

McDonald, David S

From: idlewandering <idlewandering@yahoo.com>
Sent: October-29-14 7:19 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Bill 60

As a resident of Ontario I appreciate that my input may be of less consequence to you, however I would like to voice my concern over the proposed restrictions on e-liquid flavourings. My concern is based on the increase in political activity in Canada, intent on restricting or limiting the availability, and in turn the effectiveness of reduced harm options for tobacco addicts. I also recognize that as the owner of a small personal vapourizer retail store located in Ontario and shipping within Canada my opinion may be looked at as bias, however I contact you as a former long term smoker first and foremost and as someone who is actively helping others to quit the addiction of combustible tobacco products secondly.

Like many of the small PV retailers in Canada I got into the industry because I believed in the product, had personal success with it, and want to share that success with others. In the 2 1/2 years I have been selling vapourizers and e-liquids I have heard many happy stories from many happy clients who owe a debt of gratitude to reduced harm products like PV's or electronic cigarettes. For many of these folks it was the only method out of many tried that they were able to use successfully. You have no doubt heard from many of them as well. I won't bore you with cheer leading or impassioned pleas. I would simply like to make two basic points when it comes to flavour choice and product availability.

The first is a simple one. Just because I am an adult doesn't mean I can't enjoy flavours. I will be 40 years old next month. I still eat ice cream and it is not always vanilla. I don't drink a lot of coffee but when I do I prefer peppermint or caramel. And although I try not to eat too much junk food I do enjoy the odd gummie bear. I am not a kid but I still have taste buds.

The second point may also come across as bias but I am willing to risk it. For years big tobacco took my money while willfully and knowingly poisoning me, and they continue to make enormous profit of poisoning many of my fellow Canadians. Electronic cigarettes were developed as a reduced harm option to help people get away from combustible tobacco products and the giant corporations that push them. Restricting product availability, choice, and reduced harm options give the advantage back to big tobacco.

I support honest, well considered and good intentioned regulations on personal vapourizers, e-liquids and related products including age restrictions and designated use areas. However, hastily drafted or overly restrictive policy will not only lesson the impact of a very promising reduced harm strategy but will also choke off smaller independent personal businesses and hand control back over to big tobacco who have a proven track record of exploiting and abusing Canadians for their personal profit. Taking away or severely limiting Canadians right to chose vaping over smoking will result in their return to the latter at a time when wonderful progress is just starting to be made.

Sincerely,

Kevin Crockford

