

## Medical Marijuana Program Implementation Status Update

### Dispensary Application Period for Bismarck/Mandan and Fargo Regions Closes:

The Bismarck/Mandan and Fargo dispensary application period closed on August 7, 2018. In total, the division received 19 applications. The dispensary application review panel will score all complete applications.

In September, the division will open applications for dispensaries in the Grand Forks and Williston regions. The remaining four dispensary regions (Devils Lake, Dickinson, Jamestown, and Minot) are anticipated to have an open application period in January 2019. A map of the eight dispensary regions can be found on the division website.

### Dispensary Application Review Panel:

The review panel that will score complete applications has been established by the Department of Health. The review panel consists of five individuals with varying backgrounds/specialties. These backgrounds include:

- Government
- Law Enforcement
- Pharmacist/Pharmacy Owner
- Physician
- Patient/Family Advocate

All individuals on the review panel are required by administrative rules to sign a conflict of interest form. An individual with a conflict of interest may not participate as a panel member.

The first meeting for the review panel will take place on Thursday, August 9. To view the details of this meeting, please visit the Secretary of State website or click [here](#). Look for and select *Health, ND Department of* under the public entity category. All meetings scheduled for the Department of Health will be listed. The review panel meeting is titled *Dispensary Review Panel Meeting*.

### **Annual Report:**

The fiscal year 2018 annual report for the Medical Marijuana Program was presented to the Judiciary Committee on August 7. This report included information related to a study of debilitating medical conditions as required by Chapter 171 of the 2017 Session Laws. The report can be found on the division website or by clicking [here](#).

### **BioTrackTHC:**

Division staff working with BioTrackTHC continue to make progress in creating the online portal for patient and designated caregiver applications. Patient and designated caregiver applications are expected to be available near the end of October. In addition to the registration system, the division is now in testing stages for the inventory and tracking portion of the BioTrackTHC system.

### **Medical Community Outreach:**

Outreach to the medical community continues to be a priority for the Division of Medical Marijuana. Several months ago, the division created an FAQ document and a Health Care Provider Overview document in an effort to provide pertinent information to various medical personnel, particularly to those physicians and advanced practice registered nurses who would potentially be completing a written certification.

In addition, division staff have presented information regarding the Medical Marijuana Program to various medical groups, both in person and via distance education technology. The division will continue to explore options to provide educational opportunities on the Medical Marijuana Program for the medical community. Health care providers who have questions about the program are encouraged to contact the Division of Medical Marijuana by phone at 701.328.1311 or by emailing [medmarijuana@nd.gov](mailto:medmarijuana@nd.gov).

A new PowerPoint created for a presentation to a medical group has been posted to the division website. To view the presentation, click [here](#). The FAQ and Health Care Provider Overview documents can be found [here](#).

**Question:** Have the manufacturing facilities started growing marijuana yet?

**Answer:** The manufacturing facilities are currently working on requirements to receive a registration certificate through the Department of Health. Marijuana is not allowed in the manufacturing facilities until a registration certificate is obtained. Both Pure Dakota (Bismarck) and Grass Roots (Fargo) are in process of finalizing building plans and submitting the plans to local zoning authorities. After approval of the plans, both entities will conduct the necessary work to meet requirements in state law and administrative rules related to manufacturing facilities. The division will have more defined timelines for when products will be available for registered qualifying patients once city approvals of plans are obtained.

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