

LIDSTONE & COMPANY

BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Clients
FROM: Sara Dubinsky
DATE: February 6, 2018
RE: Local Government To Do List to Prepare for Cannabis Sales

The Province has just released its proposed scheme for retail cannabis sales in British Columbia. This memo sets out the most pertinent provisions and our recommendations for local governments to prepare for legalization.

- 1. Local government support is a mandatory prerequisite to issuance of a Provincial retail licence**
- 2. The Province will not be regulating the location of cannabis retail stores or the number of stores allowed in each community**
- 3. Local governments may regulate the number of retail stores within their boundaries, and may prohibit them altogether**
- 4. Local governments may regulate the location of retail stores, including their distance from schools and other stores**
- 5. Local governments may impose security requirements and additional restrictions on hours of operations** - retail stores can otherwise operate between 9 am to 11 pm

The Province is providing for significant local government control over retail cannabis outlets. **Local governments should begin to consider and consult with respect to the following:**

- Banning retail sales altogether
- Capping the number of retail outlets
- Regulating permissible locations (by zones and/or proximity to certain uses)
- Refusing to support licence applications submitted by existing unlawful retail stores
- Imposition of security requirements and restrictions on hours of operation
- Requiring proof of Provincial licence issuance and successful completion of the Provincial employee training program as prerequisites to business licence issuance
- Adopting procedures for public consultation on licence applications
- Creating a new category of business licence fees
- Regulating public consumption