

Illegal Drug Operations Place Albertans and Their Properties At Risk



No Provincial Mould or Air Quality Standards in Place

There are no consistent remediation standards in place for mould or air quality in properties previously used as marijuana grow-ops or other drug operations.

Differing Standards: Currently, Alberta municipalities may allow a property to be re-inhabited when local standards are met. However, the conditions under which a local authority grants re-habitation differ from community to community. Universal standards for the province of Alberta are needed.

No Consumer Protection: The potential exists for a property to become 'sick' after re-habitation. There are currently no provisions in place provincially to protect the consumer should this situation arise.

• **No Guidelines for Properties that Fail Local Review:** There are no guidelines in place to handle properties that cannot be remediated to the satisfaction of local authorities.

Alberta REALTOR® Position

The province, on its own or in conjunction with the federal authorities, needs to play a leadership role to establish universal remediation standards for Alberta by:

- Amending building and health codes to create minimum acceptable remediation standards that will assure Albertans that properties previously used as illegal drug operations are safe for habitation.
- Establishing provisions to protect the consumer in the event a property becomes 'sick' after re-habitation.
- Establishing guidelines for properties that fail remediation standards so that properties that cannot be remediated to the satisfaction of the local authorities are dealt with appropriately.

Alberta REALTORS® Take Action

AREA commissioned local indoor air quality experts Tang G. Lee and Karen Rollins to develop provincial standards for the assessment and rehabilitation of properties seized due to illicit drug operations. After much consultation with stakeholders, including law enforcement agencies, health authorities, safety code officers, environmental consultants, REALTORS® and more, the final report is now ready.

AREA Contact

Kelly Kimber, Manager, Industry Relations
Alberta Real Estate Association (AREA)
403.209.3627
kkimber@areahub.ca

 **Alberta
Real Estate**
ASSOCIATION
Suite 300, 4954 Richard Road SW
Calgary Alberta
T3E 6L1

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