

# WSSR WORKSHOPS ON SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

## The Politics of Legalizing Marijuana: What's Involved?

**Honourable Anne McLellan**

Former Deputy Prime Minister and Chair of the Task Force on Cannabis Legalization and Regulation

**Eric Costen**

Director General of the Cannabis Legalization and Regulation Secretariat

**Dr. Mark A. Ware**

Associate Professor, Family Medicine and Anesthesia, McGill University  
Vice Chair of the Federal Task Force on the legalization and regulation of cannabis in Canada

October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017

9:00am – 4:30pm

### **Workshop Outline**

This country is currently considering significant changes to the criminal code as it relates to the production, possession and distribution of cannabis products, a topic of great interest to young people and those suffering from severe or incurable health conditions. The implications of these changes go beyond simple regulation of a new market and involve consideration of a multitude of legal, social, and health factors.

Ms. McLellan along with Dr. Mark Ware and Mr. Eric Costen, will take participants through the many consultations and considerations involved in putting together the Task Force's final report and the effects these recommendations have and may have on legalization and regulation of cannabis in the future. As a democracy, Canada has increasingly permitted and encouraged public input, consultation, and modernization of its governing rules and structures. But how far will the country go in the future in terms of regulation and deregulation and what must we consider as we move forward through another 150 years of democracy in this country?

### **Required Readings**

Blinch, M. (2016). Legal Marijuana is Coming. *Globe and Mail*. Retrieved from <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/explainer-legalized-marijuana-is-coming-but-what-does-it-mean-toyou/article33320979/>

### **Recommended Readings:**

***Honourable McLellan suggests that students read chapters that peek their interest in these following books.***

Bogart, W. A. (2016). *Off the street: legalizing drugs*. Toronto: Dundurn, a J. Patrick Boyer Book.  
[https://encore.concordia.ca/iii/encore/record/C\\_\\_Rb3401292?lang=eng](https://encore.concordia.ca/iii/encore/record/C__Rb3401292?lang=eng)

Caulkins, J. P., Kilmer, B., & Kleiman, M. (2016). *Marijuana legalization: what everyone needs to know*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press [Webster Course Reserve Room \(3 hour loan\) -- POLI 489 -- AVAILABLE](#)

Transform. (2013). *How to Regulate Cannabis: A Practical Guide (2nd ed.)*. Transform Drug Policy Foundation  
<http://www.tdpf.org.uk/resources/publications/how-regulate-cannabis-practical-guide>

\*If you are registered for non-credit and are unable to locate the readings, please contact us at [wssr@concordia.ca](mailto:wssr@concordia.ca)