



The mission of OPHA is to provide leadership on issues affecting the public's health and to strengthen the impact of people who are active in public and community health throughout Ontario.

Ontario Public Health Association
l'Association pour la santé publique de l'Ontario
Established/Établi 1949

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Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario (APHEO)

Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario (ASPHIO)

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Charitable Registration
Number 11924 8771 RR0001

May 23, 2023

ATTN: John Clare
Director General
Strategic Policy, Cannabis
Controlled Substances and Cannabis Branch
Email: cannabis.consultation@canada.ca

Re: Notice of Intent - Consultation on Potential Amendments to the Cannabis Regulations

On behalf of the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA), I wish to confirm our endorsement of Middlesex-London Health Unit's submission to Health Canada's Notice of Intent - Consultation on Potential Amendments to the Cannabis Regulations (attached). We join with Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) in commending Health Canada for recognizing the importance of setting out clear regulations and developing a legislative framework that aims to protect the health and safety of Canadians. The maintenance of strict regulations and controls governing the production and sale of cannabis is vital to mitigating the potential health and safety harms from these products.

The Ontario Public Health Association concurs with MLHU that there are health harms associated with cannabis consumption, but harms can be minimized with a thoughtful and intentional public health regulatory approach.

OPHA supports the recommendations put forth in MLHU's submission that correspond to three of the five priority areas for which Health Canada has requested feedback, specifically:

- Priority Area 3: Production requirements for cannabis products
- Priority Area 4: Packaging and labelling requirements for cannabis products
- Priority Area 5: Record keeping and reporting for cannabis license holders

The Ontario Public Health Association encourages Health Canada to adopt these recommendations. Feel free to contact me at any time should you wish to discuss our endorsement.

Sincerely,

John Atkinson
Executive Director

More about the Ontario Public Health Association

OPHA has established a strong record of success as the voice of public health in Ontario. We are a member-based, not-for-profit association that has been advancing the public health agenda since 1949. OPHA provides leadership on issues affecting the public's health and strengthens the impact of those who are active in public and community health throughout Ontario. OPHA does this through a variety of means including advocacy, capacity building, research and knowledge exchange. Our membership represents many disciplines from across multiple sectors.

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