



**Town of Aurora  
Cannabis Retail Review Task Force  
Meeting Agenda**

**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2026  
**Time:** 7 p.m.  
**Location:** Holland Room, Aurora Town Hall

Meetings are available to the public in person and via live stream on the [Town's YouTube channel](#). To participate, please visit [aurora.ca/participation](http://aurora.ca/participation).

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1. That the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force meeting minutes of February 19, 2026, be received for information.	
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**Town of Aurora  
Cannabis Retail Review Task Force  
Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Thursday, February 19, 2026  
**Time:** 7 p.m.  
**Location:** Holland Room, Aurora Town Hall

**Committee Members:** Councillor John Gallo (Chair)  
Councillor Ron Weese (Vice Chair)  
Nikki Alber  
Megan Bamford\*  
Judy Collins\*  
Lenard Lind  
William Newton, York Regional Police Representative  
Laura Schaffer\*  
Ian Smith

**Other Attendees:** Marco Ramunno, Director, Planning and Development Services  
Andrew Poray, Manager, Economic Development\*  
Ashmeed Khan, Bylaw Enforcement/Licensing Officer  
Patricia De Sario, Deputy Clerk  
Linda Bottos, Council/Committee Coordinator

\*Attended electronically

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**1. Call to Order**

The Deputy Clerk called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

The Deputy Clerk passed the chair to Councillor Gallo at 7:02 p.m. following the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair.

**1.1 Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair**

**Moved by** Nikki Alber  
**Seconded by** Lenard Lind

1. That Councillor John Gallo be appointed as Chair of the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force; and
2. That Councillor Ron Weese be appointed as Vice Chair of the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force.

**Carried**

## **2. Land Acknowledgement**

The Task Force acknowledged that the meeting took place on Anishinaabe lands, the traditional and treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island, recognizing the many other Nations whose presence here continues to this day, the special relationship the Chippewas have with the lands and waters of this territory, and that Aurora has shared responsibility for the stewardship of these lands and waters. It was noted that Aurora is part of the treaty lands of the Mississaugas and Chippewas, recognized through Treaty #13 and the Williams Treaties of 1923.

## **3. Approval of the Agenda**

**Moved by** Nikki Alber  
**Seconded by** Lenard Lind

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services be approved.

**Carried**

## **4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50.

## **5. Receipt of the Minutes**

None.

## **6. Delegations**

**6.1 Patricia De Sario, Director, Corporate Services/Town Solicitor, Deputy Clerk;  
Re: Orientation**

Patricia De Sario provided a brief orientation highlighting the role of the Task Force, including its members and staff, and the procedures that govern meetings, including the Terms of Reference for the Task Force and the Town's Procedure By-law.

**Moved by** Lenard Lind

**Seconded by** Nikki Alber

That the comments of the delegation be received for information.

**Carried**

## **7. Matters for Consideration**

### **7.1 Terms of Reference for the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force**

The Task Force and staff had no comments.

**Moved by** William Newton

**Seconded by** Nikki Alber

1. That the Terms of Reference for the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force be received for information.

**Carried**

### **7.2 Member Motion - Councillor Gallo; Re: Cannabis Retail Review Task Force**

Councillor Gallo provided background and proposed priorities for the Task Force toward developing practical recommendations to Council by setting clear expectations, establishing a structured work plan, requesting baseline data from staff and the York Regional Police, assessing local impacts, and identifying opportunities for improvement.

The Task Force inquired about various aspects including access to any letters of opposition to specific locations and responses or feedback; clarification on zoning for cannabis retail stores; the scope of engagement with other communities and their best practices; data to be obtained from the York Regional Police; and the possibility to gain more recent feedback from the community on its perception and experiences of cannabis retail stores.

**Moved by** Lenard Lind

**Seconded by** Nikki Alber

1. That the Member Motion - Councillor Gallo; Re: Cannabis Retail Review Task Force be received; and
2. That the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force comments regarding Member Motion - Councillor Gallo; Re: Cannabis Retail Review Task Force be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

**Carried**

## **8. Informational Items**

None.

## **9. New Business**

The Task Force further inquired about the information to be collected, and the possibility for members to receive the collected data in advance of the published agenda to allow sufficient review time, including location requirements for opening cannabis retail stores and review of the appropriateness of existing locations; business occupancy trends including closures and reasons; data on the number of rejected applications and cancelled licences; the frequency of compliance inspections; and the possibility to implement a code of conduct.

The Task Force provided clarification on the AGCO (Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario) oversight of the cannabis industry, including evaluations and licence approvals, compliance inspections, and compliance investigations.

Staff and the York Regional Police representative agreed to collect and provide the required information for review at the April 16, 2026 Task Force meeting.

## **10. Adjournment**

**Moved by** Judy Collins

**Seconded by** Megan Bamford

That the meeting be adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

**Carried**



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Town of Aurora  
**Memorandum**  
Corporate Services

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**Re:** Review of Cannabis Retail Stores

**To:** Cannabis Retail Review Task Force

**From:** Patricia De Sario, Director of Corporate Services/Town Solicitor

**Date:** April 16, 2026

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## Recommendation

1. That the memorandum regarding Review of Cannabis Retail Stores be received; and
2. That the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force comments regarding Review of Cannabis Retail Stores be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

## Background

At the February 19 meeting, the Task Force requested that staff provide further information, such as access to any letters of opposition to specific locations and responses or feedback; clarification on zoning for cannabis retail stores; the scope of engagement with other communities and their best practices; data to be obtained from the York Regional Police; complaint data, and the possibility to gain more recent feedback from the community on its perception and experiences of cannabis retail stores.

Information that was readily available online was sent to members of the Task Force in advance of this meeting to allow sufficient time to review. Most of the information requested is found in previous Council reports or on the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario ("AGCO") website.

This memo will summarize the publicly available information and will also address the remaining information requested, where available.

## Analysis

**Attachment 1 provides links to some of the information requested, including access to any letters of opposition to specific locations and responses or feedback and clarification on zoning for cannabis retail stores.**

On January 19, 2019, Town Council received Report Nos. CS19-001 and CS19-004 and moved to opt-in and permit cannabis retail stores. These reports provide background information relating to retail cannabis stores, including the legal framework, the zoning permissions and the added restrictions that Council requests that the AGCO consider when reviewing retail store authorization applications.

As mentioned in these reports, the Town does not have the authority to license private cannabis retail stores or prohibit them as a land use from any other permitted retail use within the town. However, private cannabis retail stores are still required to comply with zones and standards in the Town's zoning by-law and the Official Plan that apply to all retail stores.

Further, the AGCO is not under any obligation to take Council restrictions or public input under consideration; instead, it is only required to follow the restrictions and requirements set out in the *Cannabis Licence Act, 2018*. This legislation prohibits retail cannabis stores within 150 metres from a school or private school, as defined in the *Education Act*.

In addition, a decision to allow retail stores is final and cannot be reversed (i.e. Council can not opt-out of permitting cannabis retail stores now that it has made the decision to permit them).

On May 16, 2023, Town staff brought Report No. PDS23-062 to Council, which provided an update on the locations of cannabis retail stores within the town. This update included objection letters from the Town to the AGCO on the various retail store authorization applications.

**Attachment 2 provides a chart that shows the complaints that Bylaw Services responded to from the date of opt-in (2019) to March 29, 2026 and a chart that shows the outcome of proactive patrols from March 9, 2026 to March 29, 2026.**

The review of complaints encompasses all registered retail cannabis businesses within the town as identified by ward only. The complaints that Bylaw Services received

were either directly from the public or from a resident through the Mayor's Office or a Councillor. The types of complaints received are related to parking, signs or dumping (refuse).

### **Parking Offences**

Bylaw Services received various types of parking complaints such as parking within 15 meters of an intersection and parking for more than the posted time limit on any street. By-law Officers have attended and documented their findings in Attachment 2 (Complaints). This chart includes all Penalty Notice(s) issued to vehicles for any parking violation in and around the areas of the complaint property.

### **Sign Offences**

Bylaw Services has received multiple sign complaints, for either feather banner, A-Frame, or Flag signs erected on the properties, or on a sidewalk near the properties. Bylaw Officers have taken necessary enforcement action, as indicated in Attachment 2 (Complaints) and have informed these properties of the Sign Bylaw requirements, including all enforcement actions and permits required for having any sign(s) on their respective properties.

### **Dumping (refuse) Offences**

These offences fall under the Clean Communities By-law. Bylaw Services has received several complaints from area residents regarding the patrons of the cannabis retail stores. Upon exiting the property after a purchase, patrons may consume the product and then discard the waste on the ground or street. Due to moving vehicles and wind conditions, these items may end up on the roadway or on private properties.

There have also been complaints of individuals intentionally discarding their waste (dumping) onto private properties not affiliated with the cannabis retail store. By-law Services have conducted investigations into these matters, gathered the necessary information and have issued order(s), when necessary, as indicated in Attachment 2 (Complaints). No Penalty Notices have been issued for these types of occurrences.

### **Noise Offences**

Bylaw Services has not received any complaints relating to noise at these properties to date. However, Bylaw Officers will continue to investigate any potential noise

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complaints received respecting these properties and will take appropriate enforcement action, where necessary.

### **Enforcement Initiatives**

For most of March, By-law Services did proactive enforcement (i.e. officers attended each of the registered businesses on a daily and nightly basis to conduct inspections, during and after operating hours absent a complaint). Attachment 2 (Proactive Patrols) shows the number of inspections that have been conducted. Bylaw Officers did not find any violations.

**Attachment 3 provides information relating to the calls for service conducted by YRP during the period of March 31, 2024 to March 31, 2026.**

In collecting the data, the incidents that were focused on were theft-related occurrences, robbery (commercial and street-level), assaults, mischief to property, commercial break & enter, extortion, impaired driving investigations in proximity and calls for service trends (if requested).

### **Attachments**

1. Public Information
2. By-law Services Report
3. YRP Report

**Attachment 1 – Public Information**

Clarification on legal requirements, including zoning for cannabis retail stores	<p>Reports CS19-001 and CS19-004</p> <p><a href="#">Agenda – Special Meeting of Council – Monday, January 21, 2019</a></p>
Letters of opposition to specific locations and responses or feedback	<p>Report PDS23-062</p> <p><a href="#">Agenda</a></p>
Location requirements for opening cannabis retail stores	<p>Reports CS19-001 and CS19-004</p> <p><a href="#">Agenda – Special Meeting of Council – Monday, January 21, 2019</a></p> <p>Also see question 4 on FAQs from <a href="#">AGCO website</a></p>
Review of the appropriateness of existing locations	<p>Reports CS19-001 and CS19-004</p> <p><a href="#">Agenda – Special Meeting of Council – Monday, January 21, 2019</a></p>
Business occupancy trends including closures and reasons	<p>Status of all applications on <a href="#">AGCO website</a></p>
Data on the number of rejected applications and cancelled licences	<p>Found on the <a href="#">AGCO website</a></p>
Location requirements for opening cannabis retail stores	<p>Reports CS19-001 and CS19-004</p> <p><a href="#">Agenda – Special Meeting of Council – Monday, January 21, 2019</a></p> <p>Also see question 4 on FAQs from <a href="#">AGCO website</a></p>
Other helpful information – FAQs from AGCO website	<p><a href="#">FAQs</a></p>

**Attachment 2 – By-law Services Report****Complaints (from opt-in date to March 29, 2026):**

<b>Dispensaries</b>	<b>Ward #</b>	<b>Parking Complaints</b>	<b>Sign Complaints</b>	<b>Clean Communities Complaints</b>	<b>Noise Complaints</b>
1	5	0	0	0	0
2	5	1	0	0	0
3	2	0	0	0	0
4	1	0	1	0	0
5	3	0	0	0	0
6	5	0	0	0	0
7	1	4	1	0	0
8	5	0	0	0	0
9	2	4	1	2	0
10	1	0	0	0	0
11	1	0	0	0	0
12	6	0	0	0	0
13	1	0	0	0	0
14	6	0	0	0	0

**Proactive Patrols (from March 9 to March 29, 2026):**

<b>Dispensaries</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Parking Issue</b>	<b>Sign Issue</b>	<b>Clean Communities Issue</b>	<b>Noise Issue</b>	<b>Number of inspections</b>
1	5	0	0	0	0	28
2	5	0	0	0	0	35
3	2	0	0	0	0	28
4	1	0	0	0	0	34
5	3	0	0	0	0	28
6	5	0	0	0	0	31
7	1	0	0	0	0	35
8	5	0	0	0	0	30
9	2	0	0	0	0	35
10	1	0	0	0	0	29
11	1	0	0	0	0	27
12	6	0	0	0	0	30
13	1	0	0	0	0	32
14	6	0	0	0	0	31

## Attachment 3 - York Regional Police (YRP) Report

Criminality and Calls for Service - Cannabis Dispensaries - Aurora - March 31, 2024 to March 31, 2026						
Number	Name	Address	CFS	Reports	Remarks	Complaint Area?
1	Maple Leaf Cannabis	2 Allaura Blvd Suite 7, Aurora	0	0	No criminal offences reported. No calls for service	No.
2	Tokyo Smoke Aurora	14800 Yonge St, Unit 114, Aurora	0	0	No criminal offences reported. No calls for service	No.
3	Ashario	15114 Yonge St, Aurora	17	4	No criminal offences reported. No calls for service	Yes. Complaint area established due to ongoing dispute with other business operator at this location.
4	Alpha Cannabis	118 Wellington St E, Aurora	0	0	No criminal offences reported. No calls for service	No.
5	Jane's Cannabis Shop	160 Wellington St E Unit 3, Aurora	0	0	No criminal offences reported. No calls for service	No.
6	CannaEra	15543 Yonge St Unit 1, Aurora	0	0	No criminal offences reported. No calls for service	No.
7	Nature's Haze	15570 Yonge St, Unit 8, Aurora	1	1	Business was defrauded	No.
8	Malibu Road	150 Hollidge Blvd, Unit 5, Aurora	0	0	No criminal offences reported. No calls for service	No.
9	Sessions Cannabis - Aurora	15480 Bayview Ave Unit D0103, Aurora	1	1	Retail Robbery - no arrests made.	No.
10	Value Buds	650 Wellington St E Unit A12, Aurora	1	1	Shoplifting - no arrests made.	No.
11	Fika Local Cannabis	91 First Commerce Dr Unit 13, Aurora	3	1	CFS - 3 x False Alarm, 1 Shoplifting report, no arrest	No.
12	The Woods Cannabis	16015 Bayview Ave Unit B2, Aurora	0	4	FTC x 1, Retail Robbery - 3 arrested/charged, 1 shoplifting, 1 fraud	No.