

## Greater Essex County District School Board

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VIA EMAIL ONLY

November 30, 2018

The Government of Ontario  
c/o The Honourable Doug Ford, MPP  
Premier of the Government of Ontario  
Queen's Park, Legislative Building, Room 281  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1  
Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

The Government of Ontario  
c/o The Honourable Caroline Mulroney, MPP  
Attorney General and Minister of Francophone Affairs  
McMurtry-Scott Building, 720 Bay Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2S9  
Email: [caroline.mulroney@ontario.ca](mailto:caroline.mulroney@ontario.ca)

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Mulroney:

**Re: Cannabis Retail Stores Proximity to Schools – Greater Essex County District School Board Comments**

This correspondence is in response to the above-noted Ministry of the Attorney General led process that addressed limits of Cannabis Retail Stores proximity to schools. Please be advised that the Greater Essex County District School Board has had an opportunity to review and at the November 20, 2018 Board of Trustee's Meeting, passed a motion to write a letter of concern regarding the proximity of Cannabis Retail Stores to schools.

The Board is aware that Ontario Regulation 468/18, being the General Regulations pursuant to the *Cannabis Licence Act, 2018*, were approved and ordered by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, through an Order In Council on November 14, 2018. The Regulations came into force on November 16, 2018, when the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario proclaimed the Act to come into force, based on the recent passage of Bill 36, Cannabis Statute Law Amendment Act, 2018, receiving Royal Assent on October 17, 2018.

Under the Act, this gave the ability for the Ministry of the Attorney General to recommend the Regulations thereto. As such, Section 11 of the Regulation under the Act, established a minimum 150 metre separation distance between Cannabis Retail Stores and schools.

The Board is concerned with the minimum distance established by the Government of Ontario. By amending the Regulations to enhance the separation distance of Cannabis Retail Stores

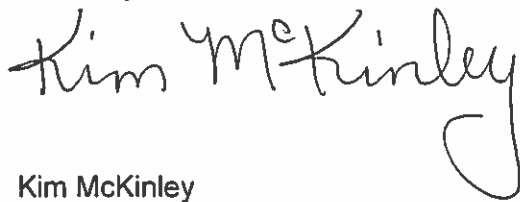
proximity to schools immediately, this will achieve one of the key principles of the legislation – to protect youth and to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that cannabis remains out of the hands of people under the age of 19.

The Government of Ontario needs to help ensure that we protect the student community of the schools through ensuring public health and safety, protecting youth and reducing illegal sales.

The Board requests that the Ministry of the Attorney General re-commence the consultations with a wider stakeholder group in revising the Regulations and then have the draft regulations open to board public consultation and then make recommendations to the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario to amend the Regulations thereafter.

Should you have any questions or concerns on the above, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Kim McKinley  
Chairperson of the Board

cc.

Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of Border Security and Organized Crime Reduction [Bill.Blair@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Bill.Blair@parl.gc.ca)

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