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Journal

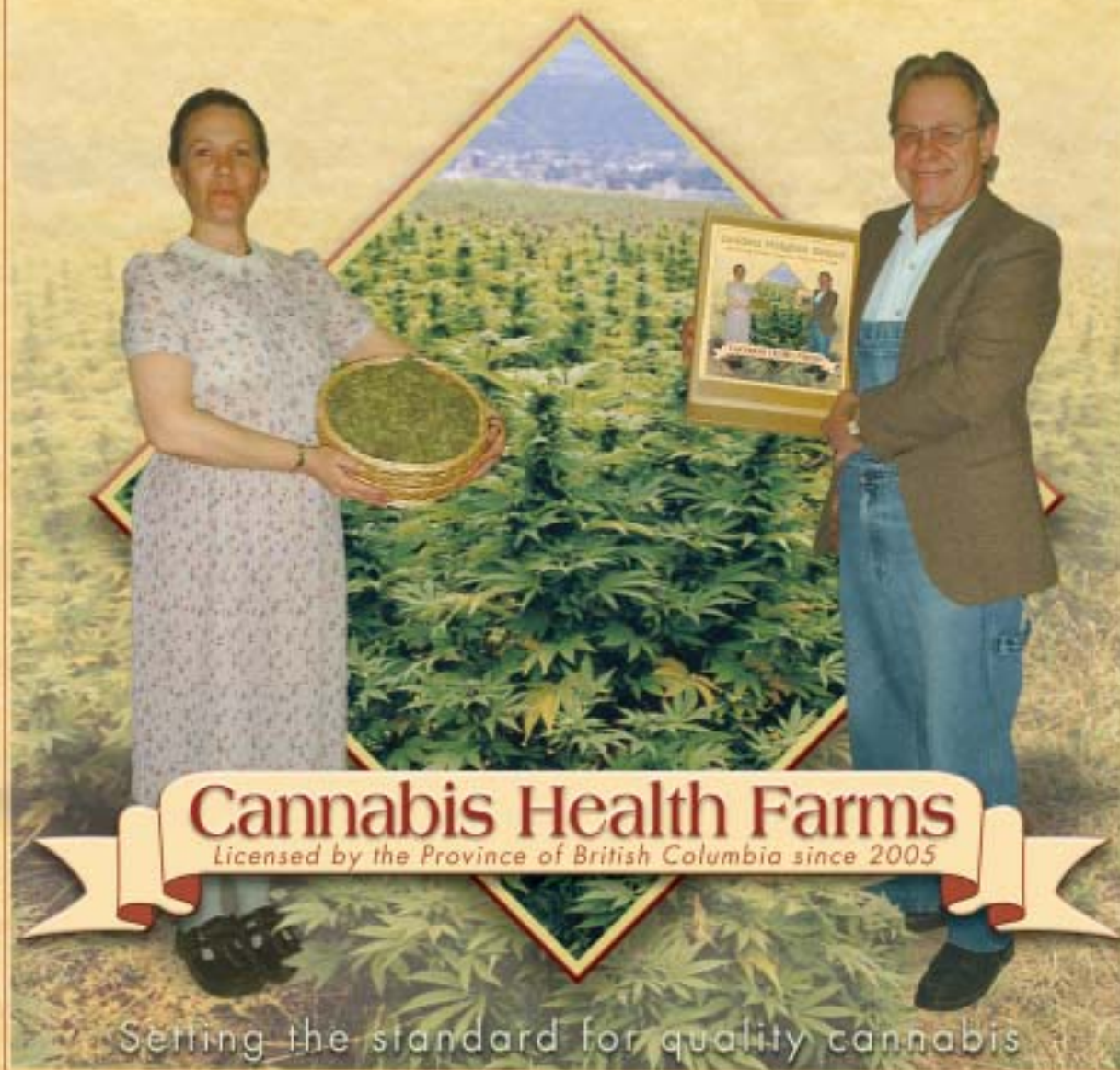
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Volume 2 - Issue 4

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The Cannabis Health Foundation was formed in the spring of 2002 as a non-profit foundation.

Our mandate as a non-profit foundation is to provide accurate up-to-date information on Cannabis Marijuana and Cannabis Hemp in a conservative style magazine that appeals to the general public. We are pleased to announce the journal is now being made available to: Government health organizations, patient support groups, medical associations, research foundations and other cannabis related corporations at the very low bulk distribution rate of: \$1.00 per copy + shipping  
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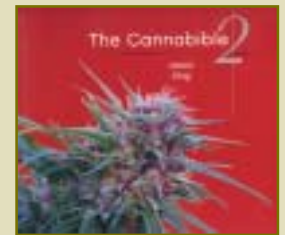
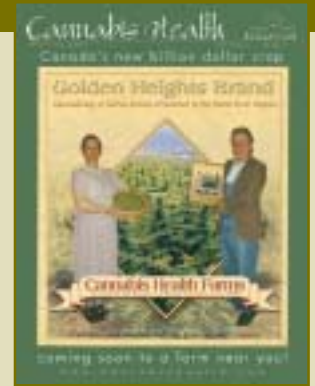
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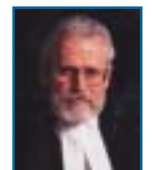
C O V E R

This cover is how we envisioned what a farm-gate label might look like in the future billion-dollar legal cannabis industry. This concept came out of a collective brainstorming session, and thanks to our Production Manager, Brian McAndrew, soon evolved into Uncle Gord , Store Manager and Lorraine Langis, our Distribution Manager, standing in front of a superimposed cannabis field in our own back yard. We chose the concept of the farm-gate model as our local community's climate is well suited to entertain this possibility, after all BC is known for it's Bud. We hope this cover will inspire all of you creative entrepreneurs to take a look at what your vision might look like.



Thanks goes to the Cannabible 2 by Jason King (<http://www.thecannabible.com>) for the picture of the Swiss field used in the mock label.

The photo of John Conroy QC in issue #9 was incorrectly credited. The photographer was Trudy Greiff. Our apologies for the error.



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Brian Taylor Editor-in-Chief

from the scourges and dangers of grow-ops.

The Canadian parliament continues to struggle with passing Bill C-10, once known as the Marijuana Decriminalization Bill, now appropriately known as the "Alternative Criminal Penalty" Bill. Although no one likes it, pundits are divided as to whether C-10 will be passed before or after the Canadian elections.

I worry that, we will be like the trappers who opened up the forests and the plains but in the end, were never included in the wealth as the country grew and prospered. In the end becoming second class citizens in their own land. A bit melodramatic, but in fact the cannabis community is engaged in an emotional dialogue on the future. One sector says go mainstream, play ball from the inside of the game, another group cat calls "sell outs". Cannabis users come in all political stripes and activists are busy arguing capitalism vs. socialism while the real capitalists are taking over. I invite those that have opened the doors and fought the battles to help shape this new industry to create progressive organizations and prosper along with the growth of this new industry. Less navel gazing, more action.

"Cannabis people are fierce individualists. Normal group dynamics don't apply,

and when people figure that out, they will figure out the reason for prohibition in the first place." (Tim Meehan)

The Canadian government recently announced plans to award one additional marijuana supply contract. This is a mistake! The new progressive medical access regulations will not work unless patients are happy with the government product. Not responding to the supply needs of an increasing number of consumers will result in more patients being forced to grow their own, more patients buying from the underground and more distribution clubs. The direction we are proceeding will create enormous challenges for patients, Health Canada and law enforcement.

To accommodate the volume of requests, we will be extending the short profiles on new businesses over the next two editions.

Be sure to catch the interview with Quentin Hardy. I would like to thank Quentin for his objective reflections, his insights and for the risks he took in doing the original story in Forbes.

And also for his blunt warning, like it or not, the capitalists are coming.



Welcome to the Cannabis Health annual review of economics in the cannabis industry. An industry where the landscape is rapidly changing and the playing field is not only uneven but full of potholes. Health Canada has announced new open and more inclusive regulations for access to medical marijuana. Sativix, the under the tongue spray, is about to be released into the North American market, cannabis will soon be available in some BC pharmacies and cannabis is on the ballot as both the US and Canada approach elections.

The economic pressures are building in Canada. York Region is raising taxes 6.3 per cent, or \$91 on the average home, this year, voting for a plan to put 110 more police officers on the street to protect the community

## LETTERS

Dear Cannabis Health

I have recently been reading a lot in the news, about the estimated value of the Canadian Marijuana Industry. Forbes Magazine reported the industry is generating US\$7bn in the province of British Columbia alone. CBC News said "Although B.C.'s marijuana industry is often touted as the province's largest cash crop, Ontario's market is much bigger, estimated at \$1 billion a year."

CBC News Online, ran a story by John Bowman, on Jan. 13, 2004 about the Molson brewery grow operations in Barrie, Ont. The police reportedly said that this was the largest and most sophisticated marijuana grow operation in Canadian history, with an estimated street value of \$30 million per crop and/or \$100 million annually.

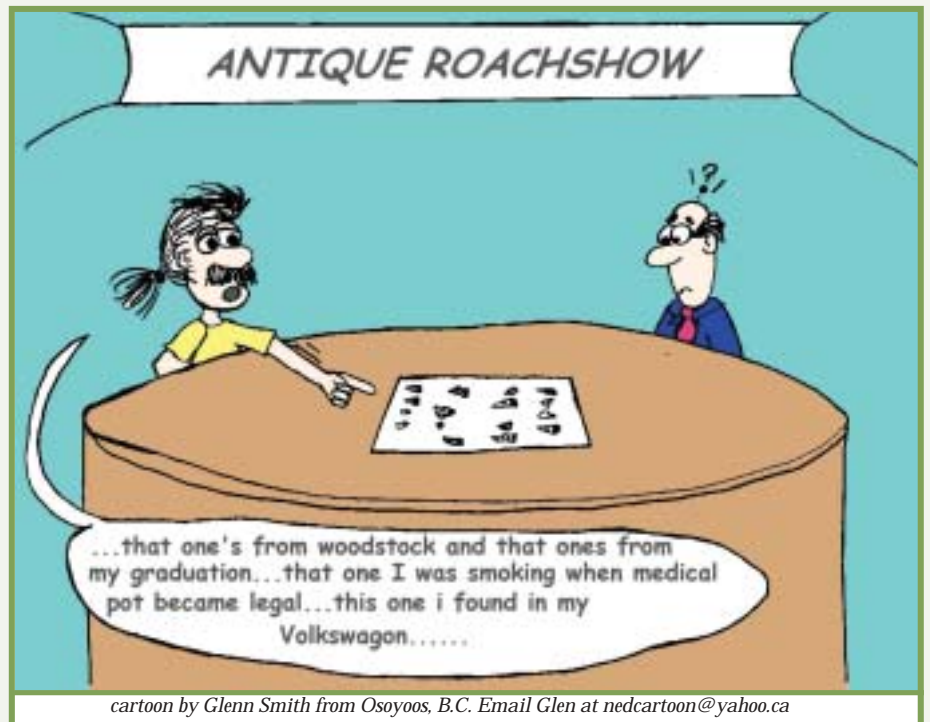
I don't know who or how these grow operation are valued, but the numbers don't seem to add up.

I also read the RCMP weighs the total wet plant material found at any grow site, stems, roots, leaves, etc. and then use that poundage when calculating values. However, the DRIED bud is the only saleable part of the marijuana plant. Dried clean weight is 1/4 to 1/6 of the wet weight.

The amount of plants in a grow operation is also not relevant when estimating dollar

value, the number of lights however is. You can have 100 plants per light (Sea of Green) or 6 plants per light (Christmas trees), and

you will only produce the same amount - the amount of lumens will determine the maximum yield of the crop, usually



cartoon by Glenn Smith from Osoyoos, B.C. Email Glen at nedcartoon@yahoo.ca

between 1 to 2 lbs per light.

Even at the highest retail price of \$12.8 million annually, this is not even close to the reported \$100 million dollar annual operation in Barrie, Ont. Where are they, the RCMP, getting their stats and why are they over-inflating the value? Could it be to justify the amount they spend on marijuana related expenditures?

What we really need is an accurate accounting of the true value of not only a single bust, but of the whole Canadian and US Marijuana industries.

So here is the math:

1 x 1000 watt HPS grow light = 1 to 2 lbs = average 1.5 lbs per light  
1000 grow lights x 1.5 lbs per light = 1500 lbs per cycle

Estimated Values:

Retail market value (street value) \$200 per oz = \$3200 lb

Health Canada's price \$150 per oz = \$2400 lb

Wholesale price \$125 per oz = \$2000 lb

4 Crops per year

1000 lights x \$2000 per lb = 2 million x 4 = 8 million (wholesale)

1000 lights x \$2400 per lb = 2.4 million x 4 = 9.6 million (Health Canada's price)

1000 lights x \$3200 per lb = 3.2 million x 4 = 12.8 million (top end street value)

*Thanks CH; you're doing a great job. Just an ordinary guy.*

### Dear Editor

The distribution through pharmacies will mean the loss of a holistic, personal approach, delivered exclusively through our current compassion club system. Alternative therapy and support service delivered through a club system increases wellness. Do we really want to see cannabis distribution be cold and sterile like our current pharmaceutical distribution? What makes a compassion club what it is? The people. The resources. The support. Through creating a network of fellow medicinal cannabis users, clubs allow consumers to access crucial peer support for coping with their dis-eases and access allies with whom they can feel comfortable, knowing that they share the choice to use cannabis as medicine. What we have created in our existing system of club distribution is what the standard health care system needs to aspire to. Holistic, comprehensive care with choice. We can not afford to lose what has been created.

*Teresa Taylor, Social Worker, Cannabis Activist, Past Federal Marijuana Party Candidate*

### It's not much but I wish it were more.

Thank you very much for Cannabis Health Journal. I fell asleep while reading Volume 1, Issue 1 and went into a diabetic sweat and I ended up trashing that very first issue I believe. There seems to be so many of them. I hope you have one to send to me please, it tops my collection. Thanks for the fronts of Volume 2, Issue 1 and Volume 2, Issue 2. If you can, could you please send it along with my regular subscription? Good stuff in March/April edition.

I'm sending along a \$5.00 donation with my subscription. It's not much and I wish it were more. Thanks.

*B. Miller, BC*

### Cannabis Health Top 100 in New Zealand

Cannabis Health is an excellent publication. Keep up the style and on-line accessibility. There are many matters of merit with that. In light of the New Zealand Government's review of cannabis legislation, Cannabis Health should be made available in our parliamentary library to quote as a source. BTW, New Zealand is the only country in the western world where, subsequent

to an election of a minority party, "confidence and supply" or the right to draw a cheque on the treasury is governed by an agreement that cannabis is off the agenda.

We need the extra exposure. Cannabis Health website is in the top 100 websites in NZ. Anyway, superb effort and big thumbs up to all your staff and contributors.

*B Anderson, NZ*

### From Iran

With greeting and desire of the best success and prosperity in all of your lifetimes. If possible, please send us copies of your company's magazines to the mentioned address.

*Best wishes Ali, Iran* 🌿

### Recently Seen

*Picture below was sent to us from a subscriber in Vancouver. Thanks Alan.*



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Quentin Hardy

Quentin Hardy is the Silicon Valley Bureau Chief of Forbes Magazine. He joined Forbes in 1999 from The Wall Street Journal, where he covered wireless technology from the paper's San Francisco bureau, and wrote about Japanese banks and financial markets during a 6-year stint in Tokyo. He first wrote about cannabis in Canada for a front-page Journal story on the Internet-based seed business, and decided to follow that up with a cover story for Forbes while in Vancouver for a business story. "Talking to a couple of old contacts, I realized that the cannabis business had evolved into something very big and sophisticated," Hardy says. He never got around to his original story in Vancouver.

Cannabis Health opened the interview with Quentin by explaining that in the past few months, we have been flooded by new products. We have no less than 5 new vaporizers in the store, various designs and prices. Everyone is knocking off everyone else in this lawless and sometimes ruleless environment. "Sounds like what you would expect in a classic early stage industry," he said confidently, another confirmation of the original hypothesis that drew him back to BC for a second time in the fall of 2003. Flying solo, and with the help of various activists and the RCMP, he toured the emerging BC marijuana industry. His articles appeared in the November edition of Forbes Magazine. In this, the second annual economic report, CHJ contacted Quentin to find out how this coverage in Forbes was received in America, and to see if Quentin could offer us any insights into Canada's current situation.

**Cannabis Health:** So tell me what impact did your articles have?

**Quentin:** The story was the best selling conventional cover of Forbes last year aside from our annual rich list, despite a Doubletree Inn in Huntsville, Alabama refusing to stock it. For every amount of resistance there was a greater amount of interest. I was recently on a talk show on the government network, C-Span. I talked for 45 minutes, interviewing people from all around the country, and I think there was one anti. I was truly astounded by the level of support. Now you have to take into consideration that activists will call in when others won't. There was an immense amount of support and the emails, I lost count. Last time I checked they were running 7 to 1 in favor. I tried to strike a neutral position, so in many ways this was a Rorschach. Most average people didn't see the point of the current system.

**CH:** I know this is first a financial story, but the observations that you made, that the backbone of the industry is "An army of ordinary people" contradicts Canadian and US positions that this industry is controlled by Bikers and organized crime. Did this observation not bring down some heat on you or the magazine?

**Quentin:** Yeah, we took a certain amount of heat from anti-drug groups in Florida, we were banned from the prison system in Texas and Indiana, as I recall. They had laws against any information getting to prisoners that would enable them to make drugs. And there I was, pointing out that if you put seeds in dirt they will grow. (Laughing) Clearly, it was an invitation to devious behavior.

I don't think most people want to engage in debate on that level. I think they like things the way they are and why engage in debate that might cause controversy. You know things like the current drug laws and student loans; they don't want to shed light on this kind of thing, it's too preposterous.

Speaking of being come down on, I was recently on a show called The O'Reilly Factor; by the way, he's no fan of Canadians. He was citing statistics that show for a long time Canadian and American underage consumption rates were running at about the same level. Recently, however, Canadian consumption rates have increased and naturally, he attributes this to the more liberal Canadian attitude. You know, I have my own concerns about underage consumption.

**CH:** Your co-workers, how did they react?

**Quentin:** To my astonishment, the people I thought would be pro were anti and vice versa. The editor emeritus of Forbes, who must be 80 years old, he and I were on TV





arguing for decriminalization. And the younger Steve (Forbes) of course, is against this, arguing “it’s just a gateway drug, etc”..., but this guy is old enough to remember prohibition and he was making that analogy.

**CH:** Did anyone question why you would choose to cover this story at all?

**Quentin:** Basically Forbes is interested in this as a financial story. You know what they say in journalism, “Follow the money”. If you want to understand something, figure out the business part. You know, I didn’t get a lot of push back, in part because I was giving a report on an economic/business situation and my reporting gave me an insight that I thought was very powerful, that is; in an area that has lost its fishing, timber, cattle and mining industries, this is a reasonably or highly lucrative business with very little social disapproval and a reasonably low level of risk, so people have gravitated to it.

As much as we see the Molson bust as the marquee bust, what’s probably going on is an enormous informal network of people growing four and five lights and winning an important secondary income in their house. And because it’s such a loosely structured network, it’s like the internet; it’s going to be very, very hard to stamp it out. You may be able to take down the Hell’s Angels and you may be able to take down the Big Circle Boys, given a high level of infiltration and strong racketeering laws, but it’s very, very hard to take down a dispersed, localized network.

**CH:** So we are now an industry, where are the visionary entrepreneurs? Where is the capital?

**Quentin:** They are here, you showed me the entrepreneurs. They are the pipe companies, glass companies, vaporizer companies. They’re crawling out of the woodwork. I saw some very sophisticated operations that entrepreneurs were carrying on. Well, yes, they don’t have access to a lot of capital, and the kind of people they get capital from will swallow their businesses, so they’re wise not to borrow. I knew a guy who was outsourcing seasonal immigrant labor and was planning to bring in a number of Mexican laborers to live on a mountain side for the summer. Talk about entrepreneurial activity, I have met guys who stockpile during the low-price season and put it in lockers and sold it in the summer.

**CH:** You had a chance to look at things from both sides, you spent time with the growers and the RCMP, what was that like?

**Quentin:** There are plenty of people in the RCMP that just want to do their job well. They’re enforcing the law, they’re not bad people, and they see things differently. The issue is up in the air in Canada, it’s a social football. At the risk of offending your readers, so much of Canada’s business happens in the context of what goes on in the United States and it’s so lucrative because the laws are so much worse in the US and the demand is so high and the prices are so high because of the US.

**CH:** I have some problems with the amounts we are supposedly exporting.

**Quentin:** So how much of what you grow in Canada do you think goes down to the US? Anything that I’ve written on in Canada could easily have been duplicated for the United States, except I might get shot reporting on it. There are enormous parallels to the impoverished portions of the US. You go to Arkansas or Alabama where there are difficult times for farming communities, I have no doubt they’re doing the same thing.

**CH:** How did you draw some of your conclusions?

Canadians like to think we are leaders and that we offer the US moral and ethical enlightenment.

**Quentin:** Yes, but from a business standpoint, the economics are governed by what happens in the US. Your dope prices would collapse if not for the US demand. I want you

to look at what happened to the price of marijuana in Vancouver immediately after 9-11. The wholesale price of cannabis dropped 30% just on the *expectation* that the border crossing would be tougher. There was massive backlog in Canada and the prices just collapsed. That’s your end market, that’s your price determinant. Look at how much is being grown between Grand Forks and Nelson. If every single person lit up at 10AM and smoked all day, you think you could get through it all? Canadians have a massive surplus.

You need to pay attention to guys like Stephen Easton, Professor of Economics, at Simon Fraser University in BC. He is doing some legitimate work looking at the risk/return ratio, being a grower and discounting for the likelihood of arrest. I understand Stephen will be publishing his analyses of the marijuana economy in the next few months. The guy is great and influenced my own analyses.

**CH:** How about some advice for Canadians, we cannot decide if we want this industry controlled by big corporate marijuana business or set up more like the wine model of farm gate. The cannabis activist community fears the unfeeling stereotypical corporate domination of this fledgling industry.

**Quentin:** Face it, Brian; you’re a gentle little man living out in the country. My beat is



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the Silicon Valley. I know lots of businessmen like you describe. Entrepreneurs are monomaniacal. They have to be, the odds are against you if you're not. Capitalism, it's not pretty, but it works. As far as the wine model goes, you might look at the American corn industry model as well. There, individual corn farmers work long brutal hours for generally little profit, while the big aggregators do well and influence policy. Be careful what you wish for, and ask yourself, are you really sure you want this?

**CH:** Is there any question in your mind who will control this emerging industry?

**Quentin:** I know there are people in the business now who think things won't change. With all respect to the activists, they aren't reading enough history. The fact is, capitalism is going to come in there, and they are better off dealing with it rather than pretending that it is not true. They have a chance now to be in a position at the table, steering policy and the shape of the industry — after all, they have deep knowledge in agriculture and medicine, thousands of potential clients, and a lot of goodwill. If they are there, and welcoming of change, they can do well. If the government and the new

entrants have to work around them, they're going to say, "these guys are all high, and to hell with them."


**CH:** You had some exposure to "compassion clubs". Where do you see this part of the industry going?

**Quentin:** The Vancouver compassion club and say a band of other compassion clubs, should walk right up to these guys (government) and say, we are the *Underwriter Laboratories, The Good House Keeping Seal of Approval* on which companies should be supplying medical marijuana. We have 10,000 customers at hand and the greatest depth of experience you have ever seen, "let's do some deals!" But they probably won't do that, which I believe is foolish, because they are going to be irrelevant if they don't. The compassion clubs are in a position to be players right now, but if they just bitch and whine that a lot of capitalists have showed up, they will be outflanked and that would be a great shame for all concerned.

Think of it as a problem in natural history, you adapt to changes in your environment, or you become a fossil. Nature doesn't cut you a lot of deals where change is concerned.

**CH:** Some of us have been pushing to have Health Canada consider small contracts, spread around the country.

**Quentin:** You know the thing that you can do there that would be smart is what your partner Barb is doing with the regional governments: hook them in as, nobody can get too big, spread your risk, no big drug runner can get involved, this way it's a local business. It becomes a cottage industry spread throughout Canada. Presumably Health Canada has small regional offices all over the place, why couldn't they be licensing agents.

Again it all comes down to a matter of power and who makes the decisions. Where I am going with all this is predicated on the idea of engaging. If you are going to sit back and click your tongue and complain that it's not the Woodstock Nation, don't even bother, you're just doomed. Positively, I can see all kinds of ways that the present system could be happily morphed into some kind of capitalist framework that would be more powerful and give the current players in the system some greater life there. In the end, you know, not acting guarantees that someone else will be in charge. 



The economics of the glass industry is in a constant state of evolution. Laws constantly change around the world creating many rifts in the culture and re-evaluation of a lifestyle once taboo. The advent of e-trade (business on the internet) is bringing the world closer in terms of business prospects. An example of this growing global industry is seen in the wide range of everyday products, manufacturing, and services available to us from other regions and countries of the world.

The highly criticized and controversial American War on Drugs has led to many changes in our industry. The United States has literally killed off the mainstream glass pipe industry by seizing and charging many American glass artists marketing or selling such paraphernalia. (For more specific information and details research "Operation Headhunter" or "Operation Pipe Dreams")



Because of the influential nature of these backward laws, many American glass artists have shifted to the glass sex toy industry, leaving the demand to be supplied by a foreign producer.

This is detrimental to our national revenue, as outsourcing and purchasing goods from foreign countries takes money from local producers and adds it to other countries GNP (gross national product).

The current outsourcing trend is a search to find a cheaper source for your product, which may come from cheaper labor, cheaper or lower quality materials, resulting in a lower quality product in the end. Two countries known to produce a wide range of cheaply produced knock-off products, goods and services at lower costs are China and India.

Although this may seem great for business, as lower costs generally amount to higher profits, there are also serious drawbacks. Porsche and Civic are both cars made from similar materials, but there is an obvious quality difference. They will both get you from point A to point B and are functional, but both are obviously in different classes of quality. Take the time to carefully examine the glass at a local shop, you may discover

that a lot of import glass is made with thinner walls, which translates into less raw glass weight, and therefore lower manufacturing costs. Also, thinner glass may be easier to break, and the shapes are not as perfect, refined (oblong) or aesthetic (comfort, style, AND function).

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Recently, herbs met technology and true vaporization became a reality. From the early days of vaporizers that just burned everything, to vaporizers of the 1970s that disappeared, and the glass jar vaporizer of the 1990s, the millennium brought us hot air

temperature controlled herbal vaporization.

In the early 1900s, smoking mainstream herbs, like tobacco and cannabis, caught on and people started thinking about the concept of inhaling herbs again. It wasn't until the second half of the 20th century that people truly started to understand the health hazards of smoking. When the first reports of the hazards of smoking came out, the smoking industry denied everything. Rather than spend money on creating a safer way to inhale tobacco; they continued to deny the health problems associated with smoking. Without anyone looking for an alternative to smoking, vaporization wasn't even a consideration.

In the 1970s, a few herbal vaporizers from small companies hit the market, including the well known Tilt Vaporizer. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, herbal vaporizers got pushed underground by a drug war and passage of anti-paraphernalia laws. Without even considering all the benefits of cannabis and the hundreds of medicinal herbs that could be vaporized with proper temperature control, vaporizers once again disappeared from public view.

In the mid 1990s, affordable glass-domed vaporizers hit the market and people started to think about vaporization again.

These primitive devices lacked temperature controls and involved contact with a metal, soldering iron. This form of vaporization became popular, but the units weren't very efficient. Not only were they capable of reaching combustion temperatures, but they would never be a safe choice for patients who needed to ensure they weren't inhaling smoke.

At the turn of the millennium, a few companies released hot air temperature controlled herbal vaporizers and the industry changed forever. Temperature control opened the door to use with hundreds of readily available legal herbs, allowing vaporizers mainstream acceptance. Not only could recreational users vaporize herbs instead of smoking, but vaporizers now had an undisputed legitimate medical use.

Smoking will never disappear, but those of us in the vaporization industry realize how obsolete it really is. Vaporizers have come a long way and they will just keep getting better. It's just a matter of time before people embrace vaporization as the only real way to inhale herbs. The future of herbs is here and things are just going to get better from here.

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Lisa Kirkman

When I decided to make the move into entrepreneurship over a year ago, my mission was and has remained simple: to serve both private and public interests in the cannabis culture by creating a unique, useful and profitable product or service that in itself helps bring an end to prohibition. One aspect of this that I feel we can all have an immediate impact upon is the everyday normalization of what we do and who we are as cannabis consumers. CannaGuide is the essence of this form of individual activism. We support those businesses and services that support our lifestyle. CannaGuide BC is North America's first free, annually published, comprehensive directory of both cannabis-focused businesses, services, events (non-profit or otherwise) and those organizations which may

## CANNAGUIDE

not have a direct cannabis connection, but want to reach out and support the cannabis consumer nonetheless.

One of the most basic institutions that draws people together, as banal as it may seem, is a directory. Whether it's the Yellow Pages that define your area by its businesses and services, a Gay Guide that targets the homosexual community or a Jewish or Chinese phone book, a directory is a physical representation of the breadth and diversity of one's culture. Not only will both the cannabis-resident and canna-tourist alike have a professional, portable and easy-to-read resource of every category of listing required to fully utilize this amazing plant in daily life, but they and society as a whole, will have a visual cue as to how strong and secure

Canada's cannabis culture truly is, for us to have a directory of our own. It is my belief that, if we are to be accepted by the "straight" business community, cannabusinesspeople need to run their organization like any other business and need to truly believe that what they are doing is no less deserving of success than every other legitimate enterprise. This is a concept that many struggle with, especially those who are used to being forced to circumvent regulation and authority. I've completed and have been implementing my business plan with the help of a loan from Community Futures Development Corporation (a non-profit business development organization) and with a weekly grant from Human Resources Development Canada (the Federal Gov.) as part of the Youth Entrepreneurship program. I was

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accepted based on the merits of my business plan. Yes, they know exactly what my business is, too!

Cannabusiness should strive to reach their target market without having to compromise integrity. Right now, although seed dealers, nutrient companies, paraphernalia makers, etc. all have the means to advertise their particular product or service, prohibition prevents mainstream advertising from allowing them to fully express what their product or service really is or does. Most phone books don't even have a Hemp Store section, so they spend hundreds of dollars to list under Clothing or Books. CannaGuide frees the advertiser to explain to the consumer honestly the who, what, when, where, why and how of their product, service or event. Conversely, the non-cannabis focused organization that wants to target the cannabis consuming market has never before had an effective medium to do it until CannaGuide. Restaurants, electricians, real estate agents, any business or service that the rest of the society requires, canna-people require as well. The astute entrepreneur who markets their organization in CannaGuide knows that their ad is a statement and their newfound market-base is extremely loyal to those who make such a statement. Look for CannaGuide BC 2004-2005 on shelves Cannabis Day (July 1st) 2004!



# BEYOND PROHIBITION

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- \* The State of Cannabis Research
- \* Safe, Legal Cannabis Cultivation

**Date of Conference:** Saturday, May 8, 2004

**Location:** The Wosk Centre for Dialogue, Vancouver BC. **Keynote Speaker:** The Honourable Senator Pierre Claude Nolin

Tickets are available for \$20 each. Ticket price includes admission to the conference, a copy of all written materials presented at the conference and two coffee services. Lunch is not currently included, but will be provided budget permitting. Seating is limited and a maximum of two tickets per person may be purchased.

For tickets or more information contact: Kirk Tousaw, BCCLA Policy Director 604.687.2919 [kirk@bccla.org](mailto:kirk@bccla.org) (email is the preferred method of contact)



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## THE CANNABIS RESEARCH INSTITUTE

branches of government will do business with a co-op. It often comes down to a subjective decision by a government employee, who is seeking to decrease his own risk by having a clear point of responsibility in the organization he is considering for support. Non profits and Co-ops have a place in providing various human and community services, but when it comes to politically volatile and high risk issues like marijuana or cannabis, these volunteer-based organizations offer the (often amateur) board members at the helm a scary burden of responsibility.

Institute was registered in 1999. The initial private placement, bylaws and constitution are traditional, with the exception of the addition of certain ethical commitments stated directly in CRI's constitution. Nothing was stopping us from operating internally any way we wished, and we continued to behave internally as a co-op.

We began to see that some doors were closed to CRI, the corporation, in the areas of

### Choosing your organizational structure.

In the early 80s some of us came to the realization that a traditional top-heavy management style was strangling many of the non-profit organizations in which we had spent so much time working. We wanted to form an organization whose structure would enhance its objectives, not undermine and stand in the way of its success. Co-op seemed to be a possible step in the move towards efficiency while retaining the spirit of co-operation and involvement of employees.

Early experiments with co-ops had shown us that although the government wants to encourage co-ops and has a number of incentives in place to encourage this form of progressive organization, very few funding

Faced with this seeming dilemma, we decided to approach this from a different angle. It was important to our success to harness the energy of our employees and the commitment they have to the cannabis cause and, at the same time, to offer them meaningful involvement in the day-to-day decisions of the company. It was essential that we have a flat authority structure; make decisions by consensus, and have a low level of "them and us" mentality.

In effect, we wanted to be a co-op but were forced by the realities of the market to be a for-profit corporation. Cannabis Research

## The Economics of Prohibition



Russel Barth and Christine Lowe show us their vision of the Economics of Prohibition

support and services to medicinal marijuana users. In 2001, with this in mind, the principals of CRI formed the Cannabis Health Foundation. The Foundation made the support of patients and the use of volunteers easier to manage within this organizational marriage. We took the time to ensure that we were beyond reproach when it came to the finances and the relationship of the corporation CRI to the Foundation CHF. Internally the "accountant" role and rules are well defined. We seek legal advice on any contentious issue and conduct an annual external audit.

In 2002 the Foundation began to publish the Cannabis Health Journal. The journal filled a need for a hard copy magazine that stayed away from sex and other drugs. We wanted a magazine that reached doctors and teachers and students and would be acceptable in a medical clinic or school library. We

wanted general appeal but were targeting the 50 to 60 year old early retirees, the boomers. The journal, now well into the second year of operation, has successfully developed an advertising base and distribution network that reaches into 15 countries. The majority of commerce takes place in Canada and the US West coast.

CRI, in co-operation with a local company in Grand Forks, BC, is in the final development stage of a new user-friendly grow box. Within the next year, this state-of-the-art option for growing your own medicinal cannabis will be available on lease.

This summer both CRI and CHF will be moving to

new accommodations. The new site will be a renovated heritage barn that we will be making over to resemble a turn of the century mining town. The location is close to the highway and we will encourage visitors to drop in to be educated and entertained.

To what do we owe our modest success? We have a deeply committed group of employees and volunteers. Everyone in our organization is in the loop, and we all share a 10-year future vision. You could say we are successfully operating a co-op within a corporation that is married to a nonprofit foundation.

CHJ 




Cannabis Health Journal Anniversary Issue

SEATTLE HEMPFEST 2004

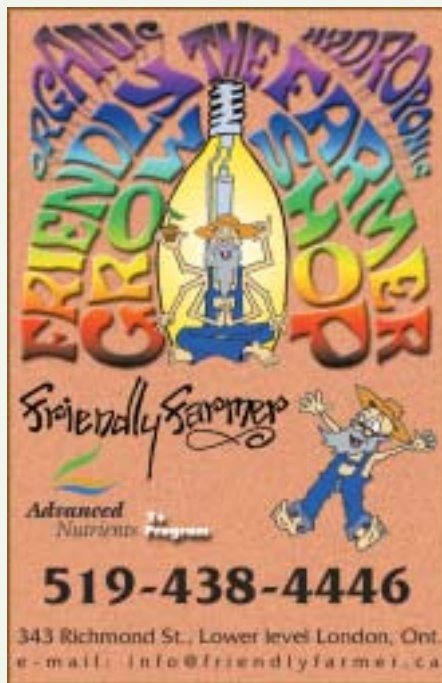
Construction in Myrtle Edwards Park has been completed and the park has returned to a landscape more beautiful than ever before! This will surely make for the most picture-perfect Hempfest in history.

As the international movement to defend the rights of cannabis enthusiasts continues to grow and flourish, Seattle Hempfest proves to be the foremost cannabis policy reform event in the world. Multi-national efforts to thwart the cannabis community are no match for the solidarity that is now globally shared by those who seek an end to the

prohibition of the world's friendliest plant. After evaluating final attendance estimates from a variety of sources, we feel confident that around 185,000 peaceful people came out to support Hempfest in 2003. Folks from all walks of life contributed to another tremendously successful year of peace, pride, politics and passion. Attendees enjoyed six stages of the finest speakers on the subject and world class musical support right on Seattle's beautiful waterfront. 2003 was a great year to hear terrific speakers rail against the Drug War complimented by the backdrop of Elliott Bay and Mount Rainier on a warm and sunny Seattle weekend. As the ships rolled by and the throngs of people flocked to the phattie of fests it was clear that Cannabis users and supporters are among the most peaceful and responsible people anywhere. Our favorite hemp activist, Woody Harrelson, made a repeat appearance and brought the crowd to their feet, roaring with

appreciation. Internationally recognized travel writer and TV host, Rick Steves, reminded folks that America imprisons one quarter of all those incarcerated on the planet, bringing home the need for everyday potsmokers to come forward and declare themselves good and decent Americans. Fresh from a nationally acclaimed medical marijuana case, cultivation guru Ed Rosenthal spoke passionately about the federal government's cruel war against the sick and dying. He called for a moratorium on the government's war on medical marijuana, and for mechanisms to guarantee safe access to all who have a legitimate need. Jack Herer, the Hemperor himself, was articulate as ever, proving that he has amazingly resilient healing abilities, something he shares in common with his favorite species of plant life. 

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# TRANSGLOBAL HEMP PRODUCTS CORPORATION

by Brian Johnson

Transglobal Hemp Products Corporation is a privately owned, BC registered, limited liability company that was incorporated on Feb. 8, 1994. Its corporate mandate is to commercialize Industrial Hemp on Vancouver Island from seed to the finished value-added consumer products, hemp foods, hemp ethanol, hemp textiles, hemp pulp, hemp paper, hemp building materials, hemp beverages and hemp cosmetics/pharmaceuticals under federal licenses from Health Canada.

We grew hemp in 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 and demonstrated to the public that hemp grows well on Vancouver Island but that a series of value-added processing mills was vital as a market for farm-gate hemp.

Thus a hemp farmer's co-op called Pacific Islands Hemp Farmers' Co-operative Association was incorporated & our retail franchise was produced but we still need mills to buy the harvested hemp from the farmers' co-op. So we formed a Venture Capital Corporation(VCC) with 30% tax credits for BC individual & corporate taxpayers that is also RRSP eligible, together providing as much

as 74% tax deferral per calendar year.

After 3 years of grief from a rogue bureaucrat, 2004 sees our second VCC & an end to challenging times. Brian Taylor & I were among various pioneering hemp advocates who created the hemp lobby non-profit society known as "British Columbia Industrial Hemp Growers Association" and this Non-Government Organization (NGO) will be re-invigorated by Brian & I soon.

October 2002 was the date that we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Laos & received a decree to build a mill in Laos along with a farmer's co-op & retail franchise to transfer our model of complete vertical integration to SE Asia.

But George Bush's axis of evil directly affected us because the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) turned down feasibility funding because of "geopolitical pressures" meaning potential war in North Korea. So now Cuba &



Hungary are our favorite target markets for new mills with co-op & franchise.

My background is land development, venture capital & franchising. I lived in Calgary and raised equity for oil funds & oil rigs, geologists talked about conventional oil supplies (not including tarsands) running out soon. Demand for oil is increasing beyond supply, causing high prices that slow economic growth.

The Carbohydrate Economy (hemp & biomass) is gradually replacing the Hydrocarbon Economy (oil) market demands for the commodities of life. Hemp is known in the carbohydrate economy as the most advantageous raw material on earth.

So even without KYOTO's clout, hemp is in demand more & more each year to fuel the

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Locally here on Vancouver Island, we own zoned lands to build mills to provide clean, green jobs in coastal communities ravaged by the decline of fishing & logging.

Financing turn-key mills using tax advantages, franchise financing & franchise law is our biggest goal here in BC. Also important is building turn-key mills on time & on budget for any interested investors/farmers here in Canada or offshore utilizing our 187 shareholders' professions & skills which includes land developers, engineers, architects, elec-

tricians, plumbers, cement mills, building material suppliers, etc.

The future affords an opportunity for us to help many third world countries use their land to grow hemp & produce their commodities of life locally without importing plastics & other non-biodegradables from USA & other world polluters.

In summary, so many countries need hemp products as an import replacement that the Carbohydrate Economy is well on its way in Europe, but not yet in North America.

Canada needs an event like Europe's highly successful "Cannatrade", a twice per year event that combines cannabis hemp and cannabis marijuana. My greatest wish is that here in Canada, we all work together as one to build mills, healthy communities with green jobs & export those technologies turn key all around the world so that everybody wins & nobody loses.

Live long and prosper.

Contact Brian Johnson at [thpc@shaw.ca](mailto:thpc@shaw.ca)  
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SURVIVING SARS AND THE FIRST HELLISH YEAR OF BUSINESS



Hemp Magick creators Kerwin McLeister and Loretta Clark swear their masques will make your hair and skin feel as soft as an angel's ass. Their products are tested on Seers only!

Idealism in the new millenium with the same old gross values running the world—open a Hemp store at the height of SARS in Toronto on a strip that a customer calls 'the dead zone', and watch your money run away faster than you can catch your breath, all the while asking yourself: 'Was I crazy to do this?' Last year at this time I opened a store called, The Hemp Factory. Has it been worth it? Yes!!

The Hemp Factory—249 Gerrard St. East in Toronto, is more than a retail Hemp experience; it is political, spiritual, and most important, FUN. There have been moments when I have been precariously close to closing up, but Hemp is my and your date with destiny. Hemp is here to save the humans—not that we deserve it. At The Hemp Factory, we have created new products and there's nothing like bringing great new products into the world, especially when they are wonderfully reviewed in Now magazine and Fab magazine. Especially when you know they are outstanding and that maybe you are part of this new world potential that could end the petro-chemical slaughter we've all been bamboozled by.

Our pride and joy creations at The Hemp Factory began with Hemp Magick Masques and Cannabis Clean soap. HEMP MAGICK MASQUE is more than a treatment for the skin, it's a religious experience, give praise to the return of Hemp. So, try a dab on your wrist, see how it feels, then apply a generous amount to your face (and, your hair, too!). Leave on for thirty minutes and remove with warm water. Your skin will love you for it! Our masques contain Hemp oil, Hempola seed cake, seaweed powder, essential oils, mineral mud and an array of other gifts from the earth. Our two debut versions of HEMP MAGICK MASQUE (ultimately, we will have five) are HEMP MAGICK MASQUE: Ocean and HEMP MAGICK MASQUE: Air. Ocean is intensely rejuvenating (use twice a week for optimum effect) while Air is lighter, perfect for drier skin types and can be used as fre-

quently as one wishes. And, it makes a great exfoliant. Both should be kept refrigerated.

Why 'Cannabis Clean?' Well, if you haven't been converted to all natural soaps/shampoos by now, this is as good a time as any. Real, all natural soaps/shampoos contain NO artificial fragrances or chemicals, be sure you're not being fooled. You'd be surprised. However, once you go all natural, there's no turning back, your skin and hair have been begging for it for years. You'll notice the difference right away. We at The Hemp Factory preach this and our particular bent is Hemp because of its amazing properties and tremendous potential to change the world, yes, change the world. Hemp and cannabis are very similar, yet very different. We put both in our soap/shampoo to make the point of connection. You see, cannabis was criminalized to kill the Hemp industry before it could really show its miraculous benefits. Hemp makes a far superior paper to lumber, and will not spew poisonous effluence into our river systems, the lifeblood of our planet. Hemp takes three months to grow, not several years. Vote for Hemp and end the environmental tyranny that was exacted out of greed, not concern for the effects of pot. We, and our planet, need it. For more information, and to discover our amazing Hemp Magick Masques, go to [www.thehempfactory.com](http://www.thehempfactory.com) We are looking for creative partners who believe in fairness, freedom, and who want to live to see the finale of Capitalist terrorism. Call us, we're cool. (416) 923-(HEMP) 4367.



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*The review and modification of the MMAR is and ongoing process and will continue throughout the summer. The summary below reflects the development of the new rules at the time of publication.*

*by Brian Taylor/ editor in chief, Cannabis Health Journal*

It was a first, and indeed a minor miracle, to have the Canadian Cannabis Coalition representing 7000 unlicensed medical cannabis users invited to sit at the same table with law enforcement, medical specialists and other government officials. The meeting was the *Health Canada Consultation with Stakeholders* held on February 18th in Ottawa. I had been briefed in advance that Health Canada was only going through this sham to satisfy the courts and were oblivious to the real pain and suffering of patients. What I found was a group of experienced and hard working middle managers, trying their best to balance the impossible demands of politically ascribed interest groups with marijuana positions that were often planets apart.

The purpose of the one day session was to announce and receive feedback on proposed changes to the medical access regulations.

Summary of the proposed new regulations:

Category 1 requires the signature of one general practitioner.

Any symptom associated with compassionate end-of-life care. It will also include severe symptoms associated with cancer, HIV/AIDS, multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injury and disease, epilepsy, and severe arthritis. These symptoms include, nausea, cachexia, anorexia, weight loss, persistent muscle spasms, seizures, neuropathic pain and severe pain.

Category 1 patients have no limit on the number of times they can qualify for a renewal

*Writers note: A number of conditions: fibromyalgia, glaucoma, hepatitis C and a variety of other conditions that manifest in severe symptoms are not included. Although MMAR will not be adjudicating the applications that clearly fall within category 1, it seems inevitable that challenges, reviews and the inclusion of other conditions in this category will be an ongoing process.*

Category 2 will require the signature of a specialist for conditions and symptoms not covered in Category 1.

*Note: This is the previous Category 3 and although the signature of a specialist is required, the changes that remove the liability from the physician also apply to the specialist in category 2*

The patient declaration has been changed in a way that places the responsibility on the patient to make his or her own choice regarding risk and benefit. Wording will be clear and less open to interpretation. Forms will be shorter. The medical declaration will be revised. Physicians will no longer 'recommend' marijuana, but will state that they are aware of, or "attest" to the amount of marijuana the patient intends to consume. They will no longer be required to provide information on each and every treatment they have tried, but will now sign a statement that other treatments have been tried or considered and have not been deemed appropriate or effective.

The renewal process will be simplified. Instead of completing the whole application, the applicant and physician will be able to indicate that all information remains the same.

Renewals will be required every year and the physician is expected to examine the patient and sign the abbreviated renewal forms.

Disclosure to police will be implied upon signature of the application. Please note that Health Canada's database **will not** be made available to the police. Police will only be able to call Health Canada to verify an

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exemptee's/authorized person's card, to check on a suspicious physical address and confirm that they are indeed legally exempted. No medical information will be disclosed. There will be a statement to this effect on the new forms, and a policy document to clarify this process.

The new MMAR will be published in the Canada Gazette in the spring, and there will be another 30-day period for comments. Health Canada does plan on phasing out issuing licenses to produce marijuana. The plan is to do this around 2007, once Health Canada is able to manage the supply issue.

Part of the new MMAR plan is to distribute through pharmacies, and a pilot project will be undertaken in BC to distribute through a select number of pharmacy outlets.

For the full MMAR document, please visit: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hecssesc/ocma/legislation.htm>.

As the above regulations come into effect, picture not the current few hundred grow licenses, but thousands and thousands of patients and production licenses.

I sympathize with the challenges this poses

for law enforcement; in my opinion we already have too many patients who are growing under duress.

Before the planned cessation of licensing in 2007, the next step towards legalization could permit the growing of a small quantity of plants at home, but the thought of having 10,000 individual licensed patients is not attractive to me as a taxpayer or a cannabis activist. The solution appears to be in providing

**These changes are a big improvement that will make cannabis accessible to many more Canadians.**

patients with high quality, safe cannabis at affordable prices. Rather than award one more large contract for millions, as is the current plan by Health Canada, split the contract and award licenses to

small companies throughout Canada. These small producer/suppliers would be required to form a self regulatory body and operate the "product pool". Research and testing would be a shared cost and industry self monitoring would be done in co-operation with the RCMP.

The plan will save money for the government and patients. Not placing all your eggs in one basket will reduce the risk of product, person or systems failure. Patients with appropriate ID could shop the product pool via the net or purchase at the "farm gate". Operating the "Pool" as a free market would ensure the licensed growers continue to meet the demands of consumers.

Health Canada would have the same level of direct control as they now exercise with one contract or the planned two large contracts.

Large single contracts will stir up anger from the east and west. The farm gate will build trust and ensure the success of the new regulations.

As we progressed through the day and the well structured review of the proposed regulations, the facilitators allowed a mix of small table and larger group discussion. Each of the tables included a representative from law enforcement, patients, advocacy groups and Health Canada. As each issue at our table was discussed, the inevitable question was asked, "How will this impact on patient access?"

Our contingency was well represented by Hilary Black, Phillip Lucas, Boris St. Maurice, Eric Nash and myself. We, the CCC representatives, were asking for more than they, the Health Canada employees could deliver, but they were listening and they respected us enough to have invited us to participate. The proposed changes are not everything we wanted, and some of the compromises are still based on fear and misinformation. These changes are a big improvement that will make cannabis accessible to many more Canadians. I urge my fellow activists to educate patients, doctors and the community, support these changes and make them work.

As the meeting came to a close, I was candidly informed for the second time that day, that there is still some trepidation that many activists are really out to fully legalize marijuana. I told her politely that I was one of them and flashed her my best alien smile.



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*Bill C10 is a worst-case scenario of Marijuana Prohibition. Canadians will register disapproval in upcoming Federal Election*

Bill C10 is contrary to the desire of Canadians to see the end to the prohibition of marijuana, says the Canadian Cannabis Coalition (CCC), an umbrella organization representing medical, commercial and personal aspects of cannabis, dedicated to facilitating access to a safe supply of cannabis through research, education and advocacy. Instead of alleviating the harms of prohibition, this Bill would cause a “net-widening effect”, ultimately punishing an increased number of Canadians. It would also lead to an entrenched illegal market. The Senate Special Committee on Illegal Drugs warned that despite the fact some may say that decriminalization is a step in the right direction, “this approach is in fact the worst-case scenario, depriving the State of a regulatory tool needed in dealing with the entire production, distribution, and consumption network, and delivering a rather hypocritical message at the same time.” The report also states “decriminalization of use is a weak variation of prohibition, in the long run entailing more disadvantages than advantages.”

Bill C10, currently on its third reading in

parliament, would allow the provinces that are signatories to the Contraventions Act to implement fines for small amounts of cannabis possession (\$150-\$400 for under 15 grams of cannabis or 1 gram of resin) and cultivation (\$500 for 3 plants or less). The CCC is concerned that the flat fine scale discriminates against low-income Canadians, including those using cannabis medically but illegally due to the government’s unworkable medical marijuana regulations. In the event that the Bill is enacted into law, the CCC believes many Canadians will register their disapproval by fighting fines.

In provinces that are not signatories to the Contraventions Act, including British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan, these offences would remain punishable under the Criminal Code through fines and summary convictions. Under both schemes, the possibility of imprisonment and a record remain intact. MP Libby Davies’ proposal for a special provision that would guarantee no imprisonment on default of fines was not accepted. The Bill also provides foreign governments access to these records by court order.

While this Bill would be an improvement for some Canadians who would otherwise face a criminal record and imprisonment

under the current scheme, possession and cultivation of small amounts of cannabis most often results in confiscation only. As a result, this Bill would pull many more Canadians into contact the justice system since police officers may become more vigilant in enforcing the law due to the perceived ease of ticketing compared to arrest. Bill C10’s proposal to double the punishment to 14 years maximum for cultivators of over 50 plants would make the penalty higher than that for rape or manslaughter and risks filling Canadian jails with non-violent drug offenders. The increased risk and cost associated with production would increase black market profits, violence and corruption.

Debate in the House of Commons over Bill C10 demonstrates inexcusable misinformation on the part of many Liberal and Alliance MP’s. Mandatory minimums and forced treatment for repeat offenses are part and parcel of their Reefer Madness vision of a new cannabis drug strategy. Former Justice Minister, Martin Cauchon, sought US input into the Bill before it had even been read in Canadian Parliament. If the Bill passes its third reading it will go to the Senate for a sober second look. In such a case, the CCC urges the Senate to amend Bill C10 to reflect the unanimous conclusions of its Special

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## REACTION TO CANADA'S NEW MARIJUANA LAWS.

Committee to fully legalize and regulate cannabis. Whether the Bill passes or not before the upcoming federal election, the CCC believes Canada's 3 to 5 million cannabis consumers will support political parties and candidates that are more tolerant of their choices and respectful of their rights.

For more information, please contact these members of the CCC:

B.C: Rielle Capler 604-875-0214

Philippe Lucas 250-884-9821

David Malmo-Levine 604-842-7790

Quebec: Boris St. Maurice 888-528-1768 cell-514-808-8682

Ontario: Alison Myrden 905- 681-8287

Neev @ CALM 416-367-3459

For further information about The Canadian Cannabis Coalition:

<http://www.cannabiscoalition.ca>



### QUOTABLE QUOTES

Jefferson and Marx weren't wrong, they were from a different time, and it's time for us to evolve and find new ways of serving the public and private interests of society.

*Lisa Kirkman*

As activists, we have for the most part failed dismally in bringing to public attention this awful democratic aberration which is the interjection of police views into the democratic debate. Free people do not debate with armed men in a democratic society. Never.

*Patrick Roberts*

# The Economics of Prohibition

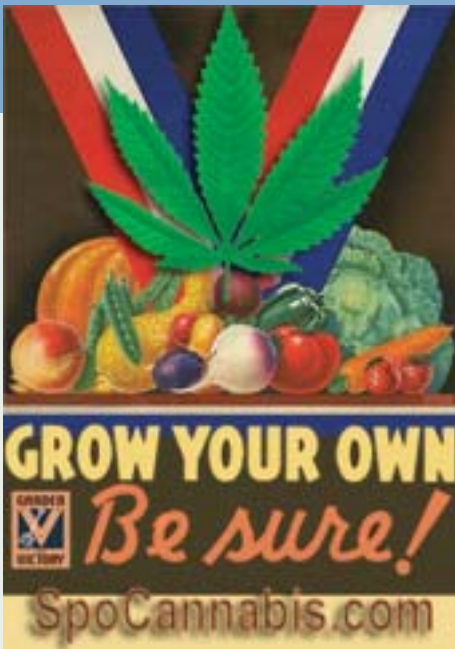


Russel Barth and Christine Lowe show us their vision of the Economics of Prohibition

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Darren McCrae, 35, suffers from Rheumatoid Arthritis, a crippling autoimmune disease of the joints. He has not had to use the Prednisone, Methotrexate or Hydrocodone, all of which had severe side effects, since he has gotten a medicinal marijuana prescription. Darren finds it morally unacceptable that the sick and dying are forced into the street to scrounge for their medicine. For this reason, he founded SpoCannabis, an organization dedicated to providing safe access to authorized patients. The organization also helps patients understand their rights and provides referrals to responsible caregivers. Their mission is to help the sick and suffering of Spokane.



*Darren McCrae*

One of the people Darren has encountered is Cliff Chadwell, a proud, wheelchair bound Viet Nam veteran with a prescription. This is Cliff's story:

Cliff was surprised to see the local police pull into his driveway. They asked if he was growing marijuana and he said yes, he had six plants. He neglected to tell them that he had a prescription from the Veteran's Affairs doctor, but the officers were polite and took his plants away communicating that the didn't see any big problem, ("Don't worry about it.") and would be in touch.



*Cliff Chadwell*

Eighteen months later, he received notice that he was being charged with the felony offence of "manufacturing". Cliff

was in shock and hired a lawyer for \$2,500 he could not afford and discovered that the prescription that he had obtained 6 months before the bust was on a prescription form, not the required

authorization form. Cliff was offered an opportunity to "plead down" to 40 grams and a fine. The problem with this solution is, even though he would avoid jail time, Cliff would still be pleading guilty to a felony. As a felon in America he would become a second-class citizen. He would lose his right to vote and become unable to continue his volunteer work with Meals-on-Wheels. After all, what elderly person would trust a convicted felon? He would be forced to buy all his cannabis on the black market. He feared the stigma of "felon" more than he feared jail. Cliff refused to bargain and fights on for justice in a country he once risked his life to defend. 🌿



**Does cannabis have therapeutic value?**

The issue of cannabis/marijuana as a valid alternative medicine in healthcare continues to be a highly controversial social issue in the United States. The dissonance between its identification as an illicit drug and studies that validate its benefits for selected patients creates a confusing picture for both healthcare providers and patients. In 1999 the Institute of Medicine completed its study, Marijuana as Medicine: Assessing the Science Base, per the request of General Barry McCaffrey, the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy at that time. The experts concluded that cannabis does have therapeutic value, is not highly addictive, and is not a gateway drug. They recommended that it should be immediately available for therapeutic use for cancer and AIDS patients in its current smokable form and that research should be conducted on alternative delivery methods. They also noted that due to its relative safety, physicians should be able to conduct studies on their patients whom they believe could be helped by the use of cannabis.

Patients Out of Time is a Virginia based national non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public and health care professionals about the therapeutic use of cannabis and has co-sponsored two previous national

clinical conferences on this topic in 2000 and 2002. The discovery of endogenous cannabinoids and receptor sites in the human body resulted in a significant increase in the research related to the use of cannabinoids in patient care.

Some of the results of this worldwide research in the field of cannabis therapeutics will be presented at **The Third National Clinical Conference on Cannabis Therapeutics** to be held May 20-22, 2004 in Charlottesville, VA, USA. This conference is jointly sponsored by the University of Virginia School of Medicine and Patients Out of Time. The conference will be co-presented by the Virginia Nurses Association, the University of Virginia School of Nursing, the University of Virginia School of Medicine and the University of Virginia School of Law. The conference theme is Use Throughout the Life Span and the audience will learn about the role of cannabis and cannabinoids from birth, through childhood, adolescence, adult life and all the way to the end of life.

Dr. Raphael Mechoulam from Hebrew University, Jerusalem will present his research on dexamabinol, a synthetic, non-psychoactive cannabinoid for use in treating traumatic brain injuries; University of Iowa's Nursing College Dean Melanie Dreher RN, PhD, will present research on its use during

pregnancy; Dr. Billy Martin, Chair of the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicity of Virginia Commonwealth University will discuss the risk of cannabis dependence; Willem Scholten, PharmD, Head of the Office of Medical Cannabis, Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports in The Netherlands will explain how his country has integrated cannabis into its national Formulary.

Dr. Mark Ware of McGill University will address his current clinical trials with patients with pain in Canada while Dr. Donald Abrams, Professor of Clinical Medicine and Chief of Hematology-Oncology at San Francisco General Hospital will present his finding on cannabis and pain in ongoing US clinical trials.

Studies on alternative delivery methods of cannabinoids are also included in the conference. Assistant Professor Audra Stinchcomb, College of Pharmacy, University of Kentucky will present her research on the development of a cannabis patch under a grant from the American Cancer Society. Dr. Geoffrey Guy, Founder and Executive Chairman of GW Pharmaceuticals, United Kingdom, will discuss the development of Sativex®, an oral mucosal cannabis extract spray.

Arnold Trebach PhD, JD, Professor Emeritus, American University is the

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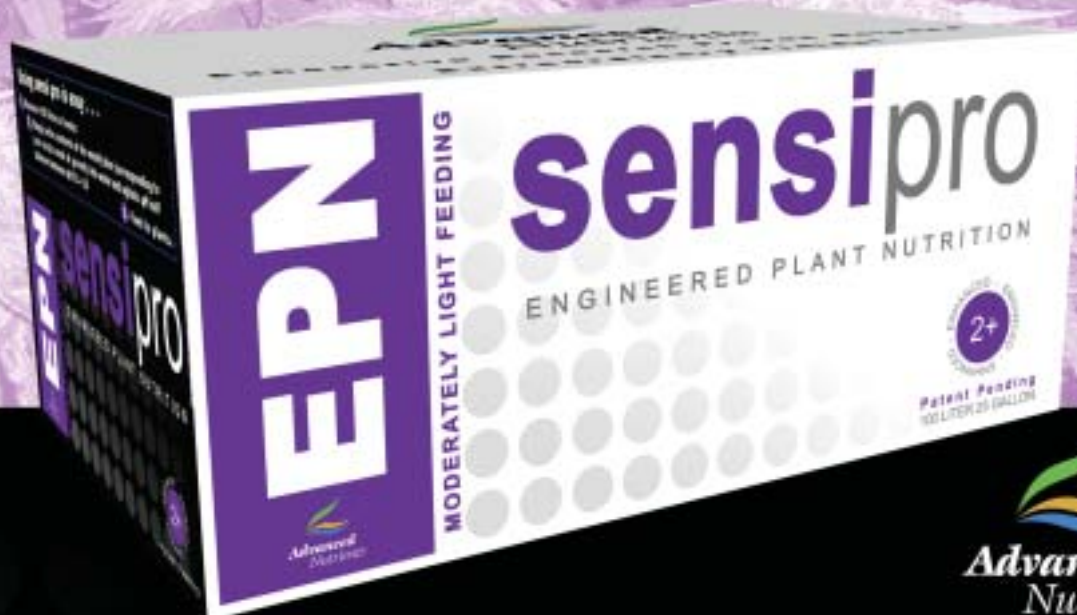
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# THE THIRD NATIONAL CLINICAL CONFERENCE ON CANNABIS THERAPUTICS

Founder and Past President of The Drug Policy Foundation; President of the Trebach Institute; and Chair, Board of Advisors, International Prohibitionist League. Professor Trebach will discuss "The Strange History of the War on Medicine". Richard Bonnie, JD, John S. Battle Professor of Law at the University of Virginia's School of Law will speak to "Medical Ethics and Cannabis Prohibition". Professor Bonnie, co-author of "The Marijuana Conviction", is a member of the Planning Committee and on the Board of Advisors of Patients Out of Time.

For the legal community the state of the art knowledge provided by the faculty should provide both sides of the system ample science. Prosecutors will learn that current Virginia and federal laws prohibiting using cannabis as a medicine are based on knowledge that is decades old and overtaken by research that is replicated and in opposition to the current prohibitionist policy. Defense attorneys will come away from the forum with a wealth of information that counters

the "no medical use" mantra of the federal government and the ability to mount credible and successful "medical necessity" defenses for the ill charged with a crime for self-medication with cannabis.

This conference should be of special interest to primary care and family physicians. Cannabis is the most used illicit drug in the US. Physicians must be able to provide accurate evidence-based information regarding the use and effects of cannabis to their patients who use cannabis for medical or recreational purposes. The clinical research presented will also be of interest and relevance to physicians working in pediatrics, oncology, HIV/AIDS, pain management, hospice care, psychiatry, neurology, physical and medical rehabilitation, and trauma. Please go to

[www.medicalcannabis.com](http://www.medicalcannabis.com) for further information on the conference agenda, faculty, and registration. On behalf of all patients out of time, please take advantage of the 2004 conference location to learn from world experts about this highly controversial but relatively safe and scientifically promising therapeutic medicine.



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## OFF THE WIRE

### MARIJUANA IN CANADA

- Canadians will consume roughly 2,100 kilograms of marijuana today.
- Number of marijuana users: 2.3 million
- Annual marijuana consumption: 770,000 kilograms
- Annual marijuana production: 2.6 million kilograms
- Amount of domestic production consumed in Canada: 30 per cent
- Number of grow operations (personal use and commercial): 215,000
- Number of people employed in marijuana growing: 500,000

*Sources: 2002 Report of the Senate Special Committee on Illegal Drugs; Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse; Marijuana Party of Canada; Marc Emery, Vancouver*

**Approx. 7% of Canadians** smoke marijuana recreationally (over 2 million people) source 1: StatsCan source 2: Parliamentary Website (Population of Canada in 2002: 31 million x 7% = 2.2 million marijuana smokers)

**According to a UN study** of drug use, 147 million consume marijuana worldwide. *[source: Globe & Mail - 9/22/02]*

**The Canadian government** spends more than \$500 million annually enforcing drug laws. *(according to the most recent auditor-general's report)*

**The committee's deputy chair**, Liberal Senator Colin Kenny, said making pot legal will actually result in the decreased use of marijuana. "No one wants to see an increase in use of cannabis," he said. "The attractiveness of the substance is it's illegal."

**The senators estimate** it costs Canada up to \$1.5-billion annually to prosecute drug charges. Almost a third of those cases involve marijuana charges. *Source: KIM LUNMAN - Globe and Mail*

### How big a business is pot?

According to figures presented in a recent investigative series in the National Post newspaper, the potential street value of marijuana produced last year in British Columbia alone is about \$24 (US) billion, more than the total value of the province's forest product exports to the U.S. and about two and a half times Canada's total legal agricultural exports south of the border. *Peter Black - "Chronically Canadian"*

**Several pages of RCMP notes**, compiled from May through December of last year, were obtained by the Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act. The latest statistics show police laid a record number of drug-related charges in 2002, with 75 per cent of the 93,000 incidents involving pot.

*Source: Kitchener-Waterloo Record (CN ON) Copyright: 2004 Kitchener-Waterloo Record.*




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**Cannabis Cooking Tips:**

Cooking with cannabis, especially leaf, can create some pungent odors, so choose a place to cook where this won't be a problem.

Roasting dried cannabis before preparation can improve the taste.

When deciding what to make, remember that snack foods or beverages make the best cannabis treats. Heavy foods, like pastas, are taxing on the digestive system which will slow the onset of the effects and may inhibit the amount of THC absorbed.

Make sure the cannabis or cannabis ingredient is spread evenly throughout the dish for a consistent dosage.

Remember the munchies? Some sources say they are even more pronounced when cannabis is eaten, so have some non-cannabis snacks

on hand. Satisfy the munchie cravings without being tempted to overdo it on cannabis treats.

Cannabis butters, oils or foods should always be marked to avoid accidental eating. Making larger batches of the cannabis treat or the cannabis ingredient (oil or butter) will help to achieve consistent dosages.

Use alcohol, milk, butter, or cooking oil to extract the active ingredients from the cannabis.

Grind the dried cannabis to as fine a powder as possible. An old style, hand crank, meat grinder will work fine.

**Dosage:**

The amount of cannabis that you add to the recipe varies from the potency of the cannabis to the weight and temperament of the consumer, but a general guideline ranges between one and two grams of leaf per dose or one quarter to one half of a gram of hash per

dose for an average sized person who has had experience with edibles.

**Warning:**

If you have never eaten cannabis and or you have never experienced the effects of cannabis, you should eat only a quarter of a dose at the most and wait about an hour for the onset of the effects. An effect called "first pass" has a way of increasing the effects of cannabis by quite a bit, and your second time will be much tamer.

Watch out for the munchies because eating too many cannabis treats can result in a very unpleasant experience.

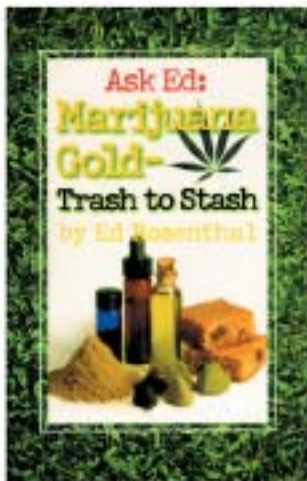
An excerpt from the "Set Setting & Dosage" article in Volume 1 Issue 1 of Cannabis Health: I cautioned him on starting out with a bite of the cookie first and waiting, but, thinking "it's just a small cookie and it tastes so good" he proceeded to eat it all. During the first time one gets "high", a feeling of vertigo, just as if you were going up higher physically, can flood your senses. For Frank this was not good. The feelings of vertigo reminded him of his time coming off of alcohol, which increased his anxiety, started him hyperventilating, and shortly thereafter he went to the hospital to get help.

Thanks to Trash to Stash for some of the tips. *Rip Ready*



page 98 from *Trash to Stash* courtesy of *Quick Trading*

**ED ROSENTHAL SAYS: STAY HEALTHY!**

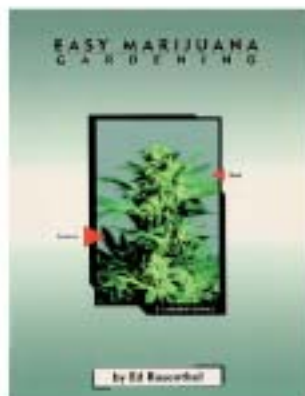


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## POWER THEFT

Jim Shimek is in charge of the theft of power at BC Hydro. I phoned Jim to ask for an interview after being turned down flat by the publicity department. Jim was more than eager to talk about his job and within minutes, I found myself locked in conversation. Jim was once a cop, but his attitude is; his job is to catch power thieves, not enforce the marijuana laws.

He does not seem to have an anti-marijuana attitude, but he has seen first-hand the dangers of the illegal operations. Walking into a grow room can be like walking into a mine field; wires going everywhere, wet floors, mold and chemicals, a deadly mix.

Once we have disconnected the power, the marijuana tactical squad moves in for another take down. Among the blue and the grey is a uniform that looks slightly different. It belongs to the BC Hydro Grow Buster Disconnect Team. The team moves in before anyone touches anything associated with the grow setup.

Jim assures me that consumption records of individual customers of BC Hydro are not accessible except by court "search warrant" or through the "Freedom of Information Act".

With the Freedom of Information route, BC Hydro has the discretion to release the name

of an individual customer if they feel that customer may be stealing power. Signs of power theft would include a consumption spike in the recent past. Spiking is one sign of the installation of a bypass and the setting up of an illegal theft of power.

"Consumption levels of our customers are all over the map. Transformer overload is another reason that an installation would come to our attention. Problems can arise when one house takes more power and overloads a transformer shared by four or five households."

Jim ended our discussion by expressing his support for the medical use of marijuana and his sincere hope that in future the identification of medical grow operations would be sorted out before innocent medical users were subjected to the trauma of a grow bust.

### Editorial Note:

We contacted the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner, which is independent from government and monitors, and enforces British Columbia's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and Personal Information Protection Act. The Information and Privacy Commissioner is David Loukidelis. His office said they had no knowledge of this practice and expressed

some surprise. They referred us to the Federal Privacy Commission, who referred us to the Personal Privacy Commission, who referred us to the Federal RCMP, and back to the RCMP and the provincial Justice Department.

In our final contact with the RCMP legal services, a representative of that department confirmed that, indeed, the provincial FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT, section 33n, was being used to target a specific consumer that the RCMP had cause to suspect was operating a marijuana grow op. The discretionary power that is exercised by BC Hydro in this situation is governed by a policy developed in 1994.

33 A public body must ensure that personal information in its custody or under its control is disclosed only

(n) to a public body or a law enforcement agency in Canada to assist in an investigation

(i) undertaken with a view to a law enforcement proceeding, or

(ii) from which a law enforcement proceeding is likely to result,

Look for more information on this issue in the July / August edition of CHJ



## GROW-OP HYSTERIA



by Tim Meehan: Born in Montreal, raised in Toronto and the Maritimes, and enlightened in Vancouver, writer, videographer and computer specialist, Tim brings a unique, national perspective to Canadian cannabis health issues. Guided and enlightened by the groundbreaking work of Canadian scholars Marshall McLuhan and Harold Innis, Meehan has positioned himself within the cannabis liberation movement as a media theorist, public relations consultant and Internet evangelist.

Hydro One, the public corporation which owns long-haul power transmission lines across the province of Ontario, has experienced severe brownouts lately.

Rocked by scandals, many top executives at the utility have resigned or been fired. Mismanagement at Hydro One, like any other government institution, took on the usual forms: untendered contracts to some of former Tory Premier Mike Harris' top aides, personal expenses for things such as the CEO's luxury yacht, written off as business advertising after a logo was stuck on the hull, and a disastrous experiment in California-style electricity price deregulation.

The McGuinty government however, has a convenient scapegoat: indoor cannabis growing. The recent Green Tide summit in

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## GROW-OP HYSTERIA

Toronto tried to paint the small portion of indoor growers who chose to steal electricity as the cause of, among other things, rising hydro rates. They held a media event (to which your humble correspondent was not admitted) where they tried to whip up public fervor against an imagined adversary, the local cannabis cultivator.

Of course, these police and politicians were not happy when reporters inside pointed out that the illegality of cannabis, information sharing between hydro utilities and law enforcement, and the type of people that involve themselves in the underground economy were the root causes of the so-called "green tide" and by extension, isolated cases of hydro theft.

Police, who are very fearful of losing their power base in a legal cannabis environment, are trying desperately to stay "on message" to promote their interests. We in the cannabis community must do so as well. However, our message is much more obvious and intellectually honest, prohibition promotes crime, be it gang control or theft of utilities.

As Mark Twain once said, "Always tell the truth; then you don't have to remember anything."



## Killaloe Rastaman

Respect, makes the world go 'round. Respect, don't put others down.... These lyrics start out the smooth sounding reggae beat that opens this collection of songs.

Don't let the first song fool you, because the next song has a heavy rock beat that reminds me of some early Doors stuff. Calypso, Rock, Blues, Reggae, this CD has it all. Rick Reimer plays all the styles, and does it with a message in each of the tunes.

The pull-out CD cover comes with the lyrics to all the songs so you can sing along, which is good because it's hard to resist joining in. One of my favorites is the title track, "The Killaloe Rastaman" done to the Earls Scruggs and Lester Flat tune, "The Beverly Hillbillies." The song tells the story of Rastaman Bob who relocated to the Killaloe Hills. He starts growing the best ganja around and of course, in the end, gets raided by the OPP (Ontario Provincial Police) who burn it, and being down wind get the munchies. After the law leaves to the local doughnut shop...

"Well, the folks in the hills, they smell the ganja fire.

They look upon the burning field and cry and cry and cry

Says Bob: 'I got a secret tucked up under my hat.

I got three more fields bigger than that."

A very enjoyable CD to listen to while laying back and enjoying some of Bobs' crop.

Catch you on the flip side. Rip Ready

*If the politicians won't look after the people, the artists must, and music shall be their voice. While my bemusement at the state of our world widens, the beauty and diversity of life continues to astound me. I give thanks to all who have inspired and encouraged me to create this music, especially my lovely doul-woman, Tammy. To the faithful listeners of CHCR (Canadian Homegrown Community Radio) in Killaloe for their patience as these songs evolved and especially the Francis family who must grow weary of my voice. I give thanks for the consciousness of my friends and community and for the ganja plant that was put upon this earth for the good of us all. Rick Reimer December 2003*



Once a criminal defence lawyer, now a singer/songwriter/marijuana and social justice activist,

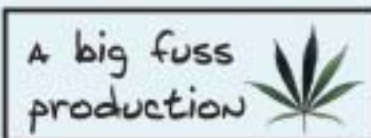
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# SUBLINGUAL CANNABIS PREPARATIONS

by David Faren. David has a B.G.S. and is undertaking a clinical research project with a cannabis based topical medication designed to support an application for a Natural Health Product number (NHP). This project is part of an independent study for credit at Athabasca University.

The usual methods of consuming cannabis like smoking, and to a lesser extent eating, have drawbacks when use is considered. Smoking is, of course, undesirable in hospitals and many other settings medical users may find themselves in when a dose is needed. For those experiencing pain following surgery, coughing would only exacerbate the symptoms. The choice of eating a cannabis baked goodie or swallowing a tincture would be a poor one if rapid results are desired. Eating cannabis has other problems. Absorption is highly variable, depending on the health of the gastro-intestinal tract, other foods recently eaten and the emotional state of the patient at the time of consumption. While these more traditional methods of consumption will likely continue to be the preferred method for many people, the need for other delivery modes will likely continue to grow.

A third alternative, sublingual absorption, avoids these problems. Sublingual preparations can take several forms; tinctures, lozenges and tablets. Cannabinoids can be delivered via the first form, and may be deliverable via the other two forms as well. I currently have a tincture that is very effective. It is easily titrated by the patient, has a rapid onset and avoids many of the intoxicating effects at the currently recommended dosage. Although a typical dose is 4 to 6 drops, some achieve reliable results with as little as one drop. Effects can be felt within seconds to a few minutes, allowing the dose to be assessed in five to ten minutes.

I believe the sublingual preparation delivers the cannabinoids in a reliable and convenient form and answers all the concerns Health Canada as about using cannabis as a medicine. I propose developing and executing any needed research supporting an NHP application. Given the extensive research on cannabis already there, it may be possible to place sublingual drops on the market relatively quickly.



In Ontario, Hamilton Hydro estimates it loses \$5.5 million each year to pot growers Report Magazine (CN AB) Pubdate: January 6, 2003 Pages 44-45

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# SPRING PLANTING TIME



Springtime germination and planting of cannabis seeds is a reasonably simple process, and unlike planting to grow under lights, a timed growing season is a bit more important. Seeds need to be sown no later than the middle of May for outside growing (allowing the minimum number of weeks for growth) since the rhythm for growing outside is provided by the seasonal cycle, and the plants will normally require 16 to 20 weeks to complete their life cycle. It is best to start all your seedlings in mid-March or early April, so as to allow for false starts, low germination rates, and the longest growing season possible.

Prepare soil using 4 parts black potting soil, 1 part Perlite, and 2 parts composted matter to provide good soil fibre. For every mixed batch of soil, add in 1 cup of wood ash as well, and mix thoroughly. Fill and settle the 6" pots with soil, and sow a single seed in the center of each, and water them thoroughly, placing them under a greenhouse cover, in a sunny area facing south, and observe them until they pop through the soil.

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## SPRING PLANTING TIME

You may expect seed germination to take between a few days and a week to get everyone out of the soil and growing (at which time they will be surviving on the contents of the seed pod) and a couple of more weeks to develop a full set of roots before they may be first flushed and then fertilized.

It is important that the seeds and pots be kept in a warm place to encourage the growth of females. It has been shown that a cold germination environment produces slower starts and a higher ratio of male plants, due to the stress of cold temperatures.

Make certain that when the seeds come up there is a strong flow of air going over the plants, blowing them around. This bending movement creates micro fractures in the stem, and encourages the stems to stiffen as they grow, and also helps the young plant expire gases, promoting fast growth.

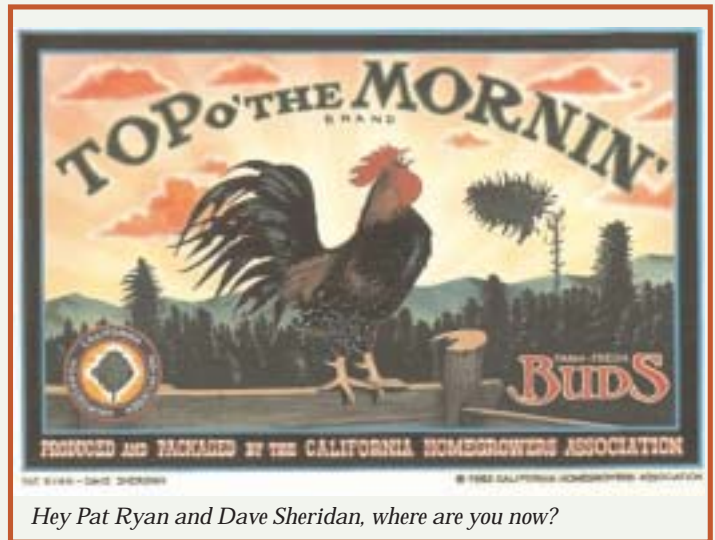
Seedlings require NO fertilization until at least the third week of growth, (after flushing and planting in the outside plot) and must be watered extremely carefully to avoid dry/wet extremes.

The pots will require daily checking, since

the small volume of soil will mean they tend to dry out quickly. The young plants will only stay in these pots for a couple of weeks. When the roots begin to poke out the bottom, remove them from the small pots and plant them into the ground in the location they will be remaining in for the growing season.

This method will produce a fast start for your plants, which means a more successful yield in the fall when harvest time arrives. Plant the seedlings in a sheltered spot that faces south or southwest for the best results, so the plants will get the benefit of 8 to 12 hours of direct sunlight.

Have a great growing season, everyone!  
Klozit King 🌱



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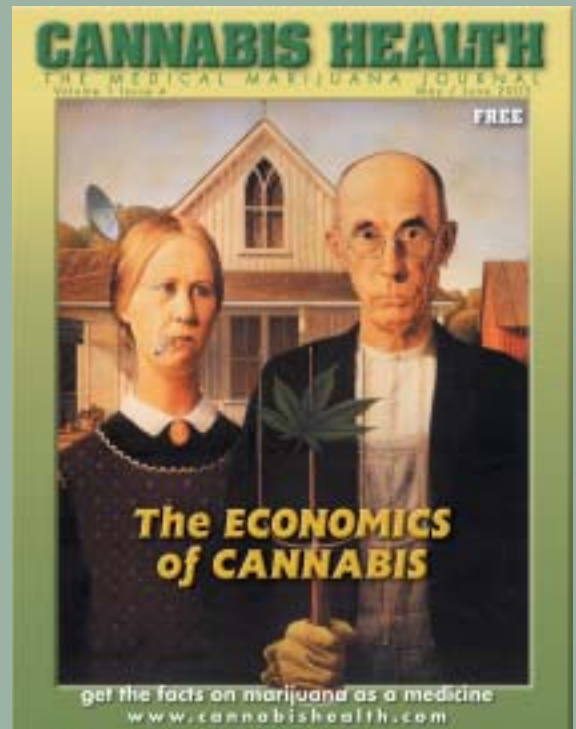
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Excerpts from Issue #4, Economics of Cannabis  
 “The world is changing and our vision includes the availability of safe and affordable cannabis to all those in need. But the question remains, how? Do we wish to see the rise of the giants as in the pharmaceutical industry, or do we see an inclusive model that brings in from the cold the small players and establishes the “Farm Gate” model for production and distribution, like the Dutch? Or do we capitalize and create a multiple level environment that will benefit all the players: patients, entrepreneurs, corporations and governments”

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The purposes of the ICRS are to: foster research, hold scientific meetings, present and discuss research developments in the fields and serve as a resource of reliable information concerning cannabis and the cannabinoids.

**ARLA JOHNSON - March 14, 1959, to March 21, 2004.** Arla Michelle Johnson passed away peacefully on March 21, 2004, a week after celebrating her 45th birthday with family and friends, after a courageous battle with multiple sclerosis. In lieu of flowers, a memorial (plaque or cairn) is planned to be placed on land Arla and I sold in 2003 to the partnership of Saskatchewan Environment and Pheasants. This land is in agroforestry and is reserved in perpetuity for wildlife habitat

and ecologically sound medicinal plant harvesting. This plaque will show respect for all the ways Arla has contributed to alternative medicine, environmental preservation and helped with the foundation of self-perpetuating methods to allow persons to direct their own health care.

Morris, Erin, Leah and Greg Johnson

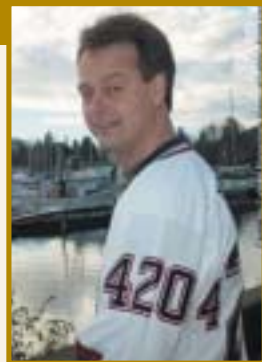


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TO THE EDITOR

Marc Emery is responding to a letter from M. Gifford printed in the National Post on April 6/04 that raised the ire of many in the cannabis community titled "The dangers of pot."

I was just released from

Saskatoon jail, where I spent 3 days and 3 nights incarcerated for passing two joints to other adults, known as 'trafficking' in the Criminal Code. In order to be released on bail, I have to submit to warrantless searches of my person, car and home anytime, without prior notice, for the next two months until my trial. I have been robbed of my birthright to walk the streets without fear of arbitrary arrest all because I was in Canada's redneck hinterland passing two joints. I was also required to pay \$3,500 cash bail. So when M. Gifford talks about the dangers of pot, he misses the point.

Even if pot IS dangerous, a completely false premise, why should any Canadian go to jail for that? Tobacco, alcohol, guns, fast cars, prescription drugs, aspirin, sugar, caffeine and even peanuts kill people, but no one goes to jail for those established killers being circulated in the general population.

As to cancer, not one Canadian who

smokes marijuana exclusively, even after 25 or 35 years, has ever developed any cancers of the respiratory system or lungs, while over 40,000 Canadians die of tobacco related cancers each year. THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, attacks tumors, as was found in a 1974 World Health Organization report. Look it up, you cannot find any empirical evidence of actual deaths associated with cancer of the lungs by a marijuana-only smoking individual. Smoking marijuana is good for your health, and I dare Mr. Gifford to point out actual humans that have died from smoking marijuana. It can't be found.

When I am high on marijuana, it improves my mental faculties. I am more creative, more thoughtful, highly attenuated. I am a better parent, better employer, better lover, and especially a better driver of my automobile, when under the influence of cannabis. My life in all areas is greatly improved and joyful with cannabis.

As my bail conditions prohibit me from smoking pot for the next two months until trial, I feel no addictive withdrawal, but I lament the thousands of Canadians each year, like myself, who are forced into incarceration because of our love of God's sacred gift to us here on Earth. It is a terrible hypocrisy that an ordinary Canadian gets arrested every 6 minutes, and one convicted every 15 minutes, over marijuana, when so many politicians were once marijuana smokers, including, but hardly limited to, Pierre Trudeau, Kim Campbell, Paul Martin (pot brownie from wife, Sheila), Martin Cauchon,

Jean Charest, Ralph Klein, Mike Harris, Glen Clark. Famous pot smokers who did some of their best work under the influence of cannabis include, Ted Turner, Bill Gates, Paul Allen, Steven Jobs, William Shakespeare, Moses Znaimer, Jack Nicholson, Carl Sagan, Paul McCartney, Willie Nelson. It is prohibition that gives us the evils of enriching organized crime, Mr. Gifford, not marijuana. Marijuana would be virtually free if it were legal, as those who want it would simply grow it in the backyard, starving organized crime of the lucrative profits of prohibition. Ending prohibition would allow marijuana to be circulating virtually free, and offering adults the remarkably healthy alternative to the mass killers of alcohol, tobacco and prescription drugs, which would save many lives. Prohibition erodes our civil rights, corrupts police and empowers them to brutalities, it fills jails and demeans the law and the people to whom the law is to serve.

Why is cannabis prohibited by politicians who know better? It certainly didn't ruin them. Cannabis smokers do not accept established dogmas, we criticize authority and reject racism, punishment, intolerant one-book philosophies, and other forms of social control. We are free thinkers, and for that, we and our sacred plant have been targeted for extermination worldwide.

Marc Emery, Cannabis Culture Magazine, POT-TV.net President, BC Marijuana Party, Vancouver, British Columbia.



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