

The Municipal Act 2001 is what governs local councils in Ontario. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with it. I guarantee you your council is not following it properly.

Specifically:

### **Closing premises, public nuisance**

#### **447.1 (1)**

### **Closing premises, public nuisance**

**447.1 (1)** Upon application of a municipality, the Superior Court of Justice may make an order requiring that all or part of a premises within the municipality be closed to any use for a period not exceeding two years if, on the balance of probabilities, the court is satisfied that,

- (a) activities or circumstances on or in the premises constitute a public nuisance or cause or contribute to activities or circumstances constituting a public nuisance in the vicinity of the premises;
- (b) the public nuisance has a detrimental impact on the use and enjoyment of property in the vicinity of the premises including, but not limited to, impacts such as,
  - (i) trespass to property,
  - (ii) interference with the use of highways and other public places,
  - (iii) an increase in garbage, noise or traffic or the creation of unusual traffic patterns,
  - (iv) activities that have a significant impact on property values,
  - (v) an increase in harassment or intimidation, or
  - (vi) the presence of graffiti; and
- (c) the owner or occupants of the premises or part of the premises knew or ought to have known that the activities or circumstances constituting the public nuisance were taking place or existed and did not take adequate steps to eliminate the public nuisance. 2006, c. 32, Sched. A, s. 184.

### **Consent**

(2) A municipality shall not make an application under subsection (1) with respect to a premises without the consent of the chief of police of the municipal police force or the detachment commander of the Ontario Provincial Police detachment that is responsible for policing the area which includes the premises and the consent shall not be refused unless, in the opinion of the chief of police or detachment commander, the application may have an impact on the operations of the police.

Link here:

<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/01m25#BK589>

Bottom line, if laws are being broken we have a leg to stand on: our local governments are permitting/promoting lawlessness in our neighbourhoods and leaving everyday citizens to supervise the behaviours.