



Committee of the Whole Report

Report Number: ED2023-037
Meeting Date: May 9, 2023
Title: Support for Cannabis Act Review
Description: Support for the Huron County resolution, re Call to Action - Cannabis Act Review
Author and Title: Kelly Maloney, Economic Development Officer - Agriculture

Recommendations:

That Report ED2023-037, **Support for Cannabis Act Review**, be received;

That the Huron County resolution, re Call to Action – Cannabis Act Review, be supported;

That this resolution be forwarded to the:

- Federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
- Federal Minister of Health;
- Member of Parliament Jamie Schmale
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities
- Premier of Ontario
- Provincial Minister of Agriculture
- Member of Provincial Parliament Laurie Scott
- Provincial Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- Provincial Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- County of Huron
- Western Ontario Warden’s Caucus
- Eastern Ontario Warden’s Caucus; and

That this recommendation be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

On February 6, 2023 the City of Kawartha Lakes received email correspondence from the County of Huron (Appendix B) indicating that at a meeting held on February 1, 2023, their Council passed the following motion:

Moved by Councillor G. Finch, Seconded by Councillor M. Anderson

That the Council of the County of Huron approve the report by CAO Meighan Wark dated February 1, 2023 titled Report to Council: Cannabis Act Information as presented;

And Further That the Council of the County of Huron advocate for improvements to the Cannabis Act and current legislative framework for cannabis in Canada by sending the report titled Report for Council: Cannabis Act Information, including the correspondence found in the appendices, to the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus (WOWC) for discussion and consideration;

And Further That The Council of the County of Huron approve forwarding Call to Action Letters to the following for support:

- Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
- All Municipalities in Ontario
- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)
- Premier of Ontario
- Provincial Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Provincial Minister of Agriculture
- Provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Member of Parliament
- Federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
- Federal Minister of Health.

On Monday, March 13. 2023, the City of Kawartha Lakes received email correspondence from the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus (Appendix A) indicating that the following resolution was passed at their meeting held on March 10, 2023:

Moved by R. Ehgoetz, seconded by K. Marriott:

That the Huron County resolution, re "Call to Action - Cannabis Act Review, be supported." – Carried.

At the April 13, 2023 meeting of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee the following resolution was passed:

Moved by A. VanVught, Seconded by M. Murphy-Ward

That the correspondence received from the County of Huron and from the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus be received; and

That the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee recommends support for the requests for review of the Cannabis Act as indicated within the County of Huron report "Call to Action – Cannabis Act Review".

Carried.

This report addresses those requests for support in review of the Cannabis Act.

Rationale:

During Committee discussion there was support for review of the Cannabis Act related to concerns noted by the County of Huron including:

- Serious odour impacts on local communities and residents from cannabis production facilities, most often from properties used for "The Production of Cannabis for Own Medical Purposes by a Designated Person".
- Lack of adequate odour controls to manage impacts on surrounding homes, public facilities and the community at large.
- Requiring confirmation of compliance with local municipal by-laws prior to approval by Health Canada of license application.
- Implementation of a system of minimum setbacks between cannabis production facilities and sensitive odour receptors, including homes and public facilities.
- Further notice and enhanced consultation with municipal governments when drafting and implementing legislation and regulations related to cannabis producer.

Other Alternatives Considered:

None.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities

This recommendation supports the strategic priority of “An Exceptional Quality of Life” within the 2020-2023 Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

None.

Consultations:

Agricultural Development Advisory Committee

Manager of Municipal Law Enforcement and Licencing

Attachments:

Appendix A – Correspondence dated March 13, 2023 from the Western Ontario Wardens’ Caucus



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Appendix A

Appendix B – Correspondence dated February 1, 2023 from the County of Huron



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Appendix B

Department Head email: rholy@kawarthalakes.ca

Department Head: Richard Holy, Director of Development Services