



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

Date: Thursday, April 16, 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: Andrew Poray, Manager, Economic Development
James Gagnon, Bylaw Enforcement/Licensing Officer
Daniel Ruberto, Deputy Town Clerk
Julia Shipcott, Council/Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.

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 Councillor Ron Weese

Seconded by Nikki Alber

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

5.1 Cannabis Retail Review Task Force Meeting Minutes of February 19, 2026

Moved by Nikki Alber

Seconded by Laura Schaffer

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

Carried

6. Delegations

None.

7. Matters for Consideration

7.1 Memorandum from Director of Corporate Services/Town Solicitor; Re: Review of Cannabis Retail Stores

The Task Force acknowledged a disconnect between complaint/offence data provided and known community safety issues that were not captured within the existing reports. The Task Force requested an update to the October 24, 2023 Council Resolution sent to the Province regarding Motion 10.1 - Councillor Kim; Re: Cannabis Retail Applications for the Town of Aurora, and staff agreed to follow up.

Staff will confirm departmental responsibility for preparing the final report, with recommendations provided by the Cannabis Retail Review Task Force, and will confer with the Communications Department on the feasibility of completing a survey prior to the next meeting.

The Task Force provided the following suggestions, including:

- generating a survey for distribution to properties neighbouring cannabis retail stores, with results submitted at the next and final meeting;
- providing a copy of the Task Force's final report to Ontario municipalities and the Premier's office;
- providing to the public various reporting opportunities available through the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO), Town By-law department and York Region Police (YRP);
- increasing frequent patrols by By-law Services and YRP, targeting areas of concern;
- advocating to the Province to allow re-zoning by the Town, re-evaluating the formula for future cannabis retail stores within the Town, and reducing the hours for locations within residential neighbourhoods;
- creation of a nuisance by-law which would include limiting the number of nuisance calls to a property;
- gathering best-practices from other municipalities on handling compliance issues;
- staff providing an update on the use of approximately \$80,000 of Provincial funding ear-marked for enforcement issues, and applying those funds to Community Service/Paid Duty officers to patrol areas of concern;
- inviting AGCO representatives to the next Cannabis Retail Review Task Force meeting to provide potential compliance solutions;
- distributing door-hanger surveys within 200 metres of cannabis retail stores to gather feedback on areas of concern;

Moved by Judy Collins

Seconded by William Newton

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.

Carried

8. Informational Items

None.

9. New Business

None.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Megan Bamford

Seconded by Laura Schaffer

That the meeting be adjourned at 8 p.m.

Carried