

DRAFT: THE INTEGRATED CANNABIS ACT OF DOMINICA

PREFACE

Whereas the Government of Dominica introduces a legislative framework for cannabis to foster sustainable economic development, social justice, and cultural integration within the context of evolving international norms, and whereas it is deemed essential to establish a comprehensive regime governing the cultivation, processing, distribution, and further industrial purposes of the Cannabis plant.

Now, therefore, be it enacted as follows:

PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

Section 1: Title and Commencement

1.1. This Act shall be cited as the “Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica.”

1.2. It shall come into force on such date as the Minister may prescribe by official notice.

Section 2: Definitions

2.1 In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall have the meanings assigned to them in **Schedule 1 (Detailed Glossary and Definitions)**.

2.2 Any reference in prior drafts, regulations, or government instruments to the “Licensing Authority”, the “Medical Cannabis Authority (MCA)”, or the “National Cannabis Regulatory Commission (NCRC)” shall be deemed to mean the **Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA)**.

2.3 Where a term is not expressly defined in this Act or its Schedules, it shall take its meaning from applicable health, agriculture, or standards legislation in force in the Commonwealth of Dominica, or from ordinary legal usage

Section 3: Scope and Application

This act applies to all activities related to the governance, testing, cultivation, processing, manufacturing, transport, distribution, sale, and its derivative products, and shall not prejudice any subsequent regulations made under this act.

Section 4: Objectives and Guiding Principles

The objectives of this Act are to:

- (a) Bolster sustainable economic development and foster a flourishing legal cannabis market.
 - (b) Facilitate social justice and redress historical injustices associated with cannabis prohibition;
 - (c) Respect and integrate traditional cultural practices and religious freedoms;
 - (d) Encourage research, innovation, and quality control within the cannabis sector.
 - (e) Protect public health and ensure consumer safety.
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PART I– REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR PHARMACEUTICAL GRADE CANNABIS

Section 5: Pharmaceutical Grade Cannabis – Prescription, Dispensation, and Patient Monitoring

5.1. Prescription Authority:

(a) Only duly authorized medical practitioners, defined as those who are registered with the registered with the **CLA – Medical Division** and have successfully completed accredited training in cannabis therapeutics from recognized institutions, may issue prescriptions for Pharma-Grade Medicinal Cannabis Products.

(b) Medical practitioners shall be required to complete periodic continuing education in cannabis therapeutics, as specified by the Cannabis Licensing Authority.

5.2. Electronic Patient Records:

(a) Each prescription for Medicinal Cannabis shall be accompanied by an electronic patient record which includes, at a minimum, the patient’s demographic details, medical history, diagnosis, prescribed dosage, treatment regimen, and any observed adverse reactions.

(b) Such records shall be maintained in compliance with national data protection laws, ensuring confidentiality and security, and shall be integrated with existing electronic health record systems where feasible.

(c) The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall establish guidelines detailing the frequency and format for updating these records to ensure continuous monitoring of treatment outcomes.

5.3. Quality Standards, Testing, and Labelling:

(a) All pharma-grade medicinal Cannabis products shall be manufactured, packaged, and labelled in strict accordance with quality standards established by the Cannabis Licensing Authority, including adherence to internationally recognized manufacturing practices.

(b) Prior to market release, products must undergo rigorous laboratory analysis by accredited laboratories to verify appropriate medical grade certification.

Section 6: Establishment of the Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA)

6.1 Establishment

There is hereby established a single regulatory body to be known as the Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA).

6.2 Mandate

The CLA shall regulate and oversee the licensing, monitoring, compliance, taxation, and development of all cannabis-related activities in Dominica, including medical, industrial, sacramental, cultural, and commercial uses.

The CLA shall hold the following responsibilities within its mandate, including but not limited to:

- (a) granting, suspending, and revoking licenses under this Act;
- (b) monitoring and enforcing compliance with this Act and its Regulations;
- (c) overseeing standards of quality, safety, testing, and traceability across the cannabis value chain;
- (d) regulating cultivation, processing, manufacturing, retail sale, import, export, transportation, waste disposal, and brokerage of cannabis and cannabis products;
- (e) supervising medical cannabis, including registration of Medical Practitioners, licensing of Pharmacies, Clinics, Health Establishments, and recognition of Traditional Healers;
- (f) recognising and overseeing sacramental and cultural cannabis practices, including Sacramental Lands and registered practitioners;
- (g) accrediting laboratories, certifying training programs, and ensuring technical standards are observed;
- (h) promoting research, education, and development in cannabis sciences;
- (i) advising the Minister on cannabis policy, taxation, and regional harmonisation;

(j) administering revenues and funds derived from cannabis licensing and operations under this Act.

6.3 Governance

- (a) The CLA shall be governed by a Board of 11 members appointed by the Minister.
- (b) Members shall represent relevant government ministries, public health, law, finance, agriculture, traditional communities, civil society, and technical experts.
- (c) No Member of Parliament, elected official, or individual holding financial interest in a cannabis business may serve on the Board.
- (d) Members shall declare and avoid conflicts of interest and serve fixed, renewable terms as defined by regulation.

6.4 Chief Executive Officer

The Board shall appoint a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to manage the daily operations of the CLA, under the Board's oversight.

6.5 Divisions

The CLA shall be organised into functional divisions, each responsible for defined categories of licences and regulatory oversight. These divisions shall include, but not be limited to:

- **Medical Division** – oversight of Medical Practitioners, Pharmacies, Clinics, Health Establishments, and medical cannabis use.
- **Commercial Division** – oversight of Cultivation, Processing & Extraction, Infused Products Manufacturing, Retail/Dispensaries, Consumption Lounges, Transportation, Brokers, and related commercial activities.
- **Industrial Division** – oversight of hemp and non-consumptive industrial uses.
- **Cultural & Sacramental Division** – oversight of Sacramental Lands, Sacramental Producers, and Traditional Healer/Herbalist Registration.
- **Quality & Compliance Division** – oversight of Laboratories & Testing Facilities, Waste Disposal, technical standards, GMP/GACP compliance, and traceability systems.
- **Training & Research Division** – accreditation of training providers, certification of Occupational Licensees, education programmes, research oversight, and innovation initiatives.

6.6 Publication of Responsibilities

The CLA shall, within six (6) months of its establishment, publish a **matrix mapping each license category to the responsible Division**, together with applicable standards, reporting obligations, and training requirements. This matrix shall be updated by regulation as necessary

PART II – REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR COMMERCIALIZED CANNABIS PRODUCTS

Section 7: Cannabis Regulation

7.1. Cannabis is hereby legalized for use by adults aged 18 years and above, subject to the provisions of this Act.

7.2. Possession of Cannabis shall be governed by regulations designed to protect public health and safety. Such regulations may include the establishment of designated consumption areas and the imposition of personal possession limits (for example, up to 454 grams in public), as determined by subordinate regulations. Regulations must consider consumption allowances that promote use in a controlled and safe environment that is attractive to potential tourists.

7.3 Cannabis cultivation will be subject to oversight and regulations in accordance with other produce and agricultural activities. Farmers, greenhouse, or indoor growers that are producing other agricultural commodities that are interested in having cannabis as a portion of their crop are encouraged to diversify, and not to focus solely on producing cannabis.

7.4. The sale, distribution, and retailing of cannabis shall occur exclusively through licensed retail outlets. To promote community-based participation and ensure quality and traceability, all products offered for sale shall be procured from licensed entities that have met the standards established by the Cannabis Licensing Authority. All cannabis products must comply with quality and safety standards as established by the Cannabis Licensing Authority and be appropriately tested and labelled.

7.5. For the purposes of this Act, Cannabis shall be distinguished from Pharmaceutical Grade Cannabis, the latter being subject to prescription by authorized medical practitioners, providing pharmaceutical grade cannabis intended solely for therapeutic or palliative purposes. Global standards for pharmaceutical grade cannabis have been established and can be implemented by the Cannabis Licensing Authority when working with pharma-grade cannabis intended for distribution in the medical market.

7.6. To support culturally appropriate practices and community-based natural healing, the registration process for established natural traditional healers shall be facilitated by the Cannabis Licensing Authority. Such healers, upon demonstrating expertise and a proven record of practice within their communities, may be authorized under a simplified registration process to advise consumers on the use of cannabis for general well-being.

7.7. Licensing can be compounded allowing for vertically integrated business models. Operators, and locations, are allowed to hold multiple licenses.

PART III – REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR CANNABIS OPERATIONS

Section 8: Licensing for Cannabis Operations

8.1 General Authority

The Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA) shall be the sole authority empowered to issue licenses for cannabis operations in the Commonwealth of Dominica.

8.2 Categories of Licenses

Licenses shall be issued in clearly defined categories, including but not limited to the following:

(a) Cultivation License

Authorizing the commercial cultivation of cannabis or hemp, whether indoor, greenhouse, or outdoor. Separate subcategories may be defined by regulation. Cultivators shall comply with CLA cultivation standards and mandatory training protocols.

(b) Processing & Extraction License

Authorizing the transformation of raw cannabis into commercial products (e.g. oils, tinctures, concentrates, pre-rolls) in compliance with CLA quality and safety standards.

(c) Infused Products Manufacturing License

Authorizing the manufacture of edible, beverage, cosmetic, and topical cannabis products, subject to health and safety protocols established by the CLA.

(d) Retail / Dispensary (Herb House) License

Authorizing the operation of licensed premises for the sale of cannabis and cannabis products directly to consumers, for medical, sacramental, or adult use, subject to restrictions under this Act.

(e) Consumption Lounge License

Authorizing on-site consumption of cannabis within approved premises, subject to CLA regulations for health, safety, and public order.

(f) Research & Development License

Authorizing universities, research institutes, public agencies, and private operators to conduct scientific research, clinical trials, and product development related to cannabis.

(g) Import License

Authorizing the import of cannabis, hemp biomass, and cannabis-derived products from foreign markets, subject to CLA approval.

(h) Export License

Authorizing the export of cannabis products to foreign medical, industrial, or recreational markets, subject to CLA export standards and international agreements.

(i) Transportation License

Authorizing the secure transport of cannabis and cannabis-derived products within Dominica, subject to CLA transport protocols and manifest requirements.

(j) Laboratory & Testing Facility License

Authorizing independent or CLA-accredited laboratories to test cannabis and cannabis products for potency, safety, contaminants, and compliance with standards.

(k) Waste Disposal License

Authorizing licensed operators to handle, destroy, or dispose of cannabis waste and by-products in compliance with environmental and health regulations.

(l) Broker License

Authorizing operators, including those without permanent local facilities, to facilitate transactions, payments, and movement of cannabis products under CLA oversight. Holders shall comply with Section 9 possession and transport rules, and operate only via licensed carriers.

(m) Cooperative License

Authorizing associations of small-scale or traditional cultivators to collectively cultivate, process, and market cannabis products under CLA supervision.

(n) Sacramental Producer License

Authorizing production of cannabis within registered Sacramental Lands under community governance, with free exchange internally and mandatory compliance testing if products are placed on external markets.

(o) Individual Occupational License

Authorizing individuals to work within a licensed cannabis business (cultivation, processing, retail, lab, etc.), subject to security clearance and training requirements.

8.3 Health & Practitioner Licenses**(p) Medical Practitioner License**

Authorizing licensed physicians and other health professionals registered with the CLA – Medical Division to prescribe cannabis for therapeutic use.

(q) Pharmacy / Clinic Dispensation License

Authorizing pharmacies, clinics, and health establishments to dispense cannabis to patients under prescription, subject to CLA standards.

(r) Traditional Healer / Herbalist Registration

Authorizing recognised practitioners of traditional medicine to recommend and use cannabis in accordance with cultural practices, under rules set by the CLA – Cultural & Sacramental Division.

8.4 Procedural Rules

The CLA shall establish, by subordinate regulations, the applicable fees, validity periods, technical standards, and operational procedures for each category of license, and may issue provisional, conditional, or restricted licenses for transitional or pilot purposes.

8.5 Sanctions and Renewal

Licensing conditions, obligations, grounds for suspension or revocation, and renewal procedures shall be further detailed in the Regulation for the CLA.

Section 9: Transport and Logistical Requirements

9.1. All transportation of cannabis and cannabis-derived products, exceeding personal carry limits, shall be conducted by licensed persons responsible or representing licensed cannabis entities.

9.2. Sale and transportation of cannabis and cannabis products outside of Dominica will require a special licensing.

9.3 Unlicensed individuals should not be in public possession of amounts exceeding the limit established by the Cannabis Licensing Authority.

9.4 The possession and transport limits set forth in this Section shall not apply to:

(a) Holders of a Medical Practitioner License, when possessing or transporting cannabis in the course of medical practice;

(b) Holders of a Pharmacy / Clinic Dispensation License or a Health Establishment License, when storing, dispensing, or transporting cannabis for authorised patients;

(c) Holders of a Traditional Healer / Herbalist Registration, when using or recommending cannabis within the scope of recognised cultural practices, subject to CLA rules;

(d) Holders of an Individual Occupational License, when in lawful possession during the course of employment with a licensed cannabis business.

Section 10 – Standards of Quality, Testing, and Labelling

10.1. All commercial cannabis products will adhere to the quality and safety standards established by the Cannabis Licensing Authority, requiring testing with approved, licensed laboratories. These standards shall be periodically reviewed and updated to reflect scientific advances and international best practices.

10.2. Prior to market release, every batch of cannabis products must undergo comprehensive laboratory analysis to verify:

- (a) The accuracy of posted cannabinoid profile,
- (b) The absence of harmful contaminants (e.g., pesticides, heavy metals, microbial pathogens),
- (c) Conformance with established potency limits and other regulatory specifications.

10.3. Each product shall bear clear, standardized labelling that includes:

- (a) The name of the license producer,
- (b) A detailed cannabinoid profile,
- (c) A unique batch or lot number,
- (d) The harvest or manufacturing and expiry dates,
- (e) Dosage instructions and recommended usage guidelines,
- (f) All mandatory health warnings and precautionary statements as stipulated by regulation.

10.4. Agricultural Commodity Provision: Raw or dried cannabis flowers shall be classified as an agricultural commodity. These products, though subject to the same rigorous quality testing and labelling requirements as other agricultural products.

10.5. Any cannabis product found not to comply with the standards, set forth by the Cannabis Licensing Authority, shall be subject to enforceable penalties including, but not limited to, suspension or revocation of the corresponding license.

Section 11– Dosing Restrictions

11.1. The psychoactive component Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) contained in consumable cannabis products shall be reasonably restricted to prevent overuse and access by minors. All quantitative dosing limits, serving sizes, concentration caps, package totals, analytical variance tolerances, and calculation methods (including the definition of “total THC”) shall be established by the Cannabis Licensing Authority through regulations published at least once per calendar year.

(a) Edible cannabis products are subject to the per-serving, per-unit and per-package limits set by regulation.

(b) Cannabis-based products that exceed the limits applicable to retail sale may be dispensed exclusively under medical or traditional-healer frameworks, under conditions set by regulation.

(c) Cannabis beverages are subject to per-serving and per-container limits set by regulation, including any differentiation between single-serve and multi-serve formats.

(d) Oils and extracts are subject to per-unit and, where applicable, per-volume or per-mass concentration limits set by regulation.

The Cannabis Licensing Authority may distinguish limits by product type, route of administration, market channel (adult-use vs. medical), patient category, or any other relevant parameter, as specified in regulation.

11.2. Packaging, labeling, and dosing precision requirements shall be determined by the Cannabis Licensing Authority through regulation, including thresholds that trigger child-resistant packaging, clear dosing devices/measurements, warning statements, and QR-code access to Certificates of Analysis.

(a) Retail sale of edible cannabis products shall require child-resistant packaging, under terms defined by regulation.

(b) Cannabis beverages exceeding thresholds set by regulation shall require child-resistant packaging.

(c) Cannabis products exceeding thresholds set by regulation shall include clear and precise dosing measurements and methods enabling accurate titration by consume

PART VI – SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL INTEGRATION

Section 12: Integration of Traditional Producers and Cooperatives

12.1. The Government shall facilitate and support the formation of cooperatives comprising on small-scale and traditional cultivators. Such facilitation shall include the provision of technical, financial, and administrative assistance, as well as capacity-building programs, to ensure that these groups are fully equipped to meet the regulatory requirements to commercialize cannabis established under this Act.

12.2. Cooperatives that satisfy the criteria set forth by the Cannabis Licensing Authority shall be granted preferential treatment during the license application process. This preferential treatment may include expedited processing, reduced fees, or other supportive measures to ensure equitable participation by locals in the legal cannabis market.

12.3. The Cannabis Licensing Authority, in collaboration with relevant governmental bodies, shall develop and publish guidelines and protocols for the registration, governance, and oversight of such cooperatives, thereby promoting transparency, accountability, and the fair distribution of economic benefits.

12.4 The established cooperatives of indigenous people shall be subject to self-governance on internal issues and will only be in the purview of the licensing of the cannabis authority during the testing and commercialization of the products.

Section 13: Provisions for Traditional and Sacramental Use

13.1. The spiritual authorities of Rastafari and other traditional groups shall designate specific areas, hereinafter referred to as “Sacramental Lands,” for the traditional cultivation, use and any activities related to cannabis. The criteria and process for such designation shall be determined by these authorities in consultation with community leaders, taking into account historical cultivation practices and community needs. The government shall formally acknowledge and support the designations made by these spiritual authorities. The criteria and process for such designation shall be established by subordinate regulations, taking into account historical cultivation practices and community needs.

13.2. In sacramental lands, cooperative and legal entities shall operate under the authority of spiritual authorities of Rastafari and other traditional groups.

13.3. Traditional healers and religious practitioners, upon demonstrating adequate expertise and a verifiable record of practice within their communities, may be registered under a streamlined registration method. Registered traditional practitioners shall be authorized to recommend cannabis products for sacramental or therapeutic purposes within culturally relevant contexts, subject to oversight by the Cannabis Licensing Authority.

13.4. No restrictions shall be applied within Sacramental Lands concerning the cultivation, use, or exchange of cannabis, provided such activities remain within the designated lands under the authority of recognized spiritual bodies. Cannabis intended for circulation beyond Sacramental Lands shall comply with the quality testing and safety standards established by the CLA.

13.5 Cannabis cultivation and use within designated Sacramental Lands shall be conducted exclusively by holders of a Sacramental Producer License issued under Section 8.2(n).

Section 14: Regional Harmonization and Cooperative Framework

14.1. To facilitate regional integration, the Minister shall, in consultation with CARICOM counterparts and relevant regional bodies, develop common regulatory standards and establish

an exchange framework for cannabis operations. This framework shall promote consistency in licensing, quality control, and trade practices across member states.

14.2. Provisions regarding the promotion of a regional brand or label for cannabis products shall be determined through future subordinate regulations, thereby allowing for flexibility and periodic review in response to evolving market dynamics and regional consensus.

14.3. The Act shall encourage and facilitate public-private partnerships, as well as cross-border investments, to strengthen and unify the Caribbean cannabis market. The Minister, in collaboration with regional stakeholders, shall develop policies to support such partnerships or investments ensuring that economic benefits are equitably shared among member states.

PART V – INFRASTRUCTURE, CONTROL, TRAINING, AND RESEARCH

Section 15: Integrated Traceability

15.1. A comprehensive tracking system shall be implemented and maintained for cannabis when it enters the testing phase, post-harvest and post-production. All licensed operators shall be required to record and submit the weight or number of products being brought to market during the testing. A tracking system approved by the Cannabis Licensing Authority will be used to track products that have passed testing and are being commercialized as the original proposed product.

15.2. The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall have unrestricted access to any commercial tracking system and all associated digital records with cannabis that has passed testing. This access shall be used for routine inspections, audits, and enforcement actions to ensure full compliance with the provisions of this Act and any subordinate regulations. Failure to comply with these data submission requirements shall be subject to penalties.

Section 16: Quality Control and Enforcement

16.1. All licensed cannabis operations — including large-scale cultivation, processing, transportation, and retail activities—shall be subject to regular inspections and mandatory compliance audits. Inspections will be carried out by authorized inspectors designated by the Cannabis Licensing Authority, both on a scheduled basis and randomly, to ensure continuous adherence to the quality, safety, and traceability standards established under this Act and its subordinate regulations.

16.2. Violations of any quality, safety, or traceability standards shall be met with graduated enforcement measures. These measures may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) The imposition of fines proportionate to the severity of the non-compliance;
- (b) Temporary suspension of the relevant license pending remedial actions.
- (c) Revocation of the license for repeated or severe breaches; and
- (d) Any other corrective actions deemed necessary by the Cannabis Licensing Authority.

The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall publish and periodically update a schedule of penalties to ensure transparency and consistency in enforcement.

Section 17: Training and Certification

17.1. A mandatory training program shall be established for operators within the cannabis industry, including but not limited to, cultivators, processors, transporters, retailers, educators and healthcare professionals involved in the prescription or dispensation of cannabis.

17.2. Training programs shall be delivered exclusively by accredited institutions recognized by the Cannabis Licensing Authority. The curriculum shall be updated periodically to reflect the latest scientific, technical, and regulatory developments, and successful completion of the program shall be a prerequisite for obtaining or renewing any related license.

17.3. The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation, monitoring, certification and re-certification processes. It shall maintain a registry of certified individuals and organizations, and may, as necessary, mandate additional refresher courses or continuing education programs to ensure ongoing compliance with industry standards.

Section 18: Research and Development

18.1. The Government shall incentivize research in the cannabis sector with a focus on sustainable cultivation practices, permaculture farming, product innovation, general research studies and clinical applications. Incentives may include grants or tax exemptions subject to criteria and allocation mechanisms established by the Cannabis Licensing Authority in consultation with relevant governmental departments.

18.2. Collaborative research and development centers will be established in partnership with local universities, research institutions, industry stakeholders, and international experts. Research centers shall aim to advance scientific knowledge and technological innovation in

areas including cultivation methods, processing techniques, product development, and clinical research, with the objective of strengthening both the domestic and regional cannabis industry.

18.3. The findings and recommendations derived from research and development activities shall be systematically reviewed and used to inform periodic updates of the technical standards and regulatory guidelines established under this Act. The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall ensure that such evidence-based modifications are incorporated through subordinate regulations, thereby maintaining the relevance and effectiveness of the legal framework.

PART VI – TAXATION, FINANCIAL AND INVESTMENT INCENTIVES

Section 19: Establishment of the Cannabis Taxation System

19.1. Cannabis operations shall be subject to the following taxation framework:

- (a) A 10% Cannabis Sales Tax shall apply exclusively to retail sales to consumers (B2C).
- (b) Business-to-business transactions (including bulk sales for processing or resale between licensed domestic operators) shall be exempted from the Cannabis Sales Tax.
- (c) Exports of cannabis products shall be subject to a 5% Export Tax, payable by the licensed exporter.
- (d) Imports of cannabis products shall be subject to a 3% Import Tax.
- (e) Sacramental operators within Sacramental Lands shall remain exempt from commercial taxation under this Act.
- (f) These taxes are distinct from corporate income tax, which shall continue to apply pursuant to the Fiscal Incentives Regulation.
- (g) Licensed operators are encouraged to implement employee profit-sharing schemes. Operators that allocate at least 10% of net profits to employees in addition to wages shall be eligible for preferential corporate tax treatment or additional fiscal credits, as defined by regulation.

19.2 Distinction of Tax Regimes

(a) The Cannabis Sales Tax established under this Section is an indirect tax applied to retail transactions with consumers (B2C), and to exports or imports where applicable.

(b) Corporate Income Tax is a direct tax applied to the net profits of cannabis operators, as provided under the Fiscal Incentives Regulation.

(c) These taxes are separate and cumulative, and shall not be interpreted as duplicative or interchangeable.

19.3 Application

The taxes provided for in this Section shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to all licensed categories including Consumption Lounges, Infused Products Manufacturing, Laboratory & Testing Facilities, Waste Disposal, Medical Practitioners, Pharmacies, Health Establishments, and Traditional Healers, except where expressly exempted by this Act

Section 20: Establishment of the Cannabis Development Fund

20.1. There is hereby established a Cannabis Development Fund (the “Fund”), into which all revenues derived from licenses, taxes, licensing and testing fees, or any other charges imposed pursuant to this Act shall be deposited into this fund.

20.2. The fund shall be administered by the Cannabis Licensing Authority, with oversight by the Minister of Agriculture, which shall ensure that the monies are used exclusively for the purposes set forth in this section, subject to an annual audit and public reporting.

20.3. The resources in the fund shall be allocated to, and used for, the following purposes:

(a) The development and improvement of infrastructure necessary for the legal cannabis industry, including but not limited to research and development facilities.

(b) The funding of research initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable cultivation practices, product innovation, and the clinical application of cannabis.

(c) The implementation, expansion, and continuous improvement of training and certification programs for stakeholders in the cannabis industry and within the cannabis Cannabis Licensing Authority.

(d) The provision of financial and technical assistance to cooperatives and traditional producers to facilitate their integration into the legal market.

(e) The promotion of sustainable environmental practices within the cannabis industry, including initiatives focused on energy efficiency, water conservation, waste reduction, and the adoption of renewable energy sources.

- (f) The support of social equity programs designed to redress historical injustices associated with cannabis prohibition, including grants, low-interest loans, and training opportunities for individuals and communities disproportionately affected by past enforcement measures.
- (g) Events and cultural elements to promote cannabis industry in the Caribbean.
- (h) Excess taxation can be allotted to other ministries to support Education, Healthcare or other in-need sectors.
- (i) Any other purposes that may be prescribed by subordinate regulations, provided such purposes further the objectives of this Act.

Section 21: Fiscal Incentives and Investment Measures

21.1. This Act provides for fiscal incentives—including tax exemptions, preferential tax rates, and other forms of fiscal relief—for investments in designated sectors, including Sacramental Lands, research and development centers, and cooperative-based operations. Such incentives are intended to stimulate economic growth, support social equity, and promote sustainable within the cannabis industry.

21.2. The specific parameters, eligibility criteria, and thresholds for these incentives shall be prescribed by subordinate regulations. These measures shall be subject to periodic review and adjustment to ensure they remain flexible and responsive to evolving market conditions and policy objectives.

21.3. The Government shall establish frameworks to facilitate public-private partnerships aimed at encouraging both domestic and foreign investments. Priority shall be accorded to ventures that demonstrably promote social equity and environmental sustainability, thereby contributing to a balanced and inclusive development of the cannabis sector.

PART VIII – GENERAL, TRANSITIONAL, AND REVISIONARY PROVISIONS

Section 22: Interpretation and Application

22.1. The provisions of this Act shall be construed in a manner that is consistent with its overarching objectives of safeguarding public health, promoting sustainable economic development, ensuring social justice, and fostering regional integration.

22.2. In the event of any ambiguity or conflict in the interpretation of any provision of this Act, the Cannabis Licensing Authority shall be empowered to issue interpretative guidelines and clarifying regulations. These guidelines and regulations shall be issued pursuant to subordinate

legislation and subject to periodic review to ensure their continued alignment with the Act's objectives.

22.3. The preamble and any accompanying explanatory notes shall be deemed an integral part of this Act and shall be used to assist in its interpretation.

Section 23: Transitional Measures and Implementation Timeline

23.1. All existing cannabis-related offences and regulations that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

23.2. A transitional period of **3** years shall be provided for all existing cultivators, processors, and users to achieve full compliance with the provisions of this Act. The period shall be divided into phases as defined under the Transitional Measures Regulation. During this period, technical assistance, capacity-building programs, and designated grace periods shall be made available to facilitate a smooth transition into the legal framework.

During the transitional period, the CLA may issue provisional, conditional, or restricted licenses, including for Medical Practitioners, Pharmacies, Health Establishments, Traditional Healers, and Occupational Licensees, under simplified requirements to ensure continuity of care, cultural practices, and workforce integration

23.3. The Minister of Agriculture Fishery, Blue and Green Economy shall, within 30 days of the enactment of this act, publish a comprehensive implementation timetable in the Official Gazette, detailing the phased introduction of regulatory requirements, the schedule for compliance audits, and any interim measures necessary to ensure continuity of operations.

Section 24: Periodic Review and Amendment

24.1. This Act shall be subject to a comprehensive review every five years to assess its economic, social, and environmental impacts. The review shall include a detailed analysis of implementation challenges, stakeholder feedback, and evolving international and regional standards.

24.2. Amendments to this Act, or to any subsidiary regulations made under it, may be proposed by the Cannabis Licensing Authority, stakeholders, or the Minister. Any proposed amendments shall be subject to a mandatory public consultation process, the results of which shall be considered in final decision-making process.

24.3. Following the consultation process, the Minister shall present a report outlining the proposed changes, which, after appropriate legislative procedures, may be enacted to ensure that the Act remains relevant and responsive to future developments.

24.4 The CLA shall, by regulation, establish specific standards and operational requirements for **Infused Products Manufacturing, Laboratory & Testing Facilities, Waste Disposal, Consumption Lounges, Medical Practitioners, Pharmacies, Health Establishments, and Traditional Healers**, including but not limited to quality, safety, education, and reporting obligations

Section 25: Miscellaneous Provisions

25.1. Any provision of this Act that is inconsistent with any subsequent subordinate regulation or administrative directive shall, insofar as possible, be deemed amended to ensure coherence and to fulfil the overarching objectives of this Act.

25.2. The Minister shall take all necessary and appropriate measures, including the promulgation of subsidiary regulations and the allocation of resources, to ensure the effective enforcement of this Act and its provisions.

25.3. This Act shall be published and made available to the public in accessible electronic and printed formats, thereby ensuring transparency, accountability, and widespread dissemination of contents.

SCHEDULE 1 – DETAILED GLOSSARY AND DEFINITIONS

Core Terms

- **“Cannabis”** means any plant of the genus *Cannabis*, whether growing or not, including seeds, resin, extracts, concentrates, oils, cannabinoids, and any part of the plant or any derivative or manufactured product thereof.
- **“Industrial Hemp”** means cannabis cultivated primarily for non-consumptive, industrial applications (fibres, seeds, oils), with thresholds and standards to be set by the CLA by regulation.
- **“Pharmaceutical Grade Cannabis”** means cannabis and cannabis-derived products intended solely for therapeutic, palliative or medical purposes, meeting the quality and safety standards set by the CLA – Medical Division (including, where applicable, GMP/pharmacopeial requirements).
- **“Cooperative”** means an association of small-scale or traditional cultivators recognized by the CLA to facilitate lawful cultivation, processing, and marketing of cannabis products.

- **“Sacramental Lands”** means areas designated by regulation where traditional or religious cultivation and use of cannabis are permitted under a simplified regime; internal exchanges within Sacramental Lands are not subject to commercial restrictions, but any product leaving such lands must comply with CLA testing/labelling.
 - **“Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA)”** means the sole regulatory body established under this Act, responsible for licensing, compliance, standards and oversight of the sector.
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A. Licences, Persons and Establishments

- **“Applicant”** means a person whose licence/permit/card application has been accepted for review by the CLA and not yet approved or denied.
- **“Cannabis Business”** means an enterprise or activity operated by a Licensee or Permittee under this Act and its Regulations.
- **“Licensee”** means a person holding a licence issued by the CLA pursuant to this Act.
- **“Cannabis Cultivation Licensee/Facility”** means, respectively, a Licensee authorised to cultivate cannabis for sale to other Licensees and the licensed premises used for such cultivation.
- **“Manufacturing Licensee/Facility”** means, respectively, a Licensee authorised to manufacture cannabis items for sale to other Licensees and the licensed premises used for such manufacturing.
- **“Infused Products Manufacturer”** means a Licensee authorised to produce edible, beverage, cosmetic, or topical cannabis products.
- **“Dispensary (Herb House) Licensee/Dispensary”** means, respectively, a Licensee authorised to sell cannabis items under this Act and the licensed premises where retail dispensing occurs.
- **“Consumption Lounge”** means a licensed premises authorised by the CLA to allow on-site consumption of cannabis, accessible only to persons aged eighteen (18) years or older, and subject to CLA restrictions on public health, safety, and proximity to schools or similar facilities.
- **“Laboratory & Testing Facility”** means a licensed, independent or CLA-accredited facility authorised to test cannabis and cannabis products for potency, contaminants, and

compliance with standards.

- **“Waste Disposal Facility”** means a licensed premises authorised to handle, destroy, recycle, compost, or otherwise dispose of cannabis waste and by-products in accordance with CLA environmental and health standards.
- **“Broker”** means a Licensee authorised to facilitate commercial transactions of cannabis products between Licensees, without physical possession except through CLA-licensed carriers.
- **“Cooperative Licensee”** means a group of registered cultivators or producers holding a CLA Cooperative License.
- **“Sacramental Producer Licensee”** means a community or operator holding a CLA Sacramental Producer License, authorised to produce within Sacramental Lands.
- **“Pharmacy”** means a facility authorised under health law and registered with the CLA – Medical Division to dispense medical cannabis products.
- **“Medical Practitioner”** means a physician, pharmacist or other healthcare professional duly registered with the CLA – Medical Division to prescribe or dispense cannabis.
- **“Medical Practitioner License”** means a licence issued by the CLA – Medical Division authorising a duly registered physician, pharmacist, or other healthcare professional to prescribe cannabis for therapeutic purposes in accordance with this Act and its Regulations.
- **“Pharmacy / Clinic Dispensation License”** means a licence issued by the CLA – Medical Division authorising a pharmacy, clinic, or health establishment to store and dispense cannabis products to patients under valid prescription, in compliance with CLA standards.
- **“Traditional (Natural) Healer”** means an individual recognised by the CLA – Cultural & Sacramental Division as a practitioner of traditional medicine authorised to use or recommend cannabis in accordance with cultural practices and CLA rules.
- **“Traditional Healer / Herbalist Registration”** means an authorisation issued by the CLA – Cultural & Sacramental Division recognising a practitioner of traditional medicine, permitting them to use and recommend cannabis in accordance with cultural practices, subject to CLA rules.
- **“Health Establishment”** means a clinic, hospital, wellness center, or similar facility authorised by the CLA to store, dispense, and administer cannabis to patients.

- **“Health Establishment License”** means a licence issued by the CLA authorising a clinic, hospital, or wellness center to store, dispense, and administer cannabis to patients under prescription.
 - **“Individual Occupational License (Cannabis Worker Permit)”** means a personal licence issued by the CLA to an individual authorising them to work in cannabis operations for a licensed employer; it does not grant independent rights to cultivate, process, or sell cannabis outside such employment.
 - **“Cardholder”** means a Qualified Patient, Designated Caregiver, Sacramental User authorised for personal sacramental use, or a Cannabis Business Representative who holds a valid CLA identification card.
 - **“Third-Party Vendor/Certification”** means a person separate from a Licensee who provides goods/services/IP under contract and holds a CLA Agent Identification Card; certification may be issued by the CLA.
 - **“Consultant” / “Contractor”** means persons temporarily on the licensed premises to advise or perform services/maintenance without becoming employees.
 - **“Security Bond”** means the bond payable per licence as required by the CLA schedule of fees
-

B. Products, Forms and Potency

“Cannabis Item” means cannabis plant material, cannabis concentrate, and cannabis products.

“Cannabis Product” means a product comprised of cannabis and other ingredients intended for use or consumption (including edibles, ointments, tinctures).

“Cannabis Flower” means the harvested/dried flowers of cannabis prior to any processing.

“Trim” means all harvested/dried parts of the plant other than flower or stalk/root, prior to processing.

“Concentrate” means cannabinoids produced by solvent or non-solvent extraction or combined with cannabis/other ingredients for smoking or vaporising.

“Edible Cannabis” means food or drink containing cannabis; **“Beverage”** is an edible intended to be consumed by drinking.

“Infused Product” means a food, beverage, cosmetic, or topical preparation containing cannabis, manufactured under an Infused Products Manufacturing License.

“Tincture” means cannabis extract dissolved in alcohol, glycerin, or vegetable oils.

“Topical Cannabis Product” means a cannabis product intended for application to the skin (or other non-oral routes aside from injection).

“Tablet” means a solid preparation containing a single serving of THC or other cannabinoid intended to be swallowed whole.

“THC/THCA” means delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol and its acid precursor as defined herein.

“Strain” means a named cultivar (genotype/phenotype-distinct) of cannabis.

“Synthetic Cannabis Additives / Synthetic Terpenes” means chemical substances/terpenes not naturally occurring in cannabis sativa or altered by synthesis.

“Solids containing Cannabis” means substances in solid form at 22 ± 2 °C with $\leq 3\%$ w/w THC (considering THCA→THC potential).

“Serving” means the designated single-use amount set by the manufacturer.

C. Packaging, Labelling and Safety

“Child-Resistant” has the meaning in 16 C.F.R. § 1700.20 and includes opacity and resealability for multi-use items.

“Container” means the sealed package in which cannabis items are placed for sale/dispensing in compliance with CLA labelling rules.

“Standard Symbol” means the CLA-established image used to indicate intoxicating cannabis.

“Special Branding Material” means CLA-designated visual/audio elements reserved for specified licensees/products (e.g., social-equity designations).

“Paraphernalia / Accessories” means equipment/products intended for cultivating, processing, testing, storing or consuming cannabis.

D. Sites, Operations and Traceability

“Site” means, for a Licensee, an area used exclusively by the holder consisting of at least one building or part thereof.

“Storage Area” means an area of a licensed site where cannabis is stored.

“Cultivation” includes germinating, cloning, planting, growing, harvesting, drying, curing, grading or trimming.

“Sun-Grown Cultivation” means cultivation utilising solar light in outdoor/greenhouse environments as defined by the CLA.

“Track-and-Trace (Inventory Tracking) System” means the CLA program for monitoring movement of cannabis from seed to sale.

“Transfer” means to grant, assign, sell, exchange, donate or barter any cannabis item to a Licensee/Testing Facility, including virtual inventory transfers.

“Transport” means physical movement of cannabis/cannabis products between licensed premises; **“Transportation Manifest”** means the Inventory-System document designating time/quantity/receipt.

“Smoking” means the burning of a lighted cigarette, cigar, pipe or other matter containing cannabis; excludes vaporisation/sublimation or other chemical processes.

E. Health, Medical and Pharmacovigilance

“Authorized Medical Practitioner” means a medical practitioner authorised by the CLA to issue medicinal cannabis recommendations/prescriptions.

“Authorized Druggist (Pharmacist)” means a qualified druggist/pharmacist authorised by the CLA to dispense medical cannabis.

“Serious Adverse Event” means an outcome including death, life-threat, inpatient hospitalisation/prolongation, significant incapacity, or congenital anomaly/birth defect.

“Consumable” means a substance intended for use on/within the human or animal body via recognised routes of administration, excluding injectable routes (reserved to medical practitioners per health law).

F. Taxation, Equity and Education

“Sale”/“Sell” includes exchange, solicitation, receipt, consignment, gratuitous transfer, peddling or possession with intent to sell for any consideration.

“Sales Tax” means the tax levied on the sale of cannabis as defined in this Act.

“Taxes” means Dominica Sales Tax and export duties levied on medicinal cannabis/products under this Act.

“Social Equity Plan” means the CLA plan outlining equity goals, programmes and metrics.

“Consumer Education Materials” means materials educating consumers on safe/regulated cannabis and accessories (not distributed to persons under the legal age).

G. Security, Compliance and Miscellaneous Terms

“Security Check/Clearance/Guard” have the meanings set out by the CLA, including verification processes, ministerial clearances (as applicable) and guards per security law.

“School / School Grounds” have the meanings used in child-care/day-care and educational facility laws and apply to distance-based restrictions in this Act.

“Biosecurity” means preventive measures to reduce transmission of crop diseases, quarantined pests, invasive species, and LMOs.

“Batch (Harvest/Manufactured)” means a specific quantity of homogeneous cannabis/product produced in one cycle under the same methods/SOPs.

“Brand / Branding” means names, logos, marks or identifiers used in packaging/labelling/marketing to distinguish products.

“Site Access Logs / Visitor Logs” means records of persons entering/leaving the premises as required by CLA licensing terms.

licensing structure 2025

“Significant Presence / Sole Control” shall be defined by CLA regulation for ownership/fit-and-proper requirements.

“Sublet” means to lease or rent all or part of a leased or rented property.

“Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)” means written procedures adopted by Licensees for cultivation/manufacture/testing/transport/recall in line with CLA standards.

H. Permits and Special Uses

“Cannabis Use Permit (On-Site Consumption/Adult-Use Lounge)” means a permit allowing consumption in a designated area, subject to CLA rules; **“Temporary Cannabis Use Permit”** means a permit for a time-limited consumption event.

“Collective Sacramental Cannabis Cultivation Certificate” means an authorisation for a certified or faith-based organisation to cultivate cannabis on its grounds, subject to CLA limitations.

I. Interpretation Clauses

(1) Authority naming. Any reference in prior drafts, regulations or guidance to the “Licensing Authority”, the “Medical Cannabis Authority (MCA)”, the “National Cannabis Regulatory Commission (NCRC)” or the “Office of Cannabis Regulation (OCR)” shall be read as a reference to the **Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA)**.

(2) Conflicts. In case of conflict between a definition in this Schedule and a definition elsewhere in this Act or its Regulations, this Schedule prevails unless expressly stated otherwise.

(3) Cross-references. Terms not expressly defined herein shall take their meaning from CLA regulations, applicable health/standards law, or ordinary legal usage

SCHEDULE 2 – LICENSING CATEGORIES AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES

License holders may apply for and hold multiple licenses for activities conducted on the licensed property. Each license is allocated to one Responsible Individual. Additional Responsible Individuals who have completed **CLA-approved training** may be added to licensed facilities.

Licensing Categories

(a) Cultivation License

Authorizing the commercial cultivation of cannabis or hemp in accordance with current cultivation standards. Subcategories may include Indoor/Greenhouse and Outdoor cultivation. Operators must remain current with CLA training protocols.

(b) Processing & Extraction License

Authorizing the conversion of raw cannabis into concentrates, oils, tinctures, extracts, pre-rolls, or other core products, in compliance with CLA quality-control protocols and best practices.

(c) Infused Products Manufacturing License

Authorizing the production of edible, beverage, cosmetic, and topical cannabis products. Holders must comply with CLA standards for health, safety, and packaging.

(d) Retail / Dispensary (Herb House) License

Authorizing the operation of premises for the sale of cannabis and cannabis products directly to consumers, for medical, sacramental, or adult use, subject to CLA restrictions and mandatory age verification.

(e) Consumption Lounge License

Authorizing on-site consumption of cannabis in approved premises, accessible only to persons eighteen (18) years or older, and subject to CLA health, safety, and zoning restrictions.

(f) Research & Development License

Authorizing universities, institutes, public agencies, and private operators to conduct scientific research, clinical trials, and product development related to cannabis.

(g) Import License

Authorizing the import of cannabis, hemp biomass, and cannabis-derived products from foreign markets, subject to CLA approval.

(h) Export License

Authorizing the export of cannabis and cannabis products to foreign medical, industrial, or recreational markets, subject to CLA export protocols and trade agreements.

(i) Transportation License

Authorizing the secure transport of cannabis and cannabis products within Dominica, subject to CLA manifest and chain-of-custody requirements.

(j) Laboratory & Testing Facility License

Authorizing independent or CLA-accredited laboratories to test cannabis and cannabis products for potency, contaminants, and compliance with CLA standards.

(k) Waste Disposal License

Authorizing licensed operators to handle, destroy, recycle, or dispose of cannabis waste and by-products in compliance with CLA environmental and health protocols.

(l) Broker License

Authorizing operators, including those without permanent local facilities, to facilitate transactions, payments, and movement of cannabis products under CLA oversight. **Holders shall not possess or transport cannabis except through CLA-licensed carriers.**

(m) Cooperative License

Authorizing registered associations of small-scale or traditional cultivators to collectively cultivate, process, and market cannabis products under CLA supervision.

(n) Sacramental Producer License

Authorizing production of cannabis within registered Sacramental Lands under community governance. Internal exchanges within Sacramental Lands are unrestricted; any cannabis leaving such lands must comply with CLA testing and labelling standards.

(o) Medical Practitioner License

Authorizing duly registered physicians, pharmacists, or healthcare professionals, licensed by the CLA – Medical Division, to prescribe cannabis for therapeutic purposes.

(p) Pharmacy / Clinic Dispensation License

Authorizing pharmacies, clinics, and health establishments registered with the CLA – Medical Division to dispense cannabis to patients under valid prescription.

(q) Traditional Healer / Herbalist Registration

Authorizing recognised practitioners of traditional medicine, registered with the CLA – Cultural & Sacramental Division, to recommend and use cannabis in accordance with cultural practices and CLA rules.

(r) Health Establishment License

Authorizing hospitals, clinics, and wellness centers to store, dispense, and administer cannabis to patients under medical supervision, subject to CLA regulations.

(s) Individual Occupational License (Cannabis Worker Permit)

Authorizing individuals to work in licensed cannabis operations (cultivation, processing, retail, testing, transport, etc.), subject to CLA-approved training, security clearance, and **association with a licensed employer; the permit is personal and non-transferable.**

Application Procedures

Submission

The applicant shall submit a duly completed license application form (refer to Schedule 4 for template forms), including:

- a comprehensive business plan;
- detailed security protocols;
- technical specifications relevant to the proposed licensed activity;
- proof of ownership or lawful control of the proposed premises; and
- any professional or educational qualifications required for the license category.

Review and Responsible Individual Allocation

The CLA shall review the application for compliance with this Act and its Regulations, including **fit-and-proper and security screening** of principals. Each license shall designate one Responsible Individual. Additional Responsible Individuals may be appointed upon proof of successful completion of CLA-approved training and written commitment to full compliance.

Category-Specific Requirements

- **Medical Practitioner License:** current health-law registration; proof of professional qualification; evidence of good standing with the relevant professional board.
- **Pharmacy / Clinic Dispensation License:** valid pharmacy/health-facility registration; SOPs

for storage, dispensing, and patient safety.

- **Traditional Healer / Herbalist Registration:** recognition by a cultural authority or community endorsement; adherence to CLA Cultural & Sacramental rules.
- **Health Establishment License:** proof of licensing as hospital/clinic/wellness center; protocols for secure storage, patient administration, and pharmacovigilance.
- **Individual Occupational License (Worker Permit):** completion of CLA-approved training/certification; security clearance; proof of association with a licensed employer.
- **Laboratory & Testing Facility License:** accreditation or capability to meet ISO/CLA standards; SOPs for sampling, analysis, and reporting.
- **Waste Disposal License:** environmental and health compliance plans (destruction, recycling, composting) using CLA-approved methods.
- **Consumption Lounge License:** zoning clearance; security plan; health/safety protocols; age-control procedures.

Public Notification

A public notification period shall be instituted **for commercial facility applications** (Cultivation, Processing & Extraction, Infused Products Manufacturing, Retail/Dispensary, Consumption Lounge, Laboratory & Testing, Waste Disposal, Transportation, Import/Export, and Cooperative facilities). **Public notification is not required** for Medical Practitioner Licenses, Pharmacy/Clinic Dispensation Licenses, Health Establishment Licenses, Traditional Healer/Herbalist Registrations, Individual Occupational Licenses, or Broker Licenses.

Provisional License

Subject to the findings of the review, a provisional license may be issued, contingent upon corrective measures or additional compliance requirements. Final approval shall be granted only after successful completion of CLA compliance inspections.

Renewal

Licenses are subject to annual renewal. Renewal applications must include updated operational reports, audited financial accounts (where applicable), proof of continued professional qualification (for practitioners), and evidence of ongoing compliance with CLA regulations and license conditions.

Training & Competency Requirements

General Principle

All individuals employed in the cannabis sector must demonstrate adequate knowledge, skills, and ethical standards consistent with the safe, compliant, and responsible handling of cannabis. The CLA shall accredit training providers and establish minimum curricula for each license category.

(a) Responsible Individuals

Every licensed facility must designate at least one Responsible Individual who has successfully



completed CLA-accredited training in: cannabis law and regulation; health & safety protocols; security and inventory control; quality assurance and compliance reporting.

(b) Facility Staff & Workers

Occupational Licensees (Worker Permits) must complete CLA-approved training modules relevant to their role (cultivation, processing, testing, dispensing, etc.). Permits require security clearance, are valid for one (1) year, and are renewable upon proof of continued employment and compliance. Training must be updated at least every two (2) years or upon substantive regulatory changes.

(c) Medical Practitioners

Applicants must complete a CLA-approved CME module on cannabis therapeutics, safety, contraindications, and prescribing standards; ongoing professional development is required at renewal.

(d) Pharmacies, Clinics & Health Establishments

Dispensing staff must complete CLA-accredited training on dispensing protocols, patient counselling, record-keeping, and pharmacovigilance. Each facility shall designate at least one CLA-trained Responsible Pharmacist/Health Officer.

(e) Traditional Healers / Herbalists

Orientation training provided or endorsed by the CLA – Cultural & Sacramental Division, recognising traditional knowledge while ensuring minimum safety standards for handling and community interaction with the regulated system.

(f) Laboratory & Testing Facilities

Laboratory directors and analysts must demonstrate formal scientific qualifications and CLA-accredited training on cannabis testing protocols, ISO standards, and data reporting.

(g) Waste Disposal Operators

Mandatory training in safe destruction methods, environmental health, and reporting procedures.

(h) Consumption Lounge Operators

Training modules on responsible service and harm reduction; age verification; ventilation/occupational health; public-order and incident management.

Certification & Records

All training must culminate in a CLA Certificate of Completion. Licensees must maintain training records for all staff, available for inspection by the CLA. Failure to comply with training requirements constitutes grounds for suspension or revocation of a license

Licensing Fees (USD, payable annually)

General Principles

- Fees are payable annually in USD.
- Fees fund the CLA's operations, distinct from taxes which accrue to the State.
- Fees are non-refundable, including in cases of refusal, suspension, or revocation.
- The CLA Board may, every three years, review and adjust the licensing fee schedule by regulation, to reflect economic conditions, industry development, and the Authority's operational needs.
- Reduced fees may be applied to social equity applicants, small-scale cooperatives, or sacramental producers.

A. Core Operational Licenses

- Cultivation License
 - Small-scale (≤ 1 acre): USD 2,000
 - Medium-scale (1–5 acres): USD 5,000
 - Large-scale (> 5 acres): USD 10,000
- Processing & Extraction License: USD 7,500
- Infused Products Manufacturing License: USD 5,000
- Retail / Dispensary (Herb House) License: USD 3,000
- Consumption Lounge License: USD 2,500
- Research & Development License: USD 2,000
- Import License: USD 3,000
- Export License: USD 3,000
- Transportation License: USD 2,000

- Laboratory & Testing Facility License: USD 5,000
- Waste Disposal License: USD 1,500
- Broker License: USD 5,000

B. Cooperative & Sacramental

- Cooperative License (registered growers/associations): USD 1,000
- Sacramental Producer License (within Sacramental Lands): USD 500 (symbolic, covers compliance/testing).

C. Health & Practitioner Licenses

- Medical Practitioner License: USD 500
- Pharmacy / Clinic Dispensation License: USD 1,000
- Traditional Healer / Herbalist Registration: USD 200
- Health Establishment License (hospitals, wellness centers): USD 1,500

D. Individual & Occupational

- Individual Occupational License (Cannabis Worker Permit): USD 100 per worker (personal, non-transferable)

Adjustment Mechanism

The CLA Board may, every three years, review and adjust the licensing fee schedule by regulation, to reflect economic conditions, industry development, and the Authority's operational needs.

SCHEDULE 3 – TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND TESTING PROTOCOLS

1. Scope and Application

1.1 This Schedule sets binding technical standards for all license categories established under this Act, including Cultivation, Processing & Extraction, Infused Products Manufacturing, Retail/Dispensary, Consumption Lounges, Laboratory & Testing Facilities, Transportation, Waste Disposal, Import/Export, Brokers (as applicable), Cooperatives, Sacramental Producers, Medical Practitioners, Pharmacies/Clinics, Health Establishments, Traditional Healers/Herbalists, and Individual Occupational Licensees.

1.2 Where a specific standard is not expressly provided herein, the CLA may issue written directives, guidelines, or standard tables which shall have binding effect once published.

2. Quality Management Systems (QMS)

2.1 Each licensed facility shall implement and maintain a written Quality Management System appropriate to its activities, including: SOPs, sanitation plans, training plans, equipment calibration logs, deviation/CAPA procedures, change control, complaint handling, and recall procedures.

2.2 Records must be accurate, contemporaneous, legible, and retained for a minimum of seven (7) years or longer if required by the CLA.

3. Cultivation Standards (GACP)

3.1 Cultivation activities shall follow Good Agricultural and Collection Practices (GACP) or equivalent standards adopted by the CLA, including: propagation hygiene, soil and water quality management, pest and disease control, harvesting, drying/curing, grading, and storage.

3.2 Use of agricultural inputs (fertilizers, pesticides, growth regulators) shall comply with CLA-approved lists and application limits.

3.3 Environmental controls shall address runoff, effluent, odor mitigation, and biodiversity protection as directed by the CLA.

4. Manufacturing Standards (GMP; Food Safety)

4.1 Processing & Extraction and Infused Products Manufacturing shall comply with Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) recognized by the CLA.

4.2 Edibles and beverages shall additionally implement food safety plans (e.g., HACCP or

equivalent), addressing ingredient sourcing, allergen control, cross-contamination, and shelf-life.

4.3 Extraction shall use approved solvents and validated processes, with documented residual solvent controls and closed-loop/as-approved equipment.

5. Laboratory Accreditation and Methods

5.1 Laboratory & Testing Facilities shall be accredited or demonstrate capability to meet ISO-equivalent standards recognized by the CLA (e.g., ISO/IEC 17025 or successor).

5.2 Methods for sampling, potency, terpenes, residual solvents, heavy metals, pesticides, mycotoxins, microbiological contaminants, and moisture/water activity shall be validated and approved by the CLA.

5.3 Participation in proficiency testing and inter-laboratory comparisons is mandatory at a frequency set by the CLA.

6. Sampling and Chain of Custody

6.1 Sampling shall be performed by trained personnel using CLA-approved sampling plans to ensure representativeness.

6.2 A chain-of-custody record shall accompany all samples from collection to analysis and reporting.

6.3 Retention samples (as specified by the CLA) shall be stored under suitable conditions for potential re-testing.

7. Product Specifications and Limits

7.1 Every finished product shall conform to specifications approved by the CLA, including cannabinoid content, permissible variance, contaminants, impurities, and organoleptic criteria where applicable.

7.2 Maximum limits for contaminants (pesticides, heavy metals, residual solvents, mycotoxins, microbes) and any serving-size/potency thresholds shall be those specified in **CLA Standard Tables** issued and updated by the CLA.

7.3 Prohibited substances (e.g., certain cutting agents or non-permitted additives) shall be listed by the CLA; their presence renders product non-compliant.

8. Stability, Storage, and Expiry Dating

8.1 Stability programs shall support assigned shelf-life and storage conditions (e.g., temperature, humidity, light protection).

8.2 Labels shall state storage conditions and expiry/best-before dates derived from stability data.

8.3 Temperature-controlled transport and storage shall be monitored and logged where required by product type.

9. Packaging and Labelling



9.1 Primary and secondary packaging shall be tamper-evident; multi-use containers shall be resealable and child-resistant consistent with applicable standards referenced by the CLA.

9.2 Labels shall include at minimum: product name, licensee name and CLA license number, batch/lot number, net contents, cannabinoid profile (e.g., THC/CBD), manufacturing date, expiry/best-before date, storage conditions, usage/serving instructions, mandatory warnings, and the CLA standard symbol for intoxicating cannabis where applicable.

9.3 Health claims or therapeutic statements are prohibited unless expressly authorized by the CLA – Medical Division under applicable rules.

9.4 Marketing and packaging shall not target minors or mimic products commonly associated with children.

10. Track-and-Trace and Record-Keeping

10.1 All licensees shall use the CLA seed-to-sale inventory tracking system for: planting, harvesting, manufacturing, transfers, transport, sales/dispensing, destruction, and returns.

10.2 Discrepancies, losses, or diversions shall be reported to the CLA without delay in accordance with incident reporting procedures.

11. Transport and Security

11.1 Transport of cannabis/cannabis products shall be executed by licensed transporters or as otherwise permitted under Section 9, with a CLA transport manifest documenting origin, destination, product description, batch numbers, quantities, dates/times, and receiving party.

11.2 Vehicles and routes shall follow CLA security protocols (secure storage, limited access, incident procedures).

12. Waste Management and Disposal

12.1 Waste and by-products shall be identified, segregated, rendered non-recoverable and unusable by CLA-approved methods (e.g., denaturing, composting, incineration) and documented in the track-and-trace system.

12.2 Waste Disposal Licensees shall maintain environmental controls and records demonstrating compliant destruction or processing.

13. Medical Supply Chain (Practitioners, Pharmacies, Health Establishments)

13.1 Medical Practitioners shall comply with prescribing standards issued by the CLA – Medical Division (indications, dosage forms, maximum quantities, monitoring, and renewal).

13.2 Pharmacies/Clinics/Health Establishments shall implement SOPs for secure storage, dispensing, verification of prescriptions and patient identity, counseling, and adverse event reporting.

13.3 Products dispensed for medical use must meet Pharmaceutical Grade Cannabis standards where specified by the CLA.

14. Consumption Lounges

14.1 Lounges shall enforce age restrictions (18+), capacity limits, ventilation/air-quality controls, intoxication management, and incident response protocols set by the CLA.

14.2 On-site sales/serving rules (including serving sizes and prohibited co-service, if any) shall follow CLA directives.

14.3 Lounges shall maintain security, surveillance, and perimeter controls, and comply with zoning/setback rules established by the CLA.

15. Traditional Healers and Sacramental Operations

15.1 Registered Traditional Healers/Herbalists shall adhere to minimum safety practices established by the CLA – Cultural & Sacramental Division, including hygienic handling, safe preparation, and basic record-keeping appropriate to cultural practice.

15.2 Products leaving Sacramental Lands for external distribution must meet CLA testing, packaging, and labelling standards prior to market entry.

16. Recalls, Complaints, and Pharmacovigilance

16.1 Licensees shall maintain written recall procedures enabling rapid identification and withdrawal of affected lots; recall classifications and timelines shall follow CLA directives.

16.2 All complaints, quality defects, serious adverse events, and product tampering/suspected contamination shall be investigated and reported to the CLA within prescribed timelines.

16.3 Corrective and Preventive Actions (CAPA) shall be documented and verified for effectiveness.

17. Equipment, Utilities, and Validation

17.1 Critical equipment (scales, thermometers, chromatography systems, extraction units) shall be installed, qualified, calibrated, and maintained per documented schedules.

17.2 Utilities (HVAC, purified water, compressed air) that may affect product quality shall be monitored and controlled; filter changes and sanitation shall be recorded.

18. Personnel, Training, and Hygiene

18.1 All personnel, including Occupational Licensees, shall complete CLA-approved training appropriate to their role and maintain recurring refresher training at intervals prescribed by the CLA.

18.2 Facilities shall implement hygiene programs (hand-washing, PPE, illness/exclusion policies) and restricted-access practices for production/lab areas.

19. Inspections, Audits, and Enforcement

19.1 The CLA may conduct announced or unannounced inspections, audits, and sampling at any licensed premises.

19.2 Non-conformities may result in observations, warning notices, product holds, mandatory CAPA, suspension, or revocation, and administrative penalties as provided by law.

19.3 Obstruction of CLA personnel or falsification of records constitutes a serious violation subject to enhanced sanctions.

20. Updates and Incorporation by Reference

20.1 The CLA may publish and periodically update **Standard Tables** (limits, methods, serving sizes, warning statements, symbols) and **Guidance Documents** (best practices) which are incorporated by reference into this Schedule upon publication.

20.2 In case of conflict between internal SOPs and CLA standards, the CLA standard prevails

1.

(Additional technical protocols may be developed by the Cannabis Licensing Authority via subordinate regulations.)

SCHEDULE 4 – TEMPLATE FORMS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Licence Application Form:

- Sections to include: Applicant details; proposed location; operational plan; security and tracking measures; environmental impact assessment; financial projections; and supporting documentation.

2. Annual Compliance Report:

- Required data fields: Production volumes, quality control test results, sales figures, and records of any violations or sanctions.
- Format: A structured template allowing for electronic submission via the seed-to-sale tracking system.

3. Incident and Violation Reporting Form:

- To be used by the Cannabis Licensing Authority for documenting any non-compliance, including details of the breach, actions taken, and follow-up measures.

4. Renewal Application Form:

- Similar in structure to the initial application, with additional sections for audited accounts, updated operational plans, and any corrective measures implemented.

(These forms will be published in both electronic and printed formats to ensure accessibility for all stakeholders.)

SCHEDULE 5 – PROVISIONS FOR REGIONAL HARMONISATION AND FUTURE AMENDMENTS

- 1. Regional Harmonization Framework:**
 - a. Consultative Committee:**
 - Establish a Regional Cannabis Harmonisation Committee, consisting of representatives from Dominica and other CARICOM member states, to review and align technical standards, licensing protocols, and trade regulations.
- 2. b. Exchange of Best Practices:**
 - The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall facilitate annual conferences or workshops to share regulatory experiences and to update the integrated system based on regional developments.
- 3. c. Common Technical Standards:**
 - In consultation with regional partners, the Cannabis Licensing Authority shall adopt or develop common technical standards that can be incorporated by reference into the Act's subordinate regulations.
- 4. Mechanisms for Future Amendments:**
 - a. Regulatory Flexibility:**
 - The Act empowers the Minister to issue or amend subordinate regulations covering technical standards, licensing procedures, and fiscal incentives without necessitating a full legislative amendment.
- 5. b. Review and Consultation Process:**
 - A formal review of the Act shall be undertaken every five years, with stakeholder consultations (including public, industry, and regional representatives) to propose necessary amendments.
- 6. c. Sunset Provisions:**
 - Certain temporary measures may be incorporated with sunset clauses, allowing for automatic review and renewal or amendment based on performance and changing market conditions.
- 7. Public Feedback Mechanism:**
 - A dedicated online portal shall be established for stakeholders to submit feedback, recommendations, and proposals for amendments, ensuring continuous engagement and adaptive governance.

REGULATION FOR THE CANNABIS LICENSING AUTHORITY (CLA)

Preamble

Pursuant to Section 6 of the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica, and all other enabling powers, the following Regulation is hereby made to regulate the functions, powers, procedures, and operational rules of the Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA).

Part I – Establishment & Governance

1. Establishment

1.1 The Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA) is hereby established in accordance with the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica.

1.2 The CLA is the sole regulatory body responsible for the administration, oversight, and enforcement of all cannabis-related activities under the Act.

2. Governance and Board Composition

2.1 The CLA shall be governed by a Board (the “Board of the CLA”) appointed by the Minister.

2.2 The Board shall include representatives from:

- (a) relevant government ministries (e.g. Health, Agriculture, Finance)
- (b) traditional and sacramental communities
- (c) technical experts in cannabis science, law, public health, and trade
- (d) civil society, consumer protection, or public interest bodies

2.3 The Board’s responsibilities include strategic oversight, approval of budgets, issuing policy directives, and advising the Minister.

2.4 The Board shall promulgate internal bylaws for conflict of interest, terms of office, quorum, resignations, and meetings.

3. Divisions and Organization

3.1 The CLA shall be organized into internal divisions, including but not limited to:

- (a) Medical Division
- (b) Commercial Division
- (c) Industrial Division
- (d) Cultural & Sacramental Division
- (e) Quality & Compliance Division
- (f) Training & Research Division

3.2 Each division shall be headed by a Director appointed by the CLA Board or as prescribed by internal bylaws.

3.3 The CLA may create additional units or subdivisions as needed, through regulation or internal bylaw.

Part II – Licensing Procedures

4. General Licensing Framework

- 4.1 All license applications under the Act must be submitted to the CLA.
- 4.2 The CLA shall publish procedures and forms for applying, renewing, suspending, revoking, or modifying licenses.
- 4.3 The CLA shall set timelines for review, grounds for rejection, appeals, and administrative procedures.

5. License Categories

- 5.1 The CLA shall issue licenses consistent with those enumerated in the Act (e.g. Cultivation, Processing, Retail, Broker, Cooperative, Sacramental Producer, etc.).
- 5.2 The CLA may condition special terms per category (e.g. scale, locality, specialization).
- 5.3 The CLA may issue provisional or conditional licenses during the transitional period, subject to compliance deadlines.

6. Licensing Fees and Validity

- 6.1 The CLA shall set license fees (application, renewal, late, modification) by regulation or Board decision, consistent with the Act.
- 6.2 Licenses shall have defined validity periods (e.g. 1, 3, or 5 years) and renewal criteria.
- 6.3 Failure to renew or comply with conditions may lead to suspension or revocation.

7. Special Provisions for Cooperatives & Sacramental Producers

- 7.1 The CLA may offer simplified licensing pathways or lower fees to cooperatives and traditional producers.
- 7.2 Sacramental producers operating within recognized Sacramental Lands shall be exempt from certain licensing requirements when operations remain internal; however, any product leaving those lands for commercial distribution must comply with CLA regulation.

Part III – Standards & Compliance

8. Quality & Testing Standards

- 8.1 The CLA shall adopt binding standards for cannabis testing (e.g., potency, contaminants, purity) aligned with international best practices (ISO, pharmacopeia, etc.).
- 8.2 The CLA may accredit or license third-party labs; or maintain its own laboratory under Quality & Compliance Division.
- 8.3 All cannabis products destined for public sale must pass approved testing before release.
- 8.4 The CLA shall publish a schedule of allowable limits (heavy metals, pesticides, microbial, residual solvents, etc.).

9. Traceability, Record-keeping & Reporting

- 9.1 The CLA shall require a digital “seed-to-sale” tracking system for all licensees.
- 9.2 Licensees must report inventory, sales, transfers, losses, waste, spoiling, and disposal to

the CLA on a periodic basis (e.g. monthly).

9.3 The CLA may audit, inspect, or require on-site verification.

9.4 Records must be maintained for a defined retention period (e.g. 7 years).

10. Health, Safety, Packaging & Labelling

10.1 The CLA shall define rules for packaging (child-resistant, tamper-evident), labelling (THC/CBD content, warnings, batch info), and consumer safety.

10.2 The CLA may restrict or ban certain forms or additives (e.g. edibles for minors, high-THC concentrates) by regulation.

10.3 Advertising, promotion, and marketing of cannabis products shall follow standards published by the CLA (restrictions on content, mediums, claims).

10.4 The CLA shall enforce penalties for misleading or non-compliant labelling or claims.

Part IV – Medical Use

11. Practitioner Registration

11.1 The Medical Division of the CLA shall maintain a registry of medical practitioners authorized to prescribe.

11.2 Practitioners must satisfy training, certification, and ongoing oversight requirements as defined by the CLA.

12. Prescription Rules & Limits

12.1 The CLA shall issue regulation on qualifying medical conditions, allowable dosages, duration, and re-evaluation schedules.

12.2 The CLA may define maximum limits per patient per period, per condition, etc.

13. Pharmacies & Dispensing

13.1 Only registered pharmacies or dispensing centers licensed by the CLA may dispense medical cannabis.

13.2 Packaging and dispensing must follow CLA medical standards (label, record-keeping, patient identity checks).

13.3 The CLA may require reporting of prescriptions, patient usage statistics, adverse events.

Part V – Cultural & Sacramental Use

14. Recognition of Sacramental Lands & Communities

14.1 The CLA shall maintain a register of Sacramental Lands recognized under the Act.

14.2 Communities may petition for recognition; the CLA shall evaluate their status under criteria (historical, cultural, spiritual).

15. Internal Autonomy

15.1 No restrictions shall be applied within Sacramental Lands concerning cultivation, use, or exchange of cannabis, so long as such activity remains internal and within recognized lands.

15.2 Recognized spiritual authorities may self-govern internal transactions.

16. External Market Integration

16.1 Any cannabis or cannabis-derived product leaving Sacramental Lands for sale, export, or distribution outside must pass CLA testing, labelling, and compliance processes.

16.2 Such products must be processed or transferred by licensed operators under CLA oversight.

Part VI – Fiscal & Administrative Matters

17. Collection & Administration of Taxes

17.1 The CLA shall be responsible for assessing, collecting, and remitting sales tax, export tax, and import tax under the Act.

17.2 The CLA may withhold or offset licensing privileges for non-payment or delinquency.

18. Interface with Corporate Tax & Incentives

18.1 The preferential corporate tax scheme under the Fiscal Incentives Regulation applies to net profit and is separate from the CLA's sales, export, and import tax functions.

18.2 The CLA shall coordinate with the tax authority to share relevant data (revenues, declared value, compliance).

19. Incentive Schemes

19.1 The CLA may, by regulation, establish incentive schemes (e.g. for profit-sharing, R&D, sustainable practices), consistent with the Act and Fiscal Incentives Regulation.

Part VII – Transitional & Final Provisions

20. Transitional Arrangements

20.1 Transitional measures shall be phased over three years, per the Act, with compliance milestones.

20.2 The CLA may issue provisional licenses or temporary relaxations during the transition period.

20.3 The CLA shall publish a transitional schedule delineating phase 1, 2, 3 requirements.

21. Harmonization & Directive Powers

21.1 The CLA may issue directives, guidelines, or standards in furtherance of CARICOM or international harmonization, as empowered by the Act.

21.2 The Minister, on advice of the CLA, may approve amendments to regulatory standards.

22. Interpretation & Repeal

22.1 Any reference in other regulations, policies, or laws to “Licensing Authority” or “Medical Cannabis Authority” is deemed a reference to the CLA, unless otherwise stated.

22.2 The former Regulation for the MCA is hereby repealed and replaced by this Regulation.

22.3 This Regulation shall come into effect on a date prescribed by the Minister and upon publication

TECHNICAL STANDARDS REGULATION FOR CANNABIS PRODUCTS

(Pursuant to Section 7 of the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica)

Chapter 1 – Preliminary Provisions

1.1. Short Title

This Regulation shall be known as the "Technical Standards Regulation for Cannabis Products."

1.2. Authority and Scope

This Regulation is promulgated under the authority of the Cannabis Licensing Authority in accordance with the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica. It sets forth the minimum quality, safety, testing, and labelling standards applicable to all cannabis products—whether intended for medicinal, commercial (general well-being), or industrial use—and their derivative products.

1.3. Objectives

The objectives of this Regulation are to:

- (a) Ensure that all cannabis products meet rigorous quality and safety standards;
- (b) Establish a consistent framework for testing and labelling, in line with international best practices;
- (c) Safeguard public health and promote consumer confidence;
- (d) Provide a foundation for the development of further, product-specific technical guidelines through annexes or complementary regulations.

1.4. Normative References

The standards set forth herein shall be based on internationally recognised guidelines, including:

- (a) Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) as defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) and relevant ISO standards, or adapted Caribbean Good Agricultural and Collection Practices

(GACP) where appropriate;

(b) Other relevant technical and safety standards adopted by leading regulatory jurisdictions.

Chapter 2 – General Quality and Safety Standards

2.1. Manufacturing and Quality Control

(a) All facilities engaged in the processing, manufacturing, or packaging of cannabis products must operate in accordance with the applicable version of GMP or, where suitable, GACP.

(b) Facilities shall maintain rigorous sanitation, hygiene, and quality control procedures, with appropriate documentation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and batch records.

2.2. Documentation and Record-Keeping

Comprehensive records—including production logs, quality control test results, and compliance audits—must be maintained and made available for inspection by the Cannabis Licensing Authority.

2.3. Personnel Training

Personnel involved in production and quality control shall receive training in the relevant GMP/GACP procedures. Documentation of such training must be maintained for audit purposes.

Chapter 3 – Testing Protocols

3.1. Laboratory Analysis Requirements

(a) Each batch of cannabis products shall be subject to laboratory testing by an accredited laboratory to verify:

(i) The accuracy of its cannabinoid profile;

(ii) The absence of contaminants such as pesticides, heavy metals, and microbial pathogens;

(iii) Conformance with established potency limits and other regulatory specifications.

(b) Testing methodologies shall conform to internationally validated protocols.

3.2. Frequency of Testing

Products shall be tested on a batch-by-batch basis prior to market release. The Cannabis Licensing Authority may mandate additional random testing to ensure ongoing compliance.

3.3. Certification and Documentation

Test results must be certified by the testing laboratory and submitted electronically as part of the routine compliance reporting.

Chapter 4 – Labelling Requirements

4.1. Mandatory Labelling Information

Every cannabis product must be clearly and legibly labelled with the following information: (a)

Product name and description;

- (b) A detailed cannabinoid profile;
- (c) A unique batch or lot number;
- (d) Manufacturing and expiry dates;
- (e) Dosage instructions and recommended usage guidelines;
- (f) Storage instructions;
- (g) Any mandatory health warnings and precautionary statements.

4.2. Agricultural Commodity Provision

Raw or dried cannabis flowers shall be classified as an agricultural commodity. Such products, while subject to rigorous quality testing and labelling requirements, shall not be marketed exclusively as “smokable” products. The label must explicitly state that the product is provided “as-is,” thereby allowing consumers the freedom to use it for smoking, infusing, cooking, or other methods of consumption.

4.3. Labelling Format

Labels shall conform to a standardised format approved by the Cannabis Licensing Authority, ensuring clarity, durability, and that no promotional imagery or misleading information is included.

Chapter 5 – Specific Provisions for Product Categories

5.1. Products for Medicinal and Commercial Use

General standards set out in Chapters 2 to 4 shall apply to all cannabis products. In addition, specific technical guidelines for medicinal and commercial (general well-being) products—such as stability testing, dosage precision, and biocompatibility—shall be developed and issued as annexes or complementary regulations.

5.2. Specialised Product Categories

For product categories that require additional specifications (e.g. edibles, beverages, cosmetics, aromatherapy products), separate guidelines detailing formulation, safety, and labelling requirements shall be promulgated under subordinate regulations.

Chapter 6 – Review and Amendment

6.1. Periodic Review

The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall review this Regulation at least every three years, or as necessitated by scientific advancements and international developments, and update it through the established subordinate regulatory process.

6.2. Amendment Procedure

Any amendments to this Regulation shall be proposed by the Cannabis Licensing Authority, subject to a public consultation process, and subsequently published.

Chapter 7 – Enforcement

7.1. Compliance Audits

The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall conduct regular audits and inspections to ensure full compliance with these technical standards.

7.2. Penalties

Non-compliance with the standards set forth in this Regulation shall result in penalties, including fines, suspension, or revocation of licences, as determined by the Cannabis Licensing Authority.

LICENSING PROCEDURES REGULATION FOR CANNABIS OPERATIONS

(Pursuant to Section 8 of the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica)

Chapter 1 – Preliminary Provisions

1.1. Short Title

This Regulation shall be known as the "Licensing Procedures Regulation for Cannabis Operations."

1.2. Authority and Scope

This Regulation is issued under the authority of the Cannabis Licensing Authority pursuant to the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica. It establishes detailed procedures for the issuance, renewal, and management of licences for all cannabis-related activities as defined in the Act, including cultivation, processing, distribution, retail, transportation, and research.

1.3. Objectives

The objectives of this Regulation are to:

- (a) Provide a clear, transparent, and consistent framework for licence applications and renewals;
- (b) Ensure that only qualified entities and individuals are authorised to operate within the legal cannabis market;
- (c) Facilitate public oversight and stakeholder confidence through defined inspection and audit schedules;
- (d) Enable regulatory adaptability by establishing standardised forms and procedures that may be updated periodically.

1.4. Definitions

Terms used herein shall have the meanings assigned in the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica and its Schedule 1, unless otherwise provided.

Chapter 2 – Licensing Categories and Eligibility Criteria

2.1. Licensing Categories

Licences shall be granted for activities as set out in Schedule 2 of the Act, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Medical Cannabis Cultivation;
- (b) Commercial Cannabis Cultivation;
- (c) Industrial Hemp Cultivation;
- (d) Processing and Extraction;
- (e) Retail Dispensation;
- (f) Transportation;
- (g) Research and Development.

2.2. Eligibility Criteria

(a) Applicants must demonstrate adequate technical, financial, and managerial capacity to operate in the respective category.

(b) For cultivation license, evidence of adherence to Good Agricultural Practices or the relevant Caribbean Good Agricultural and Collection Practices (GACP) shall be required.

(c) For processing and manufacturing, applicants must demonstrate the ability to meet the quality and safety criteria appropriate to their targeted market. For products intended for medicinal use, compliance with internationally recognised Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) is mandatory. For products intended for commercial (general well-being) or other non-medical markets, the applicant shall meet market-specific quality and safety standards as defined by the Cannabis Licensing Authority through subordinate regulations.

(d) Applicants must provide all necessary documentation, including but not limited to business plans, security protocols, and environmental impact assessments, as specified in Schedule 4 of the Act.

Chapter 3 – Application Procedures

3.1. Submission Requirements

- (a) An applicant shall complete the prescribed licence application form (refer to Schedule 4 for template forms) and submit it alongside the requisite supporting documentation.
- (b) All applications must be submitted electronically via the official Cannabis Licensing Authority portal or in a format specified by the Authority.

3.2. Review and Background Checks

- (a) Upon receipt, the Cannabis Licensing Authority shall conduct thorough background checks, including verification of applicant qualifications, financial stability, and compliance history.
- (b) The Authority shall assess technical capacity based on the submitted business plan and supporting documents.

3.3. Public Notification

A public notification period shall be instituted, during which objections or comments on the application may be submitted. The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall consider such feedback prior to final decision-making.

3.4. Issuance of Provisional Licence

- (a) Subject to a satisfactory review and public consultation, the Cannabis Licensing Authority may issue a provisional licence, which shall be subject to specific conditions and corrective measures as necessary.
- (b) Final approval shall be granted following successful on-site compliance inspections.

3.5. Annual Renewal

- (a) Licence holders shall be required to submit an annual renewal application that includes updated operational reports and audited financial accounts.
- (b) The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall conduct a review of the renewal application, including compliance audits, prior to the issuance of a renewed licence.

Chapter 4 – Documentation and Template Forms

4.1. Standardised Documentation

- (a) The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall publish standardised template forms for licence applications, renewals, and incident reporting (as detailed in Schedule 4).
- (b) These forms shall be made available in both electronic and printed formats to ensure accessibility.

4.2. Record-Keeping Requirements

All licence applications, supporting documents, inspection reports, and audit records shall be maintained by the Cannabis Licensing Authority for a minimum period of 3 years, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Chapter 5 – Inspection and Audit Schedule

5.1. Routine Inspections

(a) Licence holders shall be subject to routine inspections as scheduled by the Cannabis Licensing Authority.

(b) Inspections shall verify compliance with the technical, safety, and quality standards specified under this Act and its subordinate regulations.

5.2. Random Audits

The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall have the authority to conduct unannounced audits to ensure continuous adherence to the regulatory requirements.

5.3. Reporting of Findings

Inspection and audit findings shall be documented, and any deficiencies must be addressed within a specified timeframe. Failure to rectify such deficiencies may result in enforcement actions, including licence suspension or revocation.

Chapter 6 – Transitional Provisions and Amendment

6.1. Transitional Period

(a) A transitional period of 3 years shall be provided for existing operators to comply with these licensing procedures.

(b) During this period, the Cannabis Licensing Authority shall offer technical assistance and may grant temporary grace periods where appropriate.

6.2. Review and Amendment

(a) This Regulation shall be reviewed periodically to ensure that it remains in line with technological advancements and market evolution.

(b) Amendments may be made by the Cannabis Licensing Authority, subject to public consultation and subsequent publication .

Chapter 7 – Enforcement and Penalties

7.1. Non-Compliance

(a) Any applicant or licence holder found to be in non-compliance with the procedures and requirements set forth in this Regulation shall be subject to enforcement actions.

(b) Such enforcement measures may include fines, provisional licence suspension, or revocation of the licence, as determined by the Cannabis Licensing Authority.

7.2. Publication of Penalties

A schedule of penalties for non-compliance shall be published by the Cannabis Licensing Authority and periodically updated to ensure transparency and consistency.

FLEXIBLE SEED-TO-SALE TRACKING SYSTEM REGULATION FOR CANNABIS PRODUCTS

Chapter 1 – Preliminary Provisions

1.1. Short Title

This Regulation shall be known as the "Flexible Seed-to-Sale Tracking System Regulation for Cannabis Products."

1.2. Authority and Scope

This Regulation is issued under the authority of the Cannabis Licensing Authority pursuant to the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica. It establishes a seed-to-sale tracking system applicable to all cannabis products—whether intended for medicinal, commercial (general well-being), or industrial use—that is designed to ensure traceability while accommodating the operational realities of both large-scale and small-scale operators.

1.3. Objectives

The objectives of this Regulation are to:

(a) Ensure a reliable level of traceability across the cannabis supply chain from cultivation to final sale;

(b) Provide a system that is adaptable to local conditions and the diverse scales of operation, including cooperative-based and traditional producers;

(c) Balance regulatory oversight with operational flexibility, safeguarding public health and consumer safety without imposing undue burdens.

1.4. Normative References

The standards herein shall take into account internationally recognised guidelines, including Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and, where appropriate, Caribbean Good Agricultural and Collection Practices (GACP), adapted to the local context.

Chapter 2 – System Specifications and Data Requirements

2.1. General Requirements

(a) All licensed cannabis operators shall utilize an electronic seed-to-sale tracking system. The system must capture essential data sufficient to maintain traceability, while being scalable to suit both large commercial entities and smaller, cooperative-based operations.

(b) For smaller operators, a simplified data entry protocol may be implemented, provided that core information is recorded as required.

2.2. Essential Data Elements

The tracking system shall, at a minimum, capture the following information for each cannabis product:

- (i) A unique identifier for each plant, batch, or lot;
- (ii) Basic production details, including the date, location of cultivation, and quantity produced;
- (iii) Records of processing and packaging, including batch numbers and processing dates;

- (iv) Details of transportation and distribution, including dates, vehicle identifiers, and destination information;
- (v) For retail sales, a minimal record of transaction details sufficient for regulatory oversight.

2.3. Update Frequency

- (a) Operators shall update the tracking system in real time or, for smaller-scale operators, at regular intervals not exceeding 24 hours unless the Cannabis Licensing Authority permits a longer interval based on operational circumstances.
- (b) Any delays or system downtimes must be promptly reported to the Cannabis Licensing Authority, with corrective measures implemented.

Chapter 3 – Security and Access

3.1. Security Measures

- (a) The tracking system shall employ robust encryption and cybersecurity measures to ensure data integrity and prevent unauthorised access.
- (b) The system shall be designed with user interfaces that accommodate both advanced and simplified operations, as appropriate to the scale of the operator.

3.2. Access and Monitoring

- (a) The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall have unrestricted access to all records maintained by the tracking system for the purposes of inspections, audits, and enforcement.
- (b) Access protocols shall be flexible to account for the varying levels of system complexity among operators.

Chapter 4 – Compliance, Reporting, and Enforcement

4.1. Compliance Obligations

- (a) All licensed operators are required to adhere to the data submission requirements as specified herein.

(b) Operators must ensure that data entries are accurate, complete, and updated within the prescribed intervals.

4.2. Enforcement Measures

(a) Failure to comply with these requirements shall constitute a breach of this Regulation.

(b) The Cannabis Licensing Authority may impose graduated penalties—including warnings, fines, or, in severe cases, suspension or revocation of licences—tailored to the scale and nature of the non-compliance.

4.3. Incident Reporting

Operators shall report any system malfunctions, data discrepancies, or security breaches immediately to the Cannabis Licensing Authority and implement remedial actions as directed.

Chapter 5 – Review and Amendment

5.1. Periodic Review

The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall review the technical specifications and operational protocols of the seed-to-sale tracking system at least once every three years, or as necessitated by technological advancements and stakeholder feedback.

5.2. Amendment Procedure

Any amendments to this Regulation shall be proposed by the Cannabis Licensing Authority, subject to public consultation, and published, following the established legislative process.

CANNABIS PRODUCT DOSAGE REGULATION

(Pursuant to Section 11 of the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica)

Chapter 1 – Preliminary Provisions

1.1. Short Title

This Regulation shall be known as the *Cannabis Product Dosage Regulation*.

1.2. Authority and Scope

This Regulation is issued under the authority of the Cannabis Licensing Authority pursuant to Section 11 of the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica. It establishes maximum permissible levels of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and other cannabinoids in cannabis products, by category, intended use, packaging, and labelling.

1.3. Objectives

- (a) Safeguard public health and consumer safety by establishing clear dosage thresholds.
 - (b) Ensure accurate labelling and packaging to prevent accidental overconsumption.
 - (c) Provide a framework that supports Dominica's positioning as a safe and premium cannabis destination, attractive to both residents and international visitors.
-

Chapter 2 – Dosage Limits by Product Category

2.1. Adult-Use / Commercial Cannabis Products

The following dosage limits apply to cannabis products available for adult-use commerce:

- **Edible cannabis products:**

- Maximum per serving: **15 mg THC**
 - Maximum per package: **150 mg THC**
 - **Cannabis beverages:**
 - Maximum per serving: **8 mg THC**
 - Maximum per container: **40 mg THC** (single-serve) or **80 mg THC** (multi-serve)
 - **Cannabis oils, tinctures, and extracts:**
 - Maximum per unit: **200 mg THC**
 - Maximum concentration: **40 mg THC per mL or gram**
 - **Dried cannabis flower:**
 - Maximum THC content: **35% by dry weight**
-

2.2. Medical and Traditional-Healer Products

Products dispensed under the Medical Cannabis Authority or the registered Traditional Healer framework may exceed the limits above if:

- (a) Accompanied by a valid prescription or healer recommendation;
 - (b) Packaged in certified child-resistant containers;
 - (c) Clearly labelled with dosage instructions and precautionary statements.
-

Chapter 3 – Labelling and Packaging Requirements

3.1. Mandatory Labelling

All cannabis products must indicate:

- (a) THC and CBD content per serving and per package;
- (b) Total cannabinoid profile;
- (c) Batch or lot number;
- (d) Manufacturing and expiry dates;
- (e) Recommended serving size and dosage instructions;
- (f) Health warnings and international cannabis symbol;
- (g) A QR code linking to the Certificate of Analysis (COA).

3.2. Child-Resistant Packaging

- (a) Edible and beverage products must be sold in certified child-resistant packaging.
- (b) Multi-dose containers must allow resealing in a child-resistant manner.

3.3. Dosing Precision

Actual THC content must not deviate by more than $\pm 10\%$ from the declared value on the label.

Chapter 4 – Compliance, Enforcement and Penalties

4.1. Compliance Monitoring

The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall implement random testing of commercial cannabis products to verify compliance with dosage limits.

4.2. Non-Compliance

Products exceeding the limits without authorisation shall be subject to:

- (a) Immediate recall;
 - (b) Monetary fines proportional to the breach;
 - (c) Suspension or revocation of the relevant licence for repeated violations.
-

Chapter 5 – Review and Amendment

5.1. Annual Review

The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall review dosage limits annually, considering:

- (a) Scientific and clinical evidence on cannabis safety and potency;
- (b) Market trends in tourism and consumer preferences;
- (c) Regional and international regulatory benchmarks.

5.2. Amendment Procedure

Any proposed amendments shall be subject to public consultation and published in the Official Gazette before taking effect.

FISCAL INCENTIVES AND INVESTMENT MEASURES REGULATION FOR CANNABIS OPERATIONS

(Pursuant to Section 21 of the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica)

Chapter 1 – Preliminary Provisions

1.1. Short Title

This Regulation shall be known as the "Fiscal Incentives and Investment Measures Regulation for Cannabis Operations."

1.2. Authority and Objectives

This Regulation is issued under the authority of the Minister in accordance with the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica. Its objectives are to:

- (a) Encourage local entrepreneurship and support the growth of domestic cannabis-related businesses;
- (b) Attract foreign direct investment and facilitate the relocation of corporate headquarters to Dominica;
- (c) Generate increased fiscal revenue for the State;
- (d) Promote social equity by redressing historical injustices associated with cannabis prohibition; and
- (e) Foster sustainable environmental practices within the cannabis sector.

1.3. Scope

This Regulation applies to all investments and economic activities related to the cannabis industry, including cultivation, processing, distribution, research and development, and associated infrastructure projects.

Chapter 2 – Preferential Taxation and Fiscal Incentives

2.1. Differentiated Taxation Rates

(a) Domestic and CARICOM Operators:

Operators established in Dominica or in other CARICOM member states shall benefit from a preferential corporate tax rate of 5% on net profits derived from cannabis operations. This reduced rate shall apply for an initial period of 10 years from the date of licence issuance, provided that the operator has invested a minimum capital expenditure of US\$250,000 in the project.

(b) Foreign Investors:

Foreign investors shall be subject to a standard corporate tax rate of 25% on net profits derived from cannabis operations.

2.2. Additional Tax Incentives

(a) Social Equity Incentives:

Operators that achieve measurable social equity benchmarks – for example, employing at least 50% of their workforce locally, implementing training programmes for local personnel, or reinvesting a minimum of 10% of net profits in community development – shall receive a tax credit equal to 10% of their taxable income.

(b) Sustainability Incentives:

Operators that implement verifiable sustainable environmental practices – such as the adoption of renewable energy sources, water conservation measures, and waste reduction strategies – shall be eligible for an additional tax credit of up to 10% of their taxable income.

(c) Capital Equipment Exemptions:

Eligible projects may also benefit from a one-time exemption on import duties for critical capital equipment, provided that such equipment is directly used in the establishment or upgrading of cannabis operations.

Chapter 3 – Investment Incentive Parameters and Eligibility

3.1. Minimum Investment Requirement

To qualify for the fiscal incentives provided herein, an investor must commit a minimum capital expenditure of US\$250,000 on projects directly related to the cannabis industry.

3.2. Evaluation Criteria

Eligibility shall be assessed based on:

- (a) The applicant's technical, financial, and managerial capacity;
- (b) Demonstrated commitment to local job creation, with a target of at least 50% local employment relative to the total workforce;
- (c) Implementation of sustainable environmental measures as defined herein; and
- (d) A clear business plan indicating operational commencement within 18 months of licence issuance.

Chapter 4 – Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Framework

4.1. PPP Guidelines

- (a) The Government shall establish guidelines for public-private partnership (PPP) arrangements in the cannabis sector.
- (b) PPP proposals must detail clear roles and responsibilities, including risk-sharing arrangements and performance benchmarks.
- (c) For PPP ventures, the State shall be entitled to a revenue-sharing mechanism of no less than 5% of gross revenues for the first five years of operation.

4.2. Priority Consideration

PPP proposals that demonstrably promote local capacity building, social equity, and environmental sustainability shall receive priority in the evaluation process.

Chapter 5 – Administration and Review

5.1. Administration of Fiscal Incentives

(a) The Cannabis Licensing Authority, in coordination with the Ministry of Finance and other relevant governmental bodies, shall administer the fiscal incentives provided herein.

(b) Detailed parameters, eligibility criteria, and application procedures for these fiscal benefits are hereby defined by this Regulation.

5.2. Periodic Review and Adjustment

(a) This Regulation shall be reviewed every five years, with adjustments made to tax rates, investment thresholds, and incentive percentages in response to economic conditions, technological advances, and stakeholder feedback.

(b) Any changes shall become effective immediately upon official publication.

Chapter 6 – Reporting and Compliance

6.1. Reporting Obligations

Operators benefiting from fiscal incentives must submit an annual report detailing:

- (a) Total investment and capital expenditure;
- (b) Local employment figures and training initiatives;
- (c) Implementation of sustainable environmental practices;
- (d) Social equity outcomes, including community reinvestment figures; and

(e) Revenue figures and corresponding tax contributions.

6.2. Compliance and Enforcement

(a) The Cannabis Licensing Authority shall monitor compliance through regular audits and inspections.

(b) Failure to meet the stipulated conditions for fiscal incentives may result in the withdrawal of preferential tax benefits, imposition of additional fines, or other corrective measures as determined by the Cannabis Licensing Authority. (c) A schedule of penalties shall be published and periodically updated to ensure transparency and consistency.

REGULATION ON THE DESIGNATION OF SACRAMENTAL LANDS AND THE SIMPLIFIED REGIME FOR TRADITIONAL PRODUCERS AND COOPERATIVES

(Pursuant to Section 13 of the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica)

Chapter 1 – Preliminary Provisions

1.1. Short Title

This Regulation shall be known as the "Sacramental Lands and Traditional Producers Regulation."

1.2. Authority and Purpose

This Regulation is issued under the authority of the Cannabis Licensing Authority in accordance with the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica. Its objectives are to:

(a) Establish clear criteria and procedures for the designation of Sacramental Lands dedicated to religious and traditional cannabis cultivation;

(b) Provide a simplified licensing framework for traditional cannabis producers, ensuring their legal inclusion in the regulated cannabis market;

(c) Strengthen the role of cooperatives in cannabis production, ensuring fair market access and social equity;

(d) Respect and protect the cultural and religious significance of cannabis in certain communities while ensuring public health and regulatory compliance.

1.3. Scope

This Regulation applies to:

(a) The designation and management of Sacramental Lands for traditional religious cultivation and consumption;

(b) The licensing, operation, and regulation of traditional cannabis producers and cooperatives operating under a simplified framework;

(c) The commercial and non-commercial activities of cooperatives and traditional producers supplying the regulated cannabis market.

Chapter 2 – Designation and Management of Sacramental Lands

2.1. Definition of Sacramental Lands

(a) "Sacramental Lands" refer to legally designated areas where cannabis may be cultivated and used exclusively for religious, cultural, and traditional purposes by recognized indigenous and spiritual communities, notably the Rastafarian faith.

(b) Cannabis cultivated on Sacramental Lands is exempt from commercial taxation and licensing fees but remains subject to minimum regulatory and safety standards.

2.2. Eligibility for Sacramental Land Designation

(a) Communities or religious organisations seeking Sacramental Land designation must demonstrate:

(i) A legitimate historical or cultural connection to cannabis use;

(ii) Recognition as a religious or indigenous entity under national law or CARICOM agreements;

(iii) A governance structure to ensure compliance with public safety and environmental sustainability practices.

(b) Applications shall be reviewed by a Sacramental Cannabis Advisory Board composed of government representatives, legal experts, and community leaders.

2.3. Granting and Administration of Sacramental Lands

(a) The spiritual authorities of Rastafari and other traditional groups shall designate specific areas as “Sacramental Lands” for the traditional cultivation of cannabis, based on historical practices and community needs.

(b) The government shall formally acknowledge and support these designations through an official endorsement, thereby recognizing the authority of the respective spiritual bodies.

(c) Once designated, Sacramental Lands shall be managed by the respective religious or cultural communities under a self-regulatory framework, subject to periodic government audits to ensure compliance with environmental and social responsibility standards.

(d) Cannabis cultivated and exchanged within Sacramental Lands is exempt from commercial licensing requirements. Where such cannabis is intended for entry into broader commercial or export markets, it shall first be subject to CLA testing, labelling, and distribution requirements.

2.4. Rights and Responsibilities of Communities

Communities operating within Sacramental Lands may:

(a) Communities operating within Sacramental Lands may:

- (i) Cultivate cannabis without incurring commercial taxation;
- (ii) Conduct religious ceremonies involving cannabis;

(iii) Exchange or sell cannabis on terms they choose, without restrictions on commercial activities within Sacramental Land.

(b) Communities must:

- (i) Ensure environmental sustainability in their cultivation practices;
- (ii) Develop internal guidelines to manage their commercial activities responsibly;
- (iii) Cooperate with government agencies on public safety and public health concerns as required.

Chapter 3 – Simplified Licensing Regime for Traditional Producers and Cooperatives

3.1. Licensing of Traditional Producers

(a) Traditional producers may apply for a Traditional Cultivator Licence under a simplified process, waiving certain bureaucratic requirements that apply to larger commercial cannabis entities.

(b) Eligibility for a Traditional Cultivator Licence requires:

- (i) Proof of long-standing involvement in cannabis cultivation, preferably within a recognized rural or indigenous community;
- (ii) Membership in an officially recognized cooperative;
- (iii) Commitment to abide by basic quality, safety, and environmental standards.

(c) Traditional Cultivator Licences shall be issued for a renewable period of five (5) years, subject to compliance checks.

3.2. Cooperative Model and Market Access

- (a) Traditional cultivators shall operate primarily through cannabis cooperatives, which shall:
 - (i) Facilitate collective bargaining and equitable access to the regulated market;
 - (ii) Ensure members receive fair prices and prevent exploitation by intermediaries;
 - (iii) Provide technical assistance and training to members on sustainable cultivation methods.
- (b) Only cooperatives registered under this Regulation shall be authorized to sell cannabis in the legal market.
- (c) Cooperatives shall benefit from priority licensing and reduced fees, particularly when engaged in sustainable, organic, or fair-trade cannabis production.

3.3. Taxation and Regulatory Benefits for Cooperatives

- (a) Cannabis produced by cooperatives shall be subject to a reduced corporate tax rate of 5% for the first 10 years of operation.
- (b) Cooperatives investing in community development, training, or sustainable agricultural practices shall be eligible for additional tax credits of up to 10% of taxable income.
- (c) Import duties on agricultural equipment and processing tools for cooperatives shall be waived.

3.4. Market Restrictions and Consumer Protection

- (a) Cooperatives may only sell cannabis to:
 - (i) Licensed dispensaries and retailers;
 - (ii) Licensed processors and manufacturers;
 - (iii) Exporters operating under bilateral or CARICOM agreements.

(b) All cannabis sold by cooperatives must comply with labelling, testing, and safety standards set by the Cannabis Licensing Authority.

(c) Any cooperative found engaging in illicit sales or violating quality standards shall be subject to progressive penalties, including fines, temporary suspension, or licence revocation.

Chapter 4— Provisions

4.1. Transitional Measures

(a) A three-year transition period shall be granted to existing traditional cultivators to formalize their participation in the legal market.

(b) During this period, the government shall provide training, financial assistance, and technical support to help small farmers transition to the cooperative model.

4.2. Periodic Review and Amendments

(a) This Regulation shall be reviewed every five (5) years to assess its impact on social equity, traditional communities, and cannabis market integration.

(b) Amendments may be proposed based on consultations with stakeholders, including religious leaders, cooperative representatives, and regulatory agencies.

REGULATION ON TRANSITIONAL MEASURES AND IMPLEMENTATION

(Pursuant to Section 23 of the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica)

Chapter 1 – Preliminary Provisions

1.1. Short Title

This Regulation shall be known as the "Transitional Measures and Implementation Regulation."

1.2. Authority and Objectives

This Regulation is issued under the authority of the Cannabis Licensing Authority in accordance with the Integrated Cannabis Act of Dominica. Its objectives are to:

- (a) Ensure a structured transition from an unregulated to a fully regulated cannabis industry;
- (b) Facilitate the legal integration of traditional cultivators, existing businesses, and emerging enterprises;
- (c) Provide technical, financial, and regulatory assistance to stakeholders affected by the shift to a regulated market;
- (d) Establish a clear timeframe and mechanisms for compliance, licensing, and taxation adjustments;
- (e) Prevent market disruption and ensure economic stability during the implementation of the new regulatory framework.

1.3. Scope

This Regulation applies to:

- (a) Traditional and small-scale cultivators currently operating outside the legal framework;
- (b) Cooperatives, retailers, manufacturers, and transporters transitioning to full regulatory compliance;
- (c) The Cannabis Licensing Authority, government agencies, and other relevant stakeholders responsible for overseeing the transition period.

Chapter 2 – Transitional Period and Phased Implementation

2.1. Transition Timeline

- (a) The official transition period shall last for three (3) years from the date of entry into force of the Integrated Cannabis Act.
- (b) The transition shall occur in three distinct phases:

Phase 1 – Regulatory Preparation (Months 1–6):

- (i) Publication of all subordinate regulations and licensing guidelines.

(ii) Launch of national awareness campaigns and industry training programmes.

(iii) Establishment of the Cannabis Licensing Authority and the Cannabis Cooperative Support Programme.

Phase 2 – Provisional Licensing and Market Integration (Months 7–24):

(i) Existing cultivators, processors, and retailers may operate under Provisional Cannabis Licences while working towards full compliance.

(ii) Cooperatives receive priority access to technical support and preferential licensing.

(iii) Full implementation of quality control, seed-to-sale tracking, and taxation measures.

Phase 3 – Full Market Compliance (Months 25–36):

(i) Provisional licences expire, and only fully licensed operators may continue business.

(ii) Compliance audits conducted to ensure adherence to all regulatory requirements.

(iii) Transition support programmes conclude, and normal enforcement begins.

Chapter 3 – Provisional Licensing and Compliance Flexibility

3.1. Provisional Licensing for Existing Operators

(a) Who Qualifies

(i) Any individual, cooperative, or business actively engaged in cannabis cultivation, processing, retail, or transportation prior to the enactment of the Act.

(ii) Operators must register with the Cannabis Licensing Authority within six (6) months of the transition period's commencement.

(b) Rights and Obligations Under a Provisional Licence

(i) Allows operators to continue their activities legally while working toward full regulatory compliance.

(ii) Requires submission of a transition plan detailing how the business will meet regulatory requirements.

(iii) Provisional licence holders must undergo compliance checks every six (6) months.

(c) Expiration and Full Licensing

(i) Provisional licences expire at the end of 24 months.

(ii) Operators who fail to meet compliance standards by this deadline shall cease operations.

3.2. Incentives for Early Compliance

(a) Businesses that achieve full compliance within 12 months of receiving a Provisional Licence shall benefit from:

(i) Licence fee discounts of up to 30% for their first three years of operation.

(ii) Priority tax incentives for the next fiscal year.

(iii) Fast-track approval for exports, where applicable.

(b) Compliance deadlines may be extended for up to six (6) additional months in cases of demonstrable hardship.

Chapter 4 – Support Measures for Traditional and Small-Scale Cultivators

4.1. Technical and Financial Support

(a) The Government (or PPP) shall establish a Cannabis Transition Fund (CTF) to provide:

(i) Micro-financing and low-interest loans for small-scale and traditional cultivators.

(ii) Grants of up to US\$50,000 for cooperatives investing in sustainable production.

(iii) Subsidies covering up to 50% of the cost of compliance-related expenses, including lab testing and certification.

(b) The Cannabis Cooperative Support Programme (CCSP) shall provide:

- (i) Free technical assistance on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and organic certification.
- (ii) Business development training for small producers and cooperatives.
- (iii) Direct market access support to cooperatives selling to licensed wholesalers and exporters.

4.2. Transition Tax Incentives for Small Farmers

(a) Small-scale cultivators transitioning into the legal market shall benefit from:

- (i) Full tax exemption for the first three years of licensed operations.
 - (ii) Reduced corporate tax rates of 5% for cooperatives during their first five years.
 - (iii) Duties waived on essential farming equipment and infrastructure improvements.
- (b) Cooperatives that reinvest at least 20% of profits into community projects shall receive an additional 5% tax credit.

Chapter 5 – Enforcement and Market Stabilisation

5.1. Gradual Enforcement Approach

(a) During the first 24 months, enforcement of licensing and tax regulations shall prioritize:

- (i) Warnings and compliance assistance rather than immediate sanctions.
 - (ii) Grace periods for first-time offences, allowing time for corrective measures.
 - (iii) A dedicated dispute resolution process for small producers facing compliance challenges.
- (b) After the transition period, full enforcement shall be applied without exceptions.

5.2. Protection Against Corporate Domination

(a) To prevent market monopolization, no single company or investor may:

- (i) Own or control more than 20% of total licensed production capacity.
- (ii) Hold a majority stake in more than three licensed cooperatives.
- (iii) Engage in vertical integration across all stages (cultivation, processing, and retail) unless expressly authorized by the Cannabis Licensing Quthority.

(b) The Cannabis Licensing Quthority shall actively monitor and investigate anti-competitive practices.

Chapter 6 – Periodic Review and Amendments

6.1. Monitoring and Impact Assessment

(a) The Cannabis Transition Oversight Committee shall conduct annual progress reports to track the impact of transitional measures.

(b) A final impact assessment shall be conducted at the end of the transition period, identifying:

- (i) The percentage of informal operators successfully integrated into the legal market.
- (ii) The economic, fiscal, and employment impacts of regulation.
- (iii) Necessary adjustments for long-term policy sustainability.

6.2. Amendment Procedures

(a) If necessary, the Authority may extend or modify specific provisions of this Regulation based on:

- (i) Economic analysis.
- (ii) Stakeholder consultations.
- (iii) Regional harmonisation efforts with CARICOM partners.

(b) Any amendments must be published in the Official Gazette and undergo a 60-day public review period before implementation.

Chapter 7 – Final Provisions

7.1. Repeal of Conflicting Laws

Any prior legal provisions conflicting with this Regulation shall be deemed repealed.

7.2. Effective Date

This Regulation shall enter into force immediately upon its official publication.

REGULATION ON TRAINING & COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS

Section 1 – Scope and Objectives

1.1 This Regulation establishes the framework for training, competency, and certification applicable to all persons engaged in cannabis-related activities under the Integrated Cannabis Act.

1.2 Its objectives are to:

(a) ensure that all persons handling cannabis in Dominica possess the necessary knowledge, skills, and ethical standards;

- (b) harmonize training requirements across all categories of licences and registrations;
 - (c) protect public health, consumer safety, and product integrity;
 - (d) safeguard cultural and sacramental practices while ensuring minimum standards of safety and compliance; and
 - (e) create a transparent, auditable system of professional certification under the authority of the Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA).
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Section 2 – General Principles

2.1 All individuals employed in the cannabis sector must demonstrate adequate knowledge, skills, and ethical standards consistent with the safe, compliant, and responsible handling of cannabis.

2.2 The CLA – Training & Research Division shall accredit training providers, approve curricula, and oversee delivery of training programmes.

2.3 Certification of training is mandatory for issuance or renewal of specified licence categories as defined in Schedule 2 of the Act.

2.4 Training must be modular, role-specific, and updated periodically to reflect evolving laws, standards, and scientific knowledge.

2.5 Refresher training is required at least every two (2) years, or sooner if mandated by regulatory updates.

Section 3 – Category-Specific Training Requirements

(a) Responsible Individuals

Every licensed facility must designate at least one Responsible Individual who has successfully completed CLA-accredited training in:

- cannabis law and regulation;
- health and safety protocols;
- security and inventory control;
- quality assurance and compliance reporting.

(b) Facility Staff & Workers (Occupational Licensees)

All Occupational Licensees must complete CLA-approved training modules relevant to their assigned roles (cultivation, processing, testing, dispensing, transport, etc.). Permits require prior security clearance. Training certificates are valid for one (1) year and renewable upon proof of continued employment and compliance.

(c) Medical Practitioners

Applicants for a Medical Practitioner Licence must complete a CLA-approved Continuing Medical Education (CME) module covering: cannabis therapeutics, contraindications, safe prescribing standards, and pharmacovigilance. Ongoing professional development is required at renewal.

(d) Pharmacies, Clinics & Health Establishments

Dispensing staff must complete CLA-accredited training on: secure storage, dispensing protocols, patient counselling, record-keeping, and adverse event reporting. At least one CLA-trained Responsible Pharmacist/Health Officer shall be designated per facility.

(e) Traditional Healers / Herbalists

Applicants for registration shall undergo orientation training endorsed by the CLA – Cultural & Sacramental Division, balancing recognition of traditional knowledge with minimum safety standards for product handling, hygiene, and interaction with the regulated system.

(f) Laboratory & Testing Facilities

Laboratory directors and analysts must hold recognised scientific qualifications and complete CLA-approved training in cannabis-specific testing protocols, ISO/IEC 17025 standards, chain-of-custody, and data integrity.

(g) Waste Disposal Operators

Holders of a Waste Disposal Licence must undergo CLA-approved training in safe destruction methods, environmental health standards, and reporting obligations.

(h) Consumption Lounge Operators

Operators must complete CLA training on: responsible service and harm reduction, intoxication management, age verification, ventilation and occupational health, public order, and incident management.

Section 4 – Accreditation of Training Providers

4.1 Only training providers accredited by the CLA may deliver mandatory cannabis training modules.

4.2 Accreditation requires proof of:

- (a) qualified instructors with subject-matter expertise;
- (b) approved curricula consistent with CLA standards;
- (c) adequate facilities and equipment for practical training; and
- (d) capacity to assess learning outcomes fairly and objectively.

4.3 Accreditation shall be valid for three (3) years, renewable upon evaluation by the CLA.

4.4 The CLA may suspend or revoke accreditation for non-compliance, poor quality, or evidence of misconduct.

Section 5 – Certification and Records

5.1 Successful completion of training shall culminate in issuance of a **CLA Certificate of Completion**, specifying the module completed, date, and validity period.

5.2 Licence applicants and holders must present valid training certificates when applying for or renewing licences.

5.3 All licensees must maintain training records for staff, available at all times for CLA inspection.

5.4 Failure to comply with training requirements constitutes grounds for licence suspension, revocation, or refusal of renewal.

5.5 The CLA shall maintain a central register of certified individuals, accessible for verification purposes.

Section 6 – Continuous Improvement and Updates

6.1 The CLA shall review this Regulation and its curricula every three (3) years, or sooner if required, in consultation with stakeholders, universities, professional boards, traditional communities, and industry associations.

6.2 Updates shall be published in the Official Gazette and on the CLA website, with transitional provisions for compliance.

6.3 Training requirements may be expanded to new licence categories or updated standards as necessary, by regulation of the CLA.

Licence / Registration	Mandatory Training Modules	Frequency / Renewal
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Cultivation Licence	Core Regulatory Module; Cultivation (GACP) Standards; Security & Inventory Control	Initial + refresher every 2 years
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Processing & Extraction Licence	Core Regulatory Module; GMP & Extraction Safety; Quality Assurance	Initial + refresher every 2 years
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Infused Products Manufacturing Licence	Core Regulatory Module; Food Safety (HACCP); GMP for Cannabis Products	Initial + refresher every 2 years
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Retail / Dispensary Licence	Core Regulatory Module; Retail Compliance; Customer Age Verification; Security	Initial + refresher every 2 years
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Consumption Lounge Licence	Core Regulatory Module; Responsible Service & Harm Reduction; Public Order & Incident Management; Ventilation/Health	Initial + refresher every 2 years
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Research & Development Licence	Core Regulatory Module; Research Ethics & Compliance; Data Integrity	Initial + refresher every 3 years
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Import Licence	Core Regulatory Module; Trade Compliance; Security & Inventory Control	Initial + refresher every 3 years
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Export Licence	Core Regulatory Module; Export/Trade Compliance; Security & Inventory Control	Initial + refresher every 3 years
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Transportation Licence	Core Regulatory Module; Secure Transport & Manifest Procedures; Security Protocols	Initial + refresher every 2 years
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Laboratory & Testing Facility Licence	Core Regulatory Module; ISO/IEC 17025 Methods; Chain-of-Custody; Data Integrity	Initial + refresher every 3 years
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Waste Disposal Licence	Core Regulatory Module; Environmental & Safety Protocols; Waste Destruction Methods	Initial + refresher every 2 years
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Broker Licence	Core Regulatory Module; Compliance & Documentation; Anti-Diversion Controls	Initial + refresher every 3 years
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Cooperative Licence	Core Regulatory Module; Small-Scale Cultivation Standards; Cooperative Governance; Record-Keeping	Initial + refresher every 2 years
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Sacramental Producer Licence	Core Regulatory Module; Cultural Orientation; Minimum Hygiene & Safety; CLA Reporting (for external sales)	Initial + refresher every 3 years
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Medical Practitioner Licence	Medical Cannabis Therapeutics; Contraindications & Prescribing Standards; Pharmacovigilance	CME every 2 years
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Pharmacy / Clinic Dispensation Licence	Dispensing Protocols; Patient Counselling; Record-Keeping; Adverse Event Reporting	Initial + refresher every 2 years
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Health Establishment Licence	Secure Storage & Dispensation; Clinical Protocols; Pharmacovigilance	Initial + refresher every 2 years
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Traditional Healer / Herbalist Registration	Cultural & Sacramental Orientation; Minimum Safety & Hygiene; Interaction with CLA Framework	Initial + refresher every 3 years
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Individual Occupational Licence (Worker Permit)	Role-Specific Module (Cultivation/Processing/Retail/Testing/etc.) ; Security Clearance	Annual renewal with employer verification
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