

Mission Statement, Bylaws, and Community Standards of the Mississauga of Rice Lake Cannabis Association

As ratified by consensus, Sept 15, 2018.

**Next Meeting of the Mississauga of Rice Lake
Cannabis Association – 10am Saturday, Dec 15, 2018**

OPEN TO ALL ALDERVILLE FIRST NATIONS MEMBERS

Mission Statement

The Mississauga of Rice Lake Cannabis Association (MRLCA) shall:

1. Advocate for the interests of the members of the Alderville First Nation who grow, sell, and consume cannabis products.
2. Implement a process of self-regulation of the cannabis industry on the territory of the Alderville First Nation through the application of Indigenous political and economic principles that will: uphold Indigenous self-determination, protect minors, combat addiction, keep out organized crime, provide for quality control and safe handling and consistency of product, educate consumers, regulate prices, ensure fair standards of wages and benefits to workers, and otherwise promote the public health and social wellbeing of the people of Alderville First Nation.
3. Advocate and promote the rights of all members of the Alderville First Nation to access cannabis and to build an “above ground” self-regulated industry to grow, process, transport, retail, and trade cannabis on a nation to nation basis. This advocacy may be done through means including, but not limited to, workshops, publications, advertisements, and public relations campaigns.
4. Encourage the diversification of the Alderville cannabis industry into a broader “green economy” using hemp and cannabis byproducts to produce building materials, paper, clothing, health foods, etc. in such a manner to bring health and prosperity to the people of Alderville First Nation.
5. Promote Alderville First Nation as a cannabis tourist hub, allowing us to share our culture and traditions.
6. Defend and build political and legal support for any members of the MRLCA who face criminalization or state sanctioned targeting for participating in the Indigenous cannabis industry.
7. The MRLCA shall create a mechanism whereby a portion of the revenue made through the cannabis industry will be apportioned to economic, social and cultural programs that improve the lives and support the identity and values of the people of Alderville First Nation.

Bylaws of the Mississauga of Rice Lake Cannabis Association (MRLCA)

1. Membership

- 1.1. The Alderville Cannabis Association is an organization comprised of members of the Alderville First Nation who are involved in the growing, processing, transporting, sale, and consumption of cannabis products.
- 1.2. Any member of the Alderville First Nation who grows, sells or consumes cannabis products, who agrees to uphold the mission statement, bylaws, and Community Standards of the MRLCA, and who pays the yearly \$25 MRLCA membership fee will be accepted as a member of the association.
- 1.3. A membership card will be issued to each member of the MRLCA with their name, and proof of membership listed on it.
- 1.4. Members of the MRLCA are entitled to a 10% discount on purchases at participating businesses on Alderville First Nation.

2. Membership Groups

- 2.1. Members of the MRLCA join
- 2.2. one of three bodies based upon their involvement in the cannabis industry. These three groups are: *growers* (anyone involved in any stage of the growing or manufacturing of cannabis) *retailers* (anyone involved in sale of the product) and *consumers* (members of Alderville First Nation who consume cannabis products.)

3. The General Council meeting

- 3.1. The highest decision making body of the MRLCA is its General Council, which is a meeting of all members.
- 3.2. General Council meetings of the MRLCA occur quarterly, on the Saturday morning *before* the winter and summer solstice, and the Saturday morning *before* the spring and fall equinox.
- 3.3. Meetings shall begin at 9am on Saturday morning.
- 3.4. After welcoming and introductions, the General Council shall divide into its three component parts (growers, retailers, and consumers).
- 3.5. Each group will meet by itself to discuss its concerns and issues.
- 3.6. Once it has met and discussed within its group, each group will pick spokespeople to reflect the general positions and perspectives held by each of the three groups.
- 3.7. When the General Council reunites, each of the three groups shall sit together so they may council together to see if they have consensus on proposals made by the other groups.

4. Passing of resolutions

- 4.1. Business is advanced by one of the three sides coming to an internal agreement to make a specific resolution – ie: “the MRLCA should pass such and

such a resolution or carry out such and such an action” – and passing it across to one of the other groups to have them discuss. The second group seeks to arrive at a consensus to either reject, accept or modify the proposal and lets the group which proposed the initiative know whether they accept, reject, or have modified the proposal.

4.2.If both the first and the second group have come to agreement on the proposal, the second group shall pass on the motion to the third group which may either ratify the decision, or send it back to the other two with further modifications.

4.3.If the same matter is passed back and forth between two groups and no consensus is reached, then the matter shall be referred to the next meeting. If a matter has been brought up at three consecutive meetings and has not been resolved, then the matter shall be deemed closed and shall not be discussed again.

4.4.Motions that are agreed upon with the consensus of all three groups are written down and recorded as official decisions of the MRLCA by the MRLCA secretary and shall be published on the MRLCA's website.

5. **Executive committee.**

5.1.At its founding meeting on June 16, 2018, the MRLCA shall choose an executive committee made up of a spokesperson, a treasurer, a secretary as well as one representative from each membership group (a total of 6

members)

5.2.The terms of the executive members is for a one year period.

5.3.The MRLCA as a whole must come to consensus on who will be chosen as spokesperson, treasurer, and secretary. The group representatives to the executive are chosen by the consensus of each group (retailers, growers, and consumers) and ratified by the other two groups.

5.4.The role of the executive is to operate the affairs of the association in between MRLCA quarterly meetings.

5.5.The spokesperson speaks on behalf of the association publicly and is responsible for external communications.

5.6.The treasurer is responsible for the group's finances.

5.7.The secretary is responsible for keeping minutes of executive and general assembly meetings, keeping track of membership, and handling internal communications amongst the membership.

5.8.The other three executive members represent the groups that selected them and may assist the spokesperson, treasurer, and secretary as necessary, or take on other areas of responsibility.

5.9.Executive members are recallable by the members of the group that placed them on the executive. They may be removed from their position and replaced by the group that chose them at any quarterly

meetings of the MRLCA.

5.10. The executive committee shall produce a proposed agenda, and provide a written report of the executive's activities on behalf of the MRLCA no less than three weeks before each quarterly meeting.

5.11. The executive is collectively responsible for organizing the quarterly general assembly meetings and communicating the decisions made to the membership.

6. **Commissions and special committees**

6.1. The MRLCA may create commissions and committees as necessary to fulfil its mandate. These bodies may include:

6.1.1. A trustee body to oversee the finances of the Community Contribution Fund

6.1.2. An Advisory Board made up of grandmothers from Alderville First Nation

6.1.3. An Education and Skills development committee to build capacity within and outside the MRLCA.

6.1.4. An arms length compliance body / Ombudsperson to handle and investigate complaints. The Ombudsperson shall serve as a non-decision making member of the executive and shall be the person to whom all

complaints concerning MRLCA members shall be referred to.

7. **Removal from Association**

7.1. The following are grounds for removal from the association:

7.1.1. Involvement within the cannabis industry on the territory of the Alderville First Nation in violation of the MRLCA approved document "MRLCA Community Standards for the growing, selling, or consumption of cannabis on Alderville First Nation."

7.2. The executive of the association has the right to suspend a member of the association for violation of the Community Standards document. That suspension may be dismissed, altered or confirmed into a removal from the Association at the following General Council quarterly meeting.

8. **Modification of bylaws and statement of principles**

8.1. The bylaws and statement of principles of the MRLCA may be modified with the consensus agreement of all three bodies of the MRLCA as long as the notice of such change is provided to the membership with a minimum of two weeks notice before the quarterly meeting.

MRLCA Community Standards for the Cannabis Industry of Alderville First Nation

1. General Framework

1.1. These community standards on the safe operation of cannabis dispensaries have been adopted by the members of the Alderville First Nation Cannabis Association to protect the people of our nation and the visitors to it.

1.2. The community standards document is a “living document” that may be altered through the decision making process of the MRLCA at one of its quarterly meetings.

2. Youth Protection

2.1. Cannabis Dispensaries on the territory of the Alderville First Nation who belong to the MRLCA undertake to accept the following regulations concerning youth access to cannabis.

2.1.1. Don't sell to those under 18.

2.1.2. ID people looking under 25.

2.1.3. Don't market product to a youth market.

3. Health and Safety

3.1. All product sold by members of the MRLCA on the Territory of the Alderville First Nation must be

3.1.1. Tested for its potency.

3.1.2. Visually inspected to ensure it is not moldy.

3.1.3. Packaged in childproof containers.

3.1.4. When handling cannabis products, all employees should wear gloves and take steps not to mix different cannabis products together.

4. Customer information

4.1. All retailers belonging to the MRLCA must prominently display a MRLCA made sign in their business indicating that they belong to the association and follow its Community Standards.

4.2. All retailers must hold their customer data in a secure place.

5. Complaints

5.1. Any and all complaints about the conduct of a member of the MRLCA shall be referred to the MRLCA executive or the MRLCA Ombudsperson where the matter shall be addressed.

6. Labelling of product.

6.1. Wherever possible, cannabis products should be labeled as to how they were grown, ie.

6.1.1. Hydroponics

6.1.2. Indoor

6.1.3. Outdoor

6.1.4. Organic

7. Security framework.

7.7.1. Shops undertake to keep their premises safe, and the community as a whole.

Community Contribution Fund

(to be finalized at Dec 15th, 2018 meeting)

1. The MRLCA shall create a Community Contribution Fund to ensure that the cannabis industry of the Alderville First Nation contributes to the needs of the people.
 - 3.2.1. All customers at retail outlets belonging to the MRLCA are required to purchase an exit bag in order to take their purchased products home.
 - 3.2.2. Each store shall purchase the bags in bulk from the MRLCA at their cost of production of \$___
 - 3.2.3. Each exit bag shall be sold to customers at a cost \$ ___
 - 3.2.4. The profit made on the sales of exit bags to customers shall be donated to the community contribution fund.
 - 3.2.5. Customers need only buy one exit bag as long as they re-use it and bring it back to the store. If they forget or lose their bag, they must purchase a new bag along with their product.
2. The Community Contribution Fund shall be managed by three trustees selected by the MRLCA at one of its General Councils. Each of the three trustees shall be chosen from a different group (retailers, growers, consumers) and together they are responsible for the operation of the fund.
3. The fund shall receive payment in the following ways.
 - 3.1. A surcharge of \$10 will be added to each test carried out by MedSol Medicate Solutions and will be contributed to the community fund.
 - 3.2. A common childproof “exit bag” bearing the logo of the MRLCA and information concerning the safe use of medicinal cannabis shall be utilized by all retail outlets that are members of the MRLCA.
 4. The fund will also accept voluntary donations from other sources as they are made.
 5. The trustees of the Community Contribution Fund shall make a quarterly report of all expenditures to the meetings of the MRLCA which shall be published on the MRLCA website to ensure accountability.