



Williams Lake
FIRST NATION

**PRESS
RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2, 2022

SUGAR CANE CANNABIS TO HOST GRAND OPENING EVENT MAY 6, 2022.

Williams Lake First Nation announced today that it will be hosting a Grand Opening event for Sugar Cane Cannabis on Friday, May 6th. The product of the first government-to-government agreement between the Province of British Columbia and a First Nation pursuant to section 119 of the BC *Cannabis Control and Licensing Act*, Sugar Cane Cannabis is also the first farm-gate cannabis cultivation facility in BC.

“We’re incredibly excited to open Sugar Cane Cannabis to the public,” states WLFN Chief, and Sugar Cane Cannabis President, Willie Sellars. “It’s been years in the making, and it has taken a huge amount of effort to get to where we are now. We still have a few more weeks before we start harvesting our first crops, so for now we’ll just be inviting the public into our retail space to see what our grow rooms look like and hear more about how our cannabis is grown. In June, our farm-gate retail space will be populated with product.”

“Sugar Cane Cannabis is all about craft. It’s about quality,” adds Sugar Cane Cannabis COO, Daniel Penny. “People in BC are crying out for fresh, quality product and we’ll be the ones to give them that. We’ll also be able to provide a cannabis tourism experience like no other in this province. Our visitors will have the opportunity to connect with the product they’re buying in the same way those visiting a winery might.”

Construction of the approximately 7000 square foot Sugar Cane Cannabis building commenced in Spring of 2020 and the facility received its Health Canada micro-cultivation license in January of 2022. Sugar Cane Cannabis currently employs seven people, and once harvesting and retail activities commence that workforce will double.

Chief Willie Sellars notes that Sugar Cane Cannabis is a key part of WLFN’s economic infrastructure. “We’ve invested hugely in this facility, and we also received support from the Northern Development Initiative Trust, the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada. We’re grateful to have these partners supporting the work at Sugar Cane Cannabis. We’ve created a roadmap for First Nations to participate in the cannabis industry safely and lawfully, and in concert with the governments of British



Columbia and Canada. Now the obligation is on the Province and Canada to work with us to make sure this operation is a success. One of the keys will be for the Province and Canada to enforce their regulatory frameworks, to ensure that licensees like us aren't wiped out by black market growers who are able to cut corners in relation to product quality, testing and public safety. We invested in this facility because the Province and Canada assured us that they were committed to the same principals that we are."

"Sugar Cane Cannabis is creating valuable economic opportunities for Williams Lake First Nation and surrounding communities in the region," adds Canada's Minister of Indigenous Services, Patty Hajdu. "Indigenous Services Canada is pleased to have supported this project, through its Community Opportunity Readiness Program, which supports communities in creating economic stability. The Government of Canada joins with the Williams Lake First Nation in celebrating the grand opening of their newly built cannabis cultivation facility."

The opening ceremony for Sugar Cane Cannabis will commence at 5:30 on Friday, May 6th. It will feature music by the Cole Patenaude band, and will be attended by a variety of dignitaries, including snowboarder and Olympic gold medalist, Ross Rebagliati.

- 30 -

MEDIA CONTACT

Kirk Dressler, WLFN Director of Legal and Corporate Service

p. 778.417.0193

c. 250.303.1362

e. kirk.dressler@wfn.ca



Williams Lake
FIRST NATION

PRESS RELEASE



A LOOK AT THE SUGAR CANE CANNABIS' FARM-GATE RETAIL SPACE, INCLUDING A VIEW INTO GROW ROOM #1



Williams Lake
FIRST NATION

PRESS RELEASE



ONE OF THE FIRST CROPS AT SUGAR CANE CANNABIS ENTERS THE FLOWING PHASE