Real Estate Council Alberta

Cannabis Due Diligence Checklist: Representing Commercial Landlords

This checklist is not an exhaustive list of all cannabis matters in connection with a potential real estate transaction but is provided to assist real estate professionals perform their due diligence activities.

When representing a landlord where a prospective tenant will use the premises for a cannabis-related business:	Done
Ability to Rent	
 Check the existing tenant leases to ensure the landlord is not prohibited from entering into a lease with a cannabis-related business. 	
Tenant Retention	
 Advise the landlord to check with existing tenants to see if they have any objections to a prospective cannabis-related tenant. 	
Future Tenants	
• Advise the landlord that some future tenants may not want to be in the same location as a cannabis-related business.	
Cannabis-related business Licence Application Process	
• Warn the landlord that cannabis-related businesses may be riskier tenants because	
require a signed lease agreement before they apply for a licence to operate.	
 Advise the landlord that to mitigate this risk they should: 	
- Require pre-payment of the rents.	
 Carefully review the prospective tenant's financial covenant. 	
Property Improvements	
• Advise the landlord new/upgraded building systems and/or other improvements may	
be required to the property to ensure odours do not impact other tenants.	
Ensure a lease agreement between the landlord and a cannabis-related business addresses	
who is responsible for:	
 Installing the improvements and all associated costs. 	
Removing the improvements at the end of the lease and all associated costs.	
Insurance Coverage	_
 Advise the landlord to speak with their insurers to confirm that the proposed use of 	
the premises will not violate their insurance policies before entering into the lease.	
Ensure a lease agreement between the landlord and a cannabis-related business:	
 Addresses who is responsible for any additional costs to the landlord's insurance premiums. 	
 Enables the landlord to terminate the lease if their insurance coverage is jeopardized by the tenant's business. 	