



# Joe Cressy 周凱捷

City Councillor | Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina

May 30, 2016

To: Chair and Members of the Board of Health

From: Councillor Joe Cressy  
Chair, Toronto Drug Strategy Implementation Panel

**Re: Interim guidance for municipalities on non-medical cannabis**

The Council-approved Toronto Drug Strategy (TDS) provides a comprehensive approach to alcohol and other drug issues based on the integrated components of prevention, harm reduction, treatment and enforcement. The TDS Implementation Panel is a multi-sectoral leadership group that provides oversight and strategic advice for implementation of this strategy.

At its May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting, the Panel discussed the forthcoming legalization of non-medical cannabis, expected in 2017. In the interim period, clear guidance is needed for municipalities. We are concerned that in the interim period a situation akin to unregulated legalization has taken place in Toronto and across the country. This situation has not been driven by a clear and consistent public health approach, and there are impacts for individuals, families and communities.

The TDS Implementation Panel therefore asks the Board of Health to urge the Government of Canada:

1. To provide immediate interim guidance on how municipalities should approach the possession and sale of non-medical cannabis, using a public health approach, prior to the forthcoming legalization and regulation in 2017.

Sincerely,

Councillor Joe Cressy  
Chair, Toronto Drug Strategy Implementation Panel