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#1

February 10, 2023

Village of Debden
204 2nd Ave. East
Debden, SK.
S0J 0S0

Dear Village of Debden Mayor and Councilors,

RE: Bylaw to amend Bylaw 2/2023 known as the Zoning Bylaw

Please accept these written comments and questions in regards to the Public Hearing on February 22, 2024. I am submitting these concerns in the best interest of my Dad, Sylva Bisson (resident of the Village of Debden), myself, Denise Dumais (resident of the rural community of Debden), and other loved ones that live in the community.

I have provided documentation and questions that make me have reservations about amending the Zoning Bylaw 2/2023 to provide for the opening of a Cannabis Retail business in the C1 District. The existing Bylaw does not deny the existence of a Cannabis Retail store in Debden's Commercial District C2 and seems to satisfy the following purpose for a Zoning Bylaw.

"The purposes of a zoning bylaw are to control the use of land for providing for the amenity of the area within the council's jurisdiction and for the health, safety and general welfare **of the inhabitants** of the municipality."

Planning and Development Act, 2007, c.P-13.2, s.45.

Thank you for your consideration,

Denise Dumais
Box 231
Debden, SK.
S0J 0S0

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Denise Dumais
Box 231
Debden, SK.
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Petition to Village of Debden Council

I, _____, am a citizen of the village of Debden or a citizen of the rural area of Debden, and I am petitioning the Village of Debden Council to **abandon the proposed Bylaw 1/2024**. I request that **no amendments** be made to Section 5.10 Cannabis Retail Stores, subsection (1) and (2) and Section 7.3 C-1-Village Commercial District, Table 7-3 C1 Village Commercial District Development Standards.

Amending the zoning bylaw to have a Cannabis Retail Store located in the C1 District on Debden’s Main Street will have an adverse effect on the community and compound the existing issues of loitering of intoxicated/high people, personal property damage, vandalism, and theft. A business such as a Cannabis Retail Store can operate between 8:00 am – 3:00 am of the following day, every day of the year. By operating a retail storefront, the sale of cannabis, cannabis accessories, and cannabis ancillary items can be sold to individuals anywhere in Saskatchewan by phone, fax or via a website using delivery or pick-up. Considering that the residents of the Village of Debden mainly consist of seniors, widows, single persons, single-parenting moms (while the husbands are away for shift work), retirees, empty nesters, and young families who have minor-aged children, a Cannabis Retail Store located on Main Street will leave the residents of the Village of Debden and rural area feeling insecure.

I demand that the Village of Debden Mayor and Council completely withdraw their intent to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* amend Bylaw 2/2023, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

Signature: _____

Printed Full Name: _____

Address: _____



Petition to Village of Debden Council

We, the citizens of the village of Debden, the citizens of the rural area of Debden, and other concerned citizens, petition the Village of Debden Council to **abandon the proposed Bylaw 1/2024**. We request that **no amendments** be made to Section 5.10 Cannabis Retail Stores, subsection (1) and (2) and Section 7.3 C-1-Village Commercial District, Table 7-3 C1 Village Commercial District Development Standards.

Amending the zoning bylaw to have a Cannabis Retail Store located in the C1 District on Debden's Main Street will have an adverse effect on the community and compound the existing issues of loitering of intoxicated/high people, personal property damage, vandalism, and theft. A business such as a Cannabis Retail Store can operate between 8:00 am – 3:00 am of the following day, every day of the year. By operating a retail storefront, the sale of cannabis, cannabis accessories, and cannabis ancillary items can be sold to individuals anywhere in Saskatchewan by phone, fax or via a website using delivery or pick-up. That means that the residents of Debden can access Cannabis at any time from elsewhere. Considering that the residents of the Village of Debden mainly consist of seniors, widows, single persons, single-parenting moms (while the husbands are away for shift work), retirees, empty nesters, and young families who have minor-aged children, a Cannabis Retail Store located on Main Street will leave the residents of the Village of Debden and rural area feeling insecure.

We demand that the Village of Debden Mayor and Council **completely withdraw the intent** to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw 2/2023, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

Signature	Full Name	Address

Cannabis Retail Store Permit

SLGA - Cannabis Regulatory Policy Manual

Chapter 3 – Cannabis Retail Store Permit (p.20)

1. Primary Business and Eligibility

- a. The primary purpose of a **standalone cannabis retail store** permit is the retail sale of cannabis, cannabis accessories, and cannabis ancillary items. Standalone cannabis retail stores may not provide any other goods or services.
- b. **Integrated cannabis retail store** permits may sell cannabis, cannabis accessories, and cannabis ancillary items alongside other goods or services.

Questions:

1- Assuming that the class of cannabis permit that is being considered is a “cannabis retail store permit”.

What type of permit is this cannabis retail store applying for?

- a) a standalone cannabis retail store permit? or
- b) an integrated cannabis retail store permit?

2- Is the applicant for a “Discretionary Permit” a sole proprietor (personal profit) or a corporation (corporate expectations for a profit margin)?

3- How will a Cannabis Retail Store reflect community pride and engagement in our hometown development, activities and volunteerism?



Zoning

SLGA – Cannabis Regulatory Policy Manual

Chapter 2 – Permitting Processes (p. 11)

2a. Information Required

vi. **Municipal approval** of location and/or business licence proving **compliance with municipal zoning and any restrictions on location;**

Chapter 2 – Permitting Processes (p. 13)

2d. Municipal Approval and Building Inspection

i. Under The Cannabis Control (Saskatchewan) Act and The Cannabis Control (Saskatchewan) Regulations, **SLGA cannot issue a cannabis retail store or wholesale permit in a community where the municipal or band council has prohibited those types of businesses.** Upon receiving an application, if there is no existing retail store in that community, SLGA will notify the municipality or band that an application has been received, but will not release the name of the applicant or any specific proposed location.

ii. A copy of your business licence and/or written approval of the facility location for all wholesale, retail, and related storage facilities must be provided before the permit can be issued. SLGA encourages all applicants and prospective applicants to contact the local government of the community where the store is to be located as early in the process as possible, as **local governments have the authority to impose restrictions on the number of businesses that can operate as well as where they can be located.**

Questions

- 1- Why must the existing bylaw be amended to accommodate the location to be on C1 Village Commercial District for a cannabis retail store? Why isn't the existing location of C2 Highway Commercial District acceptable?
- 2- How will a Retail Cannabis Store on Main Street that has potential to be open 8am–3 am the following day every day of the year, help the residents of the Village of Debden feel secure especially if it is attracting customers from out-of-town after regular business hours?
- 3- How will a Retail Cannabis Store in the C1 Village Commercial District increase the patronage to other businesses **during regular business hours** more than the grocery store, gas stations, post office, Credit Union, SGI, restaurants, and Debden Villa Hotel already do? (Note: Our community certainly doesn't need another business that will potentially attract business beyond regular business hours!)



Municipal Responsibilities

SLGA - Cannabis Regulatory Policy Manual

Chapter 1 – General Information (p. 8)

3c. Municipalities and First Nations are responsible for determining where (if anywhere) cannabis permits can be located in a municipality or First Nation. In this capacity, municipalities and First Nations may also establish rules relating to:

- i. Buffer distance between cannabis businesses or cannabis businesses and any specified facility type (e.g. schools or playgrounds);
- ii. Business licensing;
- iii. Business signage; and
- iv. Limiting hours of operation

The Village of Debden Zoning Bylaw

5.10 CANNABIS RETAIL STORES

- (1) Cannabis Retail Stores shall be permitted within the C2 district as a discretionary use.
- (2) Cannabis Retail Stores shall be prohibited within the R1, C1, M, and FUD districts.
- (3) Cannabis retail stores shall maintain a minimum setback of 150 metres from schools. This setback is measured from the building wall of the cannabis retail store to the boundary of the school, licensed daycare or public playground / park.

Questions:

- 1- At this time, the Village of Debden council has **complete control** to provide or not provide a Discretionary Permit for a Cannabis Retail Store. Before considering to amend the zoning bylaw, has the Village of Debden Council started to establish rules and restrictions for a potential “Cannabis Retail Store” that will consider the safety, benefits, and desires of the businesses and residents in the village?
- 2- Trusting that the buffer distance between a potential Retail Cannabis Store in the C-1 District meets the Village of Debden Zoning Bylaw 5.10 (3), is it truly to the best interest of the school students to provide a Business license to a Retail Cannabis Store merely a few metres from the boundary of the buffer zone?
- 3- Most businesses in the C-1 Village Commercial District, except the Debden Villa Hotel, provide services to clients of all ages. The existing Zoning Bylaw requires a Cannabis Retail Store to be in the C-2 Highway Commercial District. Why does it seem necessary to amend the bylaw and provide a business license to allow another business in the C1 Village Commercial District that will only cater service to clients of only age 19 and over?



Hours & Days of Operation/Employee Availability

SLGA - Cannabis Regulatory Policy Manual

8. Hours and Days of Operations (p. 33)

a. Maximum Hours and Days of Cannabis Sale

- i. A cannabis retail store permittee may open the retail store **every day** for cannabis sale.
- ii. Subject to clause iii, cannabis may be sold or delivered only within the maximum regulated hours for the sale of cannabis and cannabis accessories:

- Daily, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. of the following day;
- On December 31, 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 a.m. on the following day.

iii. The cannabis retail store permittee must comply with all applicable federal, provincial or municipal legislation, by-laws and regulations governing the hours of operation of retail store premises. In particular, cannabis retail store permittees must comply with more **restrictive hours of operations for the cannabis retail store permittees if established by the municipality.**

b. Minimum Operating Days and Hours

- i. A cannabis retail stores must provide in-person retail sales to the public a **minimum of 6 hours a day for 5 days a week.**
- ii. **SLGA may grant exemptions to minimum operating hours requirements based on local market** conditions or cannabis availability. Cannabis retail stores permittees must obtain authorization before reducing hours during which in-person retail sales are provided.

Questions:

- 1- In the Village of Debden, very few businesses are open beyond the regular business hours. The clients of businesses that are open later in the evening to early morning hours are mostly catering to out-of-community clientele, possibly leaving the vulnerable residents of this community dealing with the residue of the loitering of intoxicated/high people, littering, personal property damage, vandalism, or theft. Has the Village of Debden council considered making further restrictions to the hours of operation of the Cannabis Retail Store?
- 2- The residents of the Village of Debden mainly consist of seniors, widows or single persons, single parenting moms-while the husbands are away for shift work, retirees, empty nesters, and young families who have **minor-aged** children. Is the business of a Cannabis Retail Store on in the C-1 District on Main Street truly meeting the needs of the residents of the Village of Debden and rural community or is it focusing on serving the other surrounding communities?
- 3- Local businesses already operating in Debden indicate that it is difficult to recruit employees. Cannabis Retail Stores must employ individuals who are over the age of 19 to handle or sell cannabis or cannabis accessories. Is it in the best interest for the community of Debden to provide a "Discretionary Permit" to a new business in the C-1 district if the hiring pool for employees generally won't be from Debden and rural area?



Local Market

SLGA – Cannabis Regulatory Policy Manual

Chapter 3- Cannabis Retail Store Permit (p. 21)

2a. Suitability of a Cannabis Retail Store Facility

iii. Cannabis retail store permittees must provide bona fide retail storefront facilities sufficient to serve the **local market**.

Questions:

- 1- Does a Cannabis Retail Store have to be located on Main Street to serve the residents of Debden and rural area with a bona fide manner? Is it not reasonable to think that our **local clientele** for cannabis, cannabis accessories cannabis ancillary items could access them at the C-2 District according to current Zoning Bylaw 2/2023.
- 2- Amending the Bylaw to accommodate a Retail Cannabis Store in the C-1 District will certainly end the possibility for a "good health" business (e.g.: a potential Day Care, pet store, farm product retail store, accounting firm, 2nd-hand store, etc) to enter the business district at that location. If a C-2 location for a Retail Cannabis Store isn't available at this time, is not fair to think that our local market for Cannabis can continue to access their products at stores located in other communities, much like they do to access medical & dental appointments, pharmaceutical prescriptions, equipment repairs, farming or ranching products, clothing stores, sport events, etc.?



Orders and Delivery

SLGA - Cannabis Regulatory Policy Manual

Chapter 3 – Cannabis Retail Store Permit (p.20)

1d. Cannabis retail store permittees must operate a retail storefront, and may also sell cannabis, cannabis accessories, and cannabis ancillary items to individuals in Saskatchewan via a website using delivery or pick-up at the retail store.

e. Cannabis retail store permittees may also make wholesale sales of cannabis, cannabis accessories, or cannabis ancillary items to other Saskatchewan cannabis retail store permittees. There is no limit on the volume of these sales.

Chapter 3 – Cannabis Retail Store Permit (p. 39-40)

13. Online, Phone and Fax Orders

a. Cannabis retail store permittees may take orders online, by phone, or by fax for cannabis, cannabis accessories, or cannabis ancillary items to be delivered to the customer.

b. Orders for delivery must be delivered by a common carrier, cannabis retail store employee, or liquor home delivery special use permittee. Orders must be delivered in accordance with Subsection 14 - Delivery below.

c. Orders for pick-up may be picked up only at the retail store address listed on the permit. Cannabis Regulatory Policy Manual Chapter 3 – Cannabis Retail Store Permit - 40 -

d. Each sale transaction must not exceed 30 grams of dried cannabis or the equivalent, as defined in Subsection 12(c) above. For online sales, this means that each sale transaction of no more than 30 grams must be shipped separately.

e. All sales made online, by phone or by fax, and any related deliveries, must be made only to persons located in Saskatchewan.

f. All sales, including deliveries, must take place within Saskatchewan and must comply with any relevant municipal, provincial, and federal laws

14. Delivery

b. Orders may be processed for delivery from either the retail store or an approved storage facility listed on the permit.

Questions:

- 1- Our community members can order their cannabis, cannabis accessories or cannabis ancillary items from other Cannabis Retail Stores nearby and have it delivered or ready for pick up. Is it necessary to amend a Zoning Bylaw and potentially inhibit a future "good health" business in the C-1 Village Commercial District so we can accommodate a Retail Cannabis storefront on our Main Street that may build a sustainable business by offering online, phone, fax or website orders?

Disciplinary Action

SLGA – Cannabis Regulatory Policy Manual

Chapter 7- Disciplinary Action (p.63-68)

1b. Where a cannabis permittee, registrant, or the employees of a cannabis permittee or registrant commits a violation, SLGA has the discretion to impose any of the following actions on the permittee or registrant:

- i. Issue a warning;
- ii. Attach new or amended terms or conditions to the cannabis permit or registration;
- iii. Assess an administrative penalty (fine) to a maximum of \$25,000;
- iv. Suspend a cannabis permit or registration; or
- v. Cancel a cannabis permit or registration.

1d. SLGA uses a progressive system of disciplinary action when it proposes a sanction against a cannabis permittee or registrant. Where a cannabis permittee commits consecutive or more serious violations, SLGA typically proposes stronger sanctions for each corresponding violation. However, in cases of serious misconduct, SLGA may find the progressive system of discipline to be an unacceptable approach. In those cases, SLGA evaluates the nature of the violation, the surrounding facts and other relevant factors and, where warranted, a more severe sanction will be imposed. In cases involving violations of the Cannabis Act (Canada) or the Criminal Code, SLGA may also refer cases to law enforcement authorities or other agencies for additional action. Example: A general principle of SLGA's cannabis regulatory framework is the protection of minors from the negative impact of cannabis use. A cannabis retail store permittee's first violation of selling cannabis to several minors will likely result in a harsher sanction Cannabis Regulatory Policy Manual Chapter 7 – Disciplinary Action - 64 - (administrative penalty or permit suspension) than one typically granted under a progressive system of discipline (warning letter). Evidence of systematic sale to minors may be referred to police for criminal sanctions.

Questions:

- 1- If a Cannabis Store Permit is denied at this time, there will be NO NEED to deal with issues such as 1) the consumption of cannabis, etc. in public places (2018, cC-2.111, s.2-14), 2) the selling or distribution of cannabis to a person who appears intoxicated (2018, cC-2.111, s.3-8), 3) targeting minors (2018, cC-2.111, s.3-16), 4) proof of age & examining identification, 5) the reliance on SLGA and a Cannabis Authority to monitor the legal distribution of cannabis by the Cannabis Retail Store (2018, cC-2.111, s.2-11), 6) and endless legalities if the Retail Cannabis Store commits violations to "The Cannabis Control Act- Bill No.121", and The Cannabis Control (Saskatchewan) Regulations".

It is important to note that even if the permittee of a Retail Cannabis Store commits consecutive violations or even serious violations, they will simply be faced with a progressive system of disciplinary action by SLGA. Is it necessary to amend a Zoning Bylaw to provide a discretionary permit to a Retail Cannabis Store in the C-1 Village Commercial District knowing that it will be almost impossible to revoke the permit in later years?

Minors

SLGA - Cannabis Regulatory Policy Manual

Chapter 3 – Cannabis Retail Store Permit

5. Minors (p. 28)

b. The sale of cannabis or cannabis accessories to minors is prohibited. A cannabis retail store permittee or the employees of a cannabis retail store permittee must demand proof of age on all transactions involving cannabis and cannabis accessories, including cannabis or cannabis accessories being delivered.

12h) Cannabis Accessories (p. 38)

vi. Cannabis retail stores cannot sell cannabis accessories that, in SLGA's opinion, may encourage the overconsumption of cannabis, the consumption of illicit cannabis, or the consumption of cannabis by minors.

Questions:

- 1- If our local minors want safe and controlled cannabis and cannabis accessories, they must nonetheless access it from a third-party who is over the age of 19 and willing to take that risk. Most individuals over the age of 19 drive and can access a retail Cannabis Store in another community. Community clients over the age of 19 that do not drive can easily order their cannabis products and accessories online from another retail Cannabis Store and have them delivered. Regardless of whether or not the cannabis products are available in C-1 Commercial District of Debden, a minor must make prior plans to obtain controlled cannabis products. How is having a Cannabis Retail Store in the C-1 Village Commercial District of Debden going to truly protect our youth if they are reliant on a third-party to access the Cannabis products?



(11) If providing, altering, expanding or upgrading of services mentioned in subsection (2) will result in capital costs for facilities located outside the municipality in which the proposed development is to occur, the development levy bylaw may require:

- (a) payment to the other municipality that will bear those capital costs; and
- (b) submission to the municipality of an agreement that satisfies the municipality that the other municipality will provide, alter, expand or upgrade those services and bear those capital costs.

2007, c.P-13.2, s.169; 2012, c.28, s.29; 2018, c.27, s.32.

Bylaw requires ministerial approval

170(1) The municipal administrator shall submit to the minister:

(a) two certified copies of the development levy bylaw passed pursuant to section 169; and

(b) proof of compliance with the requirements of Part X in the form of a statutory declaration of the municipal administrator, together with a copy of all representations respecting the bylaw.

(2) A bylaw mentioned in subsection (1) has no effect unless it is approved by the minister.

(3) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), a council that has been declared an approving authority pursuant to subsection 13(1) is exempt from obtaining the minister's approval of the adoption, amendment or repeal of a development levy bylaw.

2007, c.P-13.2, s.170.

Development levy agreement

171(1) If a person applies for a development permit, a council that has passed a development levy bylaw pursuant to section 169 may require the applicant or the owner of the land to pay any applicable development levies in accordance with that bylaw.

(2) If, in the opinion of the council, it is necessary to do so, the council or development officer may require the applicant or owner mentioned in subsection (1) to enter into a development levy agreement with the municipality respecting the payment of the development levies.

(3) Subject to subsection 169(3), a council may assess only one development levy on one development.

2007, c.P-13.2, s.171.

Zoning bylaw required

34(1) If a council has not passed a zoning bylaw pursuant to this Act or any former Act, the council, in adopting an official community plan, shall, by separate bylaw, pass a zoning bylaw in accordance with this Act.

(2) The council shall ensure that the municipality's zoning bylaw is consistent with its official community plan, and any part of a zoning bylaw that is inconsistent with the official community plan has no effect insofar as it is inconsistent.

2007, c.P-13.2, s.34.

Plan adoption process

35 An official community plan must be adopted by bylaw of the council in accordance with the public participation requirements of Part X.

2007, c.P-13.2, s.35.

Submission to minister for approval

36(1) The municipal administrator shall submit to the minister:

- (a) two certified copies of the official community plan;
- (b) a copy of the bylaw adopting the official community plan; and
- (c) proof of compliance with the requirements of Part X in the form of a statutory declaration of the municipal administrator, together with a copy of all representations respecting the official community plan.

(2) An official community plan has no effect unless it is approved by the minister.

(3) If the minister issues a conditional approval, the official community plan, takes effect on and from the date of the conditional approval, except for the part of the official community plan that requires further amendment.

2007, c.P-13.2, s.36.

Powers of minister

37(1) If an official community plan is submitted to the minister pursuant to section 36, the minister may:

- (a) approve the official community plan;
- (b) refuse to approve the official community plan;
- (c) approve the official community plan in part; or
- (d) approve the official community plan on the condition that the council effect amendments to it that, in the opinion of the minister, do not materially affect the plan in principle or substance.

Approving authority

13(1) Subject to subsection (3), the minister may, by order, declare that on or after the date specified in the order, a council, district planning authority or regional planning authority is an approving authority within the area under its jurisdiction.

(2) In an order made for the purposes of subsection (1), the minister may impose any terms and conditions that the minister considers appropriate.

(3) To be eligible to be declared an approving authority pursuant to subsection (1), the council, district planning authority or regional planning authority must:

- (a) employ or retain a registered professional planner, and
- (b) have adopted:
 - (i) in the case of a council, an official community plan;
 - (ii) in the case of a district planning authority, a district plan; or
 - (iii) in the case of a regional planning authority, a regional plan.

(4) Subject to subsection (5), if a council, district planning authority or regional planning authority fails to employ or retain a registered professional planner during any period lasting longer than six consecutive months, the minister shall, by order, declare that the council, district planning authority or regional planning authority has ceased to be an approving authority.

(5) If the minister considers it appropriate to do so, the minister may:

- (a) issue a written notice to a council, district planning authority or regional planning authority authorizing the council, district planning authority or regional planning authority to continue as an approving authority for a period extending beyond the period mentioned in subsection (4); and
- (b) if the minister issues a written notice pursuant to clause (a), impose any terms and conditions on the written notice that the minister considers appropriate.

(6) If a council, district planning authority or regional planning authority ceases to employ or retain a registered professional planner, the municipal administrator or development officer shall immediately provide written notice of that fact to the minister.

(7) The minister may, by order, amend, suspend or revoke any order issued pursuant to subsection (1) if the minister considers it appropriate to do so.

2013, c.23, s.6; 2013, c.C-21.1, s.59; 2018, c.27, s.4.

Publication in the Gazette

14 The minister shall cause to be published in the Gazette:

- (a) every order made pursuant to subsections 13(1), (4) and (7); and
- (b) every notice mentioned in subsection 13(5).

2007, c.P-13.2, s.14; 2018, c.27, s.5.

Good Evening

Do you think Debden needs a Cannabis Store, definitely not, it will destroy our community.

Already there's businesses for sale, repairs to do & clear up.

It will not attract people to move in Debden and the ^{people} that are ready for retirement might just decide to go else

where. It's never O.K to start taking cannabis, then the problem ^{is} to mix it with other ^{stronger} drugs to get a bigger effect.

Then trouble begins, and it can kill you. We hear of that on the news every week. Say no to Cannabis, let's protect our children

and grandchildren. With Cannabis we'll have ~~more~~ break-ins,

vandalism and trouble with the police. I want to hear

from the Mayor and the councillors as to how Debden

will benefit from a Cannabis store, just one good reason.

Isn't the Mayor and the councillors who decides what

happens or ^{is it} the people's feed back from the area that voted

Against it. We'll see people hang around the streets, it
won't ^{even} be safe to walk in Deben.

We have a petition going on so we will see the results.

To think that the Carab's store might be right on main
street, that is just plain unheard of and scary.

Carabia will not build new sidewalks, remove the pot
holes from main street.

Supposedly, if the Carab's store would be ^{open} all night
till 3:00 in the morning, well, folks your looking
for trouble and very unhappy citizens of Deben.

I wish I knew who's pushing this Pot House
in Deben.

Submission 3
Unknown
Unsigned.

If we allow a Cannabis store to open on Debden's main street, the message Debden is sending to our younger generation is that we approve. We approve of the use of cannabis and we approve of drug dealers on our streets. I believe it will impact our children in a very negative way. As a resident of this community I have come to say, I DO NOT APPROVE.

Let me mention the town of Cobourg and city of Belleville, Ontario as reasons for my concern.

1. Cobourg Ontario Population 20,000
3 cannabis stores. The first opened March 19, 2021

Inspired Cannabis

Mary J's Cannabis

Circa 1818

That's approx. 6,600 people per cannabis outlet

I have a friend who lives near Cobourg Ontario. She said before Cobourg approving Cannabis stores, it was a beautiful, safe and quiet town. She said over the period of the past 3 years her observation was that opening a cannabis store has had a negative impact on Cobourg and it's gone completely down hill. It's brought in the drug pushers. Addictions have led to a high incidence of theft and break-ins. It is not the safe town it used to be. High increase of homelessness. So many sleeping on the ground. Tents are going up. It starts off small and turns into a huge mess.

2. On February 9, 2024 Belleville, Ontario declared state of emergency after a surge in overdoses

Population 55,000

5 Cannabis Stores: True North Cannabis.

Yield Cannabis. Belleville's Own Retail Cannabis

Shiny Bud Cannabis. Sativa Bliss Cannabis

That's approx. 11,000 people per cannabis outlet. In Cobourg it works out to 6,600 per cannabis outlet.

Debden's population is just over 300. What kind of impact will a cannabis store have here especially if it is located on main street where our adolescent youth & young children walk to and from school? There's the potential for drug pushers to loiter about befriending (actually harassing) them and coax them onto ~~cocaine, meth, etc.~~ *drugs.* On main street it's right in their face.

Again I say,

If we allow a Cannabis store to open on Debden's main street, the message Debden is sending to our younger generation is we approve. We approve of using cannabis, we approve of drug pushers on our streets.

As a resident of this community I am here to say, I DO NOT APPROVE.

Article published by the Canadian Press October 13, 2022.

<https://theconversation.com/legalizing-cannabis-led-to-increased-cannabis-poisonings-in-canadian-children-it-could-get-a-whole-lot-worse-191938#:~:text=>

We conducted two large studies, following cannabis legalization in Canada

When Canada legalized non-medical cannabis four years ago, there was enormous uncertainty about how legalization could impact the health of Canadians. Since then, there has been increasing evidence that legalization has resulted in some negative health effects. **The clearest of these is a large increase in accidental cannabis poisonings in young children.**

We conducted two large studies that found a nine-fold increase in emergency department visits and a six-fold increase in hospitalizations for cannabis poisoning in children younger than 10 years (average age of 3.5 years) following cannabis legalization in Canada. These increases have been so substantial that cannabis is now a leading cause of hospitalizations for poisoning in this age group.

The government of Canada has just launched a mandated federal review of the health and social impacts of cannabis legalization. We argue that addressing the impacts of legalization on the health of Canadians must take precedence over the financial concerns of the cannabis industry, which are demonstrated by their growing calls to roll back or remove government regulations. (Why are we here tonight? There has been a push to change our regulations/bylaw.)

Provincial variation

Most of the increase in cannabis poisonings in young kids happened after edible products came to market. The increase was much more modest in Québec, where the sale of these products was prohibited. (Daniel Myran, Yaron Finkelstein), Author provided

Child cannabis poisonings

When we care for infants and young children who have been rushed to the hospital for cannabis poisoning, we see many parents and caregivers who are shocked by the severity of the cannabis effects on their intoxicated child. Children can become very sick, be less responsive and in severe cases suffer from seizures, trouble breathing on their own, or even enter a coma.

With no effective antidote, children with severe cannabis poisoning require hospitalization — sometimes in intensive care units requiring a breathing machine — until the cannabis is processed and cleared from their body. The long-term effects of these unintentional poisonings are unknown.

These increases in child poisonings occurred despite safety efforts by the federal government, which included parental education, restricting cannabis advertising, mandating plain and child-resistant packaging and restricting the amount of THC (the main psychoactive ingredient in cannabis) in a package to a maximum of 10 milligrams.

It's important to note the cannabis industry is specifically asking that many of these regulations — including THC limits and child-resistant packaging — be removed to make their products more competitive with the illicit market.

What is the buffer distance between Cannabis outlet and school property?

