

September 19, 2014

Delivered via email @ themayor@calgary.ca and franca.gualtieri@calgary.ca

City of Calgary – Office of the Mayor

ATTN: HIS WORSHIP NAHEED NENSHI, MAYOR OF CALGARY

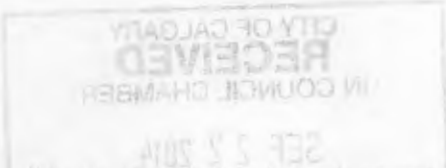
Dear Mayor Nenshi:

RE: E-CIGARETTE REVIEW WORK PLAN, CPS2014-0663

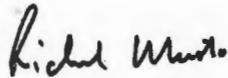
We are writing to request that Council reconsider the decision of the Community and Protective Services Committee and approve the proposed work plan to review the health issues associated with e-cigarettes and potential policy options.

E-Cigarettes or electronic smoking devices are growing rapidly in popularity and use in spite of a Health Canada [warning](#). Surveys by the Centers for Disease Control have found the use of electronic smoking devices has doubled from 2010 to 2012 not just in adults but also in youth. Furthermore, the surveys have found that youth using electronic smoking devices include youth with no previous history of tobacco use. Health organizations in both Canada, United States and other countries are concerned that the promotion of e-cigarettes and the sale of flavoured liquids that appeal to youth will damage the success that we have achieved in the past reducing the portion of the population smoking from 25% in 2002 to 17.4% in 2012. Tobacco use continues to be the leading preventable cause of premature death and disability. In recognition of the substantial health concerns related to the promotion and use of electronic cigarettes and the lack of evidence around their safety and effectiveness, the Canadian Medical Association approved the following policy statement:

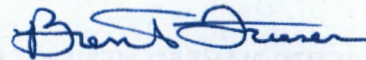
The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) supports aggressive tobacco control policies for Canada. Given the scarcity of research on e-cigarettes the CMA has called for ongoing research into the potential harms and benefits of electronic cigarette use. The Canadian Medical Association believes that, in the absence of solid evidence of harms or benefits, electronic cigarettes containing nicotine should not be authorized for sale in Canada. The Canadian Medical Association recommends a ban on the sale of all electronic cigarettes to Canadians younger than the minimum age for tobacco consumption in their province or territory. (March 1, 2014). <http://policybase.cma.ca/dbtw-wpd/Policypdf/PD14-07.pdf>


Alberta Health Services does not allow the use of electronic cigarettes within our facilities. The work plan proposed by City administration will ensure that council has the required information to make an informed decision. The only suggestion for improvement that we would have with regard to the work plan would be to compress the timelines. Alberta Health Services is committed to working with administration on the work plan to be able to bring back a recommendation as soon as possible. Thank you for considering the health of your constituents, particularly the younger ones as you make your decision.

Sincerely,
Alberta Health Services



Richard Musto, MD FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health
Calgary Zone



Brent Friesen, MD FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health
Tobacco Reduction Program, Safe &
Healthy Environments
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