

RESOLUTION 0103-2023 adopted by the Council of The Corporation of the City of Mississauga at its meeting on April 19, 2023

0103-2023 Moved by: D. Damerla Seconded by: J. Horneck

WHEREAS the production, distribution, sale and possession of cannabis became legal in Canada on October 17, 2018 under the federal *Cannabis Act*.

AND WHEREAS, on December 12, 2018, Council for The Corporation of the City of Mississauga ("Council") passed Resolution 0218-2018 to prohibit retail cannabis stores in the City of Mississauga;

AND WHEREAS the City of Mississauga prohibited (or "opted out") of the retail sale of cannabis due to:

- 1) concerns around the lack of adequate municipal oversight on the location of retail cannabis stores in Mississauga and the ensuing risk of "clustering"; and
- a desire to seek better municipal oversight over cannabis retail store location before "opting-in";

AND WHEREAS, Council has advocated with the Provincial Government for greater municipal control over the location of legal retail cannabis stores and four and a half years later, the Provincial Government has refused to heed this request;

AND WHEREAS in the meantime, illegal cannabis stores have proliferated in Mississauga and are creating a host of anti-social problems in their vicinity;

AND WHEREAS, the City of Mississauga is in the untenable position of being unable to effectively shut down illegal cannabis stores; however, the existence of legal cannabis retail stores will make illegal cannabis stores less attractive;

AND WHEREAS Mississauga residents are being forced to buy cannabis online in neighboring cities or illegally in Mississauga;

AND WHEREAS Mississauga is among a relatively small number of municipalities that do not allow for the legal retail sale of cannabis;

AND WHEREAS, it was prudent for Mississauga to have taken a "wait and see approach" with the prime rationale for this being to advocate for greater municipal control over the location of cannabis stores but four and a half years later, it is clear that:

- 1) the Provincial Government has no intention of providing Mississauga or any other municipality greater control over the location of cannabis stores;
- the cannabis market has matured and understands the risks of overclustering; and
- the existence of legal retail cannabis stores will reduce the profitability of illegal cannabis stores;

AND WHEREAS subsections 41(3)(4) of the *Cannabis Licence Act, 2018* provide that a municipality that has prohibited cannabis retail stores to be located in the municipality may, by resolution, lift the prohibition and permit cannabis retail stores to be located in the municipality and that such a resolution is final and may not be reversed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The City of Mississauga lift its prohibition on cannabis retail stores and permit cannabis retail stores to be located in Mississauga.
- 2. The City Clerk provide the Registrar of the AGCO with written notice of the resolution within three (3) business days of the passage of the resolution, as required by Ontario Regulation 468/18 passed pursuant to the *Cannabis Licence Act*, 2018.

Recorded Vote	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Mayor B. Crombie	Χ			
Councillor S. Dasko		Х		
Councillor A. Tedjo	Х			
Councillor C. Fonseca		Х		
Councillor J. Kovac		Х		
Councillor C. Parrish		Х		
Councillor J. Horneck	Х			
Councillor D. Damerla	Х			
Councillor M. Mahoney	Х			
Councillor M. Reid	Х			
Councillor S. McFadden	Х			
Councillor B. Butt	Х			

<u>Carried</u> (8, 4, 0)