

## THE DISTRICT OF HOPE RECORD OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, March 13, 2023  
Council Chambers, District of Hope Municipal Office  
325 Wallace Street, Hope, British Columbia

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Victor Smith  
Councillor Heather Stewin  
Councillor Scott Medlock  
Councillor Angela Skoglund  
Councillor Pauline Newbigging  
Councillor Zachary Wells

**Council Members Absent:** Councillor Crystal Sedore

**Staff Present:** John Fortoloczky, Chief Administrative Officer  
Donna Bellingham, Director of Corporate Services  
Jas Gill, Director of Community Development  
Branden Morgan, Deputy Corporate Officer/EA

**Others in attendance:** 3 members of the public and 1 media

Mayor Smith called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m.

The Director of Corporate Services stated that the purpose of the Public Hearing is to hear input on a proposed Non-Medical Cannabis Retail Store Licence.

**Subject Property:** Legally described as Lot A Sec 9 TWP 5 RGE 26 W6M YDYD Plan 12379; PID 006-639-062; with a civic address of **740A Fraser Avenue, Hope BC.**

The Director of Corporate Services read the Chairperson's Statement outlining the proceedings and conduct for the Public Hearing.

### ***Retail Sale of Cannabis Licence:***

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to gather the views of residents/businesses in a 50 metre radius from the subject property at 740A Fraser Avenue for the consideration of an applicant for a Non-Medical Cannabis Retail Store Licence, as well as any other public feedback.

The Director of Community Development advised Council that the applicant already holds a licence for a Cannabis Retail Store in Dawson Creek and that they are relocating the licence to 740A Fraser Avenue. He added that the District's policy does not vary the process of relocating, therefore they need to apply as a new licence.

The Director of Corporate Services advised Council that they received one submission in opposition and it was included in the agenda package, and that an additional two late submissions, both in favor, will be read into the record.

Tyler Kerr opposed the proposal, citing concerns regarding the proximity of the proposed location to Centennial Park and the need for the District to follow guidelines and restrictions for legal cannabis that it has established.

David Radmore, owner of [REDACTED] Fraser Avenue, supported the proposal stating that the business will contribute positively to the community and that he believes the applicant will provide a safe and secure business setting.

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Brad Keyes supported the proposal, citing the applicant's intent to deliver an educational program to the District and the positive influence the business will have on tourism and economic activity.

Mayor Smith invited comments or questions from the public.

Dr. Monica Monty, who operates a dental office at [REDACTED] Fraser Avenue, opposed the proposal citing concerns regarding increased undesirable activity in the area, oversaturation of the market with an additional store, risks to local vulnerable populations, and potential loss of patients due to the proximity of a cannabis store to the dental office.

Shawn Dang, the applicant, advised that the proposed retail store will generate job opportunities, provide safe lab-tested products, provide positive economic activity, utilize local resources and contractors, enact an education and training program for staff, put security systems and cameras in place, and contribute positively to the community.

Council inquired as to how many staff will be employed at the location. Mr. Dang advised that five to six staff, including himself, will be working at the store by the second month. Council inquired as to the hours of operation, to which Mr. Dang advised that the store will initially be open from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Council inquired as to how door-to-door delivery will be regulated with regards to age limits, to which Mr. Dang advised that ID will be verified and checked against the payment method provided. He also added that they are required to keep a delivery log which includes details such as the time, place, identity, and outcome of the delivery.

Mayor Smith called for a second time for any comments from Council and those in attendance and, hearing none, the Director of Corporate Services declared the Public Hearing closed at 6:52 p.m.

Certified Correct:

Original Signed by Donna Bellingham  
**Donna Bellingham,**  
**Director of Corporate Services**