The M Word:
Exploring Perspectives on the Legalization of Marijuana and Safe Schools

Speakers include:
- Jodie Emery - Political Activist and Speaker.
- Judith Renaud - Educators for Sensible Drug Policy
- Fraser Ballantyne - Vancouver School Board Trustee
- Caroline Ferris - Primary Care and Addiction Medicine, Surrey BC / UBC Department of Family Practice
- Dan Reist - Assistant Director, Centre for Addictions Research of BC
- Neil Boyd - Professor and Director School of Criminology Simon Fraser University
- Terry Roycroft - Founder & President, Medical Cannabis Resource Centre
- Diana Underhill - Ad Lucem Law Corporation

In a short time, big changes are coming to Canada. Join The Canadian Safe School Network for a full day educational event as we explore how the legalization of marijuana will affect educators, students and safe schools. Hear from expert speakers in the fields of law enforcement, government, education, and the cannabis industry, as they approach the issue and answer questions pertaining to student wellbeing and positive school climate in the province of BC.

October 5, 2016
Century Plaza Hotel
1015 Burrard St. Vancouver BC, Canada. V6Z 1Y5

Early bird registration is now open.
Discounts available for group registrations. Contact Renee@canadiansafeschools.com

Register Online: www.canadiansafeschools.com/events
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Early bird: $175 - Register before June 30th, 2016
General: $200
Group Discount: Register a group of 5 for $800

Speaker Bios & Presentation Summaries:

Dr Caroline Ferris, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor, UBC Department of Family Practice
Primary Care and Addiction Medicine, Surrey BC

Dr Caroline Ferris graduated from UBC in 1986 and has been a certificant of the College of Family Physicians of Canada since 1993 and a Fellow since 2003. After 20 years in full-service family practice, she began working full-time in Mental Health Substance Use. She teaches medical students and Family Practice Residents and holds the rank of Clinical Assistant Professor in the UBC Department of Family Practice. Currently working in Addiction and Street Medicine, Dr Ferris is an educator and innovator in initiatives around the harm reduction approach to addictions treatment.

Presentation TBD
Neil Boyd, LL.M.
Professor and Director School of Criminology Simon Fraser University

Neil is a professor and Director of the School of Criminology at Simon Fraser University, educated in psychology at the University of Western Ontario and in law at Osgoode Hall Law School. He is a previous director of the School of Criminology and the author of eight books. His latest, A Thousand Dreams: Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside and the Fight for Its Future, is co-authored with Senator Larry Campbell and journalist Lori Culbert and was shortlisted for the Roderick Haig Brown Prize and the Donner Prize, and won the George Ryga Award for social awareness in literature. He is a frequent media commentator on subjects related to criminology: specifically, drug law and policy and issues of criminal violence and homicide. He has written articles about drug markets, heroin treatment initiatives, injectable drug use, responding to the threats posed by homicide offenders, and the linkage between drug use and homicide.

Neil will present on the history of cannabis use, distribution and prohibition in Canada, noting changes in law and practice from 1923 to the present. He will also cover the issues that the federal government must face in amending the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act in order to provide for the taxation and regulation of cannabis -- the UN Conventions, the mechanisms of distribution for both recreational and medicinal use, the potentially continuing role of the black market, the logic of the line that we draw between medical and recreational use, and the emerging role of scientific discovery in relation to the emerging medical and recreational markets in cannabis.

Diana Underhill
Paralegal & Legal Researcher, AD LUCEM Law Corporation

Diana holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Justice Studies from Royal Roads University. She wrote her thesis on Biological Psychology, Trauma and Their Effects in Legal and Administrative Processes During Personal Injury Claims. She is presently a Paralegal and legal researcher with AD LUCEM Law Corp in Vancouver, a job she loves. Previous to this, she worked as a Family Support, Preservation and Reunification worker with a First Nations band in B.C. During this time, Diana was the liaison between the Reserve and the Ministry of Children and Family Development. She assisted clients going through the residential school claims process as well as addictions and other issues. She was also on the working committee with the Law Courts Education Society of B.C. regarding High Conflict Custody Access Cases and Parenting after Separation. Diana provides weekly volunteer Amici Curiae services to Atira’s legal advocacy program, as well as Battered Women’s Support Services and the Law Courts Centre in Vancouver.

Diana will be discussing practical implications and providing legal information for educators regarding cannabis in the school setting. She will address topics including:
- What the state of the law is now.
- The law regarding “being under the influence”.
- Information for educators and schools regarding search and seizure on school property.
- Potential Policy considerations for schools.
- Policy implementations in the US and how they have worked.

Dan Reist
Assistant Director, Knowledge Exchange, Centre for Addictions Research of BC, University of Victoria

Dan Reist leads a team based in Vancouver that focuses on communicating current evidence in a way that supports the evolution of effective policy and practice. With a background in continental philosophy and hermeneutics, Dan is quick to acknowledge that evidence is far more than statistics about patterns of use and harm and includes attention to the ways we experience and talk about drugs and drug use in our cultures and communities. Dan has, for the past several years, contributed to policy dialogues in British Columbia related to...
substance use and addictive behaviours and has represented BC in many national and international discussions. He has helped develop BC's multi-systems approach to substance use. He champions the careful use of language to describe substance use and the related risks and problems and seeks to bridge the ideological divides and professional barriers that have too often undermined effective responses.

Proposed policy changes with respect to cannabis make it more important than ever that schools and communities engage in meaningful dialogue about the issues. But the discourse has been so polarized and divisive. Debate, not dialogue, has been the norm. Dan Reist will draw attention to key principles of dialogue and introduce some practical techniques that can be used in families, schools and communities to build broader understanding of the different perspectives related to cannabis.

Judith Newbergher Renaud  
Executive Director, Educators for Sensible Drug Policy

Jude received her Bachelor of Communications degree in 1981 from Simon Fraser University and graduated with a Master's degree in the Faculty of Education from Simon Fraser University in 1998. For eight years she taught English, S.S. and Visual Arts at the secondary level, and she was a sessional instructor for future teachers at Simon Fraser University in the Faculty of Education. From 2000-2003 Judith was a Principal for a small school in northern British Columbia. It was during this time as an administrator and given her association with native communities that she saw the ravages of prohibition; the suicides and the incarcerations, and decided to dedicate her career to ending the government's war on marijuana users. Renaud has debated drug reform and drug policy using a sensible approach to ending prohibition. She has witnessed the failed government policies in drug education, the negative effects of the American D.A.R.E. program and has realized that unless educators speak out and represent well informed, science based reality drug education programs, the profession and the students will suffer under curriculum which is based on propaganda.

Judith will speak to the notion that the value of working in drug education is to see educational policy and reform come from a place of progressive change where students, parents, teachers and health care professionals work together to provide and improve the quality of schooling. Such reforms should reflect the valuing of lived experience as knowledge and should be informed by solid scientific evidence and truth.

Terry Roycroft  
President MCRCI

Terry is an expert on medicinal cannabis law in Canada and founded the Medicinal Cannabis Resource Centre (MCRCI). MCRCI has been in operation since 2000, when Health Canada started offering federal exemption for medical marijuana for patients with the support of a licensed Medical Doctor. MCRCI has physicians on staff that offer support towards legal access and education on medicinal cannabis. Mr. Roycroft has worked with the top medicinal cannabis, lawyers, physicians and researchers in Canada and has offered industry consultations for businesses, producers, and patients.

Terry will be discussing:
- The expansion of specialized medical marijuana clinics within Canada.
- The history of MMAR to the present MMPR regulations and how that affects physicians.
- The challenges to physicians when dealing with various provinces’ colleges of physicians and surgeons.
- The role of resource centers in dealing with children and specialized groups such as veterans.
- Medicinal marijuana in the workplace.

Fraser Ballantyne,  
Trustee Elect for the Vancouver Board of Education (2011-2018)
Fraser has 35-years of experience in education as a Teacher, Counselor, School Administrator and Human Resources Manager. He worked as an elementary school teacher for 5 years, a secondary school teacher for 10 years, a counsellor for 5 years, and Secondary Administrator for 12 years. During his time at the Vancouver School Board, Fraser worked collaboratively with the Vancouver Elementary and Secondary Teacher associations, and the Senior District Management team regarding all aspects of yearly budgets, teacher hiring, and the distribution of staffing for adult education, district programs and secondary schools.

Fraser will be covering the VSB position on youth and marijuana use including concerns related to the City Hall policy on distances of a marijuana dispensary to schools as well as the care of students in the community during and after school. Additionally, he will discuss his motion that was just passed by the VSB as it relates to marijuana dispensaries and their 110 school locations. He will also offer perspective of what parents and businesses have expressed leading to possibilities of building their unique neighborhoods so that they can co-exist with the many varying views held in the greater community. Hopefully this conversation can provide a balanced foundational piece for Bill Blair to take into consideration as he develops the Liberal plan over the next 2 years.

Jodie Emery,  
*Political Candidate*  
*Cannabis Legalization Activist & Public Spokesperson*

Jodie Emery is the co-owner and operator of Cannabis Culture Magazine, Cannabis Culture Headquarters retail store, and Pot TV. Having graduated from St. Michael’s University School in Victoria and in 2004, Jodie moved to Vancouver to work as a drug policy reform activist with now husband Marc Emery, the world's pre-eminent marijuana legalization activist. She became co-editor of Cannabis Culture Magazine with him in early 2005, which is now a major online news source for the cannabis culture and anti-prohibition movement. She ran for office as a B.C. Marijuana Party candidate in 2005, and again in a 2008 by-election. She was then asked to run as a high-profile B.C. Green Party candidate in the 2009 and 2013 general elections. Jodie participated in legalization ballot initiatives in California in November 2010 and Washington State in 2012, ideacity conference 2012, the New Hampshire Liberty Forum in February 2012, and many more rallies, protests and conferences in Vancouver, Victoria, Toronto, Seattle, Boston and other cities in Canada and the United States. She has had a lifelong interest in individual freedom and autonomy and values principle, honesty, and justice.

Presentation: TBD
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Exhibitors and Partnerships Package
This event is the first of its kind in the world of education.

On April 25th, 2016, the Canadian Safe School Network presents "The M Word: Exploring Perspectives on the Legalization of Marijuana and Safe Schools", a full-day educational event offering insight, answers, and practical strategies to improve safe school climates and youth wellbeing.
It is our goal to offer perspectives from across sectors including government, law enforcement, education, the cannabis industry and mental health about the impending legalization of marijuana and how it will affect students and safe school communities at large. It is our hope to answer the many questions that educators will have in regards to their role and responsibility of maintaining student wellbeing. We believe it is important to offer informative, and accurate information which educators can use to prepare practical solutions prior to legalization.

At this time, I'd like to personally offer you the opportunity to send a group of registrants at a discounted rate. We are now offering registration for 10 people at $1500. We would love to see representation from Vancouver Secondary Teacher's association. If this is something you're interested in, please feel free to contact me directly for more info. 778-877-9525. I'd be happy to reserve the spots for you.