

Hi Mayor Taylor, Deputy Mayor Vegh, Council members and Newmarket Staff,  
Councillor Simon,

Please forward this email to other council Members. Please also find an attachment with 193 signatures collected in only 2 days from Jan 05 to Jan 06:

Ward 1 Tax Payers are very disappointed with Staff's biased report.

We found the Cannabis Report by Staff on the Newmarket website to be biased and one-sided. The report also downplayed the negative effects of Cannabis retailing. We are also extremely disappointed and infuriated that Staff chose to:

1. Conduct a survey but discredited it completely stating, "lack of statistical validity" and ignore public opinion. How many times have the Town discredited its own survey?
2. Ignore/discredit in your own report the following:
  - \* 78% Opt-out sticky notes (But concluded, "generally supportive of allowing recreational retail stores" in your report!! We noticed most of the people who stayed behind to interact with staff were potential Cannabis business owners at the PIC.)
  - \* 69% phone respondents said they do not use Cannabis! (online survey results missing)
  - \* 56% voted opt-out completely or opt-out for now
  - \* 53% indicated strongly or somewhat oppose.
3. Highlight the economic benefits to Newmarket. But this will be negligible (e.g. the initial 2 annual payments of \$37,608 is less than 0.03% of 2018 expenditures). There is also no guarantee that we will even be able to get any money at all from the Federal Government after 2020.
4. The health and social impacts of cannabis legalization is inconclusive at this point (per your own report, "final outcomes will take years to become evident.") Arguments can be made both ways depending on what research you are quoting from the internet, but staff chose to provide one-sided studies in favour of Cannabis.
5. Ignore a letter signed by 88 members of the 108 Health Promotion Association (108 HPA) objecting to Opting-in emailed to info@newmarket.ca, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Council on Dec 28.
6. Include an email in favour of opting-in by a business that will benefit from opting-in but failed to incorporate the 108 HPA email and other similar emails in the report and did not forward the emails to council members.
7. Copperhills is a 5-year-old subdivision with young families and children. An allowable retail location is located around 700 Metres to the Frank Stronach Park and Splash Pad!

We urge staff and council members to be conservative, responsible and be more protective of our children because your decision will have lasting effects on many future generations. We would also like to remind staff that while council members are elected to represent their constituents, you are employed by the tax payers to serve us!

Your sincerely,

Arthur Li

And Citizens/Tax Payers in Ward 1, Newmarket

"as per CSC email

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a resident of Town of Newmarket, We'd like to express our concerns in the horrible effects on the community safety and bad influence on the education of our next generation brought by the threat of private cannabis retail stores.

We strongly oppose to allowing private cannabis retail stores in Newmarket, ON. We urge the city to take the action of the ""opt out"" immediately, as Richmond Hill, Markham and Mississauga have already voted for Opt-out.

I can be reached at [REDACTED] and my home address is: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Thanks for your consideration!

Regards,

Arthur Li"