

Date: October 5, 2020

Report To: Planning and Development Executive Committee

Report From: Cody Vangel, CBO/Planner

Re: Municipal Cannabis Policy Statement

The Planning and Development Executive Committee may recall that on January 14, 2019 Mayor and Council passed a resolution to opt-in allowing cannabis retail stores in the Town of Fort Frances. Along with the above stated resolution it was also agreed to defer the development of a Municipal Cannabis Policy Statement to a later date. During these initial meetings, a draft municipal cannabis policy statement was included, though was never formally approved.

At the September 21, 2020 session of PDEC, the committee sought clarification as to if the UNFC school program currently located at 516 Portage was considered a school as defined in the Education Act. Administration reached out to the UNFC team as well as RRDSB to determine the program's stature. It was found that the program at 516 Portage is an extension of the Fort Frances High School and is funded and inspected by the Ministry of Education. Additionally, the program serves students from the age of 14 years and up. This information is satisfactory to consider the facility as a school.

The intent behind the Municipal Cannabis Policy Statement is to:

- Provide better guidance to prospective retail developers on suitable locations for their cannabis retail store
- Identify sensitive areas within the community such as schools and private schools in which a 150m buffer is recommended and/or regulated
- Provide municipal staff with a framework for providing comment to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) during the statutory 15-day consultation period for a proposed cannabis retail store

Attached with this report is the proposed draft Municipal Cannabis Policy for comment from the Planning and Development Executive Committee. Section 3 of the policy will require editing upon decision of the Committee when the sensitive areas are agreed upon.

Several "buffer map" renditions have been provided with this report for a visual representation to the Committee. The following renditions included are:

- Scenario 1: All schools (150m)
 - o This includes FFHS, J.W Walker, St. Mary, Robert Moore and UNFC program at both 427 Mowat and 516 Portage
- Scenario 2: All schools (150m) excluding UNFC at 427 Mowat
- Scenario 3: All schools (150m) excluding UNFC at 516 Portage

- Scenario 4: All schools (150m) excluding UNFC at 516 Portage, plus inclusion of childcare facilities (150m)
 - o Childcare facilities include UNFC on McIrvine Road and Knox United Church on Church Street
- Scenario 5: All schools (150m) excluding UNFC at 516 Portage, plus inclusion of childcare facilities (150m) plus inclusion of parks/MSCL/library (75m)

Upon confirmation of the Committee, administration can prepare a final map and policy for decision.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cody Vangel', with a stylized, flowing script.

Cody Vangel, EIT
Chief Building Official & Municipal Planner