November 16, 2026

File JAGM26-00878

Addressed to: Tom Doran, Founder, Jupiter Cannabis, Unit C, 580 Academy Road, Winnipeg, MB, R3N 0E3, tom@jupiterwinnipeg.ca

Dear Tom Doran:

Your emails of October 17, 2026, and October 27, 2026, to The Honourable Wab Kinew, Premier of Manitoba, regarding Bill 56, The Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Control Amendment Act, have been referred to the Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Authority of Manitoba (LGCA). As the Executive Director and CEO, I am pleased to respond to some of the concerns you brought forward.

Staffing Regulations

As you are likely aware, Bill 56 has now passed in the Manitoba Legislature and came into effect upon Royal Assent on October 29, 2026. The Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Control Act no longer requires measures to restrict visibility into age-restricted cannabis stores and regulations may be developed to prescribe a minimum number of staff working at a cannabis store or working during specified hours. This legislation is intended to enhance safety for both staff and customers at cannabis stores.

I acknowledge that as a cannabis retailer, these changes are of significant interest to you, particularly the regulation that may be developed around staffing. Please be assured that the LGCA will be conducting consultations with interest-holders, including independent businesses, on this matter and your input will be used to inform any regulations. Your correspondence to date will also be included as information for the consultation process.

Window Coverings

Now that cannabis retailers may remove window coverings, the LGCA is providing guidance to licensees so they may remain compliant with The Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Control Act. Retailers are also welcome to consult the LGCA on how they may ensure they meet all of the requirements of their licence. To speak with the LGCA about this, please contact the LGCA's Commercial Services Department at licence@LGCAmb.ca or through the Contact Us form at www.LGCAmb.ca.

Alcohol and Cannabis

There are differences in the regulatory frameworks for alcohol and cannabis and certain requirements for each industry, such as the age to possess or consume

alcohol as opposed to cannabis. A variety of factors are considered that inform each framework, including industry interests and public safety.

Cannabis is a relatively new industry in comparison to alcohol, which has been a regulated product for over a century. Each industry presents unique risks and this is reflected in the requirements and rules that apply to these licences. As the cannabis industry continues to grow and evolve and our understanding of its societal impacts increases, legislation may adapt. The LGCA focuses on ensuring that the regulatory frameworks prioritize the safety of Manitobans in all our regulated industries.

The LGCA and the Manitoba government share your concern for workers' safety. We welcome cannabis retailers to implement additional safety and security measures, such as controlled-entry systems after certain hours or limiting hours of operation. Bill 56's framework around retail cannabis does not limit a store's ability to enhance its own safety measures.

Inspections and Investigations

As the regulator, it is the LGCA's responsibility to ensure that its regulated industries operate in compliance with provincial legislation and established regulatory standards. The LGCA conducts regular inspections of licensed establishments, and the LGCA's inspections program employs a risk-based approach in doing so. Over the last year, this included 1,120 inspections of cannabis licensees. Like other employers, the LGCA ensures appropriate resources to fulfill its mandate.

In your correspondence, you have indicated that you plan to submit a freedom of information request. Requests of this nature may be submitted to the LGCA's Privacy and Access Coordinator at fippacoordinator@LGCAmb.ca. You also asked if the LGCA screens owners of cannabis distributors. Background investigations are a standard part of the licence application process at the LGCA. The Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Control Act (the Act) enables the LGCA to perform background investigations of an applicant and its principals. This applies to applications for any licence under the Act, including for cannabis distributors.

Many of the other items you have indicated in your correspondence, including those related to the supply and distribution of cannabis, such as product catalogues, markups, and operational matters, are under the authority of the Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation. You have also requested information relevant to Workplace Safety and Health inspections. I have shared your correspondence with my counterparts in these organizations so they are aware of your questions.

I appreciate you taking the time to share your perspective on Bill 56. The Manitoba government is committed to improving safety within cannabis stores and ensuring that a broad range of perspectives inform its approach.

Sincerely,
Kristianne Dechant, Executive Director and CEO

c. The Honourable Wab Kinew, Premier of Manitoba
Honourable Matt Wiebe, Minister of Justice and Attorney General