



The National License Holders Council (NLHC) is a dedicated entity of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce’s National Cannabis Working Group (NCWG), which provides direct policy support for producers leading up to the three-year review of the *Cannabis Act*, which is scheduled to begin in 2021.

Overview

- Leading voice of license holders and contact point for the Government of Canada / Health Canada for meetings, submissions and other government relations activities.
- Advocating for improvements to federal policies and regulations in the areas such as marketing and branding, regulatory service standards, and import and export issues.
- Investing the NLHC membership revenue in a national cannabis economic impact study* with dedicated Canadian Chamber staff** supporting policy research, government relations/ advocacy and communications on issues affecting producers.

Membership

- Open to cannabis producers that are members of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and National Cannabis Working Group.
- Membership in the National License Holders Council includes complementary membership in the International Cannabis Council.
- Additional membership fees.

Governance

- Two industry co-chairs lead the council and sit on the National Cannabis Working Group Organizing Committee. Canadian Chamber staff is the secretary to the council.

Co-Chairs

Karine Cousineau, Director Government Relations and Sustainability, The Green Organic Dutchman

Karine Cousineau is the Director of Government Relations and Sustainability at The Green Organic Dutchman. She oversees the company's government relations strategy and spearheads its sustainability program, a strategic priority for the company. Prior to joining TGOD, Karine played a leadership role in communications and public affairs for Lafarge Canada, the largest diversified construction materials company in North America with 350 operating sites and 6,000 employees. She was also a government relations consultant at Summa Strategies, representing clients in a wide range of industries including defence, transportation, sports and health care. As a political staffer, Karine served in different offices including the offices of Federal Minister of Transport and Quebec lieutenant, Finance Minister, and the Prime Minister's office. Born and raised in Montreal, Karine has a degree in political science from the Université de Montréal.

Ivan Ross Vrána, Vice President – Government Relations and Business Development Eve & Co

Ivan Ross is widely recognized as an industry expert in the field of cannabis for medical and recreational purposes. His experience in this sector dates back to his time with Health Canada when he helped develop the Government of Canada's position regarding the use, production, distribution and regulation of cannabis for medical purposes. Since that time he has worked as a consultant with H+K Strategies (National Cannabis Practice) where he offered clients counsel and support in investor relations, communications, regulatory review, strategic partnerships, identification and outreach related to market opportunities in other countries such as the United States, Europe and Australia and government affairs work at the federal, provincial and municipal levels. In the spring of 2019, Ivan Ross joined Eve & Co. and is leading the company's government relations and business development efforts. Ivan Ross has also written several articles, appeared in the media (television and radio) regarding the cannabis industry and has been a guest speaker at conferences in Canada, the United States, Uruguay and Mexico.

Canadian Chamber of Commerce National Cannabis Working Group

Co-Chairs

- One Canadian Chamber staff
- One Industry

Organizing Committee

- Two NCWG co-chairs
- Two NLHC council co-chairs
- Up to 10 NCWG members

Working Group

NCWG Policy Groups

- Open to all members of the NCWG

International Cannabis Council

- Two industry co-chairs
- Open to NCWG members for additional fees
- Includes all National License Holders Council members

National License Holders Council

- Two industry co-chairs
- Open to all NCWG producers for additional fees
- Includes participation in International Cannabis Council

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