



October 30, 2023

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office, Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Delivered by email
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier:

Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of October 24, 2023

Motion 10.1 – Councillor Kim; Re: Cannabis Retail Applications for the Town of Aurora

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on October 24, 2023, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas in January 2019, Council voted in favour of retail Cannabis in the Town of Aurora; and

Whereas the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) is the legal body overseeing Cannabis Retail; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora with geography of 7 km x 7 km and population of 64,000 currently has 13 Cannabis retail stores and 1 authorized at the AGCO; and

Whereas the long-term vision of the Town's Official Plan supports active and healthy lifestyle choices to complement a complete community; and

Whereas many cannabis stores are within close proximity to schools and daycares which are inhabited by society's most vulnerable; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario Liquor Licence and Control Act, 2019 (LLCA) in its regulation already has a precedent by limiting the number of grocery stores licensed to sell beer, wine, and cider to 450 and is currently not accepting any more applications;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora requests that the Government of Ontario through its Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) no longer accepts any further cannabis retail applications for the Town of Aurora; and**

- 2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora requests that the Government of Ontario re-evaluate its “formula” on how many cannabis stores are permissible within the boundaries of a municipality, including but not limited to:**
 - a. Utilizing a cap or upper limit;**
 - b. Utilizing a population per capita formula;**
 - c. Utilizing a distance to the next cannabis retail store formula; and**
- 3. Be It Further Resolved That should the Government of Ontario revisit the retail Cannabis formula guiding the number of cannabis retail stores permissible in a municipality, that it would extend to all existing municipalities; and**
- 4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario; Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora; and the Honourable Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill; and**
- 5. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration.**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Yours sincerely,



Michael de Rond
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



10. Motions

10.1 Councillor Kim; Re: Cannabis Retail Applications for the Town of Aurora

Moved by Councillor Kim

Seconded by Councillor Gilliland

Whereas in January 2019, Council voted in favour of retail Cannabis in the Town of Aurora; and

Whereas the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) is the legal body overseeing Cannabis Retail; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora with geography of 7 km x 7 km and population of 64,000 currently has 13 Cannabis retail stores and 1 authorized at the AGCO; and

Whereas the long-term vision of the Town's Official Plan supports active and healthy lifestyle choices to complement a complete community; and

Whereas many cannabis stores are within close proximity to schools and daycares which are inhabited by society's most vulnerable; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario Liquor Licence and Control Act, 2019 (LLCA) in its regulation already has a precedent by limiting the number of grocery stores licensed to sell beer, wine, and cider to 450 and is currently not accepting any more applications;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora requests that the Government of Ontario through its Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) no longer accepts any further cannabis retail applications for the Town of Aurora; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora requests that the Government of Ontario re-evaluate its "formula" on how many cannabis stores are permissible within the boundaries of a municipality, including but not limited to:
 - a. Utilizing a cap or upper limit;
 - b. Utilizing a population per capita formula;
 - c. Utilizing a distance to the next cannabis retail store formula; and

3. Be It Further Resolved That should the Government of Ontario revisit the retail Cannabis formula guiding the number of cannabis retail stores permissible in a municipality, that it would extend to all existing municipalities; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario; Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora; and the Honourable Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill; and
5. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried