



Deputation to Mississauga City Council
on
Establishment of Retail Cannabis Stores
December 12, 2018
by
Brad Butt, Director of Government Relations

Check Against Delivery

Good morning Madam Mayor & Members of Council,

I appear before you today on behalf of the Mississauga Board of Trade to speak in favour of Mississauga opting in to the retail sale of cannabis in our city.

As you are aware, the Provincial Government has given until January 22, 2019 for municipalities to opt in or opt out of allowing the establishment of privately-operated retail cannabis stores.

Through the Alcohol & Gaming Commission of Ontario (ACGO) these stores will be highly regulated and licensed and be subject to very strict conditions of operations. The stores must be at least 150 metres away from the

property line of a school, must meet building code and fire code regulations and be in commercial zones.

Further, when an application to establish one of these stores is received by the ACGO, there is a 15-day comment period where we believe the views of the municipality will be highly regarded by the ACGO before a license is granted.

We believe that these stores provide customers purchasing a legal product in Canada a place to obtain their cannabis, they will pay commercial property taxes to the City and Region and they will employ dozens of new people in their stores. Many of the companies vying to operate these stores have excellent track records in other jurisdictions or have been operating accessory and consulting stores in Mississauga for many years.

At the most recent Annual Meeting of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, the Mississauga Board of Trade sponsored a resolution calling for the Province to share 50% of the federal excise tax revenue with municipalities and it is a position we will continue to advocate for in the future. The resolution passed unanimously.

In the staff report, it lays out the financial impact of opting in or opting out and revenue share with the municipalities. Clearly there is a good revenue model for opting in with a potential for that revenue to grow when federal excise tax revenue is better known.

We strongly believe that Mississauga and Peel deserve their fair share of this revenue for regulatory and enforcement costs.

Members of Council, opting in is the right and responsible thing to do. We ask for your support.

Media Contact
Brad Butt
647-745-9748
bbutt@mbot.com