

January 2019

Municipality of South Huron  
322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759, Exeter ON, N0M 1S6

RE: Cannabis Legislation

Council of the Municipality of South Huron,

In response to discussions at the December 17, 2018 Council Meeting, in which the Council deliberated about opting in/out of allowing cannabis retail stores in the Municipality, the South Huron Chamber of Commerce would like to express our position on **opting-in** to allow cannabis retail stores in the Municipality.

The Cannabis Act (Bill 45-C) was introduced by the 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, changed existing legislation to allow the use and sale of cannabis in the province of Ontario. It also created the Cannabis License Act 2018 which sets out a licensing scheme for online sales and private retail cannabis stores. Regulated by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario, this tightly regulated private retail model will launch by April 1, 2019. Under the legislation, individual municipalities have the option of opting-in or opting-out of allowing cannabis retail stores in their municipalities.

**The South Huron Chamber of Commerce would like to encourage the Council of the Municipality of South Huron to opt-in to allow retail cannabis stores in South Huron.** Selling cannabis is a legal activity under the legislation the Government has introduced, comparable to alcohol sales. It is important to respond positively to economic opportunities and investment in our region. It is the businesses and entrepreneurs that ensure meaningful employment for many community members and are assets to community life.

The South Huron Chamber of Commerce (SHCC) is a membership-based organization, serving the interests of the business community. Our member business owners and operators understand the value of working together to build an environment that is conducive to business vitality and expansion. Our aim is to impact positive economic and community development by identifying concerns and opportunities for collective action and contribution. We look forward to championing economic development, cooperation and collaboration amongst businesses in 2019 and to making South Huron a vital and viable community.

Yours Sincerely,



Leanne Comeau  
SHCC Chair



Joan Brady  
Executive  
Director, SHCC