

From: [City of Nanaimo](#)
To: [Public Hearing](#)
Subject: New form entry is submitted - Public Hearing Submission
Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2026 2:04:14 PM

Public Hearing Submission

Submitted on 08 July 2026, 02:03 PM

Your Name	
Your Address	
Bylaw Number or Subject Property Address Which You Are Addressing Your Comments	2180 Highland Blvd D3 RA000536 Kaya Connection
Comments	July 8, 2026 Mayor Leonard Krog and Members of Nanaimo City Council City of Nanaimo Re: Public Hearing – July 16, 2026 RA000536 Rezoning Application for Kaya Connection Cannabis Retail Store Dear Mayor Krog and Members of Council, I am writing to respectfully oppose the proposed rezoning application to permit a cannabis retail store at the proposed Kaya Connection location. I am the owner of Mood Cannabis Co., a locally owned and operated cannabis retailer that has proudly served Nanaimo since 2020. As both a business owner and someone who has worked closely with the City's planning process, I believe this application raises significant concerns regarding the consistent application of Council's own Cannabis Retail Store Rezoning Criteria. The City's Cannabis Retail Store Rezoning Criteria clearly states in Section 1.2: "The proposed CRS should not be located directly adjacent, or in close proximity to a school or licensed daycare facility. A minimum separation of 200m from these facilities is considered necessary, as measured from the front door of the CRS to the school or daycare property line." It is my understanding that the proposed Kaya Connection location does not satisfy this criterion, as it is located within 200 metres of a licensed daycare. This is particularly concerning because, when Mood Cannabis was evaluating potential locations several years ago, we identified two sites that were ultimately abandoned after discussions with the City's Planning Department. We were specifically advised that because those locations were within the required 200-metre separation from a licensed daycare, our rezoning applications would not be supported. We accepted that direction, continued our search, and ultimately invested in 2 locations that complied with the City's expectations. For that reason, I respectfully ask Council to consider the importance of consistency and fairness in the application of its own policies. Businesses rely on the guidance provided by City staff when making significant financial and investment decisions. If one applicant is required to comply with the City's adopted criteria while another is permitted to proceed despite not meeting those same standards, it undermines confidence in the planning process and creates an uneven playing field for businesses that have invested in good faith. I also encourage Council to consider whether approving another cannabis retail store serves the broader public interest. Nanaimo currently has approximately 17 licensed cannabis stores serving a population of roughly 100,000 residents. This represents one of the highest concentrations of cannabis retailers relative to population in British Columbia.

The proposed location is already well served by existing licensed cannabis retailers. Within the surrounding area are Island Cannabis Co., Super Bud, the BC Cannabis Store at Country Club Centre, and Mood Cannabis Co. Residents already have multiple convenient options to purchase legal cannabis within a short distance of the proposed location. Approving an additional cannabis retailer in this already well-served area would not improve consumer access to legal cannabis. Instead, it would further concentrate cannabis retail businesses within the same trade area, dividing an existing customer base among more operators while increasing economic pressure on businesses that have already made substantial investments in Nanaimo and have operated in accordance with the City's policies and expectations. Existing retailers continue to face declining margins, aggressive price competition, and significant regulatory costs. Many businesses are working diligently simply to remain financially sustainable. Adding another cannabis retail store does not create additional consumer demand, it merely divides an already limited market among more operators. I recognize that Council is not responsible for guaranteeing the success of individual businesses. However, Council is responsible for ensuring that its planning policies are applied fairly, consistently, and in accordance with the principles under which they were adopted. The Cannabis Retail Store Rezoning Criteria were created to guide Council's decision-making, and the 200-metre separation from licensed daycares has been an important component of those criteria since their adoption. Ultimately, this application is not simply about one additional cannabis store. It is about whether the City will apply its adopted Cannabis Retail Store Rezoning Criteria consistently and fairly to every applicant. When existing businesses relied on those criteria to make significant investment decisions, they did so with the expectation that all future applicants would be evaluated using the same standards. Respectfully, I ask Council to uphold those standards by denying this rezoning application. Thank you for your time, your consideration of this submission, and your continued service to the residents and businesses of Nanaimo. I appreciate the opportunity to participate in the public hearing process. Respectfully submitted, [REDACTED] Owner Mood Cannabis Co.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Hearing](#)
Subject: Written Submission in Opposition to Rezoning Bylaw No. 4500.255 (2180 Highland Blvd)
Date: Thursday, July 9, 2026 3:24:25 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the cannabis retail store proposed for 2180 Highland Boulevard.

My primary objection is the chosen location's proximity to a local school and a children's daycare. It is entirely inappropriate to place a dispensary in a high-traffic area for young kids and students. This placement creates unnecessary exposure to cannabis retail activities right where families gather daily.

Additionally, our city is already saturated with these businesses. Nanaimo already has roughly 16 operating cannabis storefronts, including an existing dispensary located just down the hill from this site. There is absolutely no community need for another shop in this specific neighbourhood.

I ask that Council prioritize the well-being of local families and vote to reject this application.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Hearing](#)
Subject: Urgent Concern: Cannabis Store Near School and Daycare
Date: Thursday, July 9, 2026 3:33:50 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed cannabis retail store in Nanaimo.

While I understand that cannabis is legal and that licensed businesses have the right to operate, I believe this particular location is not appropriate. The proposed site is in close proximity to both a school and a daycare, where children and families are present every day. Even if the business operates within all legal requirements, its location raises concerns about the message it sends and the type of commercial activity being introduced into an area primarily used by young families.

Additionally, there are already cannabis retailers serving the community, and I question whether another location is necessary in this area. I believe the City should carefully consider whether approving another cannabis store at this site is in the best interest of the surrounding neighborhood.

I respectfully ask that Council take these concerns into account and reconsider approving this location. I appreciate your time, your consideration, and your commitment to making decisions that reflect the interests of Nanaimo residents.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Hearing](#)
Subject: Formal Opposition to Bylaw No. 4500.255 – Proposed Cannabis Retail at 2180 Highland Boulevard
Date: Thursday, July 9, 2026 3:34:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To the Mayor and Members of Nanaimo City Council,

Please accept this email as my formal opposition to the proposed rezoning application for a cannabis retail store at 2180 Highland Boulevard (Unit D3).

I am deeply concerned about the location chosen for this business. It sits in immediate proximity to a children's daycare and a local school. Opening a cannabis retail shop in this exact spot unnecessarily exposes local youth and young children to cannabis marketing and retail environments on a daily basis.

Furthermore, Nanaimo is already exceptionally well-served by this industry. There are currently at least 16 licensed cannabis stores operating across the city, including one located just down the hill from this proposed site. Our community does not need another dispensary, especially not at the expense of a family-focused area near child-centered spaces.

I urge Council to listen to the neighbourhood's safety and zoning concerns and vote against this application.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Hearing](#)
Subject: No More Cannabis Store
Date: Thursday, July 9, 2026 4:29:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To who it may concern,

I live in the Brooks Landing and am saddened to hear about a cannabis store being added to the complex. There are more than enough cannabis stores in the area including Island Cannabis, Coast Salish, and BC Cannabis. Additionally, with a school and daycare so close by it is inappropriate. I hope these concerns will be looked at and addressed.

Thank you for your time,
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Hearing](#)
Subject: Objection to KAYA connection opening in Nanaimo
Date: Thursday, July 9, 2026 5:03:37 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hi Nanaimo City Council,

I'm writing to share my concerns about KAYA Connection trying to move to a new location here in town.

I really don't think this is the right spot for it. There is a school and a daycare right nearby. Having a cannabis shop that close to where kids play and learn every day just doesn't sit right with me.

On top of that, we already have enough cannabis stores in this area. We don't need another one down the street when the neighborhood is already covered.

Please think about our local families and turn down this application. I'd appreciate being kept in the loop about any upcoming council meetings or decisions on this.

Thanks for your time,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2026 12:51 PM
To: Public Hearing
Subject: Fwd: FW: Cannabis stores

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To the Mayor and Members of Nanaimo City Council,

Please accept this email as my formal approval of the proposed rezoning application for a cannabis retail store at 2180 Highland Boulevard (Unit D3).

I understand you are receiving the odd objection. However, Nanaimo is already exceptionally well-served by the liquor industry. And until you take out the liquor stores, leave the cannabis stores alone, please.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

[REDACTED], Nanaimo

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am honoured to live, work and play on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Snuneymuxw, Snaw-naw as, and Stzuminus people. I recognize the enduring connection that Indigenous peoples have to this land and express my gratitude for their stewardship over generations.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Hearing](#)
Cc: [Mayor Leonard Krog](#); [Sheryl Armstrong](#); [Tyler Brown](#); [Hilary Eastmure](#); [Ben Geselbracht](#); [Erin Hemmens](#); [Paul Manly](#); [Janice Perrino](#); [Ian Thorpe](#)
Subject: Rezoning hearing for D3 - 2180 Highland Boulevard
Date: Monday, July 13, 2026 1:42:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello!

I'm writing as I won't be able to attend the public hearing on July 16th. I am the owner of VI Kidz Kompany Childcare Group Ltd. One of our childcare facilities (Kidz Kompany Harbourside) is located at 2150 Departure Bay Road which is on the back side of Brookes Landing and directly next door to Cilaire Elementary School.

I wasn't aware that an application was going forward to allow a cannabis retail location to open in the newly built commercial building at the front corner of Brookes Landing on the Highland Boulevard side. Being in such close proximity, I am a little confused why we weren't notified! I was contacted by a member of the neighbourhood association recently.

While I do recognize that cannabis retail is legal, we already have so many retail locations in the city of Nanaimo. I'm not in support of this proposed location. There are a few other dispensaries located close by and I don't feel there is a need for another within such a short distance.

While my childcare facility is located at the backside of Brookes Landing and out of direct sight, there is a family childcare facility located extremely close to the proposed location (Zigwids Family Childcare - 2230 Highland Boulevard) which I believe is within the City's requirement of 200 meters and direct sight line. Furthermore, Cilaire elementary school is located close by as well (on the backside of Brookes Landing) and the students frequently walk to Brookes Landing on their lunch break and after school. Students from the alternate program at Woodlands also walk to Brookes Landing through the tunnel. Even though the application assures ID's will be checked etc etc, proximity allows access for young people who could potentially convince someone (such as an older sibling of age) to purchase items for them. We all know this happens with liquor, tobacco and cannabis. While we can't control that, we can eliminate the proximity of such an establishment to places where children and youth gather. I believe a cannabis retail store doesn't fit the vibe of surrounding neighbourhood and perhaps a more family friendly business would be more appropriate as it is lacking in this area where so many young families reside.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]



Owner / Director
VI Kidz Kompany Childcare Group Ltd.
Tel. (250)618-9157

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Hearing](#)
Subject: Public Hearing Submission – Opposition to RA000536 / 2180 Highland Boulevard Cannabis
Date: Monday, July 13, 2026 2:10:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to respectfully oppose the proposed rezoning to permit an **adult-only cannabis retailer** at **2180 Highland Boulevard**.

My concern is not with cannabis retail itself. It is with the suitability of this particular location.

Council adopted Cannabis Retail Store Rezoning Criteria recommending a minimum **200-metre separation from schools and licensed daycare facilities** because it recognized that places where children regularly gather deserve additional planning consideration. This application asks Council to approve an exception to that guideline by permitting an adult-only cannabis retailer within the recommended separation distance of a licensed daycare.

More importantly, I ask Council to consider how this site actually functions within our community.

This is not simply another commercial building.

The proposed adult-only cannabis retailer would occupy the very first commercial unit encountered by pedestrians and cyclists emerging from the Highway 19 pedestrian underpass. This underpass serves as the primary gateway into Brooks Landing, connecting surrounding neighbourhoods with the shopping centre, the E&N Trail, transit, parks, schools, and the City's Primary Active Mobility Network.

The City intentionally invested in this pedestrian gateway through improved sidewalks, accessible crossings, lighting, landscaping and bicycle facilities to encourage walking and cycling. These improvements reflect the City's vision for connected, walkable neighbourhoods and stronger community access.

The surrounding area has become a true family and community hub. Within the immediate area are Cilaire Elementary School, Woodlands Commons Learning Alternatives, licensed childcare facilities (Kidz Kompany Children's Centre & Zigwid's Family Childcare), neighbourhood parks and Brooks Landing itself: a shopping centre that serves families, students and residents every day.

Brooks Landing is also evolving into a higher-density, walkable community. New restaurants are opening, additional residential development is planned, and the City's own vision is to create a complete community where residents can safely walk and cycle to everyday services. As this area grows, the pedestrian gateway and surrounding active transportation network will become even more important.

When I first learned about this exciting redevelopment, I envisioned businesses that would strengthen the community—a neighbourhood café, family-friendly restaurant, local services,

or other businesses that bring people together. An adult-only cannabis retailer is simply not the vision I had for the front door to one of Nanaimo's growing neighbourhood centres.

Finally, I question the planning need for another cannabis retailer at this location. Residents are already well served by nearby cannabis retailers, including Superbud Cannabis, Coast Salish Canna and Island Cannabis Company, all within a short drive of Brooks Landing. I have not seen evidence that another cannabis retailer is needed at one of Nanaimo's most prominent family-oriented pedestrian gateways.

This decision is not about whether cannabis retail has a place in Nanaimo. It is about whether Council should make an exception to its own planning guidelines to place an adult-only business at the front door of a growing family-oriented community, immediately adjacent to a primary pedestrian gateway serving schools, childcare facilities, neighbourhoods and the City's Active Mobility Network.

I respectfully ask Council to uphold the intent of its own planning policies and deny this rezoning application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

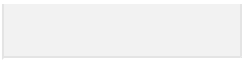
Departure Bay Resident

From: [City of Nanaimo](#)
To: [Public Hearing](#)
Subject: New form entry is submitted - Public Hearing Submission
Date: Monday, July 13, 2026 4:21:04 PM

[Public Hearing Submission](#)

Submitted on 13 July 2026, 04:20 PM

Your Name	[REDACTED]
Your Address	[REDACTED]
Bylaw Number or Subject Property Address Which You Are Addressing Your Comments	Zoning Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2026 No. 4500.256
Comments	Dear Mayor Krog and Members of Council, My name is [REDACTED], and I am the General Manager of Mood Cannabis Co. in Nanaimo. I am writing to respectfully oppose the proposed rezoning application for the Kaya Connection cannabis retail store. As someone who manages a licensed cannabis retailer every day, I can say with confidence that Nanaimo simply does not need another cannabis store in this area. Residents already have excellent access to legal cannabis through several existing retailers, including multiple stores within a short distance of the proposed location. Approving another licence would not improve consumer access or convenience. It would simply divide an already well-served market among more operators. I also believe it is important that Council continues to apply its Cannabis Retail Store Rezoning Criteria consistently. Existing businesses relied on those policies when making significant investment decisions, and consistency in their application is essential to maintaining confidence in the City's planning process. If one applicant is permitted to proceed despite not meeting the same criteria that previous applicants were expected to satisfy, it undermines confidence in the fairness and integrity of the City's planning process. The legal cannabis industry has matured significantly over the past several years. While customer demand has remained relatively stable, the number of retailers has continued to grow. Existing businesses are operating in an environment of declining margins, rising operating costs, and intense price competition. Every licensed retailer has invested substantial time, money, and effort into building compliant, professional businesses that serve our community responsibly. From my perspective, another cannabis retailer does not provide a meaningful public benefit. It does not create new demand, improve access, or fill an unmet need within the community. Instead, it places additional pressure on businesses that already employ local residents, contribute to the local economy, and have demonstrated a long-term commitment to serving Nanaimo. Ultimately, this application should be considered not only on whether another business wishes to enter the market, but whether approving another cannabis retailer genuinely benefits the residents of Nanaimo. In my opinion, the answer is no. Nanaimo already has a mature, competitive, and accessible legal cannabis market. I respectfully ask Council to uphold its adopted policies, apply them consistently, and deny this rezoning application. Thank you for your time, your consideration of my comments, and your continued service to our community. Respectfully,



General Manager Mood Cannabis Co.

From: [City of Nanaimo](#)
To: [Public Hearing](#)
Subject: New form entry is submitted - Public Hearing Submission
Date: Monday, July 13, 2026 6:05:04 PM

Public Hearing Submission

Submitted on 13 July 2026, 06:04 PM

Your Name	
Your Address	
Bylaw Number or Subject Property Address Which You Are Addressing Your Comments	Zoning Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2026 - Kaya Connection
Comments	Dear Mayor Krog and Members of Council, I am writing to respectfully oppose the proposed rezoning application for the Kaya Connection cannabis retail store. I have worked in Nanaimo's legal cannabis industry for several years and have seen firsthand the challenges facing existing retailers. We are proud to provide a safe, compliant, and welcoming environment for our customers while operating within the City's established policies and expectations. I believe it is important that the City's Cannabis Retail Store Rezoning Criteria be applied consistently to every applicant. Existing businesses made significant investments based on the understanding that these criteria, including the 200-metre separation from licensed daycares, would be applied fairly and equally. Allowing an exception now would create uncertainty for businesses that relied on those standards when choosing where to invest. I also believe Nanaimo is already well served by existing cannabis retailers. Residents have several convenient options to access legal cannabis in this area, and another store would not improve accessibility. Instead, it would further divide an already competitive market that many local businesses are working hard to sustain. I respectfully ask Council to uphold its established policies and deny this rezoning application. Thank you for your time, your consideration, and your continued service to our community.