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December 18, 2020

Monika Turner
Director of Policy
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Ave., Suite 801
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3C6

Dear Ms. Turner:

This is to advise that City Council, at a meeting held on December 14, 2020, passed the following resolution regarding cannabis retail in Ontario:

“WHEREAS the regulator for private cannabis retail in Ontario, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) has the authority to license, regulate and enforce the sale of recreational cannabis in privately run stores in Ontario; and

WHEREAS on January 14, 2019 Kitchener City Council agreed to ‘opt-in’ to the Provincial direction to allow Cannabis Retail to occur in the City of Kitchener; and

WHEREAS the AGCO criteria does not take into consideration radial distance separation from other Licensed Cannabis Stores when considering applications for new Licensed Cannabis Stores; and

WHEREAS the City of Kitchener currently has two open retail locations and 12 active applications for Licensed Cannabis Stores, several within a three block radius; and

WHEREAS Council considers it a matter of public interest to include a 500 metre distance separation from other Licensed Cannabis Stores, as excessive clustering and geographic concentration of cannabis retail outlets may encourage undesirable health outcomes, and over-concentration may cause undesirable impacts on the economic diversity of a retail streetscape including the distortion of lease rates, economic speculation, and the removal of opportunity for other commercial businesses; and

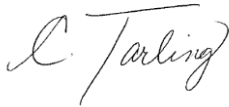
WHEREAS cannabis retail is a new and unproven market, and no studies or precedent exists to determine the number or distribution of stores that

can reasonably be supported by the local economy, and it is therefore prudent to establish the means by which the AGCO, with input from a municipality, can regulate over-concentration as the cannabis retail market evolves;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs the Mayor, on behalf of Council, to write the Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance of Ontario, and the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario, requesting the Province modify the regulations governing the establishment of cannabis retail stores to consider over-concentration as an evaluation criteria, require a 500 metre distance separation between locations, and provide added weight to the comments of a municipality concerning matters in the public interest when considering the application of new stores; and

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and other municipalities in Ontario."

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'C. Tarling'.

C. Tarling
Director of Legislated Services
& City Clerk

c: Garth Frizzell, Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Berry Vrbanovic, Mayor, City of Kitchener
Helen Fylactou, Manager of Licensing, City of Kitchener
Ontario Municipalities