



NFN Cannabis Law Development Update

Community Consultations to Review Draft Law April 15th & 18th

On March 21st, Council reviewed the draft Cannabis Law at a Special Council Meeting and addressed several outstanding questions prior to finalizing the draft for community review. Community feedback provided at the December consultations and in surveys helped Council answer critical questions that will shape the final draft our lawyer presents.

Community consultations will be held in mid-April to review the draft law in detail, and to make any additions and adjustments based on input from Debendaagziwaad.

Community Consultation Dates

Monday, April 15th

6:30pm - 8:30pm

NFN Complex Gym, Garden Village

Thursday, April 18th

6:30pm - 8:30pm

Nbisiing School Gym, Duchesnay

Background

Feedback from the December consultations and community surveys showed the majority of the community supported allowing retail stores and exploring production opportunities, provided that NFN's regulations uphold community safety and are enforceable.

We have been working closely with the federal and provincial governments since cannabis was legalized in October to ensure our law interfaces with theirs, and more importantly, that there is a legal mechanism for it to be recognized and enforced. We had to make sure our Cannabis Law would be backed by a plan and resources to implement and enforce it.

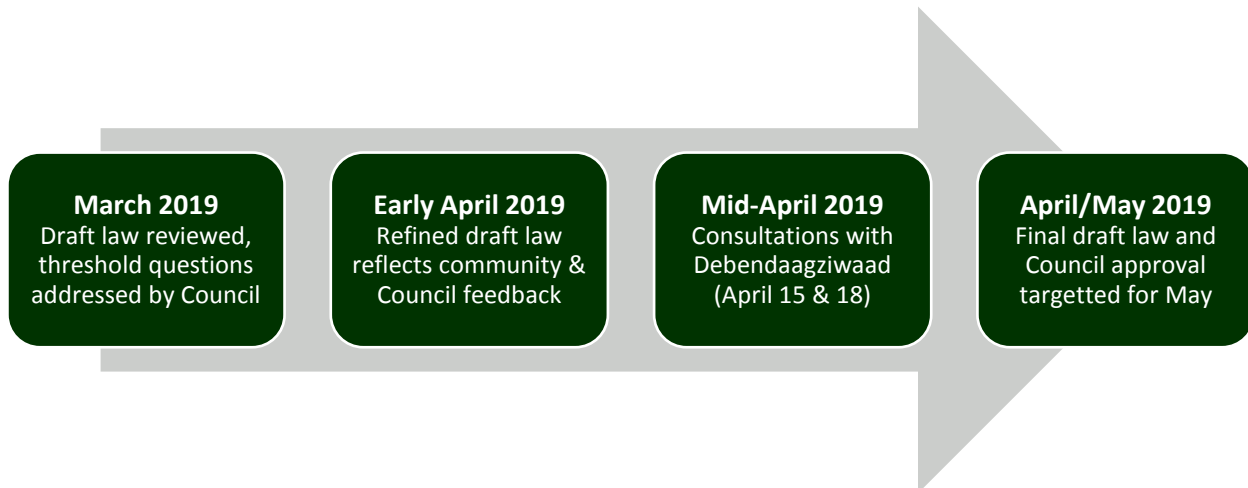
Agreements are not yet finalized, but the Lake Nipissing Memorandum of Understanding is serving as a template for how Ontario can recognize our law while we assert jurisdiction without impeding economic development or risking community safety.

NFN's Cannabis Law will meet or exceed Provincial regulations. It will be designed to interface with provincial and federal regulations to the extent that they work for our nation, while also adding regulations to strengthen the law where we see fit. For example, we will:

- Allow cannabis retail stores in prescribed zones and in accordance with our Cannabis Law.
(i.e. NFN's law will mimic Ontario's by requiring stores to be stand-alone buildings)
- Ensure a legal supply chain for our stores by working with respective governments. NFN will not allow illegal sales, and will move with enforcement agencies to curtail any illegal sales.
- NFN will raise the minimum age required to purchase to 21 (Ontario's law is 19 years of age)

The health & safety of our community members has - and will continue to be - the first and most important priority as we move forward with our Cannabis Law.

NFN Cannabis Law Development Timeline



Business Licensing Process & Steps

NFN's current business license application review and approval process is outlined below. Please note that this process may be amended or changed to deal with business license applications specific to *cannabis*-related ventures (production or retailing).

Applications for cannabis-related businesses will not be processed until NFN's Cannabis Law has been ratified (following community consultations).

As it stands, the process to apply for an NFN Business License (unrelated to cannabis production or retailing) is:

- 1) Complete and submit the application along with your business plan.
- 2) If the information is complete, the Business License Committee will review the application to determine if the business is appropriate for NFN (i.e. is the business legal? Are there any environmental issues? Is the proposed location appropriate?)
- 3) The Business License Committee may request clarification or additional information.
- 4) A notification informing the community of the proposed business and location will be posted for 30 days giving band members an opportunity to provide feedback
- 5) The Business License request is then given to Chief and Council with the Business License Committee's recommendations based on the community's feedback
- 6) The Business License request is either approved or declined by Chief and Council

For more information about the business licensing process, please contact:

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