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# Cannabis to be Legalized in Manitoba on October 17, 2018

As the date for legalization of cannabis nears, you may have questions about how this will impact your business. Here are a couple of aspects of the upcoming legislation that may be relevant to your business:

## Smoking or Vaping Cannabis is Prohibited in Public Places, Including Restaurants

The [Non-Smokers Health Protection and Vapour Products Act](#) will prohibit smoking and vaping cannabis in outdoor public places once non-medical use of the drug is legalized, such as:

- streets and sidewalks;
- parks and beaches;
- school grounds;
- restaurant patios and decks;
- the grounds of health-care facilities; and
- any additional places that may be specified by regulation.

Exceptions to this prohibition may be specified by regulation under the Act. The changes build on [The Cannabis Harm Prevention Act](#), which amended The [Non-Smokers Health Protection and Vapour Products Act](#) to prohibit smoking or vaping of cannabis in enclosed public places, indoor workplaces and other areas, with the exception of designated rooms in a hospital's palliative care unit or an end-of-life hospice.

## Employers Have Responsibility to Determine Appropriate Workplace Policies and Procedures Related to Cannabis

While non-medical cannabis use will be legal under federal and provincial legislation and regulation, [The Workplace Safety and Health Act](#) maintains that employers have a duty to ensure a workplace is reasonably free of risk to worker safety and health. It is up to each employer, for each workplace, to determine appropriate conduct and policy procedures related to cannabis, just as many employers already do with alcohol. For more information, please consult the Workplace Safety and Health Branch at 204-957-SAFE (204-945-7233). Information on drug and alcohol testing in the workplace from the Manitoba Human Rights Commission is available at [www.manitobahumanrights.ca/v1/education-resources/resources/drug-alcohol-testing-in-the-workplace.html](http://www.manitobahumanrights.ca/v1/education-resources/resources/drug-alcohol-testing-in-the-workplace.html).



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The above is the some of the most relevant information about the upcoming legalization for our members, but it might not be the only information you want to consider prior to October 17. Please visit the Province of Manitoba's web pages on [cannabis legalization and regulation](#) for more information. Click on the subtitles above to be directed to the corresponding information on the Province's website from which they were excerpted.