



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

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October 17, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
- All Catholic District School Boards

FROM: Beverley Eckensweiler, President

SUBJECT: Update: Cannabis Legalization and Resources for School Boards

As you are aware, as of October 17, 2018 non-medical use of cannabis is legal for adults 19 years and older. Today the Ontario government will pass Bill 36, the *Cannabis Statute Law Amendment Act, 2018* and move forward with the provinces new retail structure for the distribution of non-medical cannabis. The bill was not substantially amended from its original form.

On May 8, 2018, the former Deputy Minister of Education sent a memorandum to all Directors of Education outlining funding for boards and resources for boards, parents/guardians, students and board staff. We have attached a link to those resources for your reference. (<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/healthyschools/parents-resources.html>).

The Ministry is now in the process of updating the requirements for boards regarding suspension and exclusion policies that will reflect the new legislative requirements. Further information on these matters will be forthcoming this fall.

Next Steps

OCSTA will continue to liaison with the ministry of education and the ministry of finance regarding the development of regulations, board resources and policy changes in respect of cannabis legalization.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Andrews at sandrews@ocsta.on.ca