



**Decision Note  
Advice to Minister**

**Date: November 9, 2018**

**Cliff #: 34922**

**Issue: Lions of the Sea Project**

**Background / Facts:**

- “Lions of the Sea” is a proposed feature film about the Komagata Maru incident of 1914.
- This incident involved the Japanese steamship, Komagata Maru, on which a group of 376 citizens of the British Raj attempted to immigrate to Canada via the Port of Vancouver.
- After a two-month stand-off, most of passengers were denied entry to British Columbia and forced to return to India, resulting in a number of deaths.
- A number of projects have been supported over the years to promote a better understanding of the impact of this historical issue on B.C.'s South Asian community, and better public education on racism.
- On April 4, 2017, at the request of the Province, the Knowledge Network signed a Letter of Intent (LOI) to come to an agreement with the production company First Take Entertainment for the feature film, Lions of the Sea, about this incident.
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- s.13,s.17,s.21
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- s.13,s.17
- s.12,s.13

**Analysis:**

- s.13,s.21
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s.13,s.21

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**Recommendation/Next Steps:**

- s.13

- s.12,s.13

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- s.13

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**Approved/Not Approved**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Beare".

Honourable Lisa Beare

November 19, 2018

Date

**Attachment(s):** Appendix One: September 10, 2018 Project Update from Knowledge Network.  
See separate .pdf document.

**Contact:** Amy Schneider, A/ED, Creative Sector (778) 698-1804



## Information Note Advice to Minister

**Date:** November 16, 2018

**Cliff #:** 33694

**Issue:** Meeting with Katherine MacRae, Commercial Bear Viewing Association, Nicholas Scapillati, and Raine Playfair of the Grizzly Bear Foundation, and Indigenous Tourism BC on November 22, 2018 at 11:15 a.m.

### Background:

- Kathy MacRae is the Executive Director of the Commercial Bear Viewing Association of British Columbia (CBVA). The CBVA is a membership-based association that advocates for the interests of the bear viewing industry and have advocated in favour of the recent decision to end the grizzly bear trophy hunt.
- The CBVA is an active member of the Adventure Tourism Coalition, and represents tourism operators primarily located in coastal B.C. where bears and food sources are abundant.
- The Grizzly Bear Foundation (GBF) is a charitable organization formed in 2016 dedicated to the welfare of grizzly bears through research, education and conservation efforts.
- Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC) is a business association controlled by an all-Indigenous board of directors and designated by First Nation Leadership Council and Union of BC Indian Chiefs as the association representing Indigenous tourism in BC.
- Ms. MacRae has requested a meeting on behalf of the three organizations to discuss the growth of bear viewing in BC within Indigenous communities.
- Regulation of the bear viewing industry is a joint responsibility between the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV). Ministry (TAC) staff have worked closely with FLNRORD, ENV and tourism stakeholders over the past year to support the bear viewing industry and explore options for policy development.
- There is work underway through a cross-ministry working group to develop options for policies and procedures for bear viewing. This work was catalyzed by an October 2017 recommendation by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) to develop “clear policies and procedures” for bear viewing.
- On October 4 and November 7, 2018, meetings were held between staff from TAC, FLNRORD, ENV, the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (IRR), CBVA, GBF, and ITBC.
- In the October and November meetings mentioned above, the three organizations put forward a proposal to Government to contribute \$60,000 toward a “First Nations Forum on Grizzly Bear Conservation”. Based on the current proposal and discussions, FLNRORD is seeking additional information from CBVA before making a funding decision.

### Analysis:

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- The concept for the forum has value, however FLNRORD staff will require further information on the details listed above s.13

There is



some concern from provincial staff as to whether the timelines for this forum are feasible.

- The CBVA has engaged in ongoing policy discussions with FLNR and has met directly with staff twice in 2018. TAC staff are also engaged in related discussions through a cross-ministry working group.
- The Wildlife and Habitat Branch for FLNRORD is currently drafting a Grizzly Bear Management Plan s.13
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### **Conclusion/Next Steps:**

- While the responsibility for bear viewing regulations and Grizzly Bear Management Plan remains with FLNRORD and ENV, TAC staff will continue to engage with provincial colleagues and stakeholders to ensure that the growth of the bear viewing industry is supported.
- TAC staff will send out a joint response with FLNRORD and ENV to ask CBVA, the GBF and ITBC asking for further information regarding their proposed First Nations Forum.

**Appendix 1:**           **Suggested Messaging**  
**Appendix 2:**       **Biographies of meeting attendees**  
**Contact:**           *Suzanne Ferguson, Executive Director, Tourism Branch (778 698-9355)*



## **Appendix 1: Suggested Messaging**

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## **Appendix 2 – Biographies**

### **Katherine MacRae, Executive Director, Commercial Bear Viewing Association**



Katherine MacRae is a hospitality and tourism professional with over 20 years of experience in the industry. She currently provides business development expertise for Maple Leaf Adventures, a nature based sailing business based in Victoria, BC. She is also a member of the Commercial Bear Viewing Association and sits on its Political Committee to advocate for bears in British Columbia. Previous to working with Maple Leaf Adventures, Katherine was the Director of Marketing for Clayoquot Wilderness Resort. Ms. MacRae is also currently attending Royal Roads University's Masters of Tourism Management Program

### **Nicholas Scapillati , Executive Director, Grizzly Bear Foundation**



Nicholas has over 20 years experience in environmental non-profit management. He studied Biogeography at McMaster University and began his career working at the David Suzuki Foundation. Passionate about biodiversity conservation, habitat restoration, food sustainability and climate action, Nicholas has lead programs and organizations at the national, provincial and community level. He served on the Vancity enviroFund grant committee for over a decade, ran as a candidate in the 2013 BC provincial election, and worked in the Great Bear Rainforest, and closely with the Musqueam Nation for many years.

### **Raine Playfair, Communications and Program Manager, Grizzly Bear Foundation**



A non-profit communications and operations professional who wears many hats. With a background in design, marketing, and newspaper media, my strengths lay in communications, business administration, and project management. I'm passionate about presenting big ideas in simple ways to achieve maximum understanding and retention using integrated visual and written communications. With experience in grantsmanship, branding strategy, fundraising, and event planning, my unique blend of creative and coordination skills make me an asset to any strategic team.

## Briefing Note Advice to Minister

Date: November 21, 2018

Cliff #: 34782

Issue: Cannabis and Tourism

### Background / Facts:

- On April 13, 2017, the Government of Canada introduced the *Cannabis Act* (Bill C-45) to legalize, regulate, and restrict access to non-medical cannabis in Canada. The *Cannabis Act* came into force on October 17, 2018, making non-medical cannabis legal in Canada.
- In May 2018, the Province passed legislation, the *Cannabis Control and Licensing Act* (CCLA) and the *Cannabis Distribution Act* (CDA) to provide for legal, controlled access to non-medical cannabis in British Columbia.
- The federal, provincial and territorial governments share responsibility for overseeing the new system (see Appendix 1 for jurisdiction summary).
- In B.C., the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General (PSSG) is leading the Province's response to legalization, and the provincial Cannabis Legalization and Regulation Secretariat coordinates this cross-government work. The Province's approach to legalization is guided by the priorities of:
  - Protecting children and youth
  - Promoting health and safety
  - Keeping the criminal element out of cannabis
  - Keeping B.C. roads safe
  - Supporting economic development
- The Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology (JTT) is leading work on economic development for cannabis.

### Analysis:

- There is a great deal of uncertainty in the tourism sector in B.C. and other Canadian provinces around cannabis and tourism, both from the economic development perspective and from visitor impact perspective. [s.13,s.16,s.17](#)

### Economic Implications:

- [s.13,s.16,s.17](#)
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#### Visitors Implications:

- Canada may see an immediate bump in cannabis related visitation but expectations are that it will level off, as has been the experience in Colorado as more states became legal.
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#### Next Steps:

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- Destination BC is working with the PSSG to clarify information for industry and media on promotion, product development and visitor information.
- TIABC has identified cannabis as a key policy issue, and they are working with stakeholders and go2HR to continue to provide information to industry.
- TAC will work with DBC, TIABC, go2HR, JTT and PSSG to create Information sheets and/or Q&As for both visitors and tourism operators (see Appendix 3 for a sample from New Brunswick).
- DBC to share literature review conducted earlier this year related to cannabis tourism.

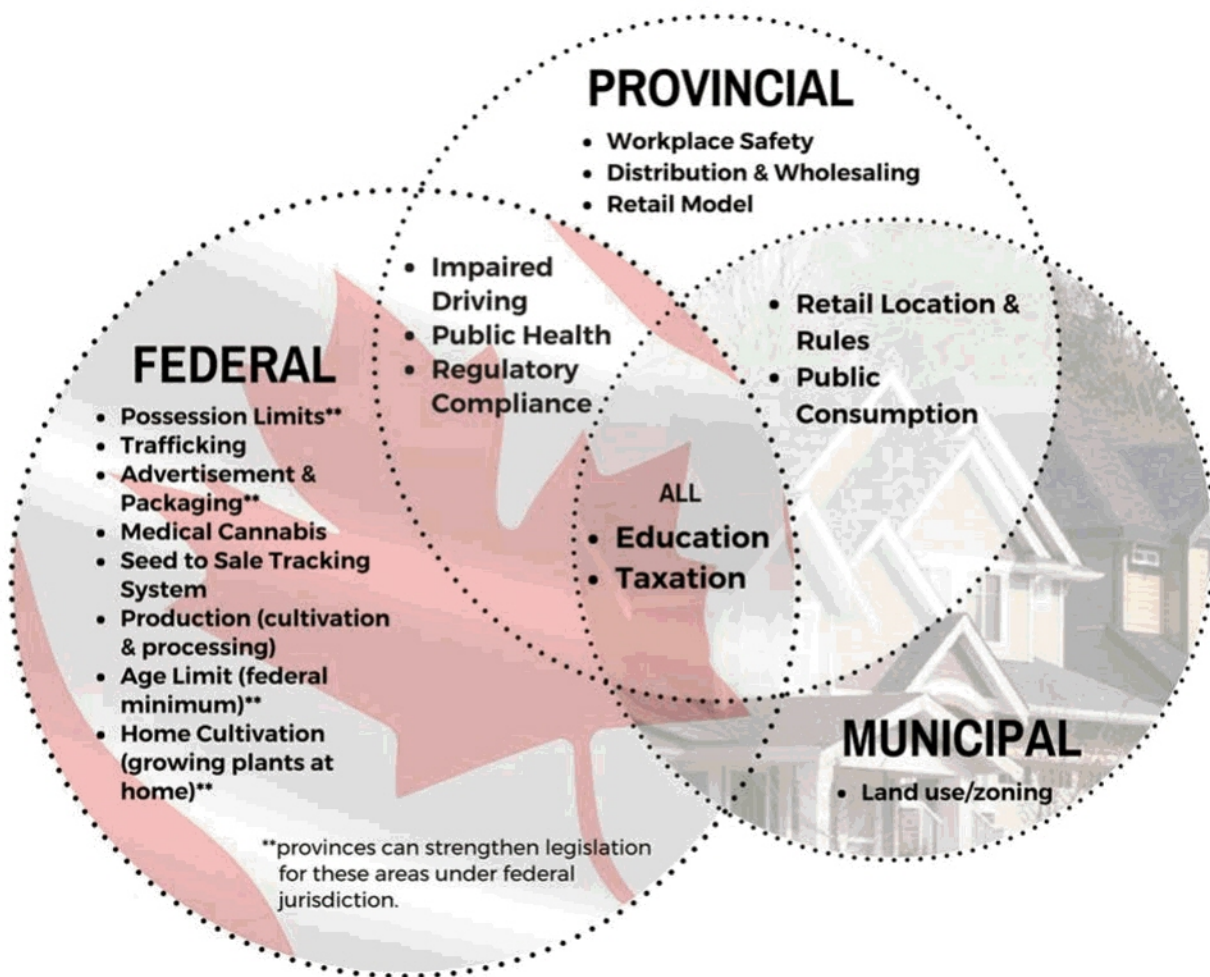
**Appendix 1:** *Jurisdictional Summary of Regulatory Environment*  
**Appendix 2:** *Provincial Comparison of Cannabis Regulations*  
**Appendix 3:** *Sample Information sheet for Tourism Operators*  
**Contact:** *Suzanne Ferguson, ED Tourism Branch, Tel. 250-952-0177*



## Appendix 1: Jurisdictional Summary of Regulatory Environment

In general:

- **The federal government** licenses cannabis production, sets standards for health and safety, establishes criminal prohibitions, and regulates advertising and promotion.
- **Provincial governments** are responsible for distribution and retail sales, some compliance and enforcement activities, and restricting where cannabis may be consumed. (See Appendix 2 for comparison of regulations per province).
- **Local governments** provide recommendation to the Province on location and licensing for store locations, and can limit areas of consumption.



## Appendix 2: Provincial Comparison of Cannabis Regulations

Province	Min. Age	Distribution	Consumption (based on inhaled product)
B.C.	19	Public online sales Private and public stores	Public consumption okay. Prohibited in cars, in areas frequented by children, and wherever tobacco is restricted.
Alberta	18	Private stores	Public consumption okay. Prohibited in cars, in areas frequented by children, and wherever tobacco is restricted.
Saskatchewan	19	Private stores	Private residences only.
Manitoba	19	Private stores	Private residences only.
Ontario		Public online sales Private retail model by April 1, 2019.	Private residences only.
Quebec	18	Public online sales Public stores	Where tobacco may be smoked, with the exception of university and CEGEP campuses
New Brunswick	19	Public stores	Private residences only.
Nova Scotia	19	Public online sales Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation stores in a separate area	Where tobacco may be smoked.
Newfoundland	19	Private stores	Private residences only.
PEI	19	Public online sales Public stores	Private residences, with some exceptions for certain public spaces
Yukon	19	Private stores	Private property
NWT	19	Public stores	Private property and on trails, highways, streets, roads and in parks when they are not in use for public events.
Nunavut	19	Public online/phone sales	Not permitted in public places, other than a designated cannabis lounge or permitted event

## Appendix 3: Sample Information Sheet for Tourism Operators

**CANNABIS - Information for Tourism Operators and Tourists**

It is now legal for those aged 19 and older to purchase, possess, cultivate and consume cannabis in New Brunswick.

In New Brunswick, consumption of cannabis in any form is prohibited anywhere but in a private dwelling or on land adjacent to a private dwelling (in your house, in your backyard, etc.). If consuming cannabis in another residence, you must have the permission of the home-owner.

**Q: Can hotels, inns and campgrounds ban cannabis consumption?**

A: Hotels, inns and campgrounds will be able to restrict visitors from smoking or vaping, as they can with tobacco. However, cannabis will come in many forms and hotels, inns and campgrounds are not able to ban other forms of cannabis consumption.

**Q: Is cannabis consumption allowed in provincial and national parks?**

A: If there is a campsite where smoking is permitted, then smoking cannabis is also allowed. However, if a site is smoke-free, smoking cannabis is not allowed. Cannabis will come in many forms and tourism operators will not be able to ban other forms of cannabis consumption on a campsite.

If a park falls under the Smoke-free Places Act, no smoking or vaping will be permitted.

**Q: Is cannabis consumption allowed at restaurants, amusement parks, festivals and outdoor attractions?**

A: No. Cannabis consumption is not permitted in public places.

**Q: Are the rules for medical cannabis different for hotels, inns and campgrounds?**

A: Medical cannabis consumers are still restricted by "no smoking" rooms and the *Smoke-free Places Act*.

**Travelling?**

It is illegal to transport cannabis across Canada's national borders. Visit [Cannabis and international travel](#) for more information.

If travelling to another Canadian province or territory, you must respect their laws (provinces and territories can have different rules concerning cannabis and visitors should educate themselves on the legal minimum age, where you can buy cannabis, where you can use it, and how much you can possess).

For more information on other provinces and territories, visit: [Cannabis in the provinces and territories](#)

**Road safety and impaired driving**

Like alcohol, cannabis can cause impairment. And it's illegal to drive while impaired.

Cannabis use of any kind in or on a vehicle (moving or not) is prohibited. This also applies to motorcycles, farm tractors, off-road vehicles and snowmobiles.

In addition to criminal charges, sanctions for drug impaired driving include: licence suspension, and vehicle impoundment. New drivers in the graduated licensing program and all drivers under 21 years of age must have zero level of drugs in their system.

**Health Information:**

Using cannabis is a personal choice. There are short-term and long-term health risks associated with cannabis use, particularly for persons under the age of 25, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and persons living with or with a family history of mental health issues.

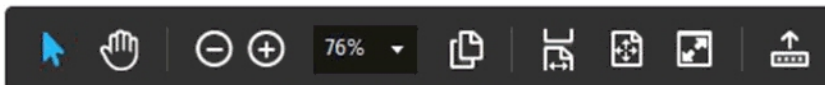
Understand the risks to make an informed decision on your personal cannabis use. For more information visit [InControlNB.ca](#). Refer to [Canada's Lower-Risk Cannabis Use Guidelines](#) to reduce your risk.

For more information, visit:

[Government of Canada](#)

[MADD Canada](#)

[CAA Cannabis Impaired Driving](#)



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