



## BEST OF THE BEST ISSUE INSIDE CHARLIE'S THE FINAL CHAPTER

AN INTERVIEW WITH CANADA'S CANNABIS LEADER AS HE SAYS GOODBYE AND THANK-YOU

## Segra

LEADERS IN CANNABIS TISSUE CULTURE GENETICS, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY

#### PREMIUM CANNABIS NURSERY

- ★ AWARD WINNING GENETICS
- ★ CANNABIS TISSUE CULTURE PLANTS
- ★ PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFIED FOR EXPORT
- ★ CLEAN STOCK
- ★ CANNABIS PATHOGEN TESTED
- ★ HOP LATENT VIROID (HLVd) TESTED
- ★ DNA FINGERPRINTED TRUE-TO TYPE GENETICS

LECTION

#### **FIRST RELEASE OF 2024**

NEW GENETICS FROM NEW GENETIC PROVIDERS

#### 2024 CULTIVARS | 1ST EDITION

Banjo Black Amber (HFCS) Black Triangle Blueberry Caviar Gold Chem de la Chem Devil Driver Dolato Double Dream Eye Candy Fire OG First Class Funk Frosted Fruitcake Frosted Lime CBD Garlic Truffle Gaschata (Purple Milk) Ghost Banner Glazed Apricot Gelato Glitterbomb (El Chivo #5) Grape Gas S1 G2 Grape Pie Grapefruit Gift Kandy Kush Kush Mints Lemon Cream MAC 3 Mellowz 14 Motor Breath Pacific Frost Pineapple Pink Certz Purple Punch R2 (NL2) Strawberry Banana Strawberry Guava Sunset Sherbet Thrive Wedding Cake Wolf Pack + MORE

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At High Canada Magazine Publishing Group, we are committed to providing outp readers with the most current, relevant, and reliable information available.

To help us maintain the editorial excellence and integrity of our publication, we have assembled a qualified Council of dedicated experts and innovators and natural health and cannabis to serve on HCM's Editorial Advisory Board:

With the help of these industry authorities, HCM offers fresh timely and accurate information about natural health and wellness as it applies to cannabis. The board members lend their expertise to our process of developing and commissioning or editorial lineup, and a postpublication review of each issue which is invaluable in maintaining our more than nine year reputation as Canada's most trusted cannabis health and wellness resource.

Every effort is made to ensure that the majority of advertised products will be available for sale in Canada.

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#### Issue #98 - December 2024

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#### **Our High!** Canada Magazine Family of Contributors includes:

Cy Williams Tammi Stanhope Sarah Gamer Sabrina Mohamed Tony Lawand Richard Kern Karli Thiessen Harry White -

CANADA'S LEGAL CANNABIS CULTURE MAGAZINE PURE QUALITY. PUREFIRE

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## HIGH! CANADA MAGAZINE

#### **DECEMBER 2024 - ISSUE NUMBER 98/100**

### THE COUNTDOWN IS ON! AN END OF AN ERA IS UPON US... AN EDITORIAL BY CY WILLIAMS

#### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AT HIGH! CANADA MAGAZINE

elcome to the last three issues of High! Canada Magazine. This is issue number ninetyeight and our 'Best of the Best' issue. After issue #100 we will be shuddering the High! Canada platform for the time being. Our time has come and now the sand in this particular hourglass has almost run out on this era. We have told thousands of stories about the Canadian cannabis sector and celebrated more people in their passions then I ever thought possible.

It has been a distinct honour to have been able to work in this sector in this role and my heart is full of deep gratitude as I write this. I had no idea when I started the platform that I would create something so special and have the opportunity to work alongside so many brilliant minds and passionate, inspiring people.

Since this is our issue that celebrates the very 'Best of the Best' in our sector - there was only so much space we had to work with or this issue would have been much, much larger indeed.

I would be remiss to not take a moment to celebrate some of our own 'Best of the Best' within the context of our team. We have had many people contribute and write for the magazine but our central editorial team has always

## HIGH! CANADA MAGAZINE

worked extra hard to cover the Canadian cannabis sector attending events of every shape and size and scope.

Constantly networking within the sector like our sense of nationalism was at stake, covering a plethora of stories, news items and other content centred around cannabis and meeting regularly to determine, general editorial direction, which stories we will publish, film or support. Steady, stable, supportive and always having the magazine's back. These three individuals have been with the magazine the longest and their support and brilliance have added significantly to the flavour of our platform and our magazine.

It has always been a team effort and contrary to what the rumour mill may whisper on occasion - it is not the 'All about Cy Show' but rather an extreme team-effort for most of our publishing run and I honestly do not know what I would have done without these three individuals beside me on this journey. They believed in my dream of a National cannabis platform dedicated to cannabis culture across Canada. What an adventure we have all been on and I feel we four should fully embrace that which we have built here.

**Tammi Stanhope** has been our anchor and my Cannabis General for the bulk of our publication history. Without her guidance and clear head -I am quite sure we would not have made it to where we are today. Thank you Tammi!

**Harry White** is another of our Cannabis Generals and is also our genius behind the scenes and without his support over the last 8 years - we would still be in the dark ages of cannabis publishing. Thank you Harry!

**Sabrina Mohamed** is my last Cannabis General and she has had the Magazine's back and my own since day one and without her insight, drive and strong sense of purpose we would have gotten lost and stayed lost. Thank you Sabrina!

That is not to in any way take away from others who have and who currently work with the platform - we love you **Karli, Tony, Richard, Shawn** and **Sarah** and what you bring to the table is considerable so don't think your contributions to keeping culture alive go unnoticed... because they are noticed very much. Kudos to you all for making High! Canada Magazine the publication it grew into.







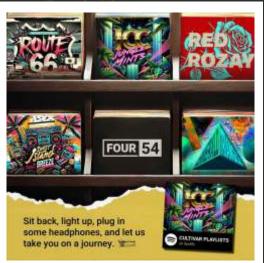
This is special issue for us and to be able to take the opportunity to honour and celebrate the 'Best of the Best' in our sector but also means the chance to go full circle on a number of other things. Six Years ago we made the jump to from digest form to a large format print that was simply amazing to hold and read. That first large format issue all those years ago - back during our 'Legacy" publishing period was the starting point of a brand new chapter in the epic that would become High! Canada Magazine as it would move forward.

That issue also featured Clint Younge on the cover - his first with us and for him he was still with MMJ Canada. A different time indeed. Also featured in that issue were the wonderful women at Marigold - a group that later went on to evolve and eventually become Tether. Yes, the same Tether that runs all those amazing sampling events... That was Tammi Stanhope's first issue as well as Bubba Richardson's when he was still with Hello Cannabis in Dundas, Ontario.

That was our first 'All About Hamilton' issue and this issue now brings it all full circle. Seeing what Clint has achieved and accomplished is inspiring and I am proud to include him in this special issue. What he has built with Charlie's is truly substantial, will absolutely make a difference and truly falls under this issue's theme of 'Best of







the Best'. To be honest every single company and person we have featured in this issue truly encompasses the 'Best of the Best' spirit that makes the Canadian cannabis sector so great.

From Antidote Processing to the PureFire Cannabis Co. out of Penticton, BC, to Montreal's 514, to Eastcann Craft Cannabis out of Dartmouth. Nova Scotia - we are proud to feature some of the best producers of cannabis in Canada in this issue. It's not about market share or even market saturation or we would simply be paying lipservice to larger companies like Organigram or Spinach. We take criteria like quality and passion into account and when it comes to the companies we have featured in this issue - we believe no one does it better then the companies we have listed and are featuring.

The same can be said for the four 'Women in Weed' features this issue and our 'Best of the Best' list of independent cannabis retailers. I am so proud of where our sector is today and this issue is definitely reflective of that phenomenal feeling.



LIST...

Next issue ninety-nine (our penultimate issue) is our 'Big Question' issue as we deep-dive into what's going on in the Quebec cannabis sector AND the Sovereign Cannabis sector and we are super excited to bring you an entire issue devoted to understanding two of the biggest questions we are asked about the most in the Canadian cannabis space today. What's going on in Quebec? What's going on with Sovereign cannabis?

This issue will feature an exclusive 'cover-feature" and interview with Algonquin Jingle dancer and Sovereign cannabis activist/advocate - Josee Bourgeois.

I would like to formally express our delight at naming the longrunning **Growup Conference and Expo** our 'Best of the Best' of 2024 - Few could do it better!



Stay Lifted! Cy Williams

FIND...

## HIGH! CANADA MAGAZINE



## BEST BEST BEST CANADIAN CANNABIS

## **ROYAL HARVEST**

Few people in this sector are as passionate about the plant as Master Cultivator Kevin Varner. Some of the very best coming out of the Canadian market!

## VCC CANNABIS CO.

When they say traditional, BC craft cannabis - they are not kidding around. Loud, proud and producing some of the very best products in Canada today.

#### DABBLE CANNABIS CO.

An Award winning family farm that sets the standard for both quality and consistency in all they do. A joy to experience.









Not only are they among the 'Best of the Best' but they look damn good doing it. Bill and his team exceed all expectations and everything they have brought to the table has been phenomenal. The ability to choose great collaborative partners like Ross Rebagliati doesn't hurt their already stellar reputation in the sector either.















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PURETIRE



PURCFIRE







## SKO SHA

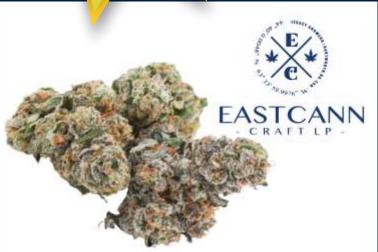
Truly one of the very 'Best of the Best' in Canada.

## SKOSHA

This Nova Scotian cultivator's Crab Cakes are taking tastebuds to new highs. Truly spectacular!

## EASTCANN CRAFT LP

We visited EastCann Craft Cannabis over the summer in Nova Scotia and loved them so much we devoted our last issue to these amazingly talented people. Legacy really does matter to this team and it



shows in the product they are producing not only in Canada but internationally as well.

EastCann is making Canada great again and we for one want to celebrate that!







#### COLLECTION

PERMANENT MARKER LUSTY LASSIE **CAP JNKY** GASTRO POP **CHOPPERS PICK** VELVET Z CHEMDOZER **BANANA MINTS** MANGO SOUR **POISON OG** ANIMAL Z **PINK KUSH TIGER CAKE ZURPLE SUNSET PLATINUM MINTS** ANIMAL FACE LEMON SOUR DIESEL QUIKZ

HANG-DRIED | HAND-TRIMMED | SLOW-CURED HAND-WEIGHED | HAND-PACKED

Legacy Matters.

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## LUNE RISE FARMS.

**Lune Rise Farms** takes its name from the Lune River in England, whose banks Marty and Chris Johnston called home in 1978. The team at **Lune Rise Farms** have certainly made their mark on the Canadian cannabis sector and they are incredibly committed to bringing the time-honored traditions and practices of regenerative farming to the cultivation of cannabis.

#### Lune Rise Farms Farmers' Market Pure Live Resin

**Infused Pre-rolls** are made from single strain sun grown whole flower infused with pure live resin from the same cultivar. Each Farmers' Market Pure Live Resin Infused Pre-roll showcases a curated selection of seasonal strains, hand harvested to preserve the strain's unique cannabinoid and terpene profile.

Our 'Best of the Best' New Product of 2024 are the **Lune Rise Farms' Pure Live Resin Combine Enhancer Cartridges**. They are stackable 0.5g 510 threaded cartridges that can be combined with any other 510 threaded cartridge through a unique reservoir connector.

Customize and enhance your personal vape experience by adding the full spectrum terpene profile and potency of Pure Live Resin to create your own unique vape combinations that reflect your personal taste.

**Lune Rise Farms** Pure Live Resin cartridges are made with fresh-frozen flower at harvest preserving each strains unique cannabinoid and terpene profile.



#### Combine Enhancer 510 Thread Cartridges - .5g

Lune Rise Farms' Pure Live Resin Combine Enhancer Cartridges are stackable 0.5g 510 threaded cartridges that can be combined with any other 510 threaded cartridge through a unique reservoir connector. Customize and enhance your vape experience by adding the full spectrum terpene profile and potency of Pure Live Resin to create your own unique vape combinations that reflect your personal taste.



mbine Enhancer 510 Thread Cartridge Combinez la Cartouche de Filetage Enhancer 510

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Combine Enhancer 510 Thread Cartridge Combinez la Cartouche de Filetage Enhancer 510

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In El GARDE: Las risques d'effets nacifs du cannabis sont plus élevés cher les inconts et les jeunes aduites. L'utilisation quatifiérene su pressu quellaine su risde provingér pour reuie au développement et au fanctionnement du cenerae. ARE OF SAL

Beath Canada / Santa Canada

#### **One of Ontario's Very Best!**



LIST...

"Thank you **HIGH! CANADA** for crowning 514 the best of the best."





ANJOU - AMNESIA HAZE, 3.5 G





VILLE SAINT PIERRE, 10 X 0.5 G Dual Pack, 10 x0.5 g : 5 x sativa + 5 x indica indica, 10 x 0.5 g sativa, 10 x 0.5 g



HoMa - DUAL PACK, 2 X 3.5 G 1 X 3.5 G SATIVA FLOWER 1 X 3.5G INDICA FLOWER SATIVA x 30, 30 x 0.5 G



FLETCHER'S FIELD SUNGROWN, 3.5 G

We're honored to be recognized as the finest. This achievement is for our city, our team, and all who support 514 proudly from the heart of Montreal.





#### A Proud Montreal Brand

514 Cannabis, an iconic brand from the Great White North House of Brands, stands as a testament to the rich cultural tapestry and craftsmanship of Montreal, Quebec. This brand is not just a name but a reflection of the vibrant and diverse community it represents.

#### A Tribute to Montreal's Craftsmanship

514 Cannabis is deeply rooted in the traditions of Quebec's skilled artisans. The brand embodies the spirit of Montreal, a city renowned for its creativity and innovation. Each product from 514 Cannabis is a tribute to the meticulous craftsmanship that Quebec is known for, ensuring high-quality cannabis that resonates with both locals and enthusiasts across Canada.

#### **Diversity at Its Core**

The team behind 514 Cannabis is as diverse as the city it calls home. With a workforce of 30 individuals representing over five different countries, the brand mirrors the multicultural essence of Montreal. This diversity is not just a statistic but a core value that drives the brand's inclusive and innovative approach. The varied backgrounds and perspectives of the team members contribute to the unique and dynamic nature of 514 Cannabis, making it a brand that truly represents the global spirit of Montreal.

#### Honoring Montreal's Iconic Boroughs

514 Cannabis pays homage to some of Montreal's most iconic boroughs, including St. Henri, Villeray, and Hochelaga-Maisonneuve. These areas are not just geographical locations but are integral parts of the city's identity, each with its own distinct character and history. By honoring these boroughs, 514





Cannabis connects deeply with the local community, fostering a sense of pride and belonging among its consumers.

#### Aiming for National Expansion

Currently housed in Ville D'Anjou on the island of Montreal, 514 Cannabis has ambitious plans for national expansion. The brand is already available in 10 provinces and over six medical platforms, showcasing its commitment to reaching a broader audience. This expansion is a testament to the brand's growing popularity and the high demand for its products across Canada.



#### **Proudly Associated with Montreal**

514 Cannabis takes immense pride in being associated with Montreal, often hailed as North America's coolest city.

This association is more than just geographical; it is a reflection of the brand's ethos and identity. Montreal's vibrant culture, artistic flair, and progressive spirit are all mirrored in the 514 Cannabis brand, making it a beloved choice for many.

514 Cannabis is more than just a cannabis brand; it is a celebration of Montreal's rich cultural heritage, diversity, and craftsmanship.

With its roots firmly planted in the traditions of Quebec and its eyes set on national expansion, 514 Cannabis is poised to become a leading name in the Canadian cannabis industry.

Its commitment to quality, diversity, and community makes it a brand that is not only loved by Montrealer's but also appreciated by cannabis enthusiasts across the country.









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514

NADA'S

VING CANNABIS

#### anada's Top rower 2024

the guys helping shape this industry **P.10** 

Its commitment to quality, diversity, Its community makes it a brand that and community makes it a brand that is not only loved by Montrealer's but also appreciated by cannabis enthusiasts across the country.





A ntidote Processing, based in Salmo, British Columbia, is recognized as one of the leading producers in the Canadian cannabis industry. Founded by Shannon Ross, the company specializes in processing high-quality cannabis products sourced from toptier micro-cultivators. This focus on quality ensures that Antidote delivers specialty cannabis vitamins and products that meet the growing demand for premium offerings in Ontario and British Columbia.

#### Shannon Ross: A Visionary Leader

Shannon Ross plays a pivotal role at Antidote Processing, not only as a founder but also as a driving force behind its innovative approach to cannabis production. With a deep understanding of both the agricultural and regulatory aspects of the cannabis industry, Ross has positioned Antidote as a trusted name among consumers seeking high-quality cannabis products. Her commitment to sustainability and ethical sourcing



reflects a broader trend within the industry towards responsible cultivation practices.

Antidote Processing employs advanced techniques to extract and refine cannabinoids while preserving their natural properties. The company collaborates closely with microcultivators who share their dedication to quality, ensuring that every product meets rigorous standards. This collaboration allows Antidote to offer a diverse range of specialty products that cater to various consumer preferences, including edibles, oils, and wellnessfocused formulations.

Market Impact and Future Prospects -Operating in Ontario and BC, Antidote Processing is well-positioned to capitalize on the expanding legal cannabis market in Canada. As consumer awareness grows regarding the benefits of specialty cannabis products, Antidote's unique offerings are likely to attract a loyal customer base. The company's emphasis on quality over quantity sets it apart from larger producers, making it a standout choice for discerning consumers.

In summary, Antidote Processing exemplifies excellence in the Canadian cannabis sector under Shannon Ross's leadership by prioritizing quality sourcing and innovative processing methods.

## **PISTOL & PARIS**

We have loved what Dylan King and his team have been doing for a long time - They employ amazing and passionate people. They produce some the 'Best of the Best'.

Pink Panties and Pink Goo are among our favorite picks when we are grabbing to smoke something a little nicer with a new friend or an old one...



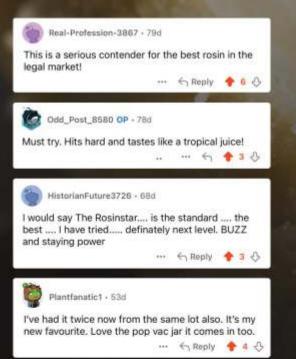
PISTOL AND PARIS







## Legacy to Legal, First Drop in the Recreational & Medical Markets!





Wilson Papaya Live Rosin (LSO)

🕀 RosinStar.ca 🛛 🕜 @RosinStar.ca

### THE FUTURE OF CANNABIS ACCESSORIES



hat's next in cannabis accessories? I've seen it all and am always excited by new and innovative designs, even some that seem unrealistic! AIgenerated designs have truly expanded the possibilities for accessories, from floating joints to concepts that are simply mind-blowing.

However, AI-generated images for accessories push the

envelope so far that we start to question whether they are feasible. Haha, anything is possible!

We experimented with Microsoft's AI image generator and had a lot of fun! It encouraged us to think outside the box.

The designs we created are not only sleek and sexy but also look practical!







The Ashtray - we were looking for a highly functional (no pun intended lol), just imagine this ashtray will calculate the content, actual weight, built-in scale, levitating joint that's being assessed without typing anything into a computer. Sleek & Sexy!

Check out what the AI Image generator produced! Gorgeous. The next question is this plausible? Can this be done? Would this shake up the industry where it may cut out false information ensuring we are getting what we are paying for? Hopefully. The future is here.

**The Grinder** - we were looking for an efficient, sharp, functional grinder. Grinders can be tricky because you want the perfect consistency. What if a grinder had a selection for that? Plus with an added spout ready for



your joint or bowl. This is what the AI generator produced. This grinder is next-level business. The design of this is sleek and practical most importantly functional. it looks like a grinder that would be used for many many sessions.

The future of creativity is approaching and it's approaching fast.



Stay High, Stay Happy! Trim Queen®

The very best is yet to come!

## ROYAL HARVEST

#### CRAFT CANNABIS

Thank you Canada! Your support in 2024 really made a difference! Placing at the Canadian Cannabis Championship in Edmonton this September really showcases what we are capable of! The best is yet to come!

#### **SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR COAST TO COAST TOUR PARTNER!**



#### CREATING CULTURE WITH THE 210 TIMEPIECES

hen Terry Roycroft founder of the longstanding MCRCI program first announced back in 2017 that he was starting a new cannabis holiday, no one knew if it would take.

The concept was simple... Halfway between Kush-mas and 4:20 we needed a day to stop and appreciate cannabis culture in all its glory and gather as community and celebrate the flower and how far we have come. Terry envisioned **February the tenth** as the new canna-holiday and he started hosting and organizing 2:10 events in cities like Hamilton and Vancouver to drive his new holiday home.

Since that time Terry has kept the heat on this "halfway to 4:20" event - affectionately referred to as 2:10 - the concept has continued to evolve and over the last few years Terry has been using the sales of a vey unique time-piece to fund his annual community building 2:10 events.

The 2024 series was met with so much success that pre-orders have already stated on the 2025 Collection. The timing is perfect with 2:10 - 2025 just around the corner.





# Dur o TWO/TEN timonio on dioin

Buy a TWO/TEN timepiece and join the movement

## HIGHI CANADA MAGAZINE



Tell us who you are and what you are currently involved in?

I'm Bianca Noé, but most people know me as @lilbigsmoker. I'm 26, and I'm a hashmaker, educator, and the manager of Gastown Genetics, a boutique cannabis brand focused on genetics and hash production. I also run Green Cedar Retreat, a cannabisfriendly accommodation in Tofino, BC, where guests can connect with nature and the plant. I'm passionate about resin, cannabis culture, and helping others experience the potential of this plant.

## What is your cannabis origin story? How did you get involved in the cannabis space?

I was born and raised in Brazil, where cannabis was something I initially smoked for fun with friends. But it wasn't long before I realized it could do so much more. At the time, I was relying on a handful of prescription meds to deal with PTSD. Cannabis



gave me the idea that there might be a better way. When I moved to Canada in 2019, I finally had access to quality cannabis products, I met Dave (now my husband) and that's when everything shifted. I was able to transition away from the pills and use cannabis as part of a more natural and balanced approach to healing.

#### How does cannabis factor into your everyday life?

For me, cannabis isn't just something I use—it's part of who I am. It's in my work, my lifestyle, and my relationships. Hashmaking, in particular, feels like an art form. I love taking something raw and turning it into a finished product that tells a

LIST...





story. On a personal level, cannabis has helped me slow down and really connect—with myself, with other people, and with nature. It's more than medicine for me, it's part of how I move through the world.

## Have you encountered any challenges or adversity as a cannabis user?

Absolutely. Growing up in Brazil, cannabis use was heavily judged. Even after moving to Canada, I had to unlearn a lot of the stigma I'd internalized. Transitioning from prescription meds to cannabis wasn't easy either—it wasn't like flipping a switch. Pills were predictable, but cannabis asked me to show up for myself in a way I wasn't used to. I had to figure out dosing, strains, and how to listen to what my body needed. It was a learning curve.

#### How did you move past these challenges?

It took time, trial and error, and making some real changes to how I lived. One big thing was getting into routines that supported my wellbeing—like making sure I got proper sleep and paying attention to what made me feel good or bad. Cannabis wasn't the "quick fix" that I thought I needed at first, but it became an anchor that helped me rebuild my life in a way that felt sustainable. It taught me that healing isn't just about what you consume but about how you live.

#### Advice for other women entering the cannabis space looking for a career, or women thinking about trying cannabis for the first time?

For women trying cannabis for the first time, I'd say: stay open. There's no one-size-fits-all way to experience this plant. It might take some experimenting to find what works for you, and that's totally okay. If one strain or method doesn't feel right, try something else—whether it's a different strain, a new way to consume, or even a change in your environment. Cannabis is personal, and your relationship with it should feel good to you.

For women entering the cannabis space professionally, my advice is to lead with authenticity. There's so much noise in this industry, but there's also so much room for real connection and creativity. Find your passion within it, whether that's cultivation, education, hashmaking, or something else entirely, and don't be afraid to carve your own path. You belong here.

#### Last question - What are three things you think everyone needs?

Love, freedom, and perspective. Love because it's what keeps us connected, freedom because we all deserve to live authentically, and perspective because it's what helps us grow. Those three things can get you through just about anything.





# INSIDE CHARLE'S THE FINAL CHAPTER

AN INTERVIEW WITH GANADA'S CANNABIS LEADER AS HE SAYS GOODBYE AND THANK-YOU

# HIGH! CANADA MAGAZINE

lint Younge has been a leader in the Canadian **Cannabis space for as long** as High! Canada has been publishing. Over the last decade and one-hundred issues we had him in our magazine three times in order to check in with him along his career as a cannabis activist, as an advocate, as a crusader, as an entrepreneur, as a mentor, a son. a husband and a founder. Clint is definitely one of the best known Canadian cannabis leaders out there and has been for over a decade now. It is fascinating to keep checking in on him and his progress within our sector...

#### My first question will be to ask you to touch on where it all started? What was it like for you during those early days?

Well Cy, as always it is a pleasure to be back in the pages of High! Canada magazine. As your readers may know, it started back when I was 15 selling cannabis, straight black market cannabis. There was definitely no support back then. I'm 43 now and back then if you got caught, you were going to jail. My family hated that side of the business and most of my friends did too. When I transitioned into fighting for patients and the plant the view started to change from everyone around me.

I started as a budtender for the Green Cross Society years ago. Eric Burris gave me my start. He taught me patients over profit and he truly cared, to be introduced to cannabis space this way helped shape the long term thought process I have. So I'm grateful for Eric and that experience.



Then I moved up to Manager at the Healing tree where I met everyone in the actual community. Tim from Kind selections was the first and then Remo and Sandra, as well as Phatpharmer, Jodie Emery, Jamie Shaw, Tony Dinh and so many others. This was 2012.

After that about a year later I moved up a position to being the company Liaison/Director of Operations, you could say, at the Village Dispensary. Andrea Dobbs and Jeremy had me help them start their wonderful shop and Andrea taught me so much... about life, about women, about techniques I could use to help me with my mental health. Andrea truly was a pillar in my life at that time and instrumental in helping me become who I am today.

So yes, coming from Hamilton into an unknown industry (outside of being a hang around at shops and cafes in Hamilton and Toronto). I was welcomed and guided by some pretty amazing people before the ride started to get too crazy.

#### We first met during your prelegalization days at MMJ Canada. How did those experiences impact the trajectory of your career?

Well after the Village Dispensary contract ended - a friend whom I had met from my Healing Tree days named Tony Dinh approached about me about MMJ Canada and he asked me to become the CEO.

I was shocked, I was honoured but I knew this was going to come with a lot of ups and downs fighting for legalization in Canada running this dispensary chain ie... Raids, hate,



# HIGH! CANADA MAGAZINE

Ni

# HIGH! CANADA MAGAZINE

sleepless nights, criminal charges and more... but this was something I believed in and, more then anything, I wanted this challenge.

Little did I know that taking on this role would change my life forever. When I started, MMJ Canada had two stores operational, going on three and in the end, we ended up with eleven grey market stores-fronts across Canada and with four were in my hometown of Hamilton.

We built a brick and mortar mental health organization called **LOST** (living outside of suffering and



trauma) that helped 200 people a week with art therapy, peer to peer counselling, Muay Thai classes, yoga, Ted Talks and much more.

We did cannabis events for various foundations that raised roughly \$150,000 I believe or so. Thanks to my friends who ran that division for us. They were very well connected in music and from the East coast to the West coast - we put on some unbelievable shows.

I was on my first of what ended up being many covers of magazines at this point, lots of brands were challenging the city councilors every week at city hall to fight for regulations. It was a passionate time.

I was regularly speaking on panels in Canada and globally. Around that time, I won back to back awards for **Cannabis Crusader** at the Lift Canadian cannabis awards.

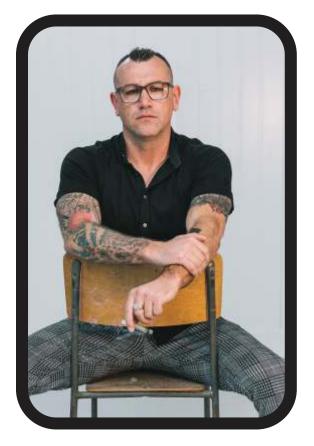


I also won the coveted **Cannabis Influencer of the Year Award** and during this same period of time, MMJ Canada won seven awards in multiple sections including Best Brand.

I still pinch myself when I look back at those years. It's a time that can never be replicated - fighting for legalization.

Tony was the one who chose me to lead MMJ Canada and believed in me. He knew I was the right person at the right time and we made history together!

We were undeniably a great combo even though we came from two totally different worlds and I'm forever grateful for tony and still today we remain really close.



My other partners Joe and Andrew were great as well but what made us so special and what helped me become what I did was that we had the best staff in the grey market and our quality from the amazing growers was the best. We set standards.

Now let's this be known that MMJ Canada was just one of many amazing brands fighting the government and lobbying for fair regulations in Canada and it was a beautiful thing to be apart of.

There were many amazing brands alongside of us and I am grateful for everyone who fought back then.

How have the last few years been for you? It is no secret that you are a huge advocate for mental health. Would you like to talk about some of the challenges you have had to face as you built up your dream of creating Charlie's Cannabis Co? Yeah it's safe to say it's well documented I have always struggled with mental health, I like to say, I'm a construction site... always working on myself and trying to get better.

Building Charlie's was done in honour of my grandpa who passed away (and also my middle name) is easily the hardest thing I have done in my whole life (and I once spent eight months in a mental health treatment program getting better lol).

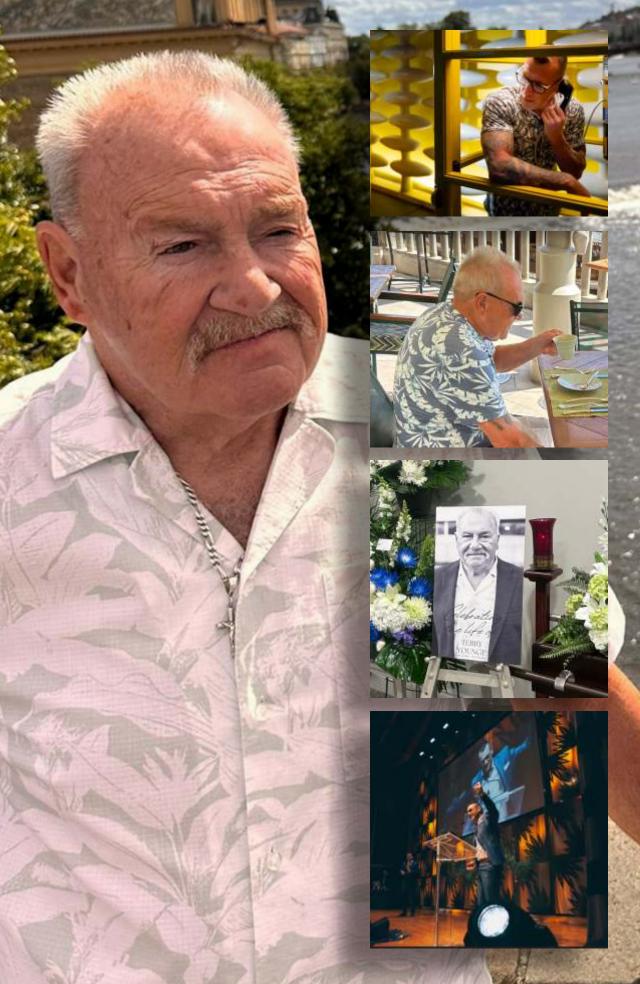
This start-up has tested me in ways I never thought could exist. I thought I had seen it all after MMJ Canada and in working overseas in multiple countries but nope...

Building a start-up consisting of something you truly love is the toughest thing you can ever do.

It didn't help that life was full of loss. During this Start-up my now wife lost her father (at the beginning of Covid) and about 4 months after that my grandpa passed away and then she lost her brother about four months before our wedding.

It was a considerable amount of loss already and at that time, while I was balancing my own personal life struggles, and seeing my wife hurting, and building Charlie's into the machine it would become... my father dies...

My best friend and my hero. I mean... when I look back at that day... March 20th 2024, it will forever be the





turning point of my whole life. It knocked the fucking wind out of me.

He left us at a time where I was already running on fumes from pushing so hard. From building this beautiful company while dealing with everything above, it felt like it was the final straw for everything for me.

## I knew, however, that my father would want me to see out what I started and that is what I did.

although at my most broken, I fucking pushed harder than ever to execute all the things my teams needed for when I did pivot and step away, they were fully prepared. I did that and he would be proud.

My mom has always been my anchor and it is her father who I named my company after. I love my mother so much and I'm happy that our relationship is closer than it ever was.



Cover Shot, Charlie's Cannabis Co. and Private Stalk photos are by Nino Jovisic

Charlie's Pineapple Reserve photos are by Kyle Legrow

Additional photos are by Matt Chernoff - AR Cannabis



# HIGHI CANADA MAGAZINE

My wife and step daughter have truly changed my life, without them to share this all with - well it would be meaningless.

My daughter has taught me so much. Having a young little girl around you for 5 years can teach you a lot. She is so talented, she is so kind, she has made me a better man, a patient man and a man who takes the high road.

My wife is the kindest person on the planet. She is my best friend and there isn't anything we wouldn't do for each other. We have been through so much together in the last five years and nothing could ever come between us.

She is my rock, I'm lucky to have such an awesome person in my life, I wouldn't want to build a life with anyone else and

# I'm grateful for them beyond words.

I will always put my mom and family first now, Charlie's is for them and my team. Not for me.

## Wow... that hits home Clint. Alright...let's talk about Charlie's Cannabis Co. for a little bit? What have you and your team built here?

Well Cy... Essentially, I'm re-creating the grey market model of MMJ Canada in a legal way with a twist. We will be focussing on patient direct sales but with us - we only sell what we grow to ensure total quality control.

We are keeping a lot of in's and out's in regards to our specific model pretty quiet before our launch... but we have a lot in store for everyone and we cannot wait to share it with everyone very soon.



We know you have all been patient while waiting during these four years but we can promise you, we won't disappoint you.

#### Who are some of the people who are involved with Charlie's CannabisCo.?

There is a brilliant team behind me including advisors, growers, CEOs, security specialists, QAP's, washers, and assorted business-people as well as an awesome tech team. I couldn't ask for more.

## The main star of the show from the beginning has been Scott Lamont, also known as Phatpharmer.

I have known Scott for a long time now and when I decided to build this, I knew having Scott or someone of his caliber to make the change in quality that I wanted to see was mandatory.

The number of cannabis cups he has won, the length of time he has been growing, how many different styles and various ways he has grown made Scott an easy choice in my mind that he was the one for Charlie's.

He has been so loyal to me over the four years of building this, people have tried to take him from me. He rejected the offers, all of them. He said he didn't want to do this with anyone else but me.

I mean, those kinds of people are rather rare these days.

The next 'main' person involved is Connor Parent also known as the Pineapple Reserve.

# HIGH! CANADA MAGAZINE



# MARAZINE



# HIGHL GANADA MAGAZINE

He handles the whole West Coast hash-rosin side of Charlie's.

He has been known to wash some of the best rosin while being of one best single source farmers in Canada from the legacy market, our team which is now led by him out west is poised to create some new and most unique Terps for rosin on the legal market coming very soon.

Brian formerly from Alternabis has been amazing during the transition of joining the Charlie's team, with the addition of the west coast farm we have the capability of the mass scale we need to satisfy the local and foreign markets.

Adrian Tornifoglia a former manager at Canopy's grow sites in Niagara region, he was the first person to come to me with Charlie's. He has watched me from day one build this team which will now take over.

Connor, Scott Adrian and their teams truly are the reason my vision is

where it is today, they make Charlie's what it has become and that's why I know it's time for me stop step away.

All these people above are better than me in the space now, that was plan. Build a team so strong that I was the weakest link that could eventually remove himself... that's exactly what I did and I don't regret it at all.

I also have an amazing board filled with extremely talented and strong women and men to help guide Charlie's in the direction it needs to be. On our board we have Ricky Moriarty from High North labs, Maxim Zavet from Emblem and Bull rider, Philip Lucas as my senior mentor former VP of medical at Tilray, Nima Kampf my former Partner from Company X in Switzerland for international affairs, Marcus hunter, Scott Lamont aka Phat Pharmer, Connor Parent aka Pineapple reserve, Kyle Legrow, Hazen Meyers as head of security and Adrian Tornifolgia formerly with Canopy growth and Todd Renault from Rosin heads.

# HIGHI CANADA MAGAZINE





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Can you tell us more about Charlie's Pineapple Reserve and Charlie's Private Stalk?

Charlie's Pineapple Reserve is our largest division, it is 6000 sq ft of green house, the same amount of space below the greenhouse in indoor grows, extraction areas, shipping bays packaging rooms and cold storage.

We also have 26 acres of outdoor where we will do a California style crop next year for our hash rosin. Connor who is the CEO of that division is one of most inspirational people in Charlie's.

Connor is a former combat operator in the Navy, a cancer survivor, a father of three and a single-source sungrown specialist when it comes to hash rosin. He also specializes in genetics and he pulled off a miracle with that facility and property.

## He is the king of boot strapping with his relentlesswork ethic.

They saved the day out West and we are very grateful for our West Coast division and the work they do.

His small team of him, John, Bryan and Sean and Kyle Legrow (who is part time) have managed and operated a property that would needed about 10-15 people technically if it was anyone else.

The whole team is extremely special and the whole company is grateful for their efforts to get our first products to market on our portal.



We are in the process of washing our first crop as we speak and what I believe will be the best hash rosin and solventless extracts on the market with a variety to die for.

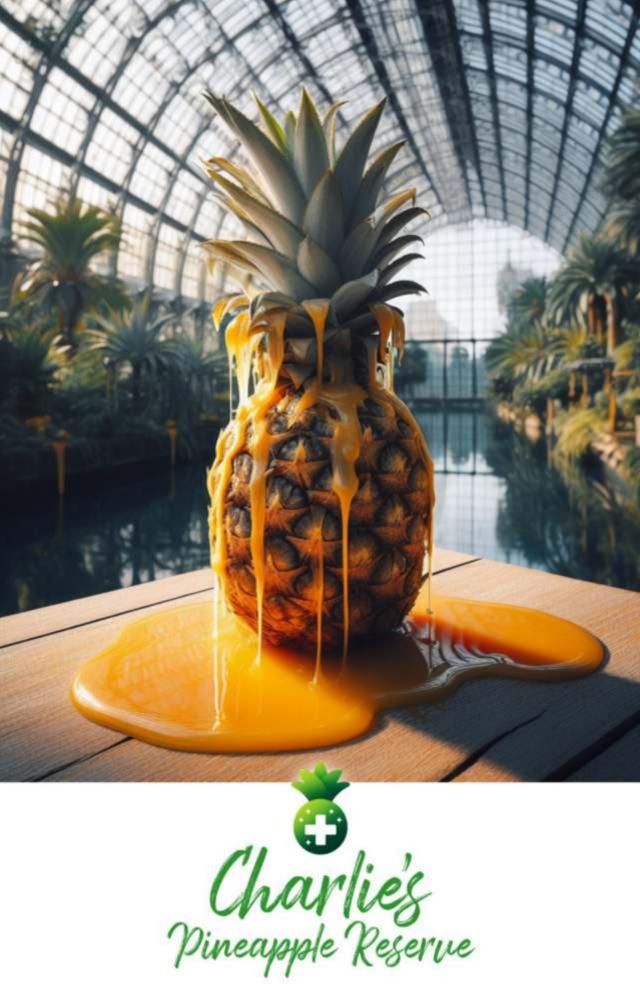
Charlie's Private Stalk is the newest team to join the Charlie's family, they about 240 lights and are transitioning from ACMPR to operating under our license.

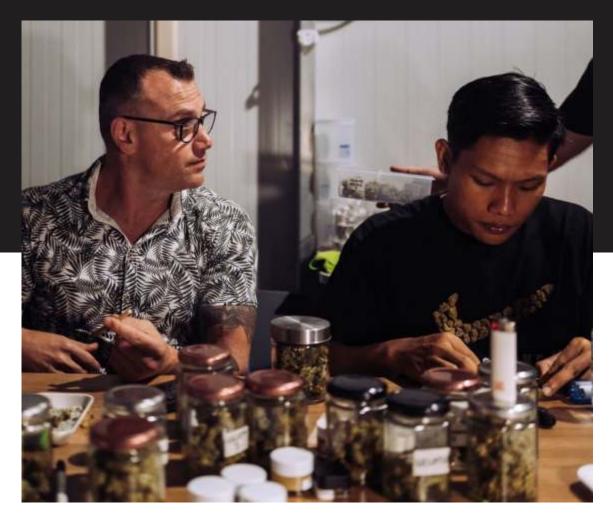
They have a wonderful team that consists of growers Vern and Jeff, who have really dialed in strains like Pressure and soon to be growing 11:11 and some other unreal new strains that we acquired for them.

We wanted to scrap the old strains, bring in all new genetics and breath some new life into this team and facility.

Their owner operators Dave Snyder and Ryan have started the transition of their facility, completing the upgrades as we speak. Jeff and Phatpharmer are close friends and I can wait to see what our newest division can do.

What about Thailand? You have some super interesting things going on there?





# *Now... Thailand is its own thing...*

It's not a division of anything in Charlie's Cannabis Co., but while building everything in Canada I also built and invested into overseas projects, mainly in Thailand.

This place is so special to me, my friends, the community there is truly like no where else. The amazing growers, the food, the events, the country truly sets a global standard. My little brother Pai, he is the most special person to me in Thailand. For three years straight now he always takes care of me, introduces me to everyone and treated me like family.

Pai and my other good friend Tai were the first two people I met in that beautiful country and they introduced me to so many others like Highsway, Blacksmith, Kittyboyz, shanti, kingscraft, tops, potnaga, lil frung and so many more. All which are such great people.

These relationships eventually led to my main project, Remedy's and Charlie's which is run by my wonderful partner **Boss Singsikornkun** and **Jamiez Spaunspullsate**, it's a five floor complex in the heart of Chinatown,



bangkok. We have a restaurant on the main floor, three floors of boutique hotel rooms from the 2nd to 4th floor and then a roof top bar on the 5th floor.

We were in Forbes for being Thailand's first cannabis complex, it was a pretty surreal to be in that article and it was amazing to see my partners getting highlighted.

The work that Khun Boss has put in to make it all work when we had lot of road blocks was truly amazing, he is an extremely brilliant mind and more importantly a great friend.

Thailand's cannabis scene is like no other and I hope you all venture over there one day to experience it.

What's next for Charlie's Cannabis Co and for you Clint? What can we expect next for Mr. Clinton Younge? What's next? We will be releasing our first crop and products in the next few weeks or so and everyone couldn't be more excited, we are also working on international plays and joint ventures with lots of amazing brands. Stay tuned for a great 2025 for Charlie's.

As for myself? I'm really tired Cy, I'm exhausted and I'm stepping back from Charlie's and allowing the experts to run my vision and dreams. I will remain as Executive Chair and dominant share holder butthat's it.

I just wanted to thank everyone I have worked with over all these years, I am



so grateful for every single person along this journey. I haven't always been easy, I don't always say the right thing and I'm as a weird as it comes.

I know I can be challenging at times but I believe anyone who wants to build something really great needs to be. I don't believe any visionary ever plays nice in the play pen and all I wanted to do was create something great and leave it for my friends to run and to do that you must stand firm on your beliefs all the way through.

If you get to truly know me in person and actually spend time with me, you know my heart is always in the right place. I love helping people who struggle with mental health. I love cannabis and I'll do as much as I can for people and that's all that really matters to me.

To all my friends globally, over 18 countries have embraced me and

treated me kindly because of this plant and I have wonderful relationships all over the world now because of cannabis.

I'm blessed for every single one of you, the way you all treated my father on his world journey is something I'll never forget and the way you embraced me from day one years ago is heart warming.

I've always said it's better to walk away at the top then fade away into nothing. I think it's important to know when your time is up and when it's time to let the ones around you take over.

For me, that time is now. Connor, Scott, Adrian and Hazen have not only earned this chance but it's now their time. They are the heartbeats of Charlie's and it's time the focus and attention shifts to them, not my ugly mug anymore. Haha.



## I don't have one fucking regret.Notone.

I never got into cannabis to be liked, I got into cannabis to execute at the highest standard. I did things on my terms the whole way through and not many can say that they did that and I'm doing it now by stepping back the way I want, one last time.

I don't wonder if I did enough. I'm content with every little thing I built

and fought for all over the world. I wouldn't change one part of my journey and I can't wait to see Charlie's come to market and to life.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you all and stay weird.

Thank you Clint - we wish you nothing but the best and continued success for both yourself personally and for all that you have worked to build with your amazing and talented team.



# NO MORE GUESSING! 12 SHADES OF TRAY











What is your cannabis origin story? How did you get involved in the cannabis space?

My name is Jodie Giesz-Ramsay, formerly known as Jodie Emery. I am a longtime advocate and the owner and operator of Cannabis Culture Magazine, CC Headquarters store, and CC Lounge. My current work includes expanding into the legal industry through a variety of branding projects, and supporting ongoing advocacy efforts with those business plans.

## How did you get involved with cannabis?

I've always been passionate about individual and civil liberties, freedom of choice, and reducing harm from unjust government laws and policies.

As a teenager I was opposed to cannabis, but began to understand that the violations of people's rights caused much more harm. I became

FIND...







assistant editor of CC Magazine in 2005, ran for elected office five times, and frequently appeared in media and at events as a spokesperson for legalization and ending prohibition.

Cannabis became my preferred substance of choice for pleasure and health, and has helped me improve my quality of life tremendously.

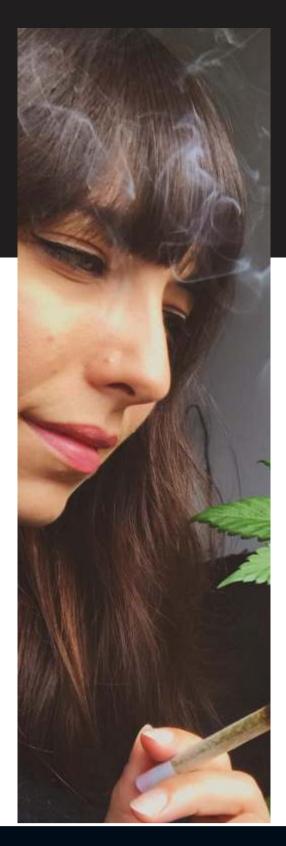
## How does cannabis factor into your everyday life?

I use cannabis daily as preventative medicine and for relaxation. It is absolutely part of my personal identity, and I'm proud to be a cannabis consumer.

# Have you encountered any challenges or adversity as a cannabis user?

Thankfully, I have not had any issues related to my cannabis use. I've actually enjoyed being able to help dismantle stereotypes about c o n s u m e r s , b y b e i n g a responsible and successful citizen while using cannabis every day.







### Advice for other women entering the cannabis space looking for a career or alternatively advice to women thinking about trying cannabis for the first time?

There are many groups of women who use cannabis and work in the industry, and those can be helpful resources.

I personally don't operate or behave with a focus on being a woman, and believe it's best to just be yourself regardless of your sex, and to be proud of who you are.

## Last question - What are three things that you think everyone needs?

People need to take care of their health through diet and exercise; take care of their mind and soul through creativity and connection; and take care of other people and the planet through compassionate and considerate living. When you are lucky enough to have all three looked after, you can make a positive impact on the world!

# CONNECT...





Jodie Giesz-Ramsay formerly Jodie Emery — is one of Canada's most highprofile cannabis legalization activists, and has been a recognized speaker and advocate worldwide for twenty years.

She is the owner and operator of Cannabis Culture Magazine, Pot TV and Cannabis Culture stores and lounges.

She has run for office four times and campaigned for a federal election nomination, and has spent two decades working with government officials and organizations on cannabis law reform.

Jodie has been arrested and convicted for her peaceful civil disobedience actions, and continues to challenge prohibition policies through her businesses and public engagement.



Driven by a passion for defending civil liberties and human rights, Jodie works hard to promote and protect the cannabis industry and community.









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## HIGHT CANADA MAGAZINE RESTOFTIE BEST 2024

### THE GREEN BOUQUET - PORT SYDNEY -

Our very favorite shop in all of Canada is nestled away off Hwy 11 in Ontario's picturesque 'Cottage Country'.

This shop is beyond quaint and fully stocked with a stunning selection of glass on top of some of Canada's 'best of the best' cannabis which is fitting because for us the Green Bouquet represents just that - the 'best of the best'.

The proud home of "Kush Kringle' and Green Bouquet's 'holidaze' tradition of celebrating the season in style.







## **CANNABIS HUT - TORONTO**

f you love Scarborough vibes like we do then you already know what's up with the Cannabis Hut. A family run and operated group of shops that keep it real and

TRULY know their cannabis. Seven locations from Port Creditto Scarborough, Ontario.







## **VIOLET WILD - CHEMAINUS**

Ands down, every member of our Canadian and International community needs to make a pilgrimage to visit the ladies down at Violet Wild in Chemainus, BC. The best curated menu I have ever seen and the most pleasant shop to visit. Nestled in a small

and quaint community this shop represents everything that is right about our sector. The founders should be proud of what they have accomplished here.







## **GREEN BARN - OXBOW**

he praries have a shining star and that glowing light shines brightly from the Green Barn in Oxbow, Saskachewan.

Location, curation and personality - worth the drive to Oxbow.



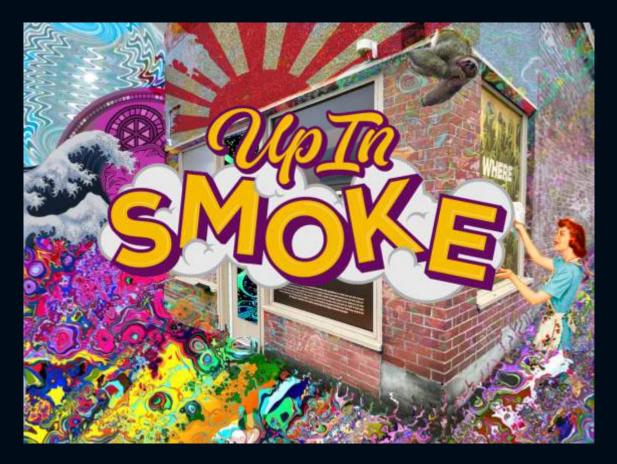




## **UP IN SMOKE - VANCOUVER**

The best place to shop for cannabis and cannabis adjacent products in Vancouver. Up in Smoke is a staple in our sector and the owners are actively involved in their community through-out a variety of

service roles They are, without a doubt, a power-couple in our sector - leading by example - as it should and always be.







## **SECRET GARDEN - OTTAWA**

ttawa's best kept secret and our favorite cannabis shop in the stately and demure capital city of Canada.

Known for tremendous community engagement and allegedly infamous as the shop our esteemed Prime Minister picks up his legal cannabis from. The owner Mikey is a community icon - and giving back to his community is as important to him as the selection he curates for his customers.



LIST...







"Understand that the cannabis industry is still constantly evolving, and with that comes both opportunities and challenges."

# HIGH! CANADA MAGAZINE



## Tell us who you are and what you are currently involved in?

My name is Janani Nadesananthan and I'm the National Director of Retail Sales at the Independent Retail Cannabis Collective (IRCC).

#### What is your cannabis origin story? How did you get involved in the cannabis space?

My journey into the cannabis industry began during my time as a student pursuing my degree in molecular biology and genetics. While navigating the challenges of academic life, I discovered cannabis as an effective tool for managing stress, anxiety, and sleep, which sparked both a personal and scientific curiosity about the plant's potential. This initial connection ignited a passion that would shape my career path.

In my final year of university, I had the privilege of working at Canntx, a craft licensed producer known for its brand Royal City Cannabis. Splitting my time between classes and the facility, I gained hands-on experience across multiple areas of cannabis production from cloning and cultivation to post-harvest care, packaging, and sales, I had the



opportunity to learn the entire production-to-market process over my 2 years there. This immersive experience not only gave me a deep appreciation for the care and precision required to produce premium craft cannabis products but also opened my eyes to the many hurdles craft LPs face.

Following my time at Canntx, I transitioned into the world of corporate cannabis with a role as a Territory Manager at Entourage. I was able to engage directly with hundreds of retailers, giving me valuable insights into the retail landscape and the unique challenges faced by independent retailers. Through daily interactions, I developed a profound respect for the resilience of independents as they navigated obstacles such as regulatory complexities and competition with large chains. This experience reinforced my desire to advocate for their success.



When the opportunity arose to join the IRCC, it felt like a natural next step. The organization's mission to champion independent retailers, combined with its core values of collaboration, equality, and sustainability, strongly aligned with my personal beliefs. Having observed both the challenges and the immense potential of the cannabis industry, I was inspired to become part of an organization dedicated to cultivating a fair and prosperous marketplace. For me, joining the IRCC was more than a career move-it was an opportunity to make a meaningful impact in an industry and to a cause I am passionate about.

## How does cannabis factor into your everyday life?

Cannabis plays a crucial role in my life as a daily conscious consumer. I incorporate it as a tool to enhance certain aspects of my well-being. For example, I often consume before some workouts—it helps me focus, stay present, and fully connect with my movements. In the evenings, cannabis is my go-to for promoting restful sleep, allowing me to recharge for the next day.

As someone who's always balancing multiple priorities, cannabis helps memanage stress effectively, creating moments of calm amid a busy s c h e d u l e . I a p p r o a c h m y consumption mindfully, prioritizing quality and intention with every use. Cannabis is not just a product for me; it's a way to support balance and wellness in my life, and I believe in its ability to enhance daily routines when used responsibly.

# Have you encountered any challenges or adversity as a cannabisuser?

Absolutely. As a South Asian woman, the stigma around cannabis use is deeply rooted in cultural norms and misconceptions. It's not just about personal judgment but also the





assumptions people make about your values, professionalism, or intentions. These challenges can be isolating, but they also fuel the fire to break down those barriers and prove that cannabis can be part of a responsible, balanced, and impactful life.

## How did you move past these challenges?

I moved past these challenges by embracing education and transparency. I made it a priority to educate those around me, challenging misconceptions with facts and personal experiences. Building a community of like-minded individuals in the cannabis space provided support and reinforced the idea that breaking stigma starts with showing the world what responsible. intentional cannabis use looks like. By staying true to my values and focusing on leading by example, I've been able to transform adversity into a platform for empowerment and advocacy. It's not an overnight process, but persistence makes a difference.

#### Advice for other women entering the cannabis space looking for a career or alternatively advice to women thinking about trying cannabis for the first time?

To women entering this industry: Be fearless but informed. This space needs diverse voices and strong leaders, and there's room for you at the table. Build your knowledge, stay curious, and connect with others who share your passion. Don't let the doubters define your path—own your journey and set the standard for what professionalism in cannabis looks like. Understand that the cannabis industry is still constantly evolving, and with that comes both opportunities and challenges.

Seek mentors who inspire you and create a network of allies who support your growth. Be prepared to work hard, but never compromise your values or integrity to fit into a space that doesn't serve you. Your perspective, skills, and resilience are assets that can drive meaningful change. Success isn't just about breaking barriers—it's about paving the way for others to follow. No crack in the glass ceiling is too small. Each one weakens it, making it just a tiny bit easier for the women who come after you to break through.





## What are three things that you think everyone needs in life?

A Commitment to Personal Growth and Self-Care: Life is about evolution. Invest in yourself—your health, your mind, and your soul.

Success in any area begins with taking care of yourself first. You can't pour from an empty cup.

The Courage to Pursue Your Passions: Whatever your calling is, chase it with conviction.

There will be hurdles and you will be pushed out of your comfort zone, especially in industries like cannabis, but nothing worth having comes easily. Be brave, and let your passion guide you.

The Discipline to Stay Consistent: Discipline is the quiet force behind success. It's about showing up every day, even when motivation wavers, and committing to the hard work required to achieve your goals. In industries like cannabis, where innovation and resilience are essential, discipline keeps me focused and grounded.

It's the habit of small, consistent actions that ultimately lead to greatness. Stay disciplined, and you'll build a foundation that carries you through challenges and sets you apart.







#### BIOGRAPHY

Janani Nadesananthan is driven by a deep passion for building equity and opportunity within the cannabis industry. As the National Director of Retail Sales at the Independent Retail Cannabis Collective (IRCC), she is committed to empowering independent cannabis retailers to thrive in a landscape often dominated by large corporate players. Her mission centers on fostering collaboration, advocating for small businesses, and cultivating a marketplace where craftsmanship and care are valued just as much as scale.

Janani's journey into the cannabis space is a fusion of personal discovery and scientific curiosity. With a background in molecular biology and genetics, she first explored cannabis as a tool for managing stress and enhancing wellness. This initial spark grew into a career that has spanned every facet of the industry—from nurturing plants in craft grow operations to leading sales strategies in corporate environments. These experiences have given her a unique perspective on both the transformative potential of cannabis and the challenges faced by small producers and retailers.

For Janani, cannabis is ultimately a b o u t e m p o w e r m e n t s u p p o r t i n g i n d e p e n d e n t businesses, breaking down lingering stereotypes, and finding balance in her own life. As the industry continues to evolve, she is proud to play a role in shaping its future toward greater inclusivity, sustainability, and success for all.

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## THE INDEPENDENT RETAIL CANNABIS COLLECTIVE **CRCCOLLECTIVE** A CATALYST FOR INDEPENDENT SUCCESS

I n Canada's burgeoning legal cannabis market, independent retailers represent the heart and soul of the industry, accounting for roughly 75+% of all retail cannabis stores. Yet, they often face significant challenges: rising costs, limited bargaining power, and fierce corporate-chain competition.

The Independent Retail Cannabis Collective (IRCCollective), established two years ago, is leading the charge to address these challenges and foster a fair, sustainable, and thriving cannabis retailmarket.

With over 1,000 members nationwide and partnerships with 80+ Licensed Producers (LPs), the IRCColletive is also a movement dedicated to ensuring that independent retailers have the tools, resources, and support they need to succeed.

The IRCCollective's mission is to empower small retailers to compete on a level playing field. This includes offering:

- Group purchasing initiatives that allow members to access better pricing for essential goods and services.
- Business analytics tools and insights to help retailers make data-driven decisions.
- Advocacy for regulatory fairness to promote transparency and equity in the cannabis industry.

These programs are designed to alleviate independent retailers' unique pressures, enabling them to focus on what matters most: delivering exceptional products and services to their customers.

The IRCCollective has already made a profound impact on the cannabis retail landscape. By leveraging the collective buying power of its members, the IRCC has secured costsaving opportunities through valueadded services that allow retailers to reinvest in their businesses. These measures increase profitability and foster resilience in an ever-changing market. But the impact doesn't stop there—These funds support small businesses, sustain local jobs, and allow retailers to remain active participants in their communities,



strengthening the foundation of the independent cannabis industry.

Through strategic partnerships with retail members, the IRCC helps curate in-store menus using data-driven insights, enabling retailers to maintain a more competitive and diverse menu. These partnerships empower independent retailers to meet consumer demands effectively while enhancing their market presence.

At the same time, LPs gain unparalleled access to an engaged network of independent retailers, allowing them to connect with key market players, share valuable insights, and build lasting relationships that drive mutual growth. By bridging the gap between independents and LPs, the IRCC reinforces a thriving and interconnected cannabis ecosystem.

At the heart of the IRCCollective's mission is a commitment to advocacy—ensuring that the voices of independent retailers are heard in an industry dominated by large corporate chains. The IRCCollective actively engages with provincial regulatory boards and government officials, advocating for policies that promote diversity, equity, and transparency in the cannabis sector.

A key strength of the IRCCollective's advocacy lies in its leadership. Members of the executive team actively participate in industry lobby groups, working to ensure independent retailers have a seat at the table when critical decisions are made. This proactive approach empowers independents to influence regulations that directly impact their businesses and the broader cannabis market.

The IRCCollective fosters open communication and collaboration among its members by regularly sharing vital updates, regulatory changes, and insights into industry developments. These efforts ensure independent retailers stay informed, empowered, and equipped to navigate the evolving cannabis market. By creating a strong network of support and advocacy, the IRCCollective amplifies the collective voice of its members, protecting their interests and driving meaningful progress in the industry.

These initiatives not only defend the rights of independents but also preserve the integrity and inclusivity







of the cannabis market. By pushing for fair policies and fostering a culture of collaboration, the IRCCollective ensures that independent retailers can thrive alongside larger players, contributing to a more equitable and sustainable industry.

The IRCCollective offers a range of exclusive benefits that directly impact the bottom line of its members. These include savings on: Insurance, POS Systems, Surveillance & Security, Budtender Education, Payroll Solutions, Websites and SEO Services, Loyalty Programs, Signage and Digital Menus, Print, Swag, and Millwork, and Accessories

These benefits, paired with the IRCCollective's emphasis on collaboration and innovation, provide a unique advantage in the competitive cannabis market.

Beyond financial savings and operational efficiencies, the IRCCollective is a vibrant community of like-minded individuals dedicated to the success of independent cannabis retail. Members share insights, learn from one another, and collaborate to navigate the complexities of the market.

The collective's data-sharing initiatives and strong LP partnerships further strengthen this community, fostering an environment where independent retailers can grow, adapt, and thrive.

The IRCCollective is more than an organization—it is a beacon of hope for independent retailers across Canada. By providing essential tools, amplifying their voices, and advocating for fairness, the IRCC ensures that independents remain a vital part of the cannabis industry's future.

As the sector continues to evolve, the IRCCollective's work will remain critical in preserving a diverse, inclusive, and competitive marketplace. Joining the IRCCollective means becoming part of a collective that is not just surviving but thriving—and shaping the future of cannabis retail in Canada.

To learn more about the IRCCollective visit us at irccollective.com. If you're interested in joining, please reach out directly to hello@irccollective.com.



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WWW.PLAIDTROUT.CA



## Tell us who you are and what you are currently involved in?

My name is Chelsea Kossower, and I'm proud to serve as the Vice President of Sales and Global at Puffco. In my role, I oversee all B2B channels and the Puffco sales team, ensuring we deliver exceptional value to our partners and the broader cannabis culture and community. I also lead our international strategy, working to expand Puffco's reach and strengthen our presence in key global markets.

Beyond my career, I'm a competitive Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu athlete under Jason Eisner at Highland Park Fight Club. Jiu-Jitsu is my passion, rivaled only by my love for hash, and both disciplines fuel my drive to grow, innovate, and lead with purpose. I'm constantly inspired by the journey of learning, improvement, and community.

## How did you get involved with cannabis?

Cannabis has always been a part of my life. Growing up with parents who were quintessential Brooklyn Deadheads, the smell of cannabis often filled our home after I went to bed. At the time, I didn't think much of it, but looking back now, it's funny

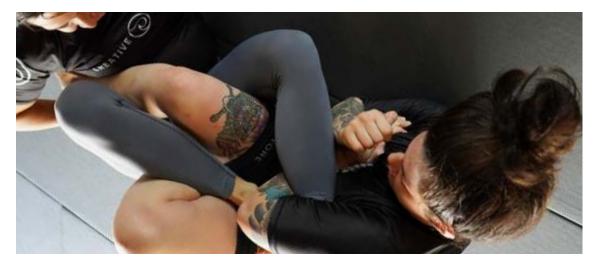


how those experiences planted the seeds for my connection to the industry today. It's come full circle, what was once just a part of my upbringing is now a central part of my career and passion.

## How does cannabis factor into your everyday life?

In our industry, everything moves at lightning speed. I often find myself in a constant rush—hurrying to the next meeting, rushing to get to training, and always focused on the next task. Cannabis has been an incredible tool for helping me self-regulate. It allows me to slow down, stay grounded, and be more present in the moment.

As someone who trains for several hours a day, cannabis also plays a key role in my recovery. It helps me come down from the adrenaline of intense training sessions, and I rely on different cannabinoids for different needs. Shout out to Om Living for



their CBD and THC bath salts, they're an absolute game changer for relaxation and recovery!

#### Have you encountered any challenges or adversity as a cannabisuser?

I've been a cannabis user since a young age (which I don't condone), always seeing the benefits it brought and feeling drawn to the industry. My fascination started early, one of my first jobs as a teenager was working in a smoke shop.

That being said, I was definitely that kid, the one no parent wanted their child hanging out with because we'd end up smoking.

I was so excited and passionate when the opportunity to help Roger start Puffco came about and the potential of the industry, but not everyone saw it the same way. Even my closest friends wouldn't want me writing on their Facebooks because they were afraid of what being associated with me would do to their reputation.

It was a humbling reminder of how much stigma surrounded cannabis, but it also fuelled my drive to help normalize and elevate the industry.

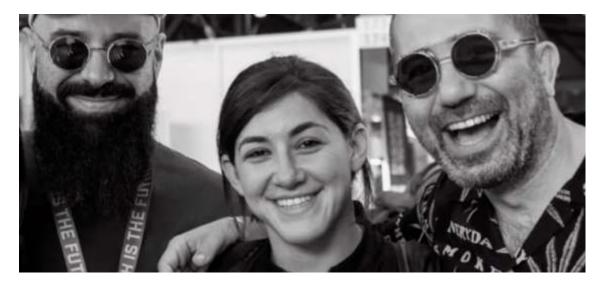
## How did you move past these challenges?

I became the change I wanted to see. I always say you can either wait for others to shape the reality you hope for, or you can do the hard work to pave the way for people. So that's exactly what I did. I kept showing up, kept pushing, and kept helping to grow Puffco to new heights so people couldn't deny what we were building.

As cannabis became more normalized, everything started to come full circle. Those same parents who once didn't want me around their kids began reaching out telling me how proud they were of what I've accomplished. They'd mention how their friends are using Puffco products or how they saw a full display at their local dispensary. That's such an incredible feeling.

The fact that we're able to show up and shift people's perspectives on this plant, this medicine, is what it's all about.

Seeing people unlearn the negative stigma and embrace cannabis for its



benefits is a huge win, not just for me but for everyone who has believed in the potential of this industry.

## Advice for Women Entering the Cannabis Space?

Be un-apologetically yourself and lean into what makes you unique. The cannabis space is fast paced, constantly evolving, and still fighting to shed stigma, which means there's room for bold voices and diverse perspectives.

My biggest advice is to get clear on your 'why.' Whether it's about breaking down barriers, helping others, or building something new, let that passion guide you. Also, don't wait for permission to belong. This industry thrives on innovation and courage, and as women, we bring both to the table in powerful ways. Find your community whether it be mentors, allies, or friends who support your vision. Lastly, don't shy away from doing the hard work to make your mark. At Puffco,

I've learned that creating change is often about showing up consistently, even when it's tough, and proving what's possible. Women have a place in every corner of this industry, from cultivation to C-suites, and we belong here.

## Advice for Women Trying Cannabis for the First Time?

Start slow and stay curious. Cannabis is a powerful tool that can support your wellness, it's all about finding what works for you. Whether you're looking for relief from stress, help with recovery, or just want to unwind, there's no one-size-fits-all approach.

Do your research, ask questions, and start with something simple, like a Puffco product with some clean hash on the lowest setting.

Most importantly, drop the shame. Cannabis is medicine, it's self-care, and it's an incredible way to connect with yourself.

Don't let old stigmas hold you back from discovering how it can improve your life.



Last question - What are three things that you think everyone needs?

#### A Strong Sense of Community:

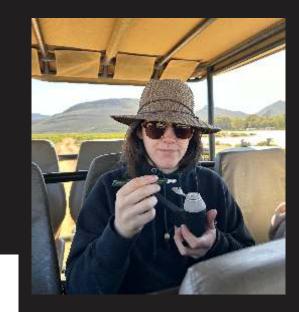
Whether it's friends, family, or a team you can rely on, having a group of people who support and inspire you is invaluable. Community gives you strength in tough times and celebrates with you during victories. It's essential in both personal life and business.

#### **Passion and Purpose:**

Life feels more meaningful when you're working toward something you're genuinely excited about. Whether it's building a career, excelling in a sport like Jiu-Jitsu, or advocating for a cause, finding your 'why' gives you the drive to keep going, even when things get challenging.

#### Time to Recharge:

In our fast-paced world, it's easy to burn out. Everyone needs time to rest and reflect. For me, cannabis plays a big role in this, it helps me slow down, recover, and stay present. Finding your way to recharge, whether it's through a walk, a book, or some time away is crucial for staying balanced.



#### **BIOGRAPHY**

Chelsea Kossower serves as the Vice President of Sales and Global at Puffco, a pioneering brand in cannabis technology. Joining the company as its first employee in 2013, Chelsea has been instrumental in shaping Puffco's growth, building one of the industry's top-performing sales teams, and driving the brand's international expansion.

With a deep understanding of the cannabis community, Chelsea emphasizes authentic engagement and cultural alignment in her approach to sales and global strategy. Known for her resilience and advocacy for women in the industry, she continues to champion innovation while fostering meaningful connections across global markets.

Beyond her work, Chelsea is driven by a passion for Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, a discipline she's actively pursued for years. An in-demand speaker at global conferences and on podcasts, she is committed to making cannabis more accessible and fostering a deeper understanding of its benefits.



# HIGHL CANADA MAGAZINE

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- JOIN A NETWORK OF INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS PIONEERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW CANADIAN CANNABIS TOURISM INDUSTRY.



# HIGHL CANADA MAGAZINE

## **BY SARAH GAMER**





## **WEEDS - RAISING THE BAR!**

true multi generational legacy business the legendary stories and achievements of Don and Carol are well documented and widely told. Their contributions to the industry and culture are as widespread as any wildflower could be. The enduring and evolving legacy from the Weeds family of brands is about to take a new and exciting step that will allow them to reach even higher highs while planting some deep roots.

The couple purchased farmland in picturesque Pitt Meadows in 2018 with the intention of applying for a micro-license. They viewed that as potentially the path of least resistance to setting up a legacy homebase for their families. It still took an unreasonably long time with many delays and a last minute rule change that led them to restructure for a vertical indoor grow to fit the parameters for licensing despite plenty of room and a beautiful climate for an outdoor farm.

The Weeds stores have been the undeniable root of the couple's



connection to the cannabis industry as their commitment to providing reasonable access and good quality products to the community has been a goal from day one. Compassionate care and onsite consumption are the catalysts that first brought the couple together and it remains the center of their vision.

After the lengthy bureaucratic delays to get a growing license, the farmgate application came to fruition with relative ease. Weeds farmgate is the fourth application to receive approval in British Columbia. Pitt Meadows is conveniently accessible from



Vancouver transit and is likely to become the most visited farmgate location, putting Weeds once again on the forefront of representing cannabis culture. The farmgate storefront is due to open before the end of 2024.

The new year will see a new era for the Weeds family as it will be working towards operating a fully legal consumption space. Many legacy members and longtime Vancouver residents will recall that a walk up dab bar is an iconic piece of Weeds history. This will be brought back to life once more with even more space for the community to gather.

Weeds farmgate has the potential to become the cannabis community hub that Don and Carol have been facilitating for decades. They are both focused on the gratitude of witnessing legalization and progress of the developing industry come to fruition in their lifetimes. Truly it is the work of these living legends, who are among the best of the best in our sector, that has driven the development industry. The farmgate location is a celebration of how mainstream cannabis use has become, and they look forward to welcoming and

being welcomed by the local community.

The journey of building a family legacy is as classic as any that's been told. Don simply wanted to build a future for his family and that groundwork has been laid now that his children are owners among the group of businesses complimenting the Weeds names. There are so many moving parts to the operations and Don has a remarkable level of involvement overseeing a true family business.

Carol reminisces that their journey to farmgate has been like the red paperclip theory. They started so small and worked to trade up to providing access to quality cannabis to so many people. During the grey market days, they had stores all across Canada, and at one point nearly one third of Vancouver stores were Weeds locations. While widespread success is a noteworthy accomplishment, the anticipation of the farmgate location has Carol most excited that she can walk to work again. A simple and sweet achievement indeed.

The experience and contributions of Don and Carol to the extending culture of cannabis gives them a solid insight into the positive ripples in a community when a responsible dispensary opens up. Weeds farmgate will become a contributing member of the local community, operating as an event space, allowing the industry to gather and engage publicly reducing stigma. The commitment to be even more discerning in the brands they carry, to provide quality products with educated service to their patrons is sure to foster trust and confidence. ensuring the space becomes a must visit for anyone moving through the lower mainland.



## A SUPERIOR CONE DESIGN



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orenzo and his best friend arrived in Barcelona in 2013 with grand visions of having their own cannabis club and brand, in 2017 the world famous TerpsArmy was born.

Lorenzo and his partner are pioneer in the European cannabis industry, coming from Italy and operating three cannabis clubs, one in Barcelona and two shops in Amsterdam, he has stapled him self a leader and trendsetter in the cannabis space. He is known globally not only for his obsession of quality but being the world's first donut brand, Terps army sets out to be ahead of the curve in an ever evolving space. For over 7 years now Terps army's clubs have been recognized as one of top in Europe, the environment is not only fun but everyone is welcome in their establishments with no judgement.



Lorenzo because of his hard standard on quality has been named a judge at multiple cups around the world and it just another testament that terps army was built by two friends because of their love for the plant and it is now recognized as one the leading brands globally.



Pressure Labz is an award winning family owned and operated solvent-less extraction company based in California and established in 2019.

Our focus being on quality terpene rich solvent-less extracts. Our genetics, ice

flower have gained a reputation for quality among the most connoisseur of smokers across the globe.

We are proud to work with Legacy farmers based in Northern California, most being sun grown with organic inputs. We are passionate about bringing some of northern California's best genetics and flavours to the world.

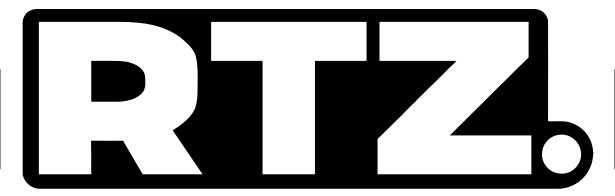
With decades of growing, breeding, and hash making experience we have set our sights globally. We feel blessed to be embraced by different communities around the world.

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International Awards Include: Full Moon Sesh @fullmoonsesh\_official Dab A Doo @dab.a.doo.tour Terp Tower Invitational @terp\_tower\_invitational Jack Herer Cup @jackherercup.eu) Amsterdam Coffee Shop Awards @amsterdamcoffeeshopawards Clouds In The City @cloudsinthecityams Copenhagen Cannabis Expo @northgrowexpo



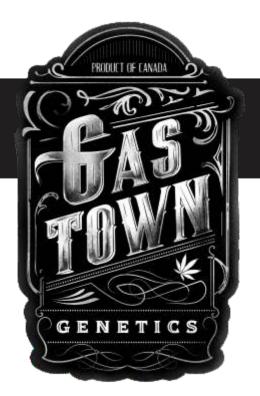
new cannabis lifestyle company based around culture and quality who have set about creating an empire. The company was founded by their larger than life frontman, whose passion for cannabis culture and commitment to quality have driven RTZ's rapid global growth.

Over the last 18 months, ROOTZ (RTZ) have popped up in three continents, smashing cities like LA, Bangkok, London and more. Incorporating decades of shared experience, top tier genetics and clothing drops to their well thought out and classy locations across the globe.

Effortlessly connecting with top flight figures in both cannabis and entertainment has helped their brand build numerous collections and a speedy route to cult stardom.

Meticulous selection from fabrics through to flowers has kept their brand in the running with other cultural giants. They have accrued 15 Trophies on their path so far, now sporting accolades for flowers and rosin.

"DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE TERPS" is the mindset, its more than clothes and cannabis. It's a lifestyle.





y name is Dave, and I am the founder of The Gastown Collective and Green Cedar Retreat. I have had a deep passion for cannabis my whole life and now specialize in consulting on hash and rosin production. I help others elevate their craft with precision and expertise.

At home, my skilled cultivation team and I focus on R&D. We aim to pop seeds and cross strains bred for the best ice water hash.

For years, this meticulous process has been at the core of our work and we have invaluable data from everything we do in the stunning coastal town of Tofino, BC. We also host beginner and intermediate courses for cannabis enthusiasts and professionals yearround. I am driven by a commitment to innovation, education, and a deep appreciation for the cannabis community on my journey. In the winter, I dedicate myself to cannabis, traveling to industry events and competitions worldwide. I love connecting with the global community and staying updated on the scene.

Besides that, I have run a successful fishing charter for 12 years. I am now scaling down that business to focus on my other passion, but I still enjoy taking people fishing in the summer and sharing my love of the outdoors.

#### LINK TO SOCIALS:

#### Instagram

www.instagram.com/gastownfire

Website

www.greencedar.ca



David Madilyan, originally from an Armenian family in Moscow, is the owner and founder of the exclusive social club HQ Barcelona, as well as the prestigious international Rosin competition Masters Of Rosin. This week-long event, which began in 2018 in Barcelona, is celebrating its 7th edition this year with the theme 'The Lord of the Rosin`.

Masters Of Rosin has become the first and only cannabis competition in the world to focus exclusively on the rosin category. Each year, a panel of professional judges evaluates entries from a maximum of 64 hashmakers on 4 criteria: Appearance, Aroma, Taste and Afterdab, selecting the top three to receive the renowned gold, silver and bronze irons.

In 2024, for the first time in MOR history, the competition is going international in the quest to find the best Rosin, with editions



taking place in New York City and Los Angeles. In April this year, its first international edition was hosted at Astor Club NYC.

The first LA edition of MOR will take place from November 4th to 10th at Cookies Maywood.

The week will be packed with events including our judges, sponsors and competitors, seshes in various places across the city, and an award ceremony, where the winners will finally be crowned.

Does your Rosin have what it takes to win the prestigious Golden Iron, valued at 6k\*? Find out this November at Masters Of Rosin LA."

LIST...



# -PIATTELLA-UNCLE'S FARM

Piattella comes from the Italian word PIATTO (flat) for its flattened shape. The shape may seem just an aesthetic choice, but it actually represents one of the various steps of cold curing process. PIATTELLA with double T is an inevitable grammatical and phonetic consequence of Italian language. (PIATTO).

Instead with a single T comes from the influence of the English language that does not have the same grammatical and phonetic need, as we do in Italian , to pronounce the double T.

The PIATTELLA is made through a controlled oxidation/mutation process of the WPFF. This process consists in bringing to their maximum exaltation the organoleptic properties within it, and consequently with the cold curing, stop this moment of perfect mutation reached by drastically slowing its decline, which it would inevitably be subjected.

This process I would say is more about the experience of practising than just a specific method. It was a process that was built over time. Piattella is more then 5 years old and it was a process of experience and learning that still lasts and will never end.



I learn new things daily about how each resin is unique to itself and different reactions to the cure.

Surely the greatest benefit of the PIATTELLA must be seen through the eyes of the full melt lovers. It's an experience and a new starting point. The controlled curing has always been the process that allows give an organoleptic improvement of the product itself compared to its initial state.



estled in the vibrant Sukhumvit area of Bangkok, SHANTI Social Club is redefining the dispensary experience. Offering an extensive menu of premium flowers and solventless hash, SHANTI goes beyond the conventional by providing patrons with a relaxed, community-driven atmosphere across its 2nd, 3rd, and 4th floor social club spaces. Since Thailand's landmark cannabis legalization, SHANTI has emerged as a key player in fostering a dynamic smoking and dabbing culture. Since its inception, SHANTI has hosted over 20 events, including international showcases like



Fullmoon Sesh Bangkok, which attracted top industry brands and names. Local innovations such as The Drop Market highlight homegrown producers, while the annual 7/10 celebrations have become a staple for the cannabis community.

As 2024 approaches its end, SHANTI Bangkok continues to set the bar high in a competitive market that often lacks specialized knowledge. Staffed by true cannabis aficionados, SHANTI prides itself on offering expertise and an exceptional experience for seasoned enthusiasts and newcomers alike. With a forward-thinking approach and a commitment to quality, SHANTI Social Club is not just a dispensary, but a cultural hub for cannabis lovers in Thailand.



Sweed Dreams Thailand was born from a passion that Renzo Fló and Cristiano have had with them all their lives!

Thanks to the decriminalization of cannabis in Thailand, a new adventure opens up for them and a new wonderful country to visit. It doesn't take them long



to fall in love and think about living in Thailand forever.

New partners join the adventure and have come to show the world of cannabis what they are capable of! **F**our Twenty was established in March 2022 and has been at the forefront of Thailand's cannabis industry since its inception. Our journey began with a vision to cultivate and distribute the highest quality medical cannabis in Thailand. Since I was a young I have always had an interest in plants with a particularly high level of curiosity about medical herbal plants. So being able to pursue cultivating cannabis with a passion is a blessing and is one the most satisfying things I could be doing in my life.

Accurately predicting the legalization of cannabis in Thailand, Four Twenty was born 3 months prior to the change in legislation, June 9th 2022. Four Twenty's first retail location was launched only 7-8 days after legislation and since then, the company has steadily grown by will, determination, hard work, and accurately navigating the market. Our dedication to our mission has built us into becoming one of the fastest growing, best-performing, and most notable cannabis companies in Thailand. We have earned our reputation for;

- Launching one of the first cannabis brands in Thailand
- Having one of the best standards of quality & service.
- Being a pioneer in the industry and paving the way for other operators to follow suit.
- Rapid expansion; opening 7 shops in 2 years.
- Having a fully licensed cannabis cultivation farm.
- Becoming a lifestyle brand.
- Building the cannabis community.
- Driving consumer education and the normalization of cannabis culture.

Over the years, Four Twenty has evolved into one of Thailand's most

## FOUR TWENTY THAILAND

established cannabis companies. We take pride in our commitment to quality, customer service, and cannabis culture which has proven to be instrumental in shaping our company culture and guiding our growth.

At Four Twenty, we are continually striving to innovate and stay ahead of the curve. Our businesses are heavily diversified tapping into multiple segments of the economy including; Food & Beverage, Hospitality, Events & Entertainment, and more.

> MASCOTTE MASCOTTE MASCOTTE MASCOTTE MASCOTTE MASCOTTE MASCOTTE MASCOTTE



ndisputably one of the most renowned artists in the industry today, Elbo is co-owner of Everdream Studio in Evergreen, Colorado, where he works alongside a number of top industry artists. Having made a name for himself in the pipe world via his dinosaur motif and diverse portfolio of original design work, he says: "My work is an attempt to transcend the function of the pipe by giving my very self to the process. I am led through the open field of my medium by personal life experiences and my reaction to the relationships in my life."

In 2005, Elbo began working with soft glass in the hot shop at Tyler School of Art and Architecture in his hometown of Philly. It wasn't until after he graduated in 2009 that he started working with borosilicate glass and making pipes. He credits Zach Puchowitz with early inspiration and lessons on the torch. After running his own successful studio, in 2014 Elbo and JOP! opened Front Street Gallery in Kensington, Philadelphia. The gallery endeavored to bring the city's most influential, beloved glass artists into the limelight allowing fans and collectors to admire and purchase their newest work. It was essentially a who's-who of modern flameworking, featuring Philly artists like Zach Puchowitz, Snic Barnes, Marble Slinger (of Degenerate Art fame), Just Another Glassblower, and more. Front Street Gallery helped put Philadelphia on the map as a destination for the ever-growing glassblowing movement.









In 2013, Elbo relocated to Colorado and became one of a stable of the industry's b e s t g l a s s b l o w e r s including WJC, Eusheen, Adam G, and N8 Miers working at Everdream Studio. Created as a space for all creatives not just glass, the studio provides a secluded environment with not many distractions, enabling Elbo to focus on h i s c r a f t a n d t h e developmentofart.

Pipe making represents the American renaissance of sculptural art, Elbo believes. "I want pipe making to be synonymous with high-end art, but I don't believe it's there yet. I thought it was, but the more I'm exposed to true high-end art, I see that pipe making has a long way to go. The biggest hurdle we have to get over is the closemindedness in the industry. We need to take bigger risks, create things not for other people to see but what we want to see. If people begin to do that in our industry, it will naturally evolve into a higher form of art."





SESH

**F**ullMoon Sesh is a global networking and B2B event that began as a dream of traveling around the world, spreading positive vibes and cannabis culture. My main goal after COVID and the lockdown was to connect people through this shared passion. In 2021, we started in Las Palmas, Gran Canaria. The next year, we moved on to Madrid, then Berlin, Los Angeles, Bangkok, and Prague. Now, we're heading to Buenos Aires. What was once a dream has truly become a reality.

In total, we have connected and come together with people from over 30 countries, many of whom visited these locations for the first time. It's a truly wonderful experience to see people's faces light up with joy as they explore new places and cultures, embracing new experiences with open hearts.



To share a bit more about myself, I'm just a dreamer from Central Europe who has always dreamed of connecting people through cannabis, starting with Spain and Thailand, and now extending across the globe. It feels like the mission is being accomplished. I am incredibly happy and grateful to everyone who has been involved and supportive from the start. We've been blessed with amazing judges, generous sponsors, and a fantastic community of friends and supporters in every country we visit.

I truly believe that FullMoon Sesh is a blessed event, and we are fortunate to bring something new and exciting to the cannabis community worldwide.

## Magic King: A Story of Passion and Innovation in the Heart of Brussels

Founded on November 30, 2019, by two brothers, Mateo and Gjino, Magic King is much more than just a cannabis shop. Located in the heart of Brussels, Magic King embodies innovation and cutting-edge trends in the cannabis industry.



agic King is also the first legal cannabis brand in Belgium, paving the way for a new era in the sector. After completing their studies in Brussels, the two brothers moved to Amsterdam, where their passion for cannabis took root. When Belgium legalized CBD, they saw the opportunity to return and open their first shop, with the goal of creating a welcoming, modern, and inclusive space. Their vision: to offer not only the best international brands but also their own collection of apparel, highend accessories, and rare exotic beverages.

Magic King has become a reference point thanks to its unique decor, designed by the two brothers, and its warm ambiance.

Through their Instagram page, @magicking\_brussels, Mateo and Gjino share their passion, from trips to the biggest cannabis expos and European festivals, blending lifestyle and love for cannabis. They inspire their community by showing how they incorporate their products into daily life.

Over time, their shop has attracted internationally renowned artists, leading to friendships and exciting collaborations.

Through regular collaborations and pop-ups with renowned artists, Magic King offers a cultural and



immersive experience to its clients. They hope to inspire future generations to pursue their dreams, despite the challenges. Awarded prestigious trophies such as the **Most Innovative Business** in Belgium, **Best Cannabis Shop** in the Benelux, and the **CBD World Cup**, Magic King continues to grow.

Their mission is simple: to offer an exceptional experience while advocating for the legalization of cannabis. The success of their journey proves that with passion, perseverance, and faith, anything is possible

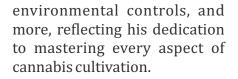






M ike Bouchanian aka Big Tuna has been immersed in the cannabis world for over 20 years, beginning his journey as a cultivator when the industry was still in its early days.

His passion for the plant, combined with his massive attention to detail and relentless work ethic, set him apart from the start. Mike's multi-talented skillset spans genetics, cloning,



C

Maywood

As the co-founder and owner-







operator of Cookies Maywood, Mike has truly planted his roots in the cannabis industry, building a reputation for excellence and innovation. His hands-on approach and commitment to quality have driven the success of Cookies Maywood Cultivation, where he oversees everything from the optimization of grow spaces to the implementation of cutting-edge cultivationtechniques.

Mike's expertise extends to the design and construction of cultivation facilities, ensuring they operate with maximum efficiency and produce the finest cannabis products. With his rosin brand, Tuna Melts 710, Mike continues to showcase his dedication to creating premium cannabis products. His focus on craftsmanship and authenticity is evident in every detail, from selecting the best genetics to perfecting the extraction process.

Mike's hard work and unwavering dedication have not only led to the success of Cookies Cultivation but also earned him a respected place in the cannabis community.

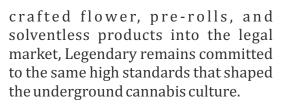
His journey is a true reflection of passion, perseverance, and a deep love for the craft of cannabis cultivation.



# LEGENDARY CANNABIS IS MORE THAN A BRAND —IT'S A MOVEMENT FOR THE REAL SMOKERS.

reated by Canada's top legacy growers, pheno-hunters, and hash artisans, Legendary is poised to redefine the small-batch craft cannabis market. Rooted in West Coast heritage genetics, Legendary offers an unparalleled experience for discerning connoisseurs.

Our hand-trimmed and precisely cured products are renowned for their bold aromas and distinctive flavour profiles. As we prepare to launch our expertly



With a strong focus on sustainability and key global partnerships, Legendary has earned the trust of the international cannabis community. Positioned to lead the legal market, Legendary is redefining premium cannabis by delivering unmatched quality, authenticity, and lifestyle for those that seek only the very best.



ot 420 is the story of five highschool friends who shared a common vision; to grow the best cannabis humanly possible. It started with a medical license in 2011, which shortly after setting up their first shop gained them a reputation for having the loudest bags in town.

Constantly focused on perfecting growing methods, and expanding their genetic repertoire started to pay off on a national level when they won first place at the 2019 WestFest cannabis cup with their Gelato 33 entry. After a decade in the medical scene, they got a recreational license federally approved, built a state of the art facility in the countryside, and got to work, quickly becoming one of the most sought after brands in the Canadian rec market. With world-wide recognition and demand, they took their products to the international stage. Today their award winning flowers are sold in five different countries spinning over three continents and this is only the beginning of this new chapter.

Remo and Sandra Colasanti are influential figures in the cannabis industry, with a legacy spanning over decades.

# REMO & SANDRA

Remo began his journey as one of the first patients in Canada to receive a Section 56/ MMAR license back in 2001, learning to grow cannabis and recognizing the lack of resources available for other patients.

Together with Sandra, they helped others obtain licenses and taught them how to cultivate cannabis.

Remo, known as the original cannabis influencer, launched his YouTube channel in 2006, where his engaging content and expert grow tips gained a loyal following. His dedication to cultivation has earned him over three dozen awards.

Remo's passion led to the founding of Remo Brands Inc., where he has played a pivotal role in developing top-tier nutrients and cultivation products for both professional and home growers.

Sandra Colasanti, equally impactful, has a career marked by advocacy and business leadership. She served as the treasurer and a director for the MMAR Coalition Against Repeal, helping secure a Supreme Court victory in Canada that allowed patients to continue growing their own medicine. As a director and owner at Remo Brands Inc., Sandra has driven the company's growth, including the launch of innovative products like Remo Elements, their new powdered feeding line. Together, Remo and Sandra Colasanti combine expertise, advocacy, and entrepreneurial spirit, shaping the cannabis industry and empowering countless growers and patients in Canada and beyond.





he Big Green Buddha is a student of the herb, and makes solventless Hash/Rosin near the tip of Africa.

"My journey with the plant began like most of us, in high school, and for me that's about 25 years ago. Because of the legalities surrounding the plant, like in most countries, I was a consumer for 18 years before I grew my 1st plant in 2018 when my country, South Africa legalized Cannabis for personal growing and consumption.

I started with Outdoor and pressed my first flower rosin that same year.

In 2019 I started my Instagram account to purely showcase my grows and all the incredible different ways in which Cannabis presents itself.

Fast forward a couple of years and my whole life is now fully invested into the Cannabis industry and the magic that flows from within.

I am a Hash maker, I do small batch and commercial solventless extractions



and my life now revolves around the characteristics of tricomes and the different cultivars they come perched upon.

I've been blessed to have been chosen as a professional judge to see, taste, smoke and experience Cannabis flower and extracts in different parts of the world, and that is the beauty of this plant.

I'm a one man army and I've put lots of effort into creating my brand within the global Cannabis industry/community with integrity, passion for the plant and love for Hash/Rosin."

"Hash is the answer, who cares what the question is" Big Green Buddha (Cape Town, South Africa) hampelli's story begins in the 1980s on the vibrant streets of San Francisco, where Joe Rutherford, known as Champelli, turned his early passion for cannabis cultivation into a cultural movement. Growing up in the bohemian neighborhood of Bernal Heights, he began experimenting with cannabis in his mother's pantry as a middle schooler.

By the late '80s, he was fully immersed in the city's creative scene, blending his love for breakdancing, graffiti, skateboarding, fashion, and music with his growing expertise in cultivating premium cannabis strains.

In the mid-90s, Champelli's name became synonymous with quality cannabis, thanks to his signature Champagne strain and a rare cut of Kush. His products, later shortened to Champelli, became legendary in the hip-hop community, with artists like Snoop Dogg and Mac Dre frequently name-dropping him in their music.

During this time, Champelli also launched his own music label, collaborating with various artists further cementing his influence in both the cannabis and music scenes.

Despite facing legal challenges, including a federal cannabis charge, Champelli's resilience never wavered. After nearly a decade-long hiatus abroad, he returned to the Bay Area, where he continues to innovate and expand his brand, this time legally.



Today, Champelli is not only expanding across the U.S. but also growing internationally, tapping into new markets and pushing boundaries in the global cannabis space. Alongside cannabis, he is also expanding his clothing and music ventures, building on his multifaceted legacy. His influence intertwines with hip-hop, fashion, and cannabis, cementing his status as a pioneer and tastemaker, while continuing to honor his roots.

ry Holiday





Rounder and brainchild of international cannabis brand Doja, Ryan Bartholomew built his reputation hunting and selecting the best genetics that the industry has to offer and introducing them to the global marketplace. Affectionately known as a 'finished product expert', Ryan is directly responsible for the rise of highly sought-out cultivars like RS-11 and Permanent Marker.

With the highest levels of quality control and relationships across every cannabis-friendly region on the planet, Ryan has elevated Doja to be the connoisseur's choice in every market where the brand is available.







# hempcare<sub>+</sub>

ima Kämpf is the CEO of the H e m p G r o u p A G, a distinguished entrepreneur who has been active in the cannabis industry for over a decade.

Nima is the founder of Swiss Hempcare, a company specializing in the production and distribution of high-quality hemp products. Additionally, he has served as a founding member and CFO of Charlie's Lab for the past five years.

This innovative start-up focuses on biotechnological solutions and has been involved in one of the world's largest THC recreational cannabis pilot projects, conducted by the Swiss Cannabis Research Association.

The company is proud to be part of this government-licensed initiative, which paves the way for new advancements in cannabis research and cannabis legalization in Switzerland and Europe.

Nima's entry into the cannabis industry is deeply personal. His drive and passion for the plant are inspired by his mother, who passed away from cancer in New York in 1997.

Nima is convinced that the cannabis plant has the potential to significantly improve lives and alleviate suffering. This belief fuels his commitment to exploring and harnessing the plant's capabilities with innovation and dedication. His involvement with cannabis is not just a professional endeavour but a heartfelt mission.

Nima Kämpf emphasizes quality in all his ventures. Wherever possible, his products are cultivated, harvested, and produced in Switzerland, ensuring rigorous oversight.

With the slogan "Growing in memory, for a healing future", Nima Kämpf encapsulates his mission. His strategic insight, entrepreneurial skill, and personal dedication make him a key figure in the cannabis industry and a significant player in the global business landscape.

#### Instagram:

Charlies Lab: https://www.instagram.com/charli eslaboratory/

Swiss Hempcare: https://www.instagram.com/swiss hempcare.ch/

Hemp Group AG: https://www.instagram.com/hemp caregroupag/ PUFFCO CEO & FOUNDER ROGER VOLODARSKY

Roger Volodarsky started Puffco with one objective: to transform cannabis consumption for the better. Since founding the company in 2013 and bootstrapping it from basement to boardroom, he has earned a reputation as the "Steve Jobs of vaporizers" for his relentless focus on intuitive product design.

**PUEFCO** 

Today, Roger continues to guide company growth with a focus on creativity, collaboration and celebrating the full nuance and potential of the cannabis plant.

Roger started off as a cannabis consumer who wanted more from his experience than what the industry standard could provide. The firstgeneration son of Russian immigrants, he grew up in the tri state area.

He was named to High Times 100 Most Influential People in Cannabis in 2022 and continues to drive the concentrates space forward in both form and function.

Revolutionizing Cannabis Culture in the UK Dank of E n g l a n d (D O E) revolutionized the UK's cannabis culture when it was founded in 2014 by Black the Ripper and Screech, two visionaries from Edmonton, North London.

Their goal was ambitious: to create the UK's first cannabis brand that not only advocated for legalization but also sought to dismantle the negative stigma perpetuated by years of government misinformation. DOE's journey to success was marked by a series of audacious stunts, most notably the hotboxing of a London Eye pod. This bold move captured global attention, with over 500 million



views on social media and widespread coverage by the press. Black the Ripper's subsequent protests, including the planting of cannabis outside Buckingham Palace and 10 Downing Street, further pushed the boundaries, sparking critical discussions on legalization.

The duo's nationwide tour in a classic VW campervan, reminiscent of the counterculture icons Cheech and Chong, brought them face-to-face with supporters across the UK. Through Berlin-based duo FJAAK are redefining the boundaries of electronic music with their electrifying blend of raw energy and analog mastery.

Comprising Felix Wagner and Aaron Röbig, FJAAK have been pushing the limits of techno, house, and beyond since their teenage years in the late 2000s. Their sound, a gritty yet sensual mix of warehouse techno, UK garage, dub, and breakbeat hardcore, is a testament to their deep-rooted love for club culture and their obsession with analog equipment.

In 2021, FJAAK took control of their artistic direction by launching their own labels, "FJAAK" and "SPANDAU20," further cementing their influence on the global electronic music scene. But 2023 marked a pivotal year with the birth of their new label, "CROWD," spotlighting both emerging talents and established artists.

Now, in 2024, FJAAK have unleashed their most ambitious project yet, the album \*FJAAK THE SYSTEM\*. This release is a bold declaration of their passion for club music in all its forms, seamlessly blending UK breakbeat, techno, 2-step, d'n'b, jungle, trip-hop, and ambient.

The album sets a new standard in their already impressive discography. Graduates in audio engineering, FJAAK's hardware-only live shows and rebellious spirit have injected muchneeded playfulness back into the rave scene.

Known for their creative energy and appreciation for the finer things—including cannabis—FJAAK are not just setting the bar higher with \*FJAAK THE SYSTEM\*, they're reimagining what it means to be at the forefront of electronic music.

Jjaa

pop-up shops and personal interactions, they built a dedicated following, uniting the cannabis community under the DOE banner. The sudden passing of Black the Ripper on April 4, 2020, was a tragic blow to the movement, but Screech has remained steadfast in his commitment to their shared vision. The opening of DOEBCN in Barcelona signals the beginning of a new era for DOE, with plans to continue expanding the brand across Europe. LONG LIVE BLACK THE RIP



Et . 1..ett AMSTERDAM

Green House Brands, cofounded by Arjan Roskam and Joachim Helms, is arguably the most influential cannabis empire in the world.

Established in 1985, the Amsterdam-based company has revolutionized the industry with its diverse portfolio, which includes the Green House Seed Company, Green House Coffeeshops, Green House Thailand, Strain Hunters, and Green House Feeding, among others. Green House Brands has left an indelible mark on cannabis genetics, retail, and global cannabis culture.



Arjan Roskam, famously known as the "King of Cannabis," has been at the forefront of cannabis cultivation for decades. He has won more than 40 High Times Cannabis Cups and over 200 International Cannabis Awards, an



achievement unparalleled in the industry. Roskam's innovative approach to breeding exotic strains and his mission to normalize cannabis use worldwide have turned Green House Brands into a beacon for cannabis connoisseurs and advocates alike.

His legacy is immortalized through the Strain Hunters documentary series, which explores the preservation of rare cannabis landraces across the globe.

Joachim Helms, CEO of Green House Brands, complements Arjan's vision with his relentless advocacy for cannabis legalization and policy reform.

Helms has played a crucial role in shaping cannabis legislation in Europe, Canada, and Thailand. His leadership of the Green House Coffeeshops, which have hosted over 200 A-list celebrities, has solidified Green House as a global icon. His expertise is sought after by g o v e r n m e n t s a n d m e d i a worldwide.

The company's reach extends far beyond Amsterdam, with operations in Canada, the USA, South America, and beyond. In these regions, Green House



Brands is active in cannabis retail, cultivation, and policy reform, making significant contributions to the legal cannabis markets in countries like Uruguay and states across the USA. Its ventures in Thailand, Africa, and Latin America continue to expand Green House's global footprint.

From its groundbreaking cannabis genetics to its leadership in retail and advocacy, Green House Brands has earned its place as a global cannabis powerhouse.

With operations spanning Europe, North America, South America, and Asia, the company continues to push boundaries, shaping the future of the global cannabis industry.

# JOSH Schmidt

#### VP, Business Development Natura

Josh Schmidt was raised in his family's hospitality businesses in the San Francisco Bay Area and started his professional business career at a young age. After attending business school at Boston University, Josh opened and operated one of California's first licensed medical cannabis dispensaries, Trichome Healing Caregivers in Van Nuys, CA.

After half a decade of successful operations, Josh transitioned into commercial cannabis production, spending several years sourcing the best cannabis genetics on earth. Josh's travels took him to India, Thailand, Tibet, Morocco, Spain, Canada, and Amsterdam, where he built close relationships with leading cannabis breeders.

Josh is responsible for introducing some of the genetics he acquired over the years to the California market via a 250K sq ft cultivation space that he owned and operated. In the process, Josh built a large and qualified team of expert growers and laborers. He co-founded Pistil Point Cannabis, the largest indoor cannabis producer in the state of Oregon, and currently sits on the board of Colcana, one of the first entries into the medical cannabis program in the South American nation of Colombia.

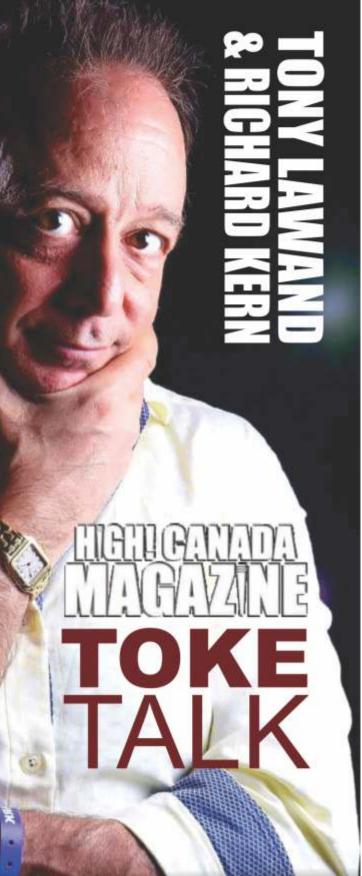


Recently, Josh was appointed as the official Cannabis Advisor for Elevated Estate which works to bring together local, regional, and international cannabis industries to Thailand's emerging cannabis market. What drew Josh to cannabis:

"Working with Natura is a full-circle experience for me given my start in California's cannabis industry. My cannabis industry pursuits have taken me all over the globe, however, my heart is and always will be in California, which is home to the most amazing cannabis community on the planet. Natura is ramping up projects at a level that has yet to be seen in the cannabis industry, and I am excited to help the company reach its full potential, and in the process, move the cannabis industry and movement forward."

The quote that drives him:

"Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago." – Warren Buffett



# THE BEST OF THE BEST (AND WORST): A CANNABIS INDUSTRY RETROSPECTIVE

#### BY TONY LAWAND AND RICH KERN

In an industry where regulations are as murky as a used bong, we bring you a totally unbiased guide to the cannabis world's highs and lows. From billion-dollar enterprises to your cousin's basement grow-op, it's a journey through the green, the great, and the just plain goofy.

#### The Cream of the Crop

When it comes to strains, competition is as fierce as influencers at Coachella. Legendary varieties like Girl Scout Cookies and Northern Lights have achieved stardom, guiding more journeys than your Uber app. But cannabis isn't just about THC anymore. CBD has graduated from the family's ignored cousin to the wellness industry's MVP, with promises of curing everything from anxiety to slow Wi-Fi (well, almost).

#### From Tie-Dye to Ties

Gone are the days when cannabis execs wore tie-dye and smelled like patchouli. Now it's Armani suits and PowerPoint slides on "market penetration metrics." Giants like Canopy Growth and Curaleaf are the Amazons of mellowing out, while craft growers hold onto their artisanal roots like hipster breweries, but with better aromas.

#### **Regulatory Whack-a-Mole**

Navigating cannabis regulations is like playing a game where the rules change mid-turn. The FDA and DEA alternate between "bad cop" and



"even worse cop," while state laws feel more like abstract art than legal guidelines. Meanwhile, Canada's Health Department offers policies as dense as your average Sunday crossword.

#### The Underground Goes Global

The underground cannabis market is now disrupted by international players. Forget spy thrillers—Chinese networks have industrialized weed farming with an efficiency that'd make Jeff Bezos blush. While legal producers scramble to keep up, illicit prices drop



faster than politicians' approval ratings post-scandal.

#### The Global Game

Internationally, cannabis is a geopolitical chess match. Canada flaunts its legal status with all the swagger of someone explaining tax forms, while China rules the hemp game. Meanwhile, the U.S. bounces between federal frowns and statelevel celebrations. And Kim Jong Un? Well, North Korea's stance on cannabis remains as elusive as his barber.

#### **Characters You Won't Forget**

Speaking of CBD—allow me, Tony Lawand, Creator of the first CBD company in Canada, dubbed the "Godfather of Canadian CBD," to weigh in. While everyone else was counting their chickens, I was counting exit strategies. Was it skill or luck? Let's just say God has a wicked sense of humor.

The industry has produced some unforgettable (and regrettable) personalities. From influencers hawking CBD-infused quantum crystal water to executives confusing "going green" with embezzlement, the cannabis world is as colorful as its merchandise. Honorable mention goes to marketing teams who thought CBD shoelaces could enhance marathon times.

#### **High-Tech Hijinks**

Of course, tech billionaires couldn't resist the cannabis gold rush. Elon Musk and Donald Trump's "Make







Space High Again" campaign proposed sending strains to Mars—"the dankest strains, believe me, the best strains." Musk also pitched hemp-powered Tesla batteries, prompting Trump to declare on Truth Social, Twitter, X, and a few more to come and go: "Nobody knows hemp better than me—except maybe Frederick Douglass, still doing greatthings!"

Their joint (pun intended) venture to create AI-powered rolling machines hit a snag when the robots unionized and started tweeting cryptocurrency memes. Trump demanded gold plating; Musk suggested self-driving to Mars. Progress stalled—surprise, surprise.

#### **Looking Forward**

Despite regulatory hurdles and industry drama, cannabis is growing faster than you can say, "indica or sativa?" From craft cultivators to global corporations, this green wave is reshaping culture, commerce, and comedy.

The best of the cannabis world isn't just about potency or profit—it's the creativity, persistence, and absurdity that keep us hooked. Here's to the basement growers, the boardroom suits, and everyone riding this kaleidoscopic journey together.

So, here's to another year of Green Dreams, High Hopes, and constant regulatory headaches.

### Wishing Everyone a Wonderful & Happy Holiday Season!!!

**Note:** This piece was crafted with satire and should not be taken as legal or financial advice. Any resemblance to real people or events? Totally intentional, but legally deniable.

