



*The Corporation of
the Village of Westport*

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www.villageofwestport.ca

December 19, 2019

Dear Resident/Business Owner:

This update from the Village of Westport is in regard to permitting Cannabis Retail stores in the Village. You are aware that recreational use of cannabis is now legal. What has yet to be decided is whether Council will opt-out of cannabis retail stores in the Village. You are encouraged to contact any member of Council to get additional information or to voice your concerns – either pro or against - of cannabis retail stores in the Village.

Some quick facts about the issue:

Legalization of Cannabis

Recreational use of cannabis became legal on October 17, 2018. Some of the rules vary across the country, however in Ontario these restrictions apply.

- If you are 19 years of age or older, you can now buy, consume and grow recreational marijuana in Ontario.
- You can share up to 30 grams of pot among adults over 19.
- You are limited to carrying up to 30 grams of dried cannabis in public.
- Residents are limited to growing a maximum of four plants per household at any given time.
- While buying edibles remains illegal for another year, you can make marijuana food and drinks at home.

Cannabis Retail Stores

The Province has set a deadline of January 22, 2019 for municipalities to opt-out of cannabis retail stores in their community. Westport's Council met on December 18, 2018 and directed Staff to prepare this document to inform residents and business owners and encourage them to contact the Mayor or a Councillor if they have questions or concerns, either positive or negative. Members of Council will debate the issue on January 8th at Council's last meeting before the January 22nd deadline. For clarity, the question is not about the legalization of cannabis - the Federal government has already made that decision. Council is soliciting your input on whether Council will opt-out of cannabis retail stores in the Village.

The Briefing Note that was provided to Council for its December 18th meeting is available for the public. If you wish to read more, go the Village of Westport website at www.villageofwestport.ca where you can find the report entitled "**Cannabis Retail Store, Westport**".

Contact information for all members of Council:

Mayor Robin Jones	rjones@villageofwestport.ca
Councillor Jackalyn Brady	jbrady@villageofwestport.ca
Councillor Barry Card	bcard@villageofwestport.ca
Councillor Rob Roberts	rroberts@villageofwestport.ca
Councillor Melissa Sullivan	msullivan@villageofwestport.ca

Yours truly

Paul Snider

Paul Snider, CAO/Clerk