

CANNABIS-RELATED MEASURES PROTECTING YOUTH IN NOVA SCOTIA



YMCA
Youth Cannabis
Awareness
Program

Programme de
sensibilisation des
jeunes au cannabis
du YMCA

CANNABIS CONTROL ACT

In addition to the Federal Cannabis Act, the goals of the Cannabis Control Act are to keep cannabis out of the hands of youth, eliminate the illicit market, protect the health and safety providing adults with access to legal cannabis and keep the roads safe in Nova Scotia.

LEGAL AGE IN NOVA SCOTIA

19 is the minimum legal age to buy, grow or possess cannabis products.

Selling cannabis to minors and using youth to commit a cannabis-related offence could lead to up to a \$10,000 fine.



PENALTY FOR UNDERAGE POSSESSION

Youth under 19 are not allowed under the law to possess, use, grow, harvest or buy (or attempt to buy) cannabis. Underage possession of under 5 grams results in a \$150 fine and seizure of the cannabis.



LIMITING EXPOSURE OF CANNABIS TO YOUTH

Smoking cannabis is prohibited in indoor and outdoor public places and in vehicles. Landlords may set rules about cannabis use in their buildings. The Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation is the only retailer who can legally sell cannabis. Staff are trained to check ID from people who look under 30 years of age.



PREVENTING CANNABIS IMPAIRED DRIVING

From 2016-17, 21% of Nova Scotia students in grades 11-12 reported driving within 2 hours of consuming cannabis in the past year. Over 1 in 4 youth in Grades 7-12 reported being a passenger in a vehicle operated by a cannabis impaired driver (CCSA, 2020).



MEASURES IN PLACE TO ENSURE SAFE ROADS IN NOVA SCOTIA

Drivers & passengers cannot use cannabis in motor vehicles (including boats) or else risk receiving fines up to \$2000.

Zero tolerance applies to N drivers and a first offence results in a licence suspension of 1 year and a fine of at least \$1000 (Government of Nova Scotia, 2021).



Reference List

Canadian Center on Substance Use and Addiction, 2020. *Provincial Patterns and Trends In Cannabis Use Among Youth: Nova Scotia*.

Government of Nova Scotia, accessed 2021. *Cannabis Impaired Driving*.