



PORT COLBORNE

Corporate Services Department
Clerk's Division

Municipal Offices: 66 Charlotte Street
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January 22, 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7

VIA E-MAIL

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Resolution – Amending the AGCO Licensing and Application Process for Cannabis Retail Stores to Consider Radial Separation from Other Cannabis Locations

Please be advised that, at its meeting of December 14, 2020, the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne resolved as follows:

That the resolution received from the City of Hamilton Re: Amending the AGCO Licensing and Application Process for Cannabis Retail Stores to Consider Radial Separation from Other Cannabis Locations, be supported.

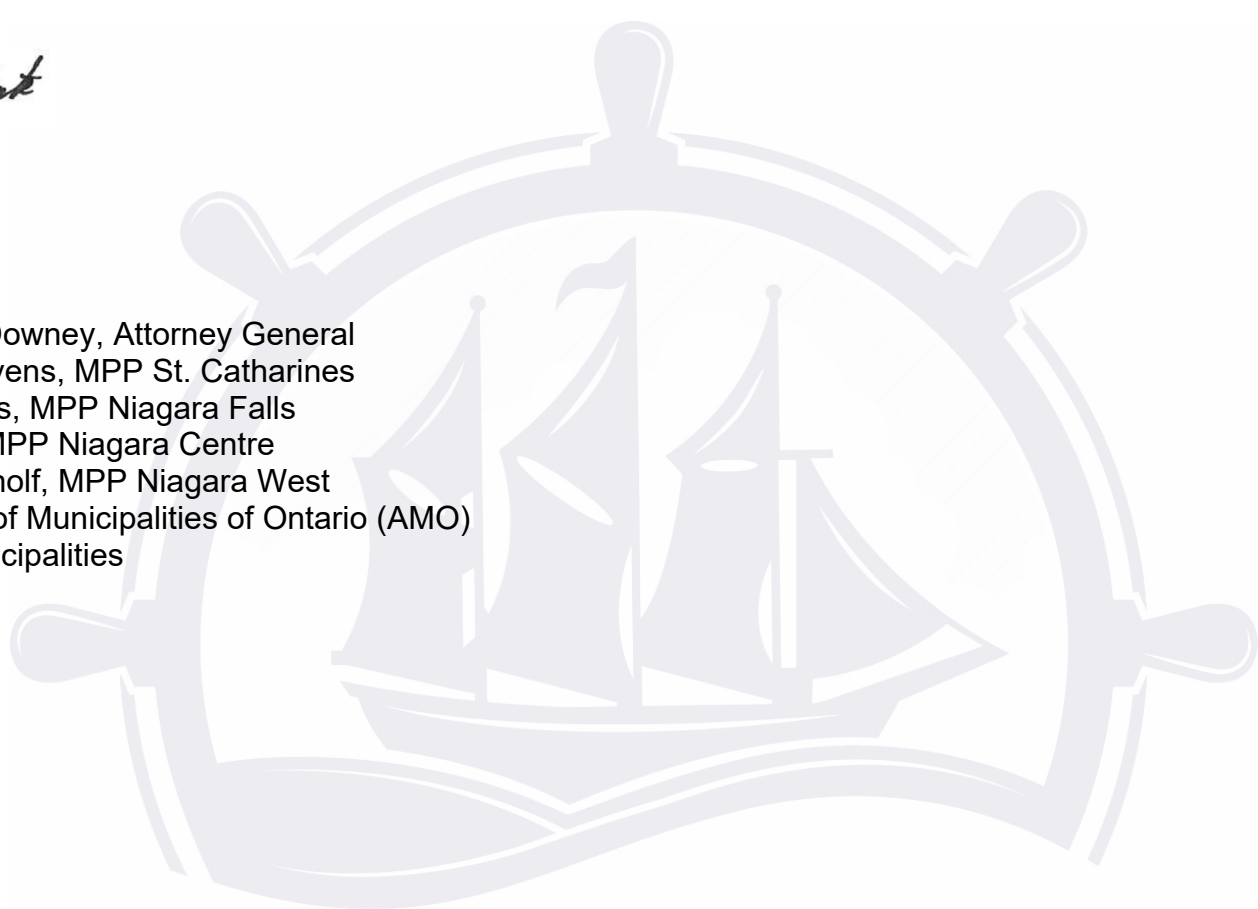
A copy of the above noted resolution is enclosed for your reference. Your favourable consideration of this request is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

Amber LaPointe
City Clerk

Encl.

ec: Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General
Jennifer Stevens, MPP St. Catharines
Wayne Gates, MPP Niagara Falls
Jeff Burch, MPP Niagara Centre
Sam Oosterhoff, MPP Niagara West
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Municipalities





OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

September 8, 2020

Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office, Room 281
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Honourable Doug Downey
Attorney General
Ministry of the Attorney General
McMurtry-Scott Building
720 Bay Street, 11th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2S9

Subject: **Amending the AGCO Licensing and Application Process for Cannabis Retail Stores to Consider Radial Separation from Other Cannabis Locations**

Dear Premier & Attorney General,

Hamilton City Council, at its meeting held on August 21, 2020, approved a motion, Item 6.1, which reads as follows:

WHEREAS in late 2019 the Province of Ontario announced that the AGCO had been given regulatory authority to open the market for retail cannabis stores beginning in January 2020, without the need for a lottery;

WHEREAS the AGCO has continued to send Cannabis Retail Store applications to the City of Hamilton for the required 15-day comment period,

WHEREAS the City has reviewed 61 Cannabis Retail Store applications for comment since January 2020;

WHEREAS the AGCO does not take into consideration radial separation for Cannabis Retail Stores.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

.../3

- (a) That the Mayor contact the Premier of Ontario, Ministry of Attorney General, and local Members of Parliament to ask that the Province consider amending its licensing and application process for Cannabis Retail Stores to consider radial separation from other cannabis locations.
- (b) That the request be sent to other municipalities in Ontario, including the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for their endorsement.
- (c) That Staff be requested to submit heat maps outlining the location of all proposed AGCO Cannabis Retail Store in the City on all AGCO Cannabis Retail Store applications.

As per the above, we write to request, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, that the appropriate legislative and regulatory changes be made and implemented to the AGCO licensing and application process to take into consideration radial separation for Cannabis Retail Stores as a condition of approval for a license.

Currently the City of Hamilton has reviewed 61 cannabis retail location applications since January 2020. Approximately 12 of these potential locations are within 50m (or less) of each other.

The City of Hamilton appreciates that the AGCO conducts a background search prior to approving any licenses, however the lack of separation between locations poses a community safety issue, as the over saturation in specific area(s)/wards, can negatively impact the surrounding community with increased traffic flow, and an overall "clustering" of stores within a small dense area.

The City of Hamilton is confident that radial separations from cannabis retail locations will have a significant positive impact on the community and allow for its residents to continue to enjoy a safe and healthy community lifestyle.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fred Eisenberger', with a stylized, flowing script.

Fred Eisenberger
Mayor

C: Hon. Donna Skelly, MPP, Flamborough-Glanbrook

Hon. Andrea Horwath, Leader of the Official Opposition, MPP, Hamilton Centre

Hon. Paul Miller, MPP, Hamilton East-Stoney Creek

Hon. Monique Taylor, MPP, Hamilton Mountain

Hon. Sandy Shaw, MPP, Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas



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January 26, 2021

Honourable Patty Hajdu
Federal Minister of Health
705 Red River Road, Suite 3
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 1J3

Sent via E-mail: Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Resolution – Unlicensed and unmonitored cannabis grow operations

Please be advised that, at its meeting of January 11, 2021, the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne resolved as follows:

That Council support the correspondence item attached as Appendix B from the Township of Blandford-Blenheim regarding Cannabis Production.

A copy of the above noted correspondence is enclosed for your reference. Your favourable consideration of this request is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

Amber LaPointe
City Clerk

Encl.

ec: Honourable David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness
Vance Badawey, MP Niagara Centre
Jeff Burch, MPP Niagara Centre
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Municipalities



Township of Blandford-Blenheim

47 Wilmot Street South
Drumbo, Ontario N0J 1G0

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October 13, 2020

Emailed to the Federal Minister of Health, Federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Federal Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Oxford MP, Oxford MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all municipalities in Ontario.

Re: Unlicensed and unmonitored cannabis grow operations

Please be advised that at the Regular Meeting of Council on October 7th, 2020, the Council of the Township of Blandford-Blenheim passed the following resolution:

Resolution Number: 2020-14

Moved by: Councillor Nancy Demarest

Seconded by: Councill Bruce Banbury

“That Whereas unlicensed and unmonitored cannabis grow operations have increasingly become a problem in communities in Ontario as well as across the Country; and,

Whereas these operations are allowed to establish with little or no consultation with the local community and municipalities are often only made aware of their existence after conflicts arise with neighboring land owners; and,

Whereas loopholes in existing Federal legislation allow these large scale grow op’s to establish and operate without any of the regulations or protocols that licensed and monitored operations need to adhere to,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Blandford-Blenheim urges the Federal Government to amend the legislation under which these facilities operate to ensure the safety and rights of the local communities in which they are situated are respected; and,

That this resolution be forwarded to the Federal Minister of Health, Federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Federal Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Oxford MP, Oxford MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all municipalities in Ontario.”

Regards,

Sarah Matheson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Blandford-Blenheim