



Canadian Centre
on **Substance Use**
and **Addiction**

Evidence. Engagement. Impact.

Centre canadien sur
les dépendances et
l'usage de substances

Données. Engagement. Résultats.



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Cannabis Legalization: Youth and Community

Association of Municipalities Ontario Annual Conference

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About CCSA

- **Vision:** A healthier Canadian society where evidence transforms approaches to substance use
- **Mission:** To address issues of substance use in Canada by providing national leadership and harnessing the power of evidence to generate coordinated action
- National non-profit organization
- Pan-Canadian and international role



Bill C-45 (Cannabis Act)

- **Objectives**
 - Prevent young persons from accessing cannabis
 - Protect public health and safety
 - Deter criminal activity
 - Reduce the burden on the criminal justice system



Public Health Objectives

- **Minimize harm, maximize benefit**
 - Raise:
 - Age of initiation
 - Quality of product consumed
 - Lower:
 - Rates of use overall
 - Higher-risk use in particular
- **Ensure equitable application and impacts of legislation and regulations**



Youth – Why the Concern?

Earlier age of initiation = increased risk of harms

- **Harms include**

- Cannabis use disorder (1 in 6 who start use in adolescence)
- Cognitive impairment
- Psychosis
- Academic achievement
- Criminal justice involvement



Reducing Harm to Youth: Regulations

- Minimum legal age



18

YEARS OLD



/



19

YEARS OLD





Reducing Harm to Youth: Regulations

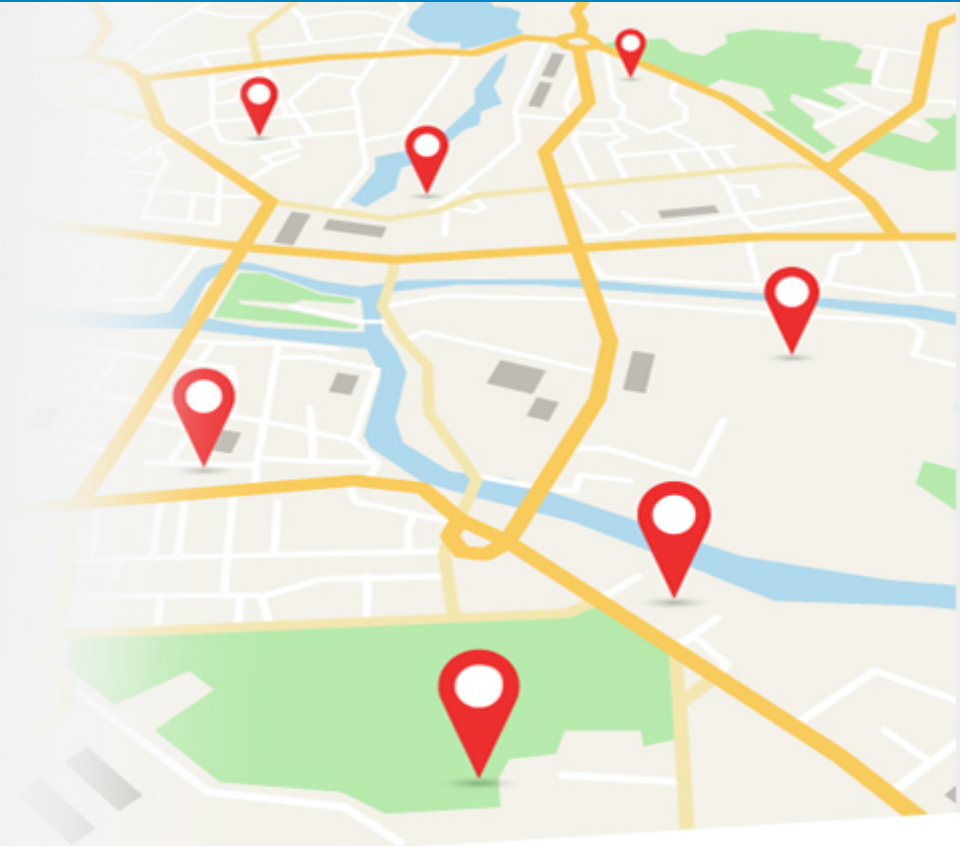
- Minimum legal age
- Sanctions





Reducing Harm to Youth: Regulations

- **Minimum legal age**
- **Sanctions**
- **Availability and accessibility**



Reducing Harm to Youth: Regulations

- Minimum legal age
- Sanctions
- Availability and accessibility
- Product quality standards

PASS	FAIL
✓	✗



Reducing Harm to Youth: Regulations

- Minimum legal age
- Sanctions
- Availability and accessibility
- Product quality standards
- Pricing and taxation

\$ %



Reducing Harm to Youth: Regulations

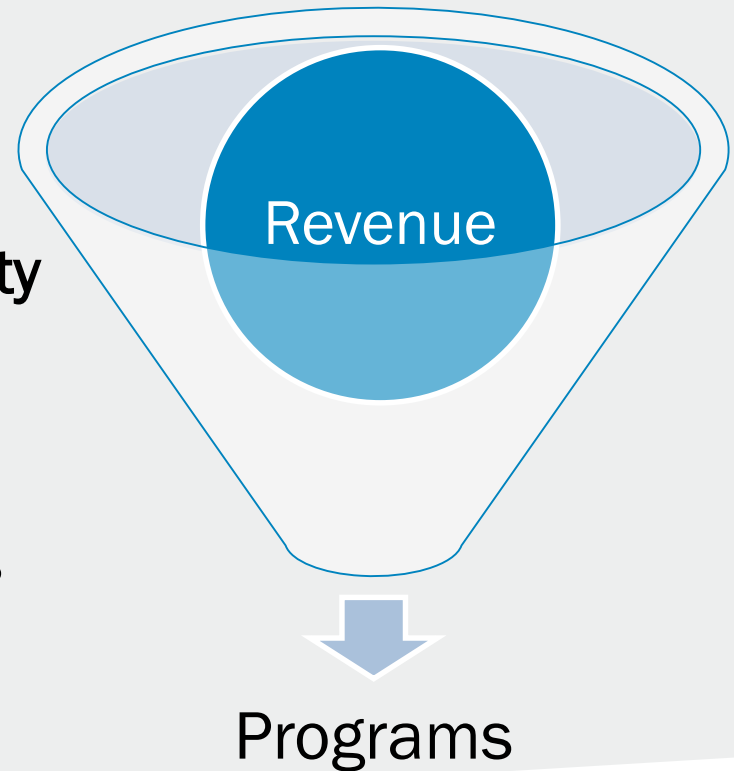
- Minimum legal age
- Sanctions
- Availability and
- Product
- Pricing and

**MARKETING
AND
ADVERTISING**



Reducing Harm to Youth: Regulations

- **Minimum legal age**
- **Sanctions**
- **Availability and accessibility**
- **Product quality standards**
- **Pricing and taxation**
- **Marketing and advertising**
- **Directed revenues**





Reducing Harm to Youth: Programs

Good

- Global cannabis prevention and education

Better

- Targeted cannabis prevention and education
- General risk and resiliency skills

Best

- Targeted risk and resiliency
- Community, family and educational supports



Contact Information

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