



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

Office of the Minister
MLA, Leduc-Beaumont

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Her Worship Hazel Reintjes
Mayor, Village of Hines Creek
PO Box 421
Hines Creek AB T0H 2A0

Dear Mayor Reintjes,

Thank you for your letter of October 25, 2018, to the Honourable Margaret McCuaig-Boyd, MLA, Dunvegan-Central Peace-Notley, regarding the Municipal Cannabis Transition Program (MCTP). As Minister of Municipal Affairs, I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Government of Alberta.

I understand your concern that the Village of Hines Creek is not eligible to receive funding under the MCTP. At this stage, however, the costs associated with cannabis legalization are difficult to estimate. As the Government of Alberta does not expect revenues to exceed costs in the initial period of legalization, it was determined the MCTP needed to focus on municipalities with higher levels of enforcement responsibilities. To recognize these responsibilities, the MCTP is targeted to municipalities with populations over 5,000 that pay for their own policing.

Enforcement costs are expected to be the highest in larger municipalities, and, given their size, these municipalities are also where cannabis retail stores will most likely be located. I recognize smaller municipalities, including your village, will also undertake additional work associated with legalization. However, any additional policing requirements due to cannabis legalization are the responsibility of the province.

We will continue to work with municipalities to better understand the impacts of cannabis legalization and determine next steps following the first two years of the transition. For more information on the MCTP, please visit www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/municipal-cannabis-transition-program.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Hon. Shaye Anderson
Minister of Municipal Affairs

cc: Honourable Margaret McCuaig-Boyd, MLA, Dunvegan-Central Peace-Notley