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Retail Cannabis – Pilot Project Location

MEDIA RELEASE - Qualicum Beach, BC – The Town of Qualicum Beach has leased a portion of the old fire hall building at 124 Harlech Road as the location for the first cannabis retail outlet in Qualicum Beach. The proponent, QualiCanna Ltd., was selected following an open Request for Proposals process in March 2018. At that time the Town was not specifically soliciting retail cannabis proposals, but Council ultimately authorized the lease for a number of strategic reasons.

> "Designating a Town-owned building as the first location for marijuana retail sales allows the Town greater oversight and control of its operations, and also provides a revenue stream to support any increased burden on the Town's bylaw compliance department." - Daniel Sailland, Chief Administrative Officer

The Town of Qualicum Beach zoning bylaw does not permit cannabis sales anywhere within the Town, so this retail outlet will be authorized through a 24-month Temporary Use Permit in accordance with the *Local Government Act*. The permit will specify conditions to minimize any negative community impact, such as limited hours of operation, restrictions on window displays and indoor/outdoor security. During this trial period, the Town will monitor the business and its impact on the surrounding area. If at any point the terms are violated, then the Temporary Use Permit is nullified and the Town can terminate the lease. Following the 24-month trial period, the Town will consider long-term locations for a marijuana retail outlet. The Town does not intend to authorize any additional locations for cannabis retail businesses during the 24-month pilot project.

The Province of BC's legislation and the consequential legislative amendments will be in place in time for federal legalization of non-medical cannabis on October 17, 2018.

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