

CANNABIS-RELATED MEASURES PROTECTING YOUTH IN ALBERTA



YMCA
Youth Cannabis
Awareness
Program

Programme de
sensibilisation des
jeunes au cannabis
du YMCA

THE ALBERTA GAMING, LIQUOR AND CANNABIS ACT

In addition to the Federal Cannabis Act, the goals of the Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Act are to keep cannabis out of the hands of youth, to eliminate the illicit market, to protect public health by providing adults with access to legal cannabis and to keep roads, workplaces, and public spaces safe in Alberta.



LEGAL AGE IN ALBERTA

18 is the minimum legal age to access and use cannabis products. Selling cannabis to minors, or using youth to commit cannabis-related offences, carries a maximum penalty of 14 years in prison.

PENALTY FOR UNDERAGE POSSESSION

Youth who possess 5 grams or less in Alberta will not be charged criminally, however the cannabis will be seized and the youth will be fined similar to possession of alcohol or tobacco. Their parents/guardians will also be notified (Government of Alberta, 2021).



LIMITING EXPOSURE OF CANNABIS TO YOUTH



Cannabis use is prohibited in playgrounds, sports fields, skate parks, and other places where children commonly gather. Cannabis use is also prohibited on hospital property and in motor vehicles. It is illegal to sell cannabis through vending machines or self-serve displays. Cannabis can only be promoted in places where youth can not see the product.

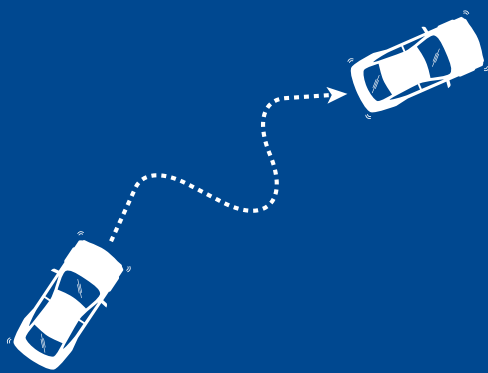
PREVENTING CANNABIS IMPAIRED DRIVING

In Alberta, 12.4% of cannabis users from grades 11-12 have driven within 2 hours of consuming cannabis in the past year (CCSA, 2020). 1 in 4 people in Alberta age 16+ report being in a vehicle operated by a cannabis impaired driver (CCS, 2020).



MEASURES IN PLACE TO ENSURE SAFE ROADS IN ALBERTA

Zero tolerance for Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) or non GDL drivers and a licence suspension up to 1 year for impaired driving. Penalties for driving impaired by cannabis can include fines as well as imprisonment for repeat offences (AGLC, 2021).



Reference List

Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis, 2021. *Cannabis and Impaired Driving*.
Canadian Center on Substance Use and Addiction, 2020. *Provincial Patterns and Trends in Cannabis Use Among Youth: Alberta*.
Government of Alberta, 2021. *Alberta Cannabis Framework and Legislation*.
Health Canada, 2020. *2020 Canadian Cannabis Survey*.

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