April 10, 2017

Mr. Murray Krause
President
Union of BC Municipalities
60 – 10551 Shellbridge Way
Richmond BC V6X 2W9

Dear Mr. Krause:

I am responding to your letters dated March 16, 2017, addressed to the Honourable Suzanne Anton, Attorney General and Minister of Justice, and myself, the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, regarding the legalization and regulation of cannabis in British Columbia.

As you are aware, the Government of Canada has announced their commitment to legalize, regulate, and restrict access to cannabis in Canada. The Province of British Columbia is actively engaged with the Government of Canada, and considerations regarding the health and safety of British Columbians are at the forefront of discussions. The Government of Canada has also committed to engage with local governments at separate discussions to address their concerns.

While the Government of Canada develops their regulatory regime for legal non-medical cannabis and considers the recommendations made within the Task Force final report, the Province continues to actively pursue an understanding of federal government intention; however, at this time it remains unclear what specific Task Force recommendations the Government of Canada will accept within their regulatory framework.

The Province is committed to meeting with the UBCM to discuss local government interests once the Government of Canada tables their legislation and we have an opportunity to analyze the delineation of responsibilities amongst the impacted levels of government.

I look forward to the continued collaborative relationship between the Province of British Columbia and British Columbia local governments. Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Mike Morris
Minister of Public Safety
and Solicitor General

pc: The Honourable Suzanne Anton