TORONTO   **Member Motion**

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM30.22	ACTION			Ward: All

Cannabis Retail Locations - Protecting Youth and Communities - by Councillor Cynthia Lai, seconded by Councillor Nick Mantas

Recommendations

Councillor Cynthia Lai, seconded by Councillor Nick Mantas, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Government of Ontario and the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario not to consider or approve the locations of cannabis retail store locations inside shopping centres or malls.

2. City Council request the City Clerk to forward this Motion to the Government of Ontario, the Ministry of the Attorney General, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario and all Toronto Members of Provincial Parliament.

Summary

Applications for cannabis retail store locations to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario have proliferated across the City. In Ward 23, Scarborough North, there have been nine such applications in recent months.

Many of these applications are in close proximity to places of worship, schools and recreational facilities where younger people, including children, congregate regularly to socialize. Further, recent cannabis retail store applications have included sites inside shopping centres and malls including Splendid China Mall on Steeles Avenue East.

Shopping centres and malls are where many youth congregate. Families also visit with children. One proposed cannabis retail location was near a food court where students meet after school.

Allowing cannabis retail store locations inside shopping centres exposes larger groups of the population, including youth, to cannabis products, potentially affecting their health and safety.

Access to cannabis for youth, including students, should be discouraged.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM30.22