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# Information Bulletin

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## Provincial Government Makes Announcement on Medical Marijuana Grow Operations (MMGO's)

**ABBOTSFORD, BC: June 24, 2014** – The Government of British Columbia's recent announcement to exclude the federally licenced Medical Marijuana Grow Operations from the list of agricultural uses that qualify for farm classification for assessment and property tax purposes may have significant impact on city services.

Although the recent decision ensures that local governments will not lose property tax revenues, the decision to view MMGO's as an allowable farm use with the ALR does not address other potential issues many local governments have including: public safety, fire protection, infrastructure servicing, air quality and hazardous chemical use in municipal wastewater infrastructure.

As the single largest municipality in the province of BC, this could have a significant impact on the City's fire, police and bylaw services.

The City of Abbotsford is conferring with legal counsel and the appropriate ministries to fully understand this decision and its impact on how local governments can regulate and influence MMGO operations within our communities.

The City proposed a bylaw to the Ministry of Agriculture earlier in the year to prohibit MMGOs on agricultural land and will wait for the Ministry's decision on this bylaw in light of the recent announcement.

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