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From: Customer Service <pictoucountynecigs@gmail.com>
Sent: October-27-14 1:22 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Opposition to Bill 60

To Whom it May Concern: *(this would include any MLA in Nova Scotia)*

If this does not concern you, it needs to. I was a 35 year, pack a day smoker. My life was defined and controlled by my addiction to cigarettes. Every day of my life and every hour of every day was scheduled around my smoking habit.

I discovered electronic cigarettes 5 years ago, by chance, while surfing the net. I had no intention of quitting smoking (*I loved to smoke*) but this was a gadget and being a gadget freak I had to have one.

The day it arrived and I took the first draw from it I knew this was something game changing. By 7:30 that first night I realized my package of cigarettes had been on the coffee table untouched all day. This was amazing to me. From that first day until this very moment, I have never smoked again. I am not saying this is true for everyone, this is just my experience.

I have to say, all the horror stories I have heard from friends who tried to quit smoking were rushing through my head. I could not believe how simple it was for me to switch. Everyone needs to know about this and since then everyone I have come in contact with has been informed by me of this device and its effectiveness. It just works.

Jump to the present, my employment ended and I used my severance to open The End Vapor Shop with a partner in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. We were given a business number by the government to open said shop. We stated at that time that we were intending to be an 'electronic cigarette reseller'. We were met with no resistance. We even had someone from Revenue Canada call us, after our first quarter sales tax remittance, to congratulate us on a successful first quarter. We have since opened a second location in Truro, Nova Scotia.

As vendors we are not opposed to reasonable and sensible regulations. At present we do not, nor have we ever had any intentions to, sell to anyone under the age of 19. Proper labeling and testing of the ejuice is not an issue as most juice vendors do this already. We do, however, take issue with the governments intention to classify electronic cigarettes as tobacco products. They simply are not.

Traditional tobacco cigarettes have over 4000 chemicals, over 100 known carcinogens. This is fact. The electronic cigarette has 4 ingredients; Propylene Glycol (PG) Vegetable Glycerin (VG) Food Grade Flavoring and (*should you choose*), Nicotine. I am sorry, but it does not take a rocket scientist to deduce that electronic cigarettes are safer.

To date, thousands of Pictou County and Colchester County residents have already made the switch from tobacco cigarettes to electronic cigarettes. They have chosen a safer alternative and should be applauded and supported in that achievement.

The governments fear that use of electronic cigarettes threatens to re-normalize smoking is just not logical. There is enough awareness now in the general population of the difference between electronic cigarettes and traditional tobacco cigarettes. Saying 'it looks like smoking' is not a sound basis for its restriction. Nor is it reason to redefine the word 'tobacco' to include a substance that is just not tobacco. *(Pretty sure Webster's would agree with me on that one.)*

Their stance on banning the use of flavored ejuice is ludicrous. As a non-smoker, I do not want something that tastes like tobacco, nor do I want something flavorless. I am an adult but I do enjoy flavors, especially now that my taste buds have returned. And saying that vaping (*what we call it*) may be a gateway for youth to turn to traditional tobacco is like saying eating ice cream is a gateway to eating feces.

Regulation is one thing, but what the government is proposing would, in effect, regulate electronic cigarettes right out of the market. People, voters, would be forced to abandon this clearly safer alternative and will most likely return to traditional tobacco.

As far as not having enough research on the effects of electronic cigarette, there is plenty of research available if the government would just read it.

As per the peer evaluated study completed by John Madden: A Comparison of Electronic Cigarette, Emissions With Those of Human Breath, Outdoor Air, and Tobacco Smoke. The conclusion of the paper states in part: *"Several VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds) found in second-hand e-cig vapor are also found in human breath at similar levels. This shows that occurrence in e-cigarette vapor may be primarily a direct result of natural production by the human body ... while passive vaping can be expected from electronic cigarette use, it may be no more injurious to human health than inhaling outdoor air or human breath emissions that occur naturally in public spaces...."*

That is but one example, and if you are interested, I can supply you with many more.

I could go on forever but all I am asking is that before you jump on to this particular band wagon, you avail yourselves of the research that is available and make an informed decision about Bill No. 60 and the proposed changes to the amendment. Please consider what this will do, not only to the dozen or so businesses in Nova Scotia that will inevitably be shut down, but also how this will effect the thousands of Nova Scotian constituents that will lose this ability to continue on with this safer alternative to traditional tobacco.

Thank you for your attention. I am a voter and business owner and I oppose Bill 60.

Eva Campbell

Co-Owner - The End Vapor Shop, Nova Scotia