

From: [Stephanie McVittie](#)
To: [Stephanie McVittie](#)
Subject: Email re: Cannabis for Council
Date: Wednesday, July 7, 2021 2:40:15 PM
Attachments: [image003.jpg](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
Importance: High

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From: Nick McDonald <nick@meridian-vaughan.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 3:22 PM
To: Stephanie McVittie <Stephanie.McVittie@caledon.ca>
Subject: Re: Are you available for 6pm Council tonight?
Importance: High

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Hi Stephanie

I am not able to attend tonight's meetings as I have been booked for another event.

The PFA indicates in their letter they indicate that the Town appears to be relying upon Section 1.2.6.1 of the PPS to require a 300 metre setback and to prohibit indoor operations in the agricultural area. While this section was a consideration, I did not place any reliance on this section to make these recommendations.

In my opinion, the amendments do recognize that the cultivation of cannabis is an agricultural use and is permitted in agricultural areas by the Provincial Policy

Statement (2020), which indicates that all types, sizes and intensities of agricultural uses and normal farm practices shall be promoted and protected in accordance with Provincial standards. However, in the absence of Provincial standards on the adverse effects of odour from cannabis growing, it is my opinion that there is a need to control the siting of such uses in relation to sensitive uses as a result of the known adverse effects from the cultivation of cannabis.

There is already a precedent for the establishment of setbacks from sensitive uses for odour reasons in agricultural areas in the form of the Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) guidelines established by the Province. The MDS guidelines are intended to provide the minimum distance separation between proposed new development and any existing livestock barns, manure storages and/or anaerobic digesters (MDS1) and provide the minimum distance separation between proposed new, expanding or remodelled livestock barns, manure storages and/or anaerobic digesters and existing or approved development (MDS2). Compliance with the MDS guidelines is also required by the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) when new land uses including the creation of lots or expanding livestock facilities are proposed.

The application of the MDS2 guidelines result in the establishment of setbacks that are intended to minimize the impacts of odour from livestock barns, manure storages and/or anaerobic digesters and have the effect of restricting the location of these facilities.

However, the MDS2 guidelines do not apply to cannabis and in the absence of Provincial guidance on this matter, it is up to local municipalities to establish a policy framework to avoid adverse effects, and if avoidance is not possible, to minimize and mitigate adverse effects through setbacks for indoor cannabis and industrial hemp cultivation from sensitive uses.

So the above really provides the basis for the recommendations that are being made and I am ok if you wish to share this email with Council.

The alternative is for the one or more the amendments being held until I am able to provide you with a more fulsome response.

I am available before 5 p.m. for a call on this if necessary.

Nick McDonald, RPP

President

signature_1337400293



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