

BC Agricultural Land Commission **January 29, 2019**



THE ISSUE

Recent ALR Regulation amendments that restrict legal cannabis farming to open fields or to closed structures with a soil base are negatively impacting BC's construction industry.

THE BACKGROUND

The province has given more authority to local governments to prohibit cannabis production. The amendment seeks to:

- Preserve ALR production capacity
- Acknowledge cannabis is a legal crop
- Respect citizen's Charter protections and their right to access
- Recognize need for local flexibility
- Recognize existing capital investment in the industry

The role of the ALC is to administer the Act.

The Province has no plans to change the existing legislation.

"Cannabis industry is saving cities with struggling economies" – Forbes, 2018

ALREADY GONE:





Projects



-\$635M

Construction Value

-1,035

Construction Jobs



-1,335

Operational Jobs



-\$104M

Annual Income of Operational Jobs

PERCEIVED RISKS

For example: odour, lighting, traffic, visual impact, community/cultural impact, and sustainable land use.

Local governments in the US have established best practices that BC communities can learn from.

REAL, LOCAL BENEFITS

- Construction jobs
- Operating jobs
- Economic diversification
- · Effective use of infertile land
- Investment in BC communities
- Tax and other local revenue
- Skills training
- Operations
- Capacity building
- Tourism

OPPORTUNITY & NEXT STEPS

We respectfully remind the ALC and its 13 Commissioners across the province that BC's construction workers have a stake in this issue, and request that Regional Construction Associations be included in decisions around land use to ensure all impacts are fully considered.

^{*}Evergreen, SunPure, Valens, Blue Vault.