



**Attorney General
Justice
Office of the Minister**

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MINISTER'S DIRECTIVE

WHEREAS under the *Police Act*, S.N.S. 2004 (the "*Police Act*") the Minister of Justice is the constituted authority for the administration of justice within the Province and is responsible to ensure an adequate and effective level of policing is maintained throughout the Province;

AND WHEREAS under the *Police Act*, the Minister shall promote the preservation of peace, the prevention of crime, the efficiency of police services and the improvement of police relationships with communities within the Province;

AND WHEREAS for the purposes of so doing, the Minister may issue a directive to police;

AND WHEREAS it is in the interest of public safety that all police agencies operating in the Province focus enforcement efforts on closing every illegal cannabis dispensary regardless of location;

AND WHEREAS the only legally authorized sale of legal cannabis in Nova Scotia are those retail locations operated by the Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation;

I, SCOTT ARMSTRONG, MINISTER OF JUSTICE FOR THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA DO HEREBY ISSUE THE FOLLOWING DIRECTIVE to all police agencies, including the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in their capacity as the Provincial Police, across the Province:

DIRECTIVE:

All police agencies shall prioritize cannabis enforcement by:

1. Focusing efforts on intelligence collection and analysis to identify illegal cannabis operations, distribution networks, and cross-provincial trafficking activity.
2. Working together as police partners to disrupt the sale of illegal cannabis sold in storefronts across the Province, enforce the law where illegal cannabis is being sold and safeguard the integrity of the regulated market in Nova Scotia.
3. Targeting organized crime groups engaged in multi-commodity trafficking, where cannabis is used to support or conceal broader criminal activity.

Senior leadership in all municipal police agencies and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police shall:

- A. ensure that police officers at all levels adhere to this Directive;
- B. ensure that police officers at all levels receive all information and direction necessary to adhere to this Directive;
- C. report enforcement outcomes to the Province as required by the Public Safety and Security Division at the Department of Justice.

For greater certainty, this Directive does not eliminate or replace any obligations or duties prescribed in the *Police Act*.

THIS DIRECTIVE is effective upon signing.

THIS DIRECTIVE shall be in place until further notice and may be amended, revoked or replaced by the Minister of Justice at any time.

DATED this 4th day of December 2025.



Honourable Scott Armstrong
Attorney General and Minister of Justice