

Hughes, Candice AG:EX

From: [REDACTED] s.22
Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2011 3:03 PM
To: Minister, AG AG:EX; [REDACTED] s.22
Subject: Message to the Attorney General

Below is the result of your feedback form at
(<http://www.ag.gov.bc.ca/contacts/emailag.htm>).

It was submitted by ([REDACTED] s.22) on Saturday, October 29, 2011 at 15:03:15

message: Honourable Shirley Bond

I heard you say that you were not interested in dealing with the idea of decriminalizing marijuana at this time. That your priorities are to focus on gangs and guns.

Do you think these two issues are not related.

Please explain this position to me and my family.

Please do not respond with a generic letter appreciating my letter but not dealing with the content.

Regards, [REDACTED] s.22

first_name: [REDACTED] s.22

last_name: [REDACTED] s.22

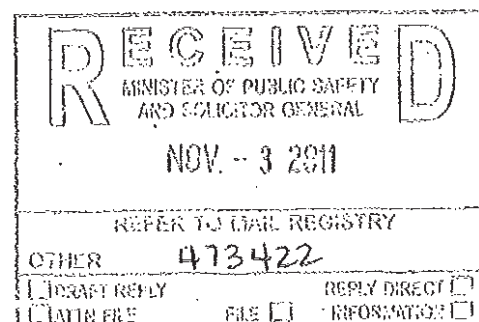
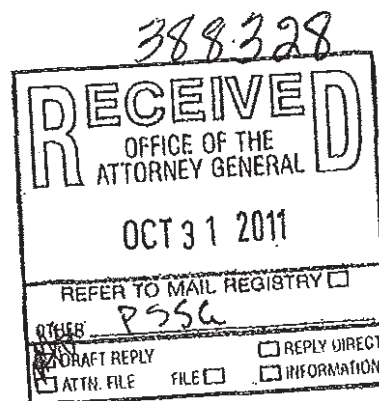
streetaddress: [REDACTED] s.22

city: vancouver

province: BC

postal_code: [REDACTED] s.22

submit_your_comments: Submit your message



January 23, 2012

Mr. [REDACTED] s.22

E-mail: [REDACTED] s.22

Dear [REDACTED] s.22 :

Thank you for your e-mail regarding the decriminalization of marijuana. I apologize for the delay in responding.

The legislative responsibility for controlled drugs and substances, including marijuana, lies with the federal government. The federal *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* provides for the control, import, production, export, distribution and possession of psychoactive substances in Canada. They also set the minimum and maximum fines applicable on conviction of drug offences.

While the responsibility to decriminalize marijuana lies with the federal government, the British Columbia provincial government has long recognized marijuana grow-ops are a driving force behind gang and organized crime in this province. For this reason, we have dedicated police, prosecutorial resources and innovative laws to target the people behind major grow-ops. For example, British Columbia's pioneering civil forfeiture law is now five years old and has worked to take away \$21 million in tools and proceeds – most of it linked to drug crime.

Our government has also brought into effect the *Body Armour Control Act*, the *Armoured Vehicle and After-Market Compartment Control Act* and the *Gunshot and Stab Wound Reporting Act*. These Acts help support the response to gangs and guns taken by the province.

.../2

We will continue to work with police, local governments and other agencies to develop a coordinated strategy to deal with grow-ops and illegal drug production, including possible civil and regulatory responses targeting those that are behind these operations.

Thank you once again for sharing your concerns.

Sincerely,

Shirley Bond
Solicitor General and
Attorney General

PSPB

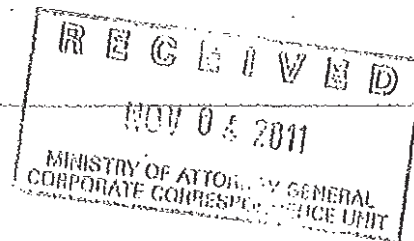
PECKNOLD/MACLEOD/HOLMES/SMITH

C/473422

Hughes, Candice AG:EX

From: Bond.MLA, Shirley [Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca]
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2011 10:18 AM
To: Minister, AG AG:EX
Subject: FW: BC justice system

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2011 10:32 PM
To: Bond.MLA, Shirley; Nichor@parl.gc.ca
Subject: Re: BC justice system



Honourable Shirley Bond and Honourable Rob Nicholson,

I was highly disappointed with both of your Ministry's response to the media today, commenting on a recent proposal from prominent police, academics, and health experts in BC, as to whether or not BC would be looking into the potential of legalizing marijuana. Honourable Bond's response was very pointed in that BC was not considering the proposal. That is a statement, fair enough to say if you are public servant receiving orders from your boss, but you are an elected official. Please remember "your boss", the population of BC, and that if enough interest among the public warrants, the BC Government should at least consider the proposal.

Obviously, the systems and laws in place are not working. It does not take an expert to see that, when I myself have lived next to 2 drug dealers on 2 separate occasions, have relatives with a new grow up next door, and when I know people who have had children caught in gang cross-fire, and whose parents have witnessed recent gang shootings in BC casinos. We have more and more young Canadians being lured into gangs to make a profit off drugs, and I find it interesting that even police officers, those on the front line wonder whether legalizing marijuana may reduce the violence? Is anyone listening to them? I also understand that legalizing marijuana is an issue of Federal Law. Perhaps this is a time when the Provinces and Federal Government representatives put their well paid positions together to come up with changes that are valued by Canadians. Please be our leaders and stop settling with the status quo.

As per Albert Einstein, is not the definition of *insanity*: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results?

Thank-you for your time,

s.22
Resident of Langley, BC

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Hughes, Candice AG:EX

From: Bond.MLA, Shirley [Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca]
Sent: Thursday, November 24, 2011 10:24 AM
To: Minister, AG AG:EX
Subject: FW: Marijuana

From: s.22

Sent: Thursday, November 24, 2011 8:18 AM

To: Pimm.MLA, Pat; Penner.MLA, Barry; Sultan.MLA, Ralph; Cantelon.MLA, Ron; Barisoff.MLA, Bill; Lake.MLA, Terry; Bennett.MLA, Bill; deJong.MLA, Mike; Falcon.MLA, Kevin; Slater.MLA, John; Foster.MLA, Eric; Howard.MLA, Rob; Hayer.MLA, Dave; McNeil.MLA, Mary; Bond.MLA, Shirley; Barnett.MLA, Donna; Les.MLA, John; Polak.MLA, Mary; Abbott.MLA, George; Heed.MLA, Kash; Dalton.MLA, Marc; Gordon Campbell; Chong.MLA, Ida; Hawes.MLA, Randy; Hogg.MLA, Gordon; Coleman.MLA, Rich; Reid.MLA, Linda; Stewart.MLA, Ben; Lee.MLA, Richard; Stilwell.MLA, Moira; McRae.MLA, Don; Cadieux.MLA, Stephanie; Coell.MLA, Murray; Thornthwaite.MLA, Jane; MacDiarmid.MLA, Margaret; Letnick.MLA, Norm; Bell.MLA, Pat; McIntyre.MLA, Joan; Thomson.MLA, Steve; Horne.MLA, Douglas; Yap.MLA, John; Bloy.MLA, Harry; Yamamoto.MLA, Naomi; Rustad.MLA, John; van Dongen.MLA, John; Hansen.MLA, Colin
Subject: Marijuana

2011/11/23

Dear Shirley Bond

Legalizing marijuana is NOT off the radar.
You will put legalization of marijuana on the table
You will do what the people of BC want, not what your groupies tell you to do.
You will tell the Harper government what BC is doing, not what he says as with the HST.
We need a government with backbone.

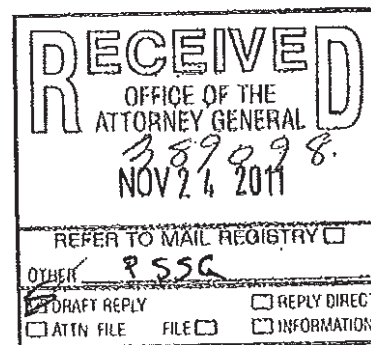
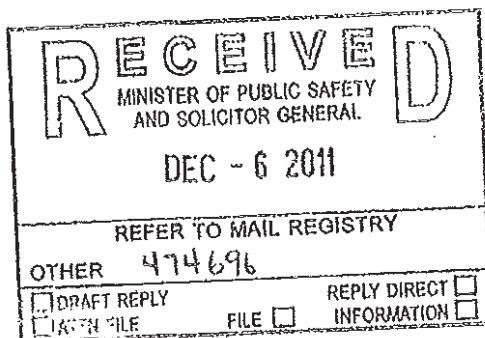
The people spoke on the HST and we are watching to make sure that the HST is removed as per the referendum

We are watching cases like Carol Berner. What good are "toughest" drunk driving laws if people admit to DUI and not being made accountable for their actions.

Your government is walking a thin line. It's time to make logical decisions and take action.

2013 is not far away

s.22



February 2, 2012

Mr. [REDACTED] s.22

E-mail: [REDACTED] s.22

Dear [REDACTED] s.22

Thank you for your e-mail regarding the decriminalization of marijuana.

The legislative responsibility for controlled drugs and substances, including marijuana, lies with the federal government. The federal *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* provides for the control, import, production, export, distribution and possession of psychoactive substances in Canada. They also set the minimum and maximum fines applicable on conviction of drug offences.

While the decision to legalize marijuana lies with the federal government, the government of British Columbia recognizes that illicit drug operations where marijuana is grown are a threat to communities through fire risks, organized crime involvement, theft of hydro, environmental damage and concerns for remediation of involved properties.

The Province has responded to the problem of marijuana grow ops a number of ways including education, legislation, civil action and the establishment of specialized anti-gang police units to combat gangs and gun violence, and target grow-ops, drug labs and gang activity.

We will continue to work with police, local governments and other agencies to develop a coordinated strategy to deal with grow-ops and illegal drug production, including possible civil and regulatory responses targeting those that are behind these operations.

Thank you once again for sharing your comments.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Shirley Bond
Solicitor General and
Attorney General

PSPB

PECKNOLD/MACLEOD/HOLMES/SMITH

C/474696

MacLeod, Peggy JAG:EX

From: Bond.MLA, Shirley LASS:EX
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2012 1:37 PM
To: Minister, JAG JAG:EX
Subject: FW: policy concerns of legalized marijuana

For your response.

Thanks Katrina

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22
Sent: February-17-12 10:12 AM
To: Bond.MLA, Shirley
Subject: policy concerns of legalized marijuana

Dear Minister Bond:

I am writing to encourage you to consider carefully the widespread policy implications of legalized marijuana. I understand that the provincial government has stated that this issue lies within federal jurisdiction, but it will be useful for provincial voices to discuss the policy concerns, since the topic has become so fashionable and high-profile people are supporting it. Unfortunately, few commentators recognize the full range of policy complexities we face if we go down this path. Here are some policy areas that would need to be managed before the idea becomes a reality, some federal, some provincial. (1) Marijuana makes people with some mental illnesses more prone to psychosis. How will we protect vulnerable people from this harm? (2) Marijuana smoke is, no doubt, as damaging to physical health as tobacco smoke. Decades of research will be required to support public health regulations to limit this damage. (3) Because raw marijuana has been accepted as a medication, anti-smoking regulations must be strengthened so they can be applied even to those who claim they are taking medication. (4) Legal marijuana will become a gift worth billions to Big Tobacco. The leaders of this industry will devote their vast resources to obfuscating research on its health effects, resisting regulation, targeting youth, and maximizing marijuana's addictive qualities. (5) Legislation and roadside tests must be developed to detect and prosecute drivers impaired by marijuana. (6) Legalized marijuana will be an irritant in our relations with the US, especially in the area of border management, as long as it continues its war on drugs.

These thorny problems may all be amenable to solution given enough resources, but I believe we have stronger priorities, such as developing a clean energy strategy and taking our part in the international effort to limit greenhouse-gas emissions.

Sincerely,

s.22

s.22

April 19, 2012

[REDACTED] s.22

E-mail: [REDACTED] s.22

Dear [REDACTED] s.22

Thank you for your e-mail regarding the legalization of marijuana and the issues related to the ending of prohibition of the drug.

You are correct in that the legislative responsibility for controlled drugs and substances, including marijuana, lies with the federal government. The federal *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* provides for the control, import, production, export, distribution and possession of psychoactive substances in Canada. They also set the minimum and maximum fines applicable on conviction of drug offences.

While the decision to legalize marijuana lies with the federal government, the government of British Columbia recognizes that illicit drug operations where marijuana is grown are a threat to communities through fire risks, organized crime involvement, theft of hydro, environmental damage and concerns for remediation of involved properties.

The Province has responded to the problem of marijuana grow-ops a number of ways including education, legislation, civil action and the establishment of specialized anti-gang police units to combat gangs and gun violence, and target grow-ops, drug labs and gang activity.

We will continue to work with police, local governments and other agencies to develop a coordinated strategy to deal with grow-ops and illegal drug production, including possible civil and regulatory responses targeting those that are behind these operations.

Thank you once again for sharing your comments.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Shirley Bond
Minister of Justice
and Attorney General
PSPB

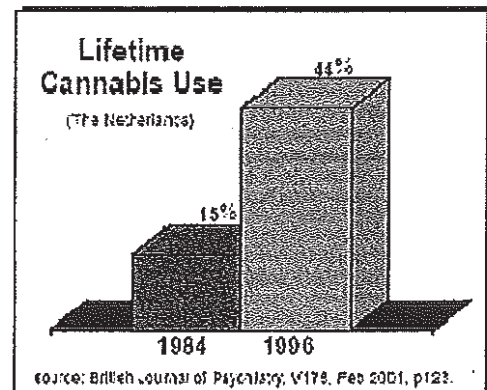
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C/477291

PLEASE DO NOT LEGALISE MARIJUANA IN CANADA!
IT IS WRONG!

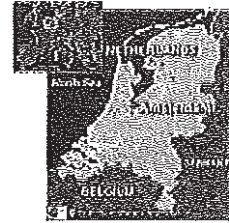
9: Europe's More Liberal Drug Policies Are Not the Right Model for America, OR CANADA!

- Over the past decade, European drug policy has gone through some dramatic changes toward greater liberalization. The Netherlands, considered to have led the way in the liberalization of drug policy, is only one of a number of West European countries to relax penalties for marijuana possession. Now several European nations are looking to relax penalties on all drugs—including cocaine and heroin—as Portugal did in July 2001, when minor possession of all drugs was decriminalized.
- There is no uniform drug policy in Europe. Some countries have liberalized their laws, while others have instituted strict drug control policies. Which means that the so-called "European Model" is a misnomer. Like America, the various countries of Europe are looking for new ways to combat the worldwide problem of drug abuse.
- The Netherlands has led Europe in the liberalization of drug policy. "Coffee shops" began to emerge throughout the Netherlands in 1976, offering marijuana products for sale. Possession and sale of marijuana are not legal, but coffee shops are permitted to operate and sell marijuana under certain restrictions, including a limit of no more than 5 grams sold to a person at any one time, no alcohol or hard drugs, no minors, and no advertising. In the Netherlands, it is illegal to sell or possess marijuana products. So coffee shop operators must purchase their marijuana products from illegal drug trafficking organizations.
- Apparently, there has been some public dissatisfaction with the government's policy. Recently the Dutch government began considering scaling back the quantity of marijuana available in coffee shops from 5 to 3 grams.
- Furthermore, drug abuse has increased in the Netherlands. From 1984 to 1996, marijuana use among 18-25 year olds in Holland increased twofold. Since legalization of marijuana, heroin addiction levels in Holland have tripled and perhaps even quadrupled by some estimates.
- The increasing use of marijuana is responsible for more than increased crime. It has widespread social implications as well. The head of Holland's best-known drug abuse rehabilitation center has described what the new drug culture has created: The strong form of marijuana that most of the young people smoke, he says, produces "a chronically passive individual—someone who is lazy, who doesn't want to take initiatives, doesn't want to be active—the kid who'd prefer to lie in bed with a joint in the morning rather than getting up and doing something."
- Marijuana is not the only illegal drug to find a home in the Netherlands. The club drug commonly referred to as Ecstasy (3, 4-methylenedioxy-methamphetamine or MDMA) also has strong roots in the Netherlands. The majority of the world's Ecstasy is produced in clandestine laboratories in the Netherlands and, to a lesser extent, Belgium.
- The growing Ecstasy problem in Europe, and the Netherlands' pivotal role in Ecstasy production, has led the Dutch government to look once again to law enforcement. In May 2001, the government announced a "Five Year Offensive against the Production, Trade, and Consumption of Synthetic Drugs." The offensive focuses on more cooperation among the enforcement agencies with the Unit Synthetic Drugs playing a pivotal role.
- Recognizing that the government needs to take firm action to deal with the increasing levels of addiction, in April 2001, the Dutch government established the Penal Care Facility for Addicts. Like American Drug Treatment Courts, this facility is designed to detain and treat addicts (of any drug) who repeatedly commit crimes and have failed voluntary treatment facilities. Offenders may be held in this facility for up to two years, during which time they will go through a three-phase

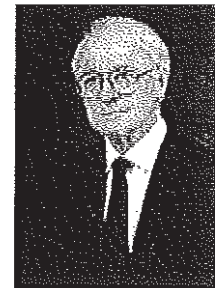


program. The first phase focuses on detoxification, while the second and third phases focus on training for social reintegration.

- The United Kingdom has also experimented with the relaxation of drug laws. Until the mid-1960s, British physicians were allowed to prescribe heroin to certain classes of addicts. According to political scientist James Q. Wilson, "a youthful drug culture emerged with a demand for drugs far different from that of the older addicts." Many addicts chose to boycott the program and continued to get their heroin from illicit drug distributors. The British Government's experiment with controlled heroin distribution, says Wilson, resulted in, at a minimum, a 30-fold increase in the number of addicts in ten years.
- Switzerland has some of the most liberal drug policies in Europe. In late 1980s, Zurich experimented with what became known as Needle Park, where addicts could openly purchase drugs and inject heroin without police intervention. Zurich became the hub for drug addicts across Europe, until the experiment was ended, and "Needle Park" was shut down.
- Many proponents of drug legalization or decriminalization claim that drug use will be reduced if drugs were legalized. However, history has not shown this assertion to be true. According to an October 2000 CNN report, marijuana, the illegal drug most often decriminalized, is "continuing to spread in the European Union, with one in five people across the 15-state bloc having tried it at least once."
- It's not just marijuana use that is increasing in Europe. According to the 2001 *Annual Report on the State of the Drugs Problem in the European Union*, there is a Europe-wide increase in cocaine use. The report also cites a new trend of mixing "base/crack" cocaine with tobacco in a joint at nightspots. With the increase in use, Europe is also seeing an increase in the number of drug users seeking treatment for cocaine use.
- Drug policy also has an impact on general crime. In a 2001 study, the British Home Office found violent crime and property crime increased in the late 1990s in every wealthy country except the United States.
- Not all of Europe has been swept up in the trend to liberalize drug laws. Sweden, Finland, and Greece have the strictest policies against drugs in Europe. Sweden's zero-tolerance policy is widely supported within the country and among the various political parties. Drug use is relatively low in the Scandinavian countries.
- In April 1994, a number of European cities signed a resolution titled "European Cities Against Drugs," commonly known as the Stockholm resolution. It states: "The demands to legalize illicit drugs should be seen against the background of current problems, which have led to a feeling of helplessness. For many, the only way to cope is to try to administer the current situation. But the answer does not lie in making harmful drugs more accessible, cheaper, and socially acceptable. Attempts to do this have not proved successful. By making them legal, society will signal that it has resigned to the acceptance of drug abuse. The signatories to this resolution therefore want to make their position clear by rejecting the proposals to legalize illicit drugs."



Amsterdam



James Q. Wilson

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Hughes, Candice JAG:EX

From: Green, Greg AG:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 2:32 PM
To: Hughes, Candice JAG:EX
Subject: FW: Legalizing marijuana

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477829
FEB 29 2012

DEPUTY SOLICITOR GENERAL

Thanks for logging Candice. Came via our Communications office. As you know this pertains to federal legislation.

GG

From: Groot, Jeff GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 2:25 PM
To: Green, Greg AG:EX
Subject: FW: Legalizing marijuana

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Over to you, for whatever action you deem necessary. Not sure this warrants a response.

From: cscf canada [mailto:cscfcanada@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 2:24 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; Groot, Jeff GCPE:EX; Edwardson, Jamie GCPE:EX
Subject: Fwd: Legalizing marijuana

Christian Social Concern Fellowship Regarding Legalization of Marijuana

On Feb.14, a letter jointly signed by 4 former Attorneys General of British Columbia was publicized, calling for an end of prohibition of marijuana, barely 2 months after 3 former and the incumbent mayor of Vancouver came out publicly for such a move.

We, Christian Social Concern Fellowship, disagree with their view regarding legalization, and call on the federal and the BC governments to uphold the current law regarding marijuana. The following is our refutation to their argument :

1. Legalization of marijuana will increase the burden on the Medical & Health systems.

It has been disclosed in many scientific reports that the marijuana in present-day market is 25 times the strength in THC [Tetra-hydro-cannabinol] as compared with the marijuana of 40 years ago. Not only does it generate big mood-swing, THC impairs the consciousness, the memory, and the will-power of human brains. Traffic accidents over the past decade have unveiled the fact that smoking pot before driving will greatly increase the risk of bad judgment and thus the chance of fatal accidents. Medical research has also shown that long-term use of marijuana undoubtedly results in chronic damages to the lung, the heart, and the immune system, causing the failure of a normal life on the addict.

It is well known that many marijuana smokers eventually become addicts of other narcotics such as heroine.

Who is going to pay for the soaring medical costs in the national health services if the increased smoking of "weed" becomes a social norm? The work-load of medical and nursing staff in hospitals will surely soar as a result of legalization. Every tax-payer or citizen has to bear the

increased premium of medical services. It is a myth, if not a joke, that legalizing marijuana will improve our medical services.

2. Gang violence will not decrease as a result of legalization.

Many proponents for legalization think that it will lead to diminishing of gangster violence. In our view, it will not, because the problem is with the gangsters themselves, not the "weed". They will just turn to some other illegal business instead. For sure then, their crimes will not be in the name of dealing with marijuana.

3. Legalization will not alleviate the burden on the police and judicial systems

In conjunction with our reasoning in point #2 above, gangster violence will NOT be substantially reduced after legalization. Many have argued that legalization will alleviate the burden on the police, the judges and the courts. If such were a good reason, then why not legalize reckless driving and speeding, burglaries, frauds, rapes and violent attacks, since hundreds if not thousands of these take place every year? Such reasoning only reveals the lack of moral courage to deal with real problems.

Alleviation of the burden on the police and judicial systems is no excuse for the mentality of defeatism.

4. Legalization will increase government revenues.

Most people will not dispute this point. However, knowing that marijuana will cause personal harm, financial burden on all citizens, and social problems, we would consider it an immoral act to beef up the public coffer by allowing it to be publicly purchasable. It will be even worse if the government monopolizes the wholesale and retailing of the weed. If in future, some lawyers bring up "class" law-suits accusing the government of negligence and/or causing harm to people using the weed, will taxpayers be the only ones to bear the cost? Should not the legislators who approve the legalization bear that cost?

Legalizing the weed to increase government revenue is surely an immoral act.

We, the CSCF, urge our politicians / legislators not to cave in to the cry of those activists/ lobbyists, no matter how loud those minority voices are, because the majority of Canadians are passive and silent on this issue.

We also call on concerned Canadians to voice out to their MP's and MLA's/ MPP's pertaining to the personal and social harm generated by the weed -- marijuana.

Yours Truly,

Rev. Wayne Lo,
Executive Director,
Christian Social Concern Fellowship

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FEB 24 2012	
RECEIVED MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL	

April 19, 2012

Reverend Wayne Lo
E-mail: cscfcanada@gmail.com

Dear Reverend Lo:

Premier Christy Clark has asked me to respond to your e-mail regarding the legalization of marijuana and the issues related to the ending of prohibition of the drug.

The legislative responsibility for controlled drugs and substances, including marijuana, lies with the federal government. The federal *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* provides for the control, import, production, export, distribution and possession of psychoactive substances in Canada. They also set the minimum and maximum fines applicable on conviction of drug offences.

While the decision to legalize marijuana lies with the federal government, the government of British Columbia recognizes that illicit drug operations where marijuana is grown are a threat to communities through fire risks, organized crime involvement, theft of hydro, environmental damage and concerns for remediation of involved properties.

The Province has responded to the problem of marijuana grow-ops a number of ways including education, legislation, civil action and the establishment of specialized anti-gang police units to combat gangs and gun violence, and target grow-ops, drug labs and gang activity.

We will continue to work with police, local governments and other agencies to develop a coordinated strategy to deal with grow-ops and illegal drug production, including possible civil and regulatory responses targeting those that are behind these operations.

Thank you once again for sharing your comments.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Shirley Bond
Minister of Justice
and Attorney General

pc: The Honourable Christy Clark
Jeff Groot
Jamie Edwardson

PSPB

PECKNOLD/MACLEOD/HOLMES/SMITH

C/477829

s.22

March 28, 2011

Shirley Bond
Minister of Justice
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

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Dear Shirley Bond,

I am writing to make an inquiry and express my thoughts on the decriminalization of marijuana in British Columbia and the benefits that would come from it.

In 1999-2000 approximately \$450 million was on drug enforcement in Canada (Jarwoski 2009). That is an astonishing amount of Canadian tax dollars that could be utilized for higher priorities rather than being spent on simple possession charges. All the marijuana possession charges and sentences are a waste of valuable prison space and police time as noted by Canadian Drug Crisis (2008), "For every \$5 spent on drug rehabilitation by the Canadian government, \$95 is spent on incarceration of drug users." Remaining to keep marijuana illegal is doing more damage to the citizens of Canada than it is good.

Offenders may be barred from certain professions and prohibited from entering the United States. Some even may find themselves incarcerated which is a much more harmful situation than having a few tokes. Other offenders end up with a judicial slap on the wrist.

This inconsistency is another reason to decriminalize marijuana.

Decriminalizing marijuana would not make it more readily available than it already is now. It would send a supportive message to Canadians that the just because they have the occasional toké they won't have to feel like their being a corrupt citizen and breaking the law. The Quebec MP Martin Cauchon admits, "I'm 39 years old. Yes, of course I have tried it before, obviously" (The Times 2002). And so have many other politicians that are paid to enact Canada's laws. It would be silly to charge and call them criminals, but that is the message that the marijuana prohibition is sending. With over 44% of Canadians admitting to using marijuana proves true that it isn't that dangerous or addictive, nor is half of Canadians criminals (Marijuana Facts 2009).

Another concern for decriminalizing marijuana is that the United States would be upset because we would be undermining their "war on drugs campaign", but they have already lost that war. Eighty years ago Canada tried to ban alcohol and that was clearly unsuccessful. We don't incarcerate people or ruin their lives for using alcohol; only for misusing it or distributing illegally. We should do the same for marijuana.

I would like to see marijuana use in British Columbia decriminalized. It would not be legal but people would get a criminal record for simple possession. They would either receive a ticket or fine (like a parking ticket), but people trafficking marijuana would continue to face criminal charges.

Yours sincerely,

s.22

s.22

Dear s.22

Thank you for your letter regarding legalization of marijuana. I apologize for the delay in responding.

As you are aware, the legislative responsibility for controlled drugs and substances, including marijuana, lies with the federal government. The federal *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* provides for the control, import, production, export, distribution and possession of psychoactive substances in Canada. They also set the minimum and maximum fines applicable on conviction of drug offences.

The government of British Columbia recognizes that residential marijuana grow-operations are a threat to communities through fire risks, organized crime involvement, theft of hydro, environmental damage and concerns for remediation of involved properties.

The Province has responded to the problem of marijuana grow-operations through a number of ways including: education; legislation; civil action and the establishment of specialized anti-gang police units to combat gangs and gun violence, and target grow-ops, drug labs and gang activity. In addition, the Province has lobbied the federal government on amendments to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* to assist in combating illegal drug production and trafficking.

We will continue to work with police, local governments and other agencies to develop a coordinated strategy to deal with grow-operations and illegal drug production including possible civil and regulatory responses targeting those that are behind these operations.

Thank you once again for writing.

Sincerely,

Shirley Bond
Minister of Justice
and Attorney General
PSPB

PECKNOLD/MACLEOD/ALLEN/SMITH

C/479672

Pages 17 through 18 redacted for the following reasons:

S. 3

May 31, 2012

s.22
E-mail: s.22
Dear s.22

Mr. Norm Letnick, MLA for Kelowna-Lake Country, has forwarded me your e-mail regarding legalization of marijuana and the issues related to the ending of prohibition of the drug.

The legislative responsibility for controlled drugs and substances, including marijuana, lies with the federal government. The federal *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* provides for the control, import, production, export, distribution and possession of psychoactive substances in Canada. They also set the minimum and maximum fines applicable on conviction of drug offences.

The government of British Columbia recognizes that residential marijuana grow-operations are a threat to communities through fire risks, organized crime involvement, theft of hydro, environmental damage and concerns for remediation of involved properties.

The Province has responded to the problem of marijuana grow-operations through a number of ways including: education; legislation; civil action and the establishment of specialized anti-gang police units to combat gangs and gun violence, and target grow-ops, drug labs and gang activity. In addition, the Province has lobbied the federal government on amendments to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* to assist in combating illegal drug production and trafficking.

We will continue to work with police, local governments and other agencies to develop a coordinated strategy to deal with grow-operations and illegal drug production including possible civil and regulatory responses targeting those that are behind these operations.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Shirley Bond
Minister of Justice
and Attorney General

pc: Mr. Norm Letnick, MLA
PSPB PECKNOLD/MACLEOD/ALLEN/SMITH

C/480096



May 22, 2012

s.22

Dear s.22

Not Responsive

You have also referred to the legalization of marijuana. I have shared your comments with the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Justice, for inclusion in any related discussions.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Christy Clark
Premier

Encs. 2

pc: Honourable Shirley Bond (w/o encs.)

RECEIVED	
MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL	
MAY 29 2012	
OTHER 480897	
<input type="checkbox"/> DRAFT REPLY	REPLY DIRECT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> FILE	INFORMATION <input type="checkbox"/>

April 28, 2012

s.22

Premier Clark

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

* To finance this the BC Government should legalize marijuana. Governor Schwarzenegger in California tried and said that legalizing marijuana would clear California's debt. Of course did not go through as government short sighted.

s.22

I have rented rooms for and most of the people on welfare want off the system but are not qualified for employment.

Do review social assistance and change the system to assistance and employment office offering to pay for education. The money spent to educate clients would decrease the number of people locked into welfare assistance. The money and time spent to place clients into courses and into employment would be well spent.

s.22

Addendum

By legalizing marijuana it removes the drug dealers, it removes marijuana from the minors at street level.

The products in package form at \$10.00 like cigarettes would generate much tax income for the government. No more grow ops, no more small drug dealers selling the minors etc. It would take a large income from organized crime. It would decriminalize the use of marijuana in BC is substantial and therefore would generate substantial income for BC Government.

This may seem radical but BC is the one province where the general public would approve its legalization. Do examine the business of marijuana and its potential for tax income the BC Government.



June 13, 2012
Ref: 480897

s.22

Dear s.22

The Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, has asked me to respond to your April 28, 2012 letter addressed to Premier Christy Clark, regarding the legalization of marijuana.

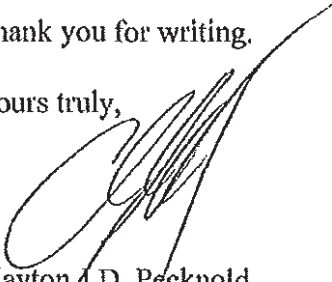
The legislative responsibility for controlled drugs and substances, including marijuana, lies with the federal government. The federal *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* provides for the control, import, production, export, distribution and possession of psychoactive substances in Canada. They also set the fines applicable on conviction of drug offences.

While the decision to legalize marijuana lies with the federal government, the government of British Columbia recognizes that illicit drug operations where marijuana is grown are a threat to communities through fire risks, organized crime involvement, theft of hydro, environmental damage and concerns for remediation of involved properties.

The Province has lobbied the federal government on amendments to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* to assist in combating illegal drug production and trafficking; and we will continue to work with police, local governments and other agencies to develop a coordinated strategy to deal with marijuana grow-ops in British Columbia.

Thank you for writing.

Yours truly,



Clayton J.D. Pecknold
Assistant Deputy Minister
and Director of Police Services
Policing and Security Programs Branch

pc: The Honourable Christy Clark
The Honourable Shirley Bond

Ministry of Justice

Policing and Security Programs
Branch

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9285 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9J7

Telephone: 250 387-1100
Facsimile: 250 356-7747
Website: www.gov.bc.ca/pssg



June 6, 2012

s.22

RECEIVED	
MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL	
JUN 11 2012	
OTHER	481299
<input type="checkbox"/> DRAFT REPLY	REPLY DIRECT
<input type="checkbox"/> FILE	INFORMATION

Dear s.22

Not Responsive

I have also noted your call for the legalization of marijuana and have shared your comments with the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, for inclusion in any related discussions.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Christy Clark
Premier

Encl.

pc: Honourable Shirley Bond (w/o encl.)

Pages 26 through 27 redacted for the following reasons:

Not responsive

Not responsive

4

Not Responsive

Like if the war on Drugs is dumb, why continue it?

I read in a book about women in 15th century. Apparently burning witches continued after people realized it was morally wrong. There was a whole business bureaucracy set up so that burning witches was economically profitable for many people. Nothing personal, just business. Even down to the loggers who supplied the firewood for the burnings.

Yours truly

s.22

MacLeod, Peggy JAG:EX

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 7, 2012 10:55 AM
To: s.22
Cc: Minister, JAG JAG:EX
Subject: RE: Legalizing marijuana is a bad idea

Thank you for your email regarding your concerns about the legalization of marijuana and the Safe Injection Site. We have noted your position on this matter and appreciate the concerns you have highlighted. As the Premier has stated, the issue of illicit drugs in Canada falls under federal jurisdiction. We have, however, noted the importance you have placed on these matters and have shared your correspondence with the Minister of Justice, the Honourable Shirley Bond for inclusion in any related discussions.

We do appreciate hearing from you and again, thank you for writing.

cc: Honourable Shirley Bond

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, November 1, 2012 10:10 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Subject: Legalizing marijuana is a bad idea

Hello,

Just a small note on why I think marijuana legalization should not come into effect. From what I have heard, this is a drug that is used by drug dealers as a trade to acquire harder forms of drugs from other countries. Any legalization would most likely bring chaos to the streets and overdoses by the masses.

I'm also concerned about these 'safe injection sites'. They are morally wrong. Governments should be working on trying to get addicts OFF drugs. Spending more in the short run to rehabilitate people through programs should pay off in the long run with safer streets and extra tax paying citizens.

Concerned for the future,

s.22

Sent from my iPad