

Backgrounder:

C.A.L.M.

- Cannabis As Living Medicine -

Cannabis As Living Medicine (C.A.L.M.) is a national, peer-run organization that provides over 2,000 Canadians living with severe or chronic illnesses with safe and reliable access to medicinal cannabis in a safe empowering environment. Established in 1996, serving members in the GTA and across Canada, C.A.L.M. is Eastern Canada's first medical cannabis club. Currently, C.A.L.M. works with all levels of government to ensure that medical cannabis in Canada be of the highest quality with relative ease of access.

Cannabis is once again becoming a medically recognized form of medicine around the world. Canadians overwhelmingly support the legalization of medical cannabis (90 per cent).

Currently, the biggest hurdle to the medical use of cannabis is its politicization. This hurdle unnecessarily burdens Canada's most vulnerable people with concerns of safety and expense, as well as exposing them to the threat of criminal prosecution. These medical users have little to no regulation of the medicine they use. It is a long-term goal of C.A.L.M. to help overcome the stigma and other obstacles that prevent the full therapeutic benefits of cannabis from being realized.

C.A.L.M. is committed to:

- Providing access and education on all aspects of cannabis to those with verifiable medical need, as well as community, health and government organizations
- Ensure members receive access to safe, clean cannabis products, information, peer counseling and research
- Empirically monitor the reliability and quality of the strains of cannabis
- Use proven methodologies to convert whole cannabis into alternative medicinal compounds
- Helping members achieve self-sustainability and independence
- Working with all levels of government and the community to ensure safe access and reasonable and effective regulations regarding medical cannabis