

Transitioning to the New Rural Cannabis Economy

To understand socioeconomic implications of cannabis legalization to the rural Kootenay region, these questions are designed to elicit responses addressing how the Kootenay region can effectively transition to the New Rural Cannabis economy.

Key Informant Interview Question Guide – Government/Policy Makers

Question type	Question
Opening	<p>1. We are at [state location, eg Trail Selkirk College campus] on [Date], and this is [interviewer/researcher name] interviewing someone from the [stakeholder group which is one of: local government, provincial government, federal government, policy maker]. Is this accurate? Or would you categorize your roll/group differently?</p>
Decision making	<p>2. Have you sought out empirical evidence to help with cannabis-policy related decision-making?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOTE: By “policy” we mean a plan, course of action, or set of guiding principles intended to influence and determine decisions at the government or organizational level • NOTE: By empirical, we mean evidence based, or that which is based on experiment or observation and not just theory • Can you give an example? • What sources have you accessed for this purpose? • IF applicable: Have your regulating bodies released policies or educational information concerning [preparing for and/or implications of legalized cannabis]? • IF applicable: Do you feel you have enough information to make evidence based decisions regarding land use bylaws, public consumption bylaws, and other related policies?
Policy making involvement	<p>3. During the formulation of cannabis legalization policy, were you provided an opportunity to share your opinions directly or indirectly with respect to [Federal/Provincial/Local] government legislation?</p> <p>4. Do you feel that your opinions (as a stakeholder) were represented during policy formulation at all levels of government from Federal, to Provincial to Local Government levels? Please elaborate.</p> <p>5. <i>(Modify this according to their engagement)</i> Do you feel you had adequate stakeholder involvement with how cannabis policy decisions have been made?</p>

The local cannabis industry (pre legalization)	<p>6. Please describe what you know about the size, extent and structure of the pre-legalization cannabis industry in the rural Kootenay region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you believe it has played a role in this region's economy? • If so, how do you anticipate the rural Kootenay region will be impacted economically with legalization? <p>7. What do you think are socioeconomic risks / or benefits with losing the local illicit cannabis industry, that, according to local advocates, can be traced back for decades in this area?</p>
Economic identity and cannabis culture	<p>8. How would you describe your community's economic identity? (Alternative said as: what is your town known for? Eg, Forestry, Teck, etc)</p> <p>9. Are you aware of a cannabis culture in the rural Kootenay region? If so, how would you describe it?</p> <p>10. How do you anticipate the rural Kootenay region will be impacted socially (eg, when considering public health, social justice, employment, etc) by the legalization of recreational cannabis?</p>
Impacts of legalization	<p>11. What do we need to keep an eye on, in terms of indicators, to know how the rural Kootenay region is impacted (socially, economically or socioeconomically) by cannabis legalization?</p> <p>12. Do you have suggestions on how best to assess implications of legalization to our rural region?</p> <p>13. (<i>If they mentioned concern for negative implications earlier</i>) How might the rural Kootenays mitigate negative impacts of cannabis legalization?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • And/or maximize positive impacts of cannabis legalization?
Transitioning	<p>14. In terms of the Kootenay region effectively transitioning to the new regulatory environment, what barriers exist or hurdles are present?</p> <p>15. What types of support or programming could be provided to overcome these barriers and hurdles if there was no limitations of time and money</p>
Ending	<p>16. Thank you for your valuable input and discussion today. Do you have any additional comments?</p>

Key Informant Interview Question Guide – Cannabis industry/advocate

Question type	Question
Opening	<p>1. We are at [state location, eg Trail Selkirk College campus] on [Date], and this is [interviewer/researcher name] interviewing someone from the [stakeholder group which is one of: cannabis industry, cannabis advocate, or other] Is this accurate? Or would you categorize your roll/group differently?</p>
Decision making	<p>2. Have you sought out information/empirical evidence to help with influencing cannabis-related policies?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOTE: By “policy” we mean a plan, course of action, or set of guiding principles intended to influence and determine decisions at the government or organizational level • NOTE: By empirical, we mean evidence based, or that which is based on experiment or observation and not just theory • Can you give an example? • What sources have you accessed for this purpose? • IF applicable: Do you feel you have enough information to make evidence based decisions related to participation in the legalized regime?
Policy making involvement	<p>3. During the formulation of cannabis legalization policy, were you provided an opportunity to share your opinions directly or indirectly with respect to [Federal/Provincial/Local] government?</p> <p>4. Do you feel that your opinions (as a stakeholder) were represented during policy formulation at all levels of government from Federal, to Provincial to Local Government levels? Please elaborate.</p> <p>5. <i>(Modify this according to their engagement)</i> Do you feel you had adequate stakeholder involvement with how cannabis policy decisions have been made?</p>
The local cannabis industry (pre legalization)	<p>6. Please describe what you know about the size, extent and structure of the pre-legalization cannabis industry in the rural Kootenay region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you believe it has played a role in this region’s economy? • If so, how do you anticipate the rural Kootenay region will be impacted economically with legalization? <p>7. What do you think are socioeconomic risks / or benefits with losing the local illicit cannabis industry, that, according to local advocates, can be</p>

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Impacts of legalization	<p>11. What do we need to keep an eye on, in terms of issues or indicators, to know how the rural Kootenay region will be impacted (socially, economically or socioeconomically) by cannabis legalization?</p> <p>12. Do you have suggestions on how best to assess implications of legalization to the rural Kootenay region?</p> <p>13. <i>(If they mentioned concern for negative implications earlier)</i> How might the rural Kootenay region maximize positive impacts of cannabis legalization?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • And/or mitigate negative impacts of cannabis legalization?
Transitioning	<p>14. In terms of the rural Kootenay region effectively transitioning to the new regulatory environment, what barriers exist or hurdles are present?</p> <p>15. What types of support or programming could be provided to overcome these barriers and hurdles if there was no limitations of time and money</p>
Ending	16. Thank you for your valuable input and discussion today. Do you have any additional comments?