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Committees Branch
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba
Room 251, 450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8
Via email: committees@leg.gov.mb.ca

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), which represents Manitoba's 137 municipalities, I am writing to provide some comments regarding Bill 26: *The Impaired Driving Offences Act*.

In light of the forthcoming legalization and regulation of recreational cannabis, local governments will face significant new enforcement and operational challenges in the months and years ahead, particularly related to policing. In fact, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) estimates municipal administration and local policing costs will total \$3-4.75 million per 500,000 residents as a result of legalization, which represents a range of approximately \$210-335 million per year in costs incurred by municipalities across Canada. Thus, Manitoba municipalities may incur costs that exceed \$10 million on an annual basis.

As these costs must not be downloaded onto municipalities, the AMM supports the FCM's call for one-third (33%) of total annual excise tax revenue collected on cannabis sales be allocated to municipal governments to address municipal administration and policing costs. The AMM also encourages the provincial and federal governments to explore additional funding mechanisms to support costs incurred by municipalities should excise tax revenues be insufficient. It is imperative that municipalities be included as meaningful participants in revenue-sharing conversations while a revenue-sharing model must be co-developed that respects municipal authority.

Several Manitoba municipalities have their own police forces or contracts with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to deliver policing services and increased expenditures in the areas of education, equipment, training, and enforcement are expected. Therefore, proactive communication and consultation with municipal police forces and the RCMP is highly recommended to ensure understanding of these legislative changes as well as the provision of tools and resources to responsibly protect and serve local communities.





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In closing, Manitoba municipalities are committed to ensuring their residents are safe and well-served. The AMM will continue to work with the provincial government to effectively address and respond to the challenges posed by the legalization of cannabis within the timeframe established by the federal government.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these brief comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Masi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joe Masi
Executive Director

