

CANNABIS-RELATED MEASURES PROTECTING YOUTH IN NEW BRUNSWICK



YMCA
Youth Cannabis
Awareness
Program

Programme de
sensibilisation des
jeunes au cannabis
du YMCA

CANNABIS CONTROL ACT

In addition to the Federal Cannabis Act, the goals of the Cannabis Control Act are to protect the health and safety of residents of the province, including those of vulnerable populations, and to enhance public awareness of the adverse health effects of cannabis by restricting access to cannabis and limiting inducements to consume cannabis.



LEGAL AGE IN NEW BRUNSWICK

19 is the minimum age to purchase cannabis accessories, as well as possess or cultivate cannabis plants. Selling cannabis to a minor or using a minor to commit cannabis-related offences can result in up to 14 years in prison.

PENALTY FOR UNDERAGE POSSESSION

1 in 8 violations of the Cannabis Act involve underage youth possession of over 5 grams of cannabis (Statistics Canada, 2020). Under the Youth Criminal Justice Act, youth ages 12-17 can also face cannabis-related charges (e.g., fines, custody in detention center, probation, youth criminal record etc.)



LIMITING EXPOSURE OF CANNABIS TO YOUTH

Consumption of cannabis in all public places is strictly prohibited. Cannabis in a home must be kept secured and inaccessible to minors (Government of New Brunswick, 2021). Promotion of cannabis products is limited to licensed vendors only, and products cannot be made visible by a distributor to anyone under the age of 19.

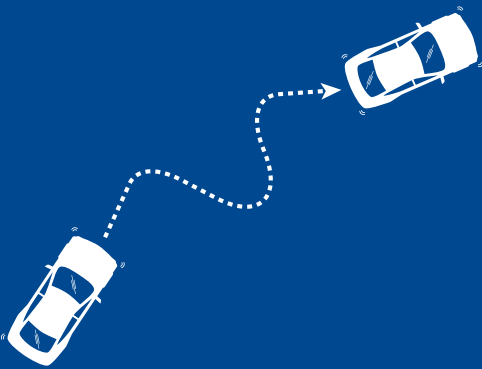
PREVENTING CANNABIS IMPAIRED DRIVING

In 2019, 17% of students in grades 6-12 reported riding in an on-road vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol, or using cannabis or other illegal drugs (New Brunswick Health Council, 2019).



MEASURES IN PLACE TO ENSURE SAFE ROADS IN NEW BRUNSWICK

Zero tolerance for all novice drivers and drivers under the age of 21. Drivers caught driving while impaired face fines starting at \$1,000 and driving prohibitions for one year for first offences, as well as prison sentences starting at 30 days for second offences, and a minimum 120 days for subsequent offences.



Reference List

Government of New Brunswick, 2021. *Cannabis in New Brunswick*.

Health Canada, 2020. *2020 Canadian Cannabis Survey*.

New Brunswick Health Council, 2019. *New Brunswick Student Wellness Survey, Grades 6-12, 2018-2019*.

Statistics Canada, 2020. *Cannabis Since Legalization: What Has Changed?*

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