



Canadian Cancer Society
Société canadienne du cancer

September 22, 2014

Mayor Nenshi
Office of the Mayor
The City of Calgary
P.O. Box 2100, Station M
Calgary, AB, T2P 2M5

Sent via: Email

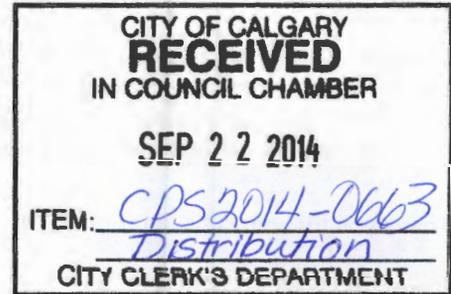
Dear Mayor Nenshi,

RE: E-Cigarette Review Work Plan, CPS2014-0663

On behalf of the Canadian Cancer Society, Alberta/NWT Division, I am requesting that Calgary City Council review and reconsider the decision of the Community and Protective Services Committee, and approve the proposed work plan to examine the issue of e-cigarette use, the potential impacts of e-cigarette use on Calgary's communities and citizens, as well as potential policy options for the City of Calgary to regulate e-cigarette use.

Some studies show that e-cigarettes with nicotine may help smokers quit smoking. However, Health Canada has not determined that e-cigarettes would be effective at helping smokers quit. The Canadian Cancer Society does not recommend the use of e-cigarettes as a tobacco cessation product as they can pose health risks. Only e-cigarettes without nicotine may be legally sold. However, some non-nicotine e-cigarettes sold in Canada actually do contain nicotine. In tests conducted by the Canadian Cancer Society, of nine brands of e-cigarettes that stated they did not contain nicotine, six did contain the substance. Other tests by the Society on seven liquids used to re-fill e-cigarettes found that all seven were mislabelled. Two contained nicotine when they were labelled as not having nicotine, and of the remaining five, the amount of nicotine in the product did not match what was stated on the package.

There is a lack of evidence regarding the safety and effectiveness of e-cigarettes and the products have the potential to lead to nicotine addiction, which is most concerning among youth.¹ E-cigarettes are also sold in flavoured liquids that appeal to youth. Regulations are needed to help prevent young people from using e-cigarettes and to help prevent e-cigarettes, and the marketing of e-cigarettes, from undermining smoking cessation efforts. It is very important that we prevent youth onset to nicotine addiction through e-cigarettes, which could potentially lead to tobacco use. As you know, tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death and disease in Alberta. The World Health Organization recommends the regulation of e-cigarettes in order to protect public health.²



¹. Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. *Electronic nicotine delivery systems*. World Health Organization. July 2014.

². Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. *Electronic nicotine delivery systems*. World Health Organization. July 2014.



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Your staff's proposed work plan will inform Council about the impact of e-cigarettes on the health and safety of Calgary communities, the best practices and effective regulation. The Canadian Cancer Society recommends that Council move forward with this work plan. We are committed to supporting and working with City of Calgary administration in the execution of this important work.

Thank you for your consideration of the health and wellness of our communities and youth.

Sincerely,

Daniel Holinda

Dan Holinda, MSW
Executive Director
Canadian Cancer Society, Alberta/NWT Division