

DECLARATION FROM CANADIAN SCHOOL BOARDS REGARDING IMPACT OF CANNABIS LEGALIZATION ON SCHOOLS

The legalization of cannabis and the potential adverse impacts represent a challenge for all stakeholders connected to public education. The use of cannabis can have considerable influence on school life and has been linked to elevated rates of social, emotional and intellectual difficulty, as well as of non-completion of studies. These realities are well known to those who work in the field of education in Canada.

AS PARTNERS IN EDUCATION:

- We provide youth with the opportunity to mature and develop in a safe, healthy learning environment, enabling them to achieve education success;
- We educate young people and adults to be informed, conscientious and autonomous citizens who will assume their position as active members in the development of Canadian Society;
- We promote the importance wellbeing and leading healthy lifestyles through nutrition, physical activity and the prevention of substance abuse.

WE DECLARE THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL:

- That education partners be consulted by the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Governments on the establishment of the framework for cannabis legalization;
- That education partners be active partners at any provincial discussions about legislation, local policies and procedures;
- That education partners be consulted by the Federal, Provincial, and Territorial Governments on strategies for harm reduction, mitigation and other interventions;
- That monies generated by the sales of cannabis are allocated to the prevention of cannabis abuse and toward promoting a healthy lifestyle;

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- That cannabis use prevention and reduction, as well as the promotion of healthy lifestyles remain Crown priorities and are integrated into Federal, Provincial and Territorial regulations pertaining to legalization of cannabis;
- That any advertising related to cannabis or use of cannabis, be prohibited;
- That the use of cannabis be prohibited in public areas;
- That the sale and distribution of cannabis be prohibited near schools and other educational facilities.

Mary Martin, President

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