Sent on behalf of Todd Coles, City Clerk

**RE:** ONTARIO RECREATIONAL CANNABIS LEGISLATION
(Referred)

Attached for your information is **Item 1, Report No. 3**, of the Special Committee of the Whole regarding the above-noted matter which was adopted by the Council of the City of Vaughan at its meeting of January 21, 2019.

*Whereas* the legalization of recreational cannabis in Canada came into effect on October 17, 2018; and

*Whereas* the Province of Ontario currently controls the sale of cannabis on-line through the Ontario Cannabis Store; and

*Whereas* legislation introduced by the Province of Ontario permits the sale of cannabis through authorized, private retail outlets as of April 1, 2019; and

*Whereas* Ontario municipalities have been given a one-time opportunity to opt-out of the province’s private cannabis retail model through a resolution of Council to be submitted by January 22, 2019; and

*Whereas* Members of Vaughan Council have actively engaged and listened to their constituents about the issue of recreational cannabis and the presence of cannabis retail stores in the community; and

*Whereas* a Special Committee of the Whole meeting on January 21, 2019 was held to provide another opportunity for residents and community groups to participate in debate and voice their concerns on the issue of licensed retail cannabis in Vaughan;

*Whereas* the health and safety of Vaughan’s children, youth and all citizens remains of paramount importance to Vaughan Council; and

*Whereas* municipalities need dedicated, predictable and substantial funding from both the Canadian and Ontario governments to help ensure the administration and consumption of recreational cannabis is done in a safe, informed and responsible manner;

**It is therefore recommended:**

1. That this resolution of Vaughan Council be submitted to the Province of Ontario informing the provincial government that the City of Vaughan is formally opting-out of the province’s private cannabis retail model; and
2. That City of Vaughan Staff continue to work closely with other levels of government, community partners, including York Region Police, and the broader community to address and monitor evolving and developing issues and information surrounding cannabis legislation; and

3. That this resolution be forwarded to the Attorney General the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Vaughan’s MPs, MPPs, AMO, York Region Police and the Region of York.

To assist us in responding to inquiries, please quote the item and report number.

Attachment
Extract

Sincerely,

Todd Coles
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