

Policy 620: Legalization and Regulation of Cannabis/Marijuana

Effective Date: July 7, 2018

Revision Date:

Policy Statement

*Marijuana legalization policy across Canada is a top-down federal initiative driven largely by changing public attitudes and conditioned by the current realities of widespread use of marijuana often purchased through illicit means. The 2018 Legalization and Regulation of Cannabis in Canada (Bill C45 – Amendments to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act) determines that adults 18 years of age or older may participate in recreational or medicinal use of Cannabis/Marijuana. The legislation includes **strict guidelines around selling to minors** and driving while impaired.*

Recreational marijuana at school will be treated like any other controlled substance (such as alcohol). Peigan Board of Education is responsible for the safety of all students and employees within our organization and we have the right to enforce a zero-tolerance policy against intoxication or impairment in the workplace.

Medical Marijuana use at school will be treated differently as employers are bound by duty to accommodate the Human Rights Code. By law, this means patients with medical marijuana prescriptions must be accommodated just like any other medical need or disability.

*Controlled substances and/or illicit drugs, including recreational cannabis/marijuana and/or alcohol, are **prohibited** from PBOE Education Campus (including all schools, board office, academy, Miikyaapii Center, and outbuildings) ensuring that our children, youth, parents, and staff are in a safe and caring education environment.*

As an education organization, Peigan Board of Education has four areas of focus:

- *Prevention and Discipline: Keeping cannabis/marijuana out of the hands of children and youth*
- *Workplace Safety: Safety on roads, in workplaces and in public spaces*
- *Human Rights: Protecting health by protecting rights*
- *Legislation: Laws for use of cannabis/marijuana*

Regulations – Prevention and Discipline (Students)

1. When recreational use of marijuana is legalized, it will still be **illegal for minors to use or possess** cannabis/marijuana.
2. Prevention education for all grades will be implemented beginning at Grade 1. Prevention education will aim to discourage and prevent drug use among children and youth.
3. Prevention and intervention education will be mandated in PBOE schools to prevent, delay, or reduce substance use or related problems.
4. If students are caught using marijuana for recreational purposes at a school or a school event after it is legalized in Canada, the same disciplinary rules will apply because recreational marijuana will still be illegal for minors.
 - 4.1. First offense: Suspension
 - 4.2. Second offense: Suspension with referral to counsellors.
 - 4.3. Third offense: Home Schooling (Expulsion)