ATTACHMENT A

CANNABIS RETAIL STORE REZONING CRITERIA

BACKGROUND

The *Federal Cannabis Act* (Bill C-45) is expected to come into effect on 2018-OCT-17 and will permit the legal sale of recreational cannabis. A Cannabis Retail Store (CRS) shall only be permitted in certain commercial zones within the city of Nanaimo. The following draft criteria are based on existing regulations established for liquor retail stores and shall be used to guide Staff and Council in considering CRS rezoning applications.

PROPOSED CRITERIA

1. Location

1.1. The proposed CRS should be located on, or in close proximity to a provincial highway, urban arterial or urban major collector road, as defined in the City's *Functional Road Classification Working Plan,* or in an urban node, commercial centre or corridor, as designated in the City's Official Community Plan.

1.2. The proposed CRS should not be located directly adjacent, or in close proximity to a school or licensed daycare facility. A minimum separation of 150m from these facilities is considered necessary, as measured from the front door of the CRS to the school or daycare property line.

1.3. The proposed CRS may not be located adjacent, or in close proximity to a nightclub or liquor retail store

1.4. The proposed CRS should not be located within 300m of another CRS, as measured from the front doors of the CRS. Where the CRS is to be located within a dense urban area (i.e., downtown), consideration shall be given to the overall urban density and context of the area.

2. Building & Site

2.1. The size of the proposed CRS should be consistent with the nature of the immediate area and the size of existing retail stores within the area.

2.2. The design of the proposed CRS should enhance or improve the aesthetics of the surrounding area, not detract from them.

2.2.1. The revitalization of heritage buildings is encouraged.

2.3. Outside the downtown core, consideration should be given to a requirement for onsite parking and loading for every CRS.

3. Community Impact

3.1. The applicant must outline his or her awareness of potential negative impacts of the proposed CRS on the community, and must identify the specific measures that will be taken to minimize or prevent these impacts from occurring.

3.1.1. Possible measures could include efforts to prevent service to minors, minimize smells, prevent smoking or cannabis consumption on or near the premises, property maintenance and beautification programs designed to prevent unsightliness, etc.

3.1.2 Consideration must be given to the impact CRSs will have when they are located in close proximity to libraries, public recreation centres, public community centres, parks, places of worship and other family-oriented facilities.

3.2. Projected traffic volumes and on-street parking demands associated with a proposed CRS should not adversely impact nearby residential and commercial areas.

3.3. The support of the local community, neighbouring property owners and the local neighbourhood association for the proposed CRS is important to Council's decision.

3.4. All rezoning applications for CRSs must be reviewed by the Community Vitality Committee and the RCMP, in addition to being reviewed by the City's Community Planning and Development Committee.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to be considered, each rezoning application for a CRS must be accompanied by a number of specific items, in addition to the standard items that must accompany all rezoning applications. In all, each rezoning application for a CRS must include:

- a copy of the Provincial Preliminary Letter Of Approval for the proposed CRS with a description of the proposed CRS outlining:
  - the proposed size of the facility;
  - the facility's proposed operating hours;
  - the specific market segment being targeted; and
  - measures taken to minimize odours associated with cannabis.

- a market study, which clearly indicates the evidence of market demand for the proposed facility.

- a community impact statement that outlines the proposed CRS's potential:
  - positive impacts on the community;
  - negative impacts on the community; and
  - measures to be taken to prevent and/or address the negative impacts.