
Subject: FW: Cannabis shop in the YXS airport

From: Wade Erickson <*REDACTED*>

Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 5:37 PM

To: Mayor <MAYOR@princegeorge.ca>; Councillor Everitt, Frank <Frank.Everitt@princegeorge.ca>; Councillor Frizzell, Garth <Garth.Frizzell@princegeorge.ca>; Councillor Krause, Murry <Murry.Krause@princegeorge.ca>; Councillor McConnachie, Terri <Terri.McConnachie@princegeorge.ca>; Councillor Ramsay, Cori <Cori.Ramsay@princegeorge.ca>; Councillor Sampson, Kyle <Kyle.Sampson@princegeorge.ca>; Councillor Scott, Susan <Susan.Scott@princegeorge.ca>; Councillor Skakun, Brian <Brian.Skakun@princegeorge.ca>

Subject: Cannabis shop in the YXS airport

Dear Mr. Hall and Council,

My name is Wade Erickson and my wife and I are residents of Vancouver. We moved here in 2013 and to be honest with you, we have not been up to enjoy the city of Prince George and surrounding area yet but we plan on visiting in the not too distant future.

I am a commercial pilot. I have worked for Air Canada for the past 25 years. I am currently a Captain on the Boeing 787 Dreamliner. I have in the neighbourhood of 30,000 flying hours. Some of those flying hours were spent as a **Co-Pilot** taking people like yourselves safely to and from Prince George.

The thought of a cannabis shop in an airport, although legal, is very upsetting to myself and I am not in favour of it or it's name for the following reasons amongst many more:

1. One of the founding members of "Copilot" Reed Horton was quoted in the Prince George Daily News as stating:
"We see YXS as the perfect location to launch our initial store and fulfill our mission of making travel a less stressful and more enjoyable experience for our customers..."

This statement would imply that having a place to offer, distribute and use cannabis prior to the flight would make travel less stressful and more enjoyable. Cannabis is a mind altering drug and it is within the legal rights of an airline under the Canadian Aviation Regulations to prohibit passengers that are visibly intoxicated from boarding an airplane. This includes being intoxicated by drugs. There are other ways to cope with a fear of flying than to take cannabis prior to a flight. Your safety IS our business and responsibility. If a passenger, due to their intoxication is unable or unwilling to follow the directions of the flight crew in normal or emergency situations, this puts everyone at risk.

2. The business name "Copilot" for a cannabis shop is extremely disrespectful and derogatory to the entire aviation profession.

I have spent the better part of my career being a Co-Pilot. If you know any pilots in the field of aviation you understand the time, effort and sacrifices that the person has made to become a Co-pilot. It is a position that every pilot has taken seriously and wants to continue to take seriously because lives depend on it. Maybe it's your life, the lives of your children, the lives of your family members. It would be no different than calling the store "Cop Cannabis" or "Mayor Munchies". I hope that you understand my point.

I ask you and council to take my remarks seriously and not allow a cannabis shop in the YXS airport. If the council believes that the cannabis shop is indeed in the best interests of the citizens of Prince George then I would strongly

suggest that the name Copilot, or any suggestion of a name that would disrespect or demean professional pilots world wide not be allowed.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you would like to discuss this with me further I would be happy to discuss this with each and every member of your City Council.

Warm regards,

Wade Erickson

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