

Good afternoon,

I am responding to the posting about a cannabis dispensary in the city centre mall. I know I have missed the deadline for comments however I hope my email is still considered. I worked in retail for almost 10 years and that includes management. Currently I'm a school teacher new to Kitimat. I think that a cannabis clinic is the wrong choice.

These are the top five reasons why

You would be turning your mall into a 19+ mall. On walking into the mall, the store on the left is empty, while the store on the right has closed doors and is 19+ a liquor store. The next-door on the left has frosted windows and it's a 19+ Vape store. You would be adding another 19+ store to your mall. This creates an impression that the mall is not for families. You are in fact creating a triple XXX mall. This projects an undesirable setting for reputable retailers. A liquor store a Vape store and then a cannabis store shows an unhealthy lifestyle.

The mall already struggles with empty spots. Adding more frosted windows and 19+'s makes them an unwelcoming place. That Vape store should've been outside of the mall. Also the liquor store should have a mall entrance the fact that it doesn't indicates a high level of Saft in crime in the area now you're at going to be adding people smoking pot outside your mall. Is that a mall you want to bring your children to?

Lastly there is a huge amount of money in the pockets of the men working at the camps there should be regular public transit from the camps to the mall on days like Saturday. The city needs to find a way to get those men to spend their money in that mall. Perhaps trying to get five new stores instead of one new store or instead of waiting for stores to approach you the city approaches them. Years of experience working in retail tells me that men shop at EB games, sports check, a hardware store, and please note that the camps will have a zero tolerance policy for drugs including marijuana. I hope this helps you make your choice for what kind of mould you want to make for the community of Kitimat. I think it should be one that promotes a healthy lifestyle that is safe for families and not more 19+ stores.

Thank you,  
Diana Baker