

Cannabis Cultivation Operation, Community Information Session
Hosted by Natalie Payette-Chevrier Proprietor of Golden Harvest Organics Inc. (GHO)
Purpose: To answer community questions regarding the proposed Indoor Cultivation business
Wednesday, October 16, 2019, 6 pm at Nbsiing Secondary School

23 people attended

Chief McLeod welcomed everyone and opened the floor to Natalie and her team.

Natalie introduced her team which includes, herself-proprietor, Adam Allard-Chief Operations Officer, Donald Sequin-General Contractor and Marc Gagnon-Shortt Solutions.

The session began with a video presentation and then proceeded to open discussion.

Note: Golden Harvest Organics Inc will be referred to as GHO in this briefing

Questions

Are you the sole NFN Member of this team? (directed to Natalie Payette-Chevrier)

- Natalie Payette-Chevrier and her husband Doug Chevrier are the sole proprietors and owners of Golden Harvest Organics Inc. They have invested all the resources into the project.

What exactly is GHO?

- GHO is a privately-owned corporation, founded by Natalie Payette-Chevrier in February 2017. GHO's vision is to be the leaders in establishing one of the first fully Health Canada Regulated wholesale cannabis producers, on federal land. In short, GHO is a licensed Wholesale agent of Medicinal and recreational cannabis of business to business transactions.

How do we know the business legitimate?

- GHO consulted with Pipe Dreemz Inc., who was voted "Best Cannabis Consultant" at the 2019 Growup Gala. Pip Dreemz has nearly a decade of experience in the Cannabis industry and 25 years dealing with government regulatory agencies.
- Throughout the past 2.5 years, GHO has completed in-depth regulatory research and licensing, starting with the initial application, site selection, facility design and operational requirements. GHO meets all of the Health Canada Regulations and is in full compliance with NFN's Cannabis Law.

What about air quality? Will the community smell it?

- Health Canada regulations require the use of a Carbon Filtration System to remove all scent from the HVAC exhaust. The proposed building will be a 30,000 sq. Foot pre-engineered steel structure. In the building will be twelve independently sealed pods with air handlers, including filtration, so there is no cross-contamination between pods. Cultivating will occur within the fully compliant enclosed indoor facility.

Will your facility affect our energy grid?

- No. GHO is installing a state-of-the-art automated tri-gen power system. GHO will be acquiring its energy sources for Natural Gas. The system will connect directly to the natural gas line. There has been a flow study conducted, and the operation will not affect the natural gas line.

Will your operation affect our water supply?

- No. GHO will be sourcing organic plant nutrients, to use with a loop feeding system. All nutrients come in premade and are recirculated in the building. This system is self-contained, organic and environmentally friendly. Any additional water supply required will be shipped in.

What about increased traffic?

- GHO will not have access to the facilities through the community. Access will be off Main Street.
- NFN notes: The administration office is in talks with the MTO regarding safety concerns in the 17/17b intersection due to the detour. The speed limit will be reduced to 80km from Gormanville Rd to Yellek, and we are attempting to have MTO install a set of lights at the 17/17b intersection.

How is the waste disposed?

- A third-party company is hired to pick up vacuumed sealed packaged waste. The waste is removed from the site by a certified company and taken to an outside, secured location and destroyed.

What are the hours of operation?

- The business will be open 10 to 12 hours daily.

What about noise and light pollution?

- The building is an insulated steel structure, and grow rooms are completely sealed. There will be no light pollution, as there will not be a need for floodlighting. The security system will be infrared, so there is no need for outside lighting.

What about attracting the criminal element?

- The business will not be selling retail, and therefore cash on hand will be limited. The facility itself is extremely secured, including fencing and 24-hour security, and all produced cannabis products will be stored in a locked vault.

What kind of security measures are you taking?

- Background criminal reference checks were required on all board members and key personnel
- An 8-foot barbed wire fence will surround the building.
- There will be a fenced detection system offering consistent monitoring to ensure there is no tampering.
- Inside the building, staff will be required to use a fingerprint scanner as well as a key card to access any door in the facility.
- All processed cannabis will be locked inside a secured vault
- There will be a highly qualified security team on site.

Why this location?

- Natalie contacted the NFN Lands department for available commercial property. Health Canada has strict guidelines and requirements for the building and location. This location met all criteria demanded by Health Canada and NFN Cannabis Law.

When did this space become commercial?

- Councillor Rick Stevens noted that the property has been commercial for as long as he can remember. He mentioned that this same question came up some 15 years ago, and it was confirmed then that the property is zoned commercial.

Why do you think this business is important?

- It is an opportunity for business growth that could potentially employ 84 NFN members.

Is the administration, chief or council benefiting from this business or receiving any of the profits?

- Absolutely Not
- The benefit is economic growth in our community.

Are there any other reserves that have this type of operation on them?

- Seven Leaf is a privately-owned grow facility located on the Mohawks of Akwesasne territory near Cornwall.

Was an in-depth environmental/social impact study completed?

- No, it was not required as part of the NFN licencing process.

Will there be large trucks?

- Approximately every 4 months, when shipping in bulk.

Is the NFN administration going to oversee compliance?

- As per the federal guidelines, there will be inspectors specific to these operations.

Will the Chief and Council be accountable?

- Absolutely

As part of the business licencing procedure, it seems that more value should be placed on the community concerns earlier in the process; is this something you will consider preventing this from occurring in the future?

- Yes, we will be looking at the policy. Our members have more opportunities than they did years ago. Members have opportunities for more extensive, more complicated operations, and therefore we should make accommodations to our licencing law.

What happens now?

- Chief and Council will review the concerns brought forth during this community information session and decide on the business licence.