municipalities in mind, but can be used with other types of governing bodies (e.g., school boards)
Learn More

Policy Readiness Tool
www.policyreadinessstool.com

The Alberta Policy Coalition for Chronic Disease Prevention
www.apccp.ca
Thank You!

Kayla Atkey
APCCP Policy Analyst
Email: atkey@ualberta.ca
Website: www.apccp.ca

Subscribe to the APCCP newsletter
Questions?
### www.auma.ca/events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>June 12 to 14</td>
<td>Summer Municipal Leaders’ Caucus</td>
<td>Camrose</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>ICF and IDP Development Workshop</td>
<td>Leduc</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 21</td>
<td>AMSC Energy Symposium</td>
<td>Edmonton</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 26 to 28</td>
<td>AUMA Convention &amp; AMSC Trade Show</td>
<td>Red Deer</td>
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### http://rmalberta.com/events-programs/

<table>
<thead>
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<td>June 15</td>
<td>Asset Management: The Strategic Basics</td>
<td>Grande Prairie</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 21</td>
<td>ICF and IDP Development Workshop</td>
<td>Hardisty, Flagstaff County</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 27-28</td>
<td>Asset Management for Municipal Staff: The Technical Basics</td>
<td>Sherwood Park</td>
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