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**From:** Georgia Athanasiou, Exeter BIA Manager [<mailto:info@exeterbia.com>]

**Sent:** Friday, December 21, 2018 12:48 PM

**To:** Dan Best <[cao@southhuron.ca](mailto:cao@southhuron.ca)>

**Subject:** BIA Letter to Council - RE: Cannabis Legislation

To BIA Members,

Recently, council representatives reached out to the Exeter BIA to collect feedback regarding the allowance of retail cannabis stores in South Huron.

Municipalities must decide by **January 22, 2019** if they will opt-in or opt-out of allowing retail cannabis stores in the community. The BIA will be submitting a letter to Council for consideration at their next meeting on January 7, 2019.

## POSITION OF THE BIA

The Exeter BIA is in support of opting in to allow cannabis retail stores in South Huron.

The BIA's mandate is to "beautify and market Exeter's commercial districts as a business, shopping, and service destination. We do this through marketing and events, beautification, and economic development initiatives."

The BIA is conscious of opportunities that will increase our tax base and fill in gaps present in our business areas. Therefore, we would support a decision by Council to opt-in to allowing recreational cannabis retail stores in South Huron, given the Municipality of South Huron sets out appropriate guidelines for any cannabis store opening in our community.

## [REVIEW THE LETTER HERE](#)

The BIA welcomes your feedback and comments. Please contact the BIA Chair Rose Glavin or BIA Manager Georgia Athanasiou for further information, to provide feedback, or to ask questions.

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## INFORMATION ON CANNABIS LEGISLATION

The Cannabis Act (Bill 45-C) was introduced by the Federal Government of Canada to legalize and regulate recreational cannabis in Canada. Within this legislation, provinces have the authority to regulate the use, distribution, and sale of recreational cannabis.

Bill 36, introduced by the Government of Ontario, legalized the use of recreational cannabis on October 17, 2018. In addition to legalizing online sales of cannabis, Bill 36 legislates a tightly regulated private retail model that will launch by April 1, 2019, whereby the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) is the provincial regulator. Under this legislation, individual municipalities have the option of opting in or opting out of allowing cannabis retail stores in their municipalities.

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## LEARN MORE & PROVIDE INPUT

The Municipality of South Huron is collecting **community feedback** via online survey. They have prepared a brief background report, explaining more about the legislation, regulations, and funding opportunities, followed by a short survey.

## [TAKE THE COMMUNITY SURVEY](#)