

St. Jean de Brébeuf Catholic Secondary School 200 Acadia Dr., Hamilton, Ontario, L8W 1B8, Tel: (905) 388-7020 Fax: (905)388-7977

Principal: Mr. H. Mayers Vice Principals: Mr. R. Lombardi, Mrs. S. Moretuzzo, Mr. R Valeri

December 7, 2018

Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Hamilton City Council Hamilton City Hall

2nd Floor – 71 Main Street West

Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and Members of City Council:

As members of the St. Jean de Brébeuf Secondary School Catholic School Council we are writing to share our concerns about the impact of legalized cannabis retail locations within Hamilton.

Students in high school are at a vulnerable age. Availability of alcohol, tobacco and drugs has been a long-term concern. More recently vaping and juuling have been introduced into the community. The introduction of cannabis stores only adds to the concern about a drug which may cause irreversible damage to the developing youth brain affecting memory, learning, problem solving, judgment, planning and control of impulsivity (HamiltonNews,com October 17,2018 Laura LaRocca, Retrieved from the web https://www.hamiltonnews.com/opinion-story/8972264-now-that-it-s-legal-how-do-i-talk-to-my-kids-about-marijuana-/).

St. Jean de Brébeuf Secondary School is committed to providing students the best educational opportunities as well as striving to encourage important social values in a safe and positive school environment.

Regardless of any laws, underage students will have a means of easier access to cannabis with retail outlets spread across the city. Bill 36 establishes a minimum distance of 150 meters between stores and schools. This is totally unacceptable as many high school students walk 1-2 km or more to school and will most likely pass by a retail cannabis location.

Over the past number of years, City Council has promoted Hamilton as "The Best Place to Raise a Child". The introduction of cannabis stores will not be a positive addition to this community. St. Jean de Brébeuf Catholic School Council would respectfully request that the city of Hamilton **not** permit retail cannabis stores.

Yours truly,

Karen Troisi (Chair)

Nancy Orfei (Treasurer)

Roman Caruk (Member)

Kevin Hunt (Vice-Chair)

Mirella Bozzo (Member)

Angela Catania (Teacher Rep.)

Tracy Gordon (Secretary)

Emma Butera (Member)

Emily Guibao (Student Rep.)

cc. Mr. Mayers, Mr. Daly

Soul, Mind, Body