

# City of Richmond

# **Report to Council**

To:

Richmond City Council

Date:

April 19, 2006

From:

Councillor Rob Howard

File:

09-5350-01/2006-Vol

Chair, Community Safety Committee

01

Re:

REGULATION OF HYDROPONIC AND DRUG PARAPHERNALIA BUSINESSES

The Community Safety Committee, at its meeting held on Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006, considered the attached report, and recommends as follows:

### Committee Recommendation

- (1) That the City write a letter in support of the Lower Mainland Municipal Association in its request that the Province amend Section 59 of the Community Charter to give municipalities clear authority to impose requirements on hydroponics and drug paraphernalia businesses to the same extent the can impose requirements on second hand businesses.
- (2) That legal staff be requested to investigate what jurisdiction Council would have to create a bylaw for the purpose of the regulation, control and sale of hydroponics and drug paraphernalia.

Councillor Rob Howard, Chair Community Safety Committee

Attach.

### **VARIANCE**

Please note that Committee added Part (2) above.

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## MOTION RE; REGULATION OF HYDROPONIC AND DRUG PARAPHERNALIA BUSINESSES

WHEREAS there is increasing concern over public health and safety and increased related municipal costs as a result of the expansion of marijuana grow operations and methamphetamine laboratories into residential neighbourhoods;

AND WHEREAS there is an increase in the sale of special equipment and supplies used to grow marijuana indoors, and produce methamphetamines and an increase in the number of hydroponic and drug paraphernalia stores in the province:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Richmond write a letter in support of the Lower Mainland Municipal Association in its request that the Province amend Section 59 of the Community Charter to give municipalities the clear authority to impose requirements on hydroponics and drug paraphernalia businesses to the same extent they can impose requirements on second hand businesses.

Councillor Rob Howard

### Comments:

The purpose of the proposed changes to the *Community Charter* would be to give municipalities the authority, by bylaw, to require hydroponics equipment and drug paraphernalia businesses to:

- establish and maintain a written registry of all buyers of hydroponics equipment and drug paraphernalia;
- immediately after sale, set out in a register a record of the purchase details in chronological order by date of purchase;
- keep the register open for inspection by the police or municipal inspector; and
- deliver to the Chief Constable on each business a report consisting of the details of all sales or transmit electronically all of the information on the register (on a daily basis).