

**Motion for Endorsement
of the Recommendations as Proposed in the
*Cannabis as Therapy for People Living with HIV/AIDS:
“Our Right, Our Choice” Report***

Whereas surveys reveal that 14% to 37% of people living with HIV/AIDS use cannabis to help manage symptoms such as loss of appetite, wasting, nausea and vomiting, pain, anxiety, depression, stress and others;

Whereas the Government of Canada has established a program through which people living with HIV/AIDS and other seriously ill Canadians can obtain an Authorization to Possess and a License to Produce cannabis legally for their medical purposes, under the *Maribhuana Medical Access Regulations*;

Whereas a recent consultation of people living with HIV/AIDS across Canada by the Canadian AIDS Society revealed that only 26% of people who currently use cannabis as part of their therapy had obtained an Authorization to Possess from Health Canada;

Whereas the same consultation revealed that 85.5% of current medicinal cannabis users were obtaining their supply through illegal sources;

Whereas a person has a constitutional right to access the therapy of their choice, whether herbal or pharmaceutical, without fear of criminal prosecution, and the freedom to make decisions that are of fundamental personal importance without undue interference from the state, as guaranteed by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*; and

Whereas many people living with HIV/AIDS and other seriously ill Canadians are having to break the law and be exposed to the inherit risks of dealing with the black market to obtain a supply of cannabis for their medicinal use;

Therefore let it be moved that our organization, _____, actively supports the recommendations put forth by the Canadian AIDS Society in its report entitled *Cannabis as Therapy for People Living with HIV/AIDS: “Our Right, Our Choice”* to address the barriers to access to both the federal medicinal cannabis program and to a safe, legal and affordable supply of medicinal cannabis.

Signature and Title

Date