

March 12, 2019

Dear City of Victoria,

I have been a practising pharmacist in addiction medicine for 15 years. Research shows that cannabis has been clinically proven to reduce the amount of opioid addiction by 20%. Cannabis also decreases the anxiety associated with mental health issues. Therefore, giving more access to cannabis will decrease the social impacts in our neighbourhood, not make it worse.

Cannabis is stigmatized unfairly over alcohol, and as such, the social impacts of alcohol are far worse than cannabis. The lighting, cameras and supportive staff help keep an eye on our fragile neighbourhood. Overall, I expect that Clarity Cannabis will be an added benefit to the neighbourhood. I will be diligent in addressing concerns that arise as a result of this store being approved and ultimately operational and ensuring that a reasonable outcome is achieved.

Finally, I implore you to look further into the research done on cannabis in legalized States and other countries and see that the fears are not supported by facts. I thank you for your time and hope to answer any questions and address any concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Michael Forbes

CEO, Clarity Cannabis