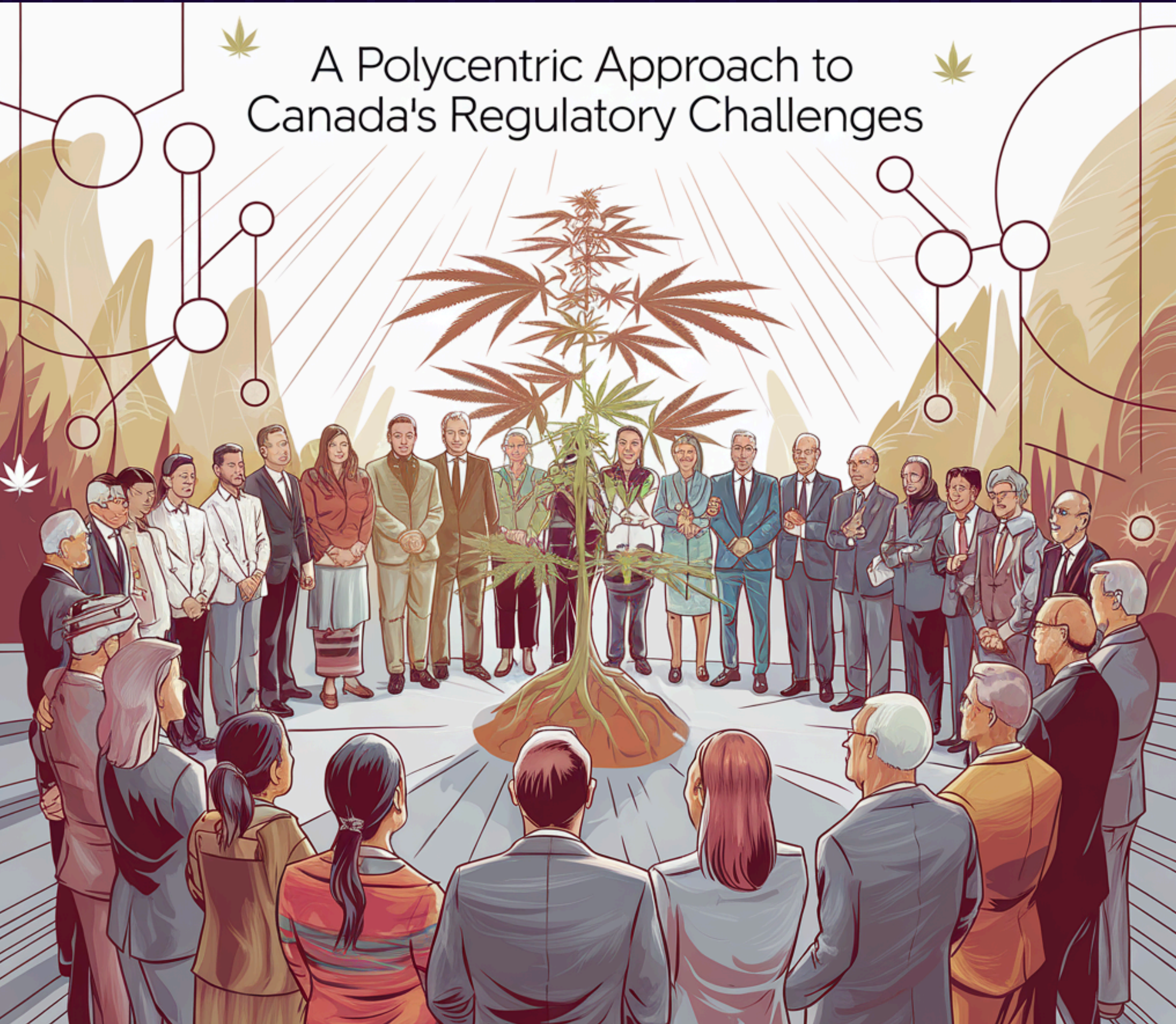


GOVERNING THE CANNABIS COMMONS

A Polycentric Approach to
Canada's Regulatory Challenges



CONSERVATIVE CRITIQUE OF LIBERAL DRUG POLICIES



The Conservative Party opposes cannabis legalization, attributing 46,000 deaths to "liberal drug legalization," and advocates for increased law enforcement and stricter drug policies.

POTENTIAL HARM TO LEGAL CANNABIS INDUSTRY



Stricter enforcement may inadvertently harm the legal cannabis industry by driving consumers back to illicit markets and creating a negative social perception of cannabis use.



ILLICIT MARKET RESILIENCE

High legal prices and accessible illicit production enable unregulated markets to thrive, as consumers perceive little difference in quality or safety between legal and illegal products.



Aggressive enforcement against First Nations dispensaries could strain relationships and overlook Indigenous rights to self-governance, leading to legal conflicts and social tensions.

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HISTORICAL LESSONS

ON PROHIBITION

Past prohibitionist policies under the Harper government led to increased illicit activity; repeating such approaches risks further entrenching unregulated markets.



The Conservative emphasis on stronger enforcement and opposition to harm reduction could result in policies that stifle the legal market and fail to address underlying demand.



RISK OF UNDERMINING PUBLIC HEALTH GOALS

PUBLIC
HEALTH
GOALS

ENFORCEMENT

Focusing solely on enforcement may neglect effective harm reduction strategies, potentially exacerbating drug-related harms and overdose deaths.

Strategic Considerations for Legal Businesses

Enforcement

Social Stigma

Social Stigma

**Industry
Advocacy**



The legal industry may need to reconsider supporting policies that could harm their market, instead advocating for balanced approaches that enhance competitiveness and social acceptance.



Promoting collaboration with Indigenous communities and integrating diverse market participants can create a more sustainable and equitable cannabis industry.



Encouraging policies grounded in evidence, such as harm reduction and education, may better address drug-related issues and support the growth of the legal market.