

**Subject: Cannabis Bylaws in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo****APPROVALS:****Annette Antoniak**\_\_\_\_\_  
Director\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Administrative Officer**Recommended Motion:**

1. THAT Bylaw No. 18/022, being a bylaw to repeal and replace the Smoking and Vaping Bylaw, Bylaw No. 18/015, be read a second time.
2. THAT Bylaw No. 18/022 be read a third and final time.
3. THAT Bylaw No. 18/023, being an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw, be read a second time.
4. THAT Bylaw No. 18/023 be read a third and final time.

**Summary:**

On July 9, 2018, Council approved bylaws for regulating cannabis sales, production, permitting and consumption in the Region. While most of the bylaws are already in place, the proposed two bylaws provide clarification to the existing approved Smoking and Vaping Bylaw and propose new land use districts where cannabis retail stores and production facilities could be located.

**Background:**

The Federal and Provincial governments have introduced legislation to legalize, regulate, and restrict access to recreational cannabis. In preparation for this pending legalization, on July 9, 2018 Council approved amendments to the Land Use Bylaw (Bylaw No. 18/014) to regulate districts where cannabis retail stores and production facilities can be located, along with amendments to the License Bylaw (Bylaw No. 18/016) to allow cannabis related businesses to operate in the Region. A Smoking and Vaping Bylaw (Bylaw No. 18/015) regulating how cannabis is consumed was also approved at that time.

As cannabis legalization approaches and following further review, there is a need to

update these bylaws, particularly the Land Use Bylaw and the Smoking and Vaping Bylaw, to provide greater clarity surrounding the smoking and vaping of cannabis as well as to make allowances for cannabis retail stores and production facilities in more land use districts.

Bylaw No. 18/022 proposes to replace the recently adopted Smoking and Vaping Bylaw. It provides for a separate set of rules for smoking and vaping tobacco than for smoking and vaping cannabis. While smoking and vaping tobacco will generally be allowed outdoors in places that are accessible to the public (with certain restrictions, like proximity to entry ways) the smoking and vaping of cannabis will be prohibited in any spaces accessible to the public, both indoors and outdoors. A more detailed summary of proposed changes to the Smoking and Vaping Bylaw is provided in Attachment 3.

The proposed amendments to the Land Use Bylaw, if approved, would allow for cannabis retail stores in the CBD-1 Central Business District and C4 Highway Commercial District. It will also allow for cannabis production facilities in the Business Industrial district of Taiganova Industrial Park.

**Budget/Financial Implications:**

The new permits for cannabis retail stores and production facilities will generate some revenue for the municipality through development permit, building permit and business license application fees. However, this is not expected to be a significant source of revenue.

**Rationale for Recommendation:**

The proposed changes to the Municipality's bylaws provide more clarity with regard to smoking and vaping of tobacco and cannabis and will also allow for cannabis retail and production facilities in commercial and industrial zones that were not included in previous amendments. The proposed changes strike a balance between economic development opportunities and laws to mitigate community concerns.

Banning smoking and vaping of cannabis in public places will protect children, adults and seniors from exposure to second hand cannabis smoke, while still allowing people to consume it in their privately owned or rented space.

**Strategic Priorities:**

Responsible Government  
Downtown Revitalization  
Regional Economic Development

**Attachments:**

- 1. Bylaw No. 18/022 - Smoking and Vaping Bylaw**
- 2. Bylaw No. 18/023 - Land Use Bylaw Amendment**
- 3. Summary of Proposed Changes to Smoking and Vaping Bylaw**