



## **Creekside Cannabis Open for Business**

*October 1, 2020*

MISSISSAUGA FIRST NATION – The Mississaugi Retail Cannabis Corporation (MRCC) and MFN Chief and Council celebrated the grand opening of its legal retail cannabis store today. Creekside Cannabis officially opened for business on September 21, 2020, as an officially licensed retailer under the Ontario Cannabis Store brand. Chief Reginald Niganobe highlighted the importance of the project for the community and its goal of generating own-source revenue, “This business is the most significant investment that Mississauga First Nation has made since the days of the sawmill operations which ran from the 1960s through the late 1980s.”

The project was facilitated by the band’s Community Economic Development Department who helped develop the MRCC, a newly formed corporation that will oversee business operations for the retail store. Profits from the store will flow back into Mississauga FN as mentioned in the Chief’s speech, “100% of the profits will be funnelled back into the community to support investments in education, health programs and other important services for the band.”

The store itself wants to support the awareness and sharing of information as it relates to the health impacts and safe use of cannabis products. Andrew Arnott, the retail store manager, talked about the work that has already taken place and the relationships that will continue with the MFN Health and Social Services Department. “We started a dialogue with the staff in the health department. We have been educating ourselves here at the store about our obligations to properly inform and share with customers critical health information as per Health Canada guidelines. We will also continue to make sure our staff is there to help people when they have questions about the resources and services they can access.”

Chief Niganobe is proud of the work that went into this project and is looking forward to seeing new businesses being developed that will employ community members, are sustainable and will help the community reach its goals. “We hope this business will inspire community members as they look to start their businesses on Mississauga First Nation territory. We see a bright future for business development and we’ll continue to look for ways to support them.”

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