



November 4, 2020

The Honourable Patty Hajdu
Minister of Health
Address Locator 0900C2
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9

Dear Minister Hajdu,

I am writing on behalf of Victoria City Council to indicate the City of Victoria's support for the request from the Solicitor General of British Columbia, that the Federal Government examine issuing a license that would allow the Victoria Cannabis Buyers Club (VCBC) to continue providing important health and wellness services in our local community.

Recently, the City of Victoria advocated to the Solicitor General of British Columbia to advise of the valuable service that the VCBC has provided to medicinal users of cannabis for the past two decades, and to request that the Provincial government consider authorizing an exemption to the VCBC under section 130 of the Cannabis Control and Licensing Act, to allow the VCBC to continue to provide responsible access and a safe, welcoming community space for medical cannabis users in the City of Victoria and Capital Region.

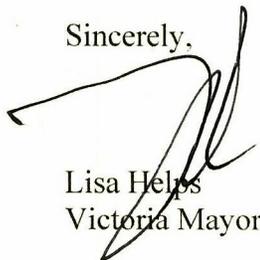
The Solicitor General of British Columbia advised that an exemption of this type would need to come from Health Canada, and that he has raised this issue with his federal ministerial counterpart and encouraged exploration of a license that could allow VCBC to continue providing certain services.

Therefore, on behalf of the City of Victoria, I wish to share our support for the VRBC model with Health Canada through this letter. It is our position that a temporary exemption while the business transitions into the legal system would be appropriate and to the benefit of the Club's patients.

The VCBC has provided a compassionate, not-for-profit, safe, inclusive and welcoming space for medical users of cannabis in the City of Victoria for more than two decades. Over the past months Council has heard from concerned medical cannabis users that they might lose access to the type of services provided by the VCBC. This could negatively impact consumer's health, quality of life and their sense of connection and community.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. I look forward to working together to find a solution that for the sake of medical cannabis users in the City of Victoria. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Helps', written over the printed name.

Lisa Helps
Victoria Mayor

Cc Honourable David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General
 Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
 Health Canada, via email: cannabis@canada.ca