

ALDERVILLE FIRST NATION

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Chief: Taynar Simpson
Councillor: Dawn Marie Kelly
Councillor: Lisa McDonald
Councillor: Nora Sawyer
Councillor: Jason Marsden

July 9, 2024

Aaniin Members of Alderville First Nation,

Your Council is writing to provide three notices that relate to the health and safety of residents of Alderville First Nation ("AFN"). Council celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit of its AFN members, which has helped Alderville become a prosperous First Nation. We must, however, ensure that businesses operating on our territory do so in a manner consistent with AFN community values. These values include public health and safety.

The three notices relate to:

- A. The signage of on-Reserve businesses;
- B. An upcoming community consultation process regarding a business bylaw; and
- C. An upcoming community consultation process for cannabis-specific businesses located on our Reserve.

A. Signage

Council has noted concerns surrounding signage on-reserve that pose a risk to public safety. Particularly, certain signs are reducing roadway visibility, making it more likely that a collision will occur. We remind local businesses that they are solely responsible for their operations. They are liable for their advertising, and for the health and safety of their occupants and visitors. They must take steps to ensure the health and safety of such individuals. Failure to do so can result in fines, lawsuits, and other liability We write to remind all businesses that signage, at a minimum, should:

- 1. Be clear and professional;
- 2. Not create excessive lighting outside of regular business hours that would create a nuisance or disturbance to persons using the road or in their residences; and
- 3. Not obstruct visibility for users of roadways, including drivers.

B. Consultation Process Regarding Businesses

Council is in the process of preparing formal by-laws for the regulation of businesses on the AFN Reserve. Council will commence a consultation process with the AFN community about these by-laws, to receive input. More details about the time and place of the consultation will be provided shortly. Once the by-laws are in force, all AFN businesses will be expected to comply with them.

Proudly working together to build a prosperous and healthy environment that promotes independence, honours and respects our values, and enhances our way of life.

C. Consultation Process Regarding Cannabis

Council is in the process of preparing formal by-laws for the regulation of the retail sale of cannabis on the AFN Reserve. Council will commence a consultation process with the community about these by-laws, to receive input. More details about the time and place of the consultation will be provided shortly. Once the by-laws are in force, all AFN businesses engaged in the retail sale of cannabis will be expected to comply with them. These regulations will govern how cannabis will be used, sold and regulated. In particular, the regulations will govern:

- 1. The minimum age for selling and buying cannabis;
- 2. The regulation of cannabis sales, including safety measures that retailers must impose to protect minors;
- 3. Restrictions on the location of cannabis retailers near schools; and
- 4. Restrictions on the advertising of cannabis products to minors.

Council is seeking input from various groups within our community, including:

- Elders;
- Existing retailers of cannabis products;
- Parents and caregivers;
- Educators;
- Healthcare professionals;
- Recreational users of cannabis products.

If you are interested in being a part of the consultation process for business by-laws or retail cannabis by-laws, please email cwilson@alderville.ca, and kindly specify which process.

Chi-miigwetch on behalf of:

Chief Taynar Simpson,
Councillor Dawn Marie Kelly,
Councillor Jason Marsden,
Councillor Lisa McDonald,
Councillor Nora Sawyer