

LOGO

Darren Dicks, President  
Carleton Heights and Area Residents  
Association (CHARA)

December 3, 2020

Joel Harden  
MPP, Ottawa Centre  
Email: [JHarden-CO@ndp.on.ca](mailto:JHarden-CO@ndp.on.ca)

Dear Mr. Harden:

As a resident living in your riding, I am writing to you on behalf of the board of directors of the Carleton Heights and Area Residents Association.

We are expressing our opposition to the opening of the cannabis retail store at 888 Meadowlands. Ave. E. Ottawa. We are also seeking your support to help us ensure the health and well being of the youth in our community.

We believe that the location of this cannabis store causes undue influence on vulnerable minors living and playing in the neighbourhood. For one thing, the store is too close to the Ottawa Boys and Girls Club, which is directly across the road. Secondly, within a short walking distance, are the Ottawa Canoe Club and the Hogs Back Park. Nearby is the Carleton Heights Elementary School, the Community Centre and the park and skating rink.

Part of CHARA's mandate is to forge partnerships and to build a healthy community spirit among our residents and local businesses. To that end, we wrote to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario in June 2020 to express our objections to the retail store being authorized at that location. We did not receive a response.

Is it possible for you and your colleagues at your next caucus meeting, to discuss/revise the regulations set about by the AGCO. We would also accept any suggestions and direction you provide to CHARA.

I look forward to hearing back from you as to what your discussion brings about. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely

Darren Dicks,  
President,  
Carleton Heights and Area Residents Association.  
[www.ourchara.ca](http://www.ourchara.ca)

Copies to:  
Ottawa Boys and Girls Club ([scybulski@bgcottawa.org](mailto:scybulski@bgcottawa.org))  
Debra Dynes Family House ([info@debradynes.com](mailto:info@debradynes.com))