

August 6, 2025

Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch
P.O. Box 9292, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9J8

Email: LCRB.Outreach@gov.bc.ca

Dear Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your invitation to comment on enabling cannabis sales at events. For the record, the District of Mackenzie strongly opposes cannabis sales at special events. In our opinion, although cannabis possession is no longer illegal it serves no purpose to promote the sale at community events, the same way cigarette sales should not take place, as neither support public health. We fully recognize our opportunity to comment on expanding opportunities for cannabis hospitality has come and gone, but we felt it important to state this so you appreciate where we are coming from.

In response to your discussion questions our feedback is as follows:

1. Which option do you prefer for enabling cannabis sales at events and why?

We do not support either option as the District of Mackenzie would prefer not to see any cannabis sales at community events, particularly those at which consumption is not currently permitted (e.g. where children are present)

2. What are the risks and opportunities for allowing cannabis sales at events?

Opportunity - clawing back revenue currently being captured by illegal sales

Risks - that people will not be aware, or just not care, that although they may be purchasing cannabis at events where consumption is not permitted (e.g. Outdoor market and all ages concerts) they will proceed to consume the product at the event.

3. What type of events should cannabis be sold at (e.g., festivals, farmer's markets, etc.)?

In our opinion, none.

4. Are there events where cannabis sales should not occur (e.g., all-ages events, specific locations like next to a playground)?

The District of Mackenzie does not support cannabis sales at any community events.

5. What public safety limitations and restrictions should be placed on cannabis sales at events (e.g., how much you can buy per purchase, type of product you can buy)

If cannabis sales are permitted, we would like to see (1) sales limited to an amount reasonable for one person's daily use and (2) sales be limited to edible products so that those not using cannabis are not forced to share space with unwanted smoke and smell just as we do with cigarettes.

6. Is there anything else we should consider about enabling cannabis sales at events?

Most communities have cannabis retail opportunities (multiple stores in larger communities) available for residents, so we see no need to introduce the sale of cannabis at community events.

In response to the Market Controls Discussion Paper:

We would prefer to keep the **license cap** at the current limit of 8. This helps to ensure that the economic benefits of the industry rest with small businesses instead of encouraging large corporate chains to become established, which will restrict the economic benefit to a privileged few in much the same way as big box stores.

Although the District of Mackenzie is neither a retail supplier or a licensed producer, we would prefer not to see the sale of **retail branded cannabis** products in Cannabis Retail Stores (CRS). We feel that retail banding of the same product by multiple CRS's obscures the origin and producer of the product from the consumer. The consumer should always be confident about what they have purchased and where it comes from.

We do not support any **provincial minimum distancing** rules for Cannabis Retail Stores (CRS). Municipalities should retain the right to set these rules according to their own circumstances and the wishes of the residents

Finally, regarding **licensing options**, the cannabis industry already pays very high licensing fees compared to other retail businesses. If this initiative does move forward, fees whether they are a new class of license a onetime licensing fee or add onto an existing license should be minimal.



THE DISTRICT OF MACKENZIE

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Joan Atkinson". The script is fluid and cursive.

Joan Atkinson,
Mayor of Mackenzie