

**From:** [info@saskatoonpolicecommission.com](mailto:info@saskatoonpolicecommission.com)  
**To:** [Hudson, Janice](#)  
**Cc:** ["Jo Custead"](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Legalization of drugs for personal use  
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Communication to the Board.

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**From:** Deb Hopkins [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** August 12, 2021 4:26 PM  
**To:** [info@saskatoonpolicecommission.com](mailto:info@saskatoonpolicecommission.com)  
**Subject:** Legalization of drugs for personal use

Greetings. I am writing the Commission to ask it to support the concept of legalizing drugs for personal use. I have been a lawyer for over thirty years with 23 of those years working for Legal Aid. I continue to work pro Bono in various communities.

There have been legions of academic papers written and many examples of communities that have legalized ALL drugs. The results of these experiments have clearly pointed to the lessening of all types of crime and the betterment of peoples' lives. I have watched for decades as peoples' lives have been devastated by the stigma and quality of life have been negatively affected by drug use. But it's not the use of drugs that has made their lives so hard, it is the enforcement of outdated laws against them and a general attitude toward these people that has caused so much devastation. I have never met a person who became addicted to rugs by choice. And I have met thousands of them.

I have travelled to countries that have legalized small amounts of drugs. In Portugal, for example, I never saw anyone high or even smelled marijuana in the air. Many supports were put in place for drug users and it shows.

Please put Saskatoon on the map as a city that is forward thinking and progressive. We will all benefit.

Thank you for considering this.

Deb Hopkins  
[REDACTED]

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