

FOR RELEASE
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Results of public engagement on cannabis released today

The Government of Yukon has released the results of its public engagement survey on the legalization of cannabis in the territory. The survey was open to public participation between August 10 and September 30, 2017.

The survey consisted of an introductory section with general questions and seven optional sections about specific topics. There were 3,172 responses to the introductory section and between 2,416 and 2,817 responses to each of the seven optional sections. Ninety-seven percent of respondents were Yukon residents.

The information gathered from the survey will inform the development of an act for the regulation of cannabis in Yukon. This act, along with associated regulations, will be in place before federal legislation comes into force in July 2018.

Quotes

"Our public engagement on cannabis legalization was very well-received and we are happy to share the results. Thanks to all Yukoners, Yukon First Nation governments, our municipalities, chambers of commerce, businesses and other stakeholders that participated in this process and provided us with such valuable input. We are working diligently on our proposed Yukon approach and I look forward to releasing details in the near future."

–Minister of Justice Tracy-Anne McPhee

"Yukoners support a public health approach when it comes to cannabis legislation – in particular with a focus on protecting youth. As we develop the legislation, we will continue to consider the impacts associated with the normalization of cannabis – particularly as it relates to its effects on youth, pregnant women, and those at risk of psychosis or cardiovascular disease."

–Minister of Health and Social Services Pauline Frost

Quick facts

- 81 per cent of survey respondents support the federal government's plan to legalize cannabis.
- About 75 per cent of respondents agree that it is either completely or somewhat acceptable to occasionally smoke or eat cannabis for recreational purposes.
- More than 85 per cent of respondents support Yukon's priorities of focusing on public health, harm reduction, preventing negative impacts on youth, and displacing illegal activity.

Learn more: Cannabis Engagement results

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