

May 11, 2022

Ever since the Beer and Wine store opened in Iqaluit, and having immediate access to alcohol and being able to order alcohol by air, it has created a problem.

When I asked an RCMP member about what kind of effect the Beer and Wine store being opened had, he responded by saying that its tiring, intimidating and causing lack of sleep among the members.

I, as Isaac Shooyook, has seen that the problems its creating in Arctic Bay is getting worse. I have seen broken vehicles, 4 wheelers and snowmobiles. There has been a death caused by crashing a vehicle. At times, some have been entering homes of elders intoxicated and scaring them.

The Government of Nunavut has to reconsider the opening of Beer and Wine stores in Nunavut.

Another thing I'm concerned about is the availability of Cannabis. This is more concerning than alcohol, more disturbing and more frightening. Since the Federal Government legalized the use of cannabis, we've had more problems here in Arctic Bay. You can smoke cannabis just like your being able to smoke cigarettes. You can take cannabis while out hunting, thus creating a safety hazard to the other hunters who are not using.

Once you start smoking cannabis, you will get addicted. This creates a safety hazard to an individual that is not using the product. If you are a long time user, you can become schizophrenic. It breaks apart your life, and it will also have an impact on your body and change your facial features. They are also not scared of anybody when they are under the influence.

Counsellors, Government representatives and also members of the RCMP should have a meeting to address these problems and how they can make an improvement to the present system. I would like you to consider this letter very carefully and not just file it.

Feel free to give me a call. I am also available to participate in a meeting to discuss this serious matter. Nunavummiut need help.

Sincerely,

(signed) Isaac Shooyook