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Our Reference #: M-2020-15725

January 18, 2021

His Worship Fred Eisenberger
Mayor
City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West, Second Floor
Hamilton, ON
L8P 4Y5

Email: mayor@hamilton.ca

Dear Mayor Eisenberger:

Thank you for your letter respecting the application for a proposed cannabis retail store at 11 Hatton Drive in Ancaster (City of Hamilton's file # C20-025).

As you are aware, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) is the independent provincial regulator authorized to grant cannabis retail operator licences (ROL) and retail store authorizations (RSA). The AGCO exercises its regulatory functions independently and as such, makes its decisions without interference of the government.

The AGCO accepts and reviews comments as part of the public notice process before determining if the location is appropriate and in the public interest as defined in the *Cannabis Licence Act, 2018*'s regulation, including protecting public health and safety, protecting youth and restricting their access to cannabis, and preventing illicit activities in relation to cannabis.

As previously noted, we appreciate your sharing the Hamilton City Council's concerns as we continue to monitor the evolution of cannabis legalization in the province.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Downey".

Doug Downey
Attorney General