

Cannabis Retail Store Licensing

Developing a Public Consultation
Policy and Fees

Purpose

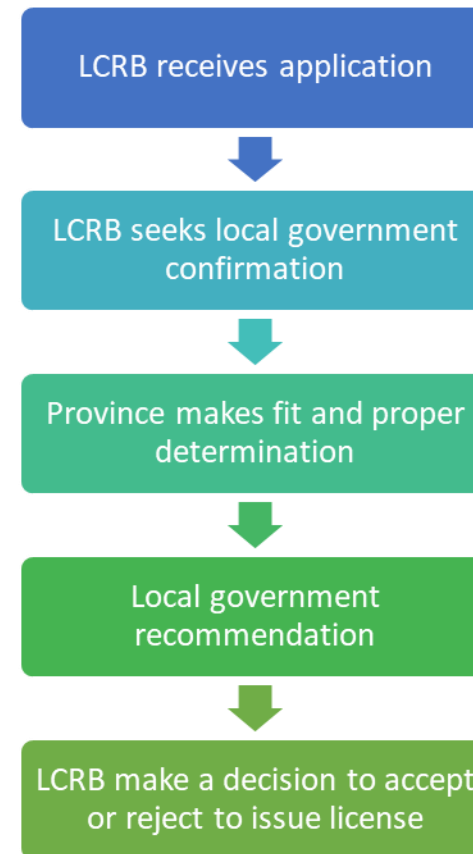
- Provide Council with information about Provincial cannabis retail store licensing
- Outline issues with respect to a public consultation policy and fees
- Outline a review of the *Cannabis-Related Business Regulation Bylaw*
- Recommend a public consultation policy and fees

Cannabis Distribution

- Legalized cannabis on October 17, 2018
- Provinces and territories determine how to distribute cannabis
- BC enacted the *Cannabis Control and Licensing Act*
- In 2016, the City enacted *Cannabis-Related Business Bylaw*

Provincial Framework and Process

- Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch is responsible for licensing
- City may decline to accept referral or provide recommendation but City accepting them given current licensing regime
City may choose public consultation policy and fee



Current State

- 7 cannabis retail store license application referrals
- All referrals have retail zoning
- City to establish public consultation policy and fees
- Inconsistent provincial and municipal legislative framework

Processing of Referrals

- City advises LCRB that it accepts application and of zoning in place. Zoning is required by Province to continue.
- LCRB determines if applicant is fit and proper
- City gives recommendation to LCRB before, concurrent with, or after fit and proper results
- Limit to fit and proper referrals reduces work/costs

Consulting on Referrals

- Requirement for public consultation
- Potential public consultation methods:
 - Opportunity for public commentary
 - Public hearing
 - Referendum
- Method and scope have cost implications

Reviewing City Bylaw

- Bylaw contains business license requirements, operating requirements, and general provisions
- No longer current due to new Act
- Review to:
 - Align Bylaw and Act
 - Reflect more limited municipal role

Option 1: Written notification within 100 meters of property (recommended)

- After fit and proper
- Notify owners and occupants within 100 metres of property and neighbourhood association
- \$750 processing fee and public notification costs
- Review Bylaw

Option 2: Opportunity for public comment within 100 meters of property

- After fit and proper
- Alternative method
- \$750 processing fee and higher public notification costs
- Review Bylaw

Recommendation

That Council direct staff to

1. Forward *Cannabis Retail Store Public Consultation Policy and Fees Bylaw* to establish public consultation policy and fees, to the November 8, 2018 Council meeting for introductory readings.
2. Amend the *Cannabis-Related Business Regulation Bylaw* to align with the Province of British Columbia's *Cannabis Control and Licensing Act*.