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June 3, 2020

To: Registrar, Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario
90 Sheppard Avenue East, Suite 200
Toronto, Ontario M2N 0A4

To whom it may concern,

It has come to my attention that 2670590 Ontario Limited has made an application to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario requesting permission to allow a cannabis retail store at 307 Wellesley Street East. As the local councillor for this area, I am writing to voice my objection.

307 Wellesley Street East is a low-rise building that has the appearance of a residential property. It was originally built as an approximately 100 m² one-storey single family home and converted into a restaurant at some point. The building shares a common wall with 309 Wellesley Street East, which itself operates as a residential property. With a narrow entrance in what remains a converted residential space, it is unclear how the building would serve to ensure youth in the neighbourhood do not enter the store as required by s.20 of Ontario Regulation 468/18. In addition, its residential nature raises significant questions as to how cannabis will be properly stored and secured on-site.

Wellesley Street East is designated as a local road intended to accommodate local traffic. It is further part of a permit parking area that further restricts parking for vehicles outside of the neighbourhood. Without customer parking, there are significant concerns about how vehicles would be accommodated. Deliveries to site will also be challenging as there does not appear to be proper unloading space for large trucks at the site.

Finally, Wellesley Street East has a very narrow sidewalk without a boulevard. The likelihood is that if customers cannot loiter inside the converted home, they will be forced onto this narrow sidewalk while awaiting access. The city's experience with other cannabis facilities has been that if stores cannot provide space to loiter and congregate inside, it will lead to illicit activities outside, in this case potentially adjacent to other residential properties.

I trust that the Registrar will review these concerns with this application and refuse it.

Kristyn Wong-Tam
City Councillor

KWT/ebl

 **TORONTO** Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

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