

# Request for Decision



To: Committee of the Whole  
From: **Development and Engineering**  
Date: August 20, 2018  
Subject: Cannabis Delegation Bylaw  
Recommendation: **RESOLVED THAT Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to give the first three readings to “Cannabis Delegation Bylaw No. 2053” at the September 4, 2018 Regular Meeting; and THAT Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to adopt Policy 1504 - Retail Cannabis Licence Recommendation at the September 4, 2018 Regular Meeting.**

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## Background

Staff introduced the critical path for Cannabis legalization and regulation by the City at the February 13, 2018 Committee of the whole. The Official Community Plan and the Zoning Bylaw have been amended to define where retail Cannabis businesses may operate and where grow operations may be located. The province's retail licencing system includes a referral for recommendation from local government. Without a positive recommendation, the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) will not issue a licence.

According to the LCRB:

The recommendations and comments the local government provides to the LCRB must:

- be in writing (this may or may not be in the form of a resolution)
- show that the local government has considered the location of the proposed store
- include the views of the local government on the general impact on the community if the application is approved
- include the views of residents if the local government has gathered residents' views, and a description of how they were gathered
- include the local government's recommendation as to whether the application should be approved or rejected and provide the reasons upon which the recommendation is based.

Staff propose to handle these recommendations in a similar manner to business licencing and planning permits. The initial approval is made at the staff level through delegated authority and reconsiderations are brought to Council. This is done through a delegation bylaw, the draft of which is attached. This ensures a predictable and fair process that allows the business community to make informed decisions when deciding to locate or invest in Grand Forks. Staff would follow a policy set by Council. That draft policy “1504 – Retail Cannabis Licence Recommendation” is attached for review. Please note that the overall potential locations for retail Cannabis stores has already been set by Council in the Zoning Bylaw.

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## Benefits or Impacts

### General

This outlines the process for delivering recommendations to the LCRB on retail Cannabis store licences.

### Strategic Impact



#### Community Engagement

- Policy 1504 mandates staff to engage residents before delivering a recommendation to the LCRB



#### Economic Growth

- Bylaw 2053 and Policy 1504 outline a predictable and fair process for retail Cannabis businesses.

### Policy/Legislation

Cannabis Delegation Bylaw No. 2053

Policy 1504 – Retail Cannabis Licence Recommendation

## Attachments

Bylaw 2053

Policy 1504

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## Recommendation

**RESOLVED THAT** Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to give the first three readings to “Cannabis Delegation Bylaw No. 2053” at the September 4, 2018 Regular Meeting; and

**THAT** Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to adopt Policy 1504 - Retail Cannabis Licence Recommendation at the September 4, 2018 Regular Meeting.

## Options

1. RESOLVED THAT Committee of the Whole accepts the report.
2. RESOLVED THAT Committee of the Whole does not accept the report.
3. RESOLVED THAT Committee of the Whole refers the matter back to staff for further information.