

Regulating the use of cannabis in Quebec

THESE RULES FROM THE QUEBEC GOVERNMENT WILL BE APPLIED AND REINFORCED ON THE TERRITORY OF SAINT-GABRIEL-DE-VALCARTIER

How many grams can you possess?

In Quebec, cannabis is only legal for adults. People under 18 won't be allowed to possess any amount of cannabis.

For adults, the maximum amount depends on where they are. They can possess

- up to 30 grams in public places, and
- up to 150 grams at home.

These maximum amounts apply only to legally-purchased, dried cannabis. The rules are different for cannabis sold in other forms, like fresh cannabis or cannabis oil. They're also different for medical marijuana.

Only the Société québécoise du cannabis (SQDC, or the Quebec cannabis commission) can sell cannabis in Quebec. It is illegal to possess any amount of cannabis purchased on the black market in Quebec or in another Canadian province.

Note: The new provincial government plans to lower the legal limit to 15 grams in Quebec, both in public places and at home.

Where can you consume cannabis?

Smoking cannabis is generally prohibited wherever [smoking or vaping tobacco is already prohibited](#) (enclosed public spaces, the 9 metre-rule, bar patios, etc.). Nor is smoking allowed in public transportation waiting areas, on bicycles or in cars.

Municipalities can also pass cannabis regulations. Several have already chosen to prohibit smoking cannabis in all public places, like streets, sidewalks and parks. This includes Sherbrooke, Lévis, Quebec City, and even Hampstead on the island of Montreal. Hampstead took the same step for tobacco earlier this year.

Smoking in certain types of housing or condo buildings may also be prohibited.

Note: The new provincial government plans to ban cannabis consumption in all public places in Quebec.

What is still prohibited

Some practices remain illegal even though cannabis is legal. In Quebec, people still can't do these things:

- possess cannabis that was purchased illegally
- sell cannabis (only the SQDC can do this)
- grow their own cannabis
- give or sell cannabis to minors
- drive while under the influence of cannabis
- work while under the influence of cannabis, if this could be dangerous

People also can't leave Canada with cannabis, even if they're going to a country where cannabis is legal.

Restricted use

- It should be noted that the restrictions on the use of cannabis provided for in the Cannabis Regulation Act also apply to medical cannabis.
- It is prohibited to smoke cannabis in certain open or enclosed spaces:
 - It is prohibited to smoke or to vape cannabis in all places where smoking tobacco is already prohibited.
 - The following are added to the above:
 - on the grounds of health and social services institutions;
 - on the grounds of college-level institutions and universities;
 - on bicycle paths;
 - in shared transportation waiting areas.

DETAILED LIST OF THE RESTRICTIONS ON SMOKING OR VAPING CANNABIS

Indoor or enclosed spaces

- Health and social services institutions;
- Intermediary resources, except if it is a private residence;
- Instructional institutions;
- Childcare centres, daycare centres, private residences where family-type resource services (whether the services are offered by recognized resources or not), during the hours childcare is provided;
- Places where sports, recreational, judicial, cultural or artistic activities or conferences, conventions or other similar activities are held;
- Places where community or recreational activities intended for minors are held, except if the activities are held in a private residence;
- Places where the activities may be attended only by persons explicitly or implicitly invited or authorized by the host, whether or not an admission fee is charged and regardless of the purpose of the activities, except if the activities are held in a private residence;
- Places used by a non-profit legal person or by an association, circle or club, whether a legal person or not, to which only members and their guests have access, except if the enclosed spaces are situated in a private residence;
- Common areas of residential buildings comprising two or more dwellings, whether the buildings are condominiums or not;
- Common areas of private seniors' residences;
- Palliative care hospices and places where prevention, assistance and support services, including temporary lodging services, are offered to persons in distress or in need of assistance, except if the services are offered in a private residence;
- Tourist accommodation establishments and the buildings of outfitting operations;
- Restaurants;
- Establishments operating under a bar permit;
- Casinos, bingo halls and other gambling facilities;

- Workplaces, except workplaces situated in a private residence;
- Means of shared transportation, taxis and other vehicles used in the course of employment;
- In an automobile, the Highway Safety Code prohibits the consumption of cannabis by the driver and all the occupants, regardless of the type of use;
- Establishments used for detention;
- All other enclosed spaces that are open to the public;
- It is also prohibited to smoke within a nine-metre radius from any door, air vent or openable window of most enclosed spaces referred to above, as well as outdoor play areas intended for children that are open to the public, including splash pads, wading pools and skateparks;

Outdoor spaces

- Bus shelters and outdoor areas used to wait for shared transportation;
- Tents, under big tops and in other similar facilities that are put up temporarily or permanently and are open to the public;
- The grounds of a health or social services institution;
- The grounds of an instructional institution, the grounds of a childcare centre or daycare centre;
- Terraces and other outdoor areas operated as part of a commercial activity and set up for rest, relaxation or the consumption of products;
- Outdoor play areas intended for children that are open to the public, including splash pads, wading pools and skateparks;
- Sports fields and playgrounds, including areas reserved for spectators, that are frequented by minors and open to the public;
- The grounds of day camps and vacation camps as well as at skating rinks and outdoor pools that are frequented by minors and open to the public;
- The grounds of buildings used for detention;
- Lanes specifically built for bicycle traffic.

SOURCES:

www.encadrementcannabis.gouv.qc.ca/en

www.educaloi.qc.ca/en