From: Bryan
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: Decriminalization of Entheogenic Plants and Fungi
Date: Sunday, April 17, 2022 12:34:34 PM

My name is Bryan Tower, I am a Missoula resident and I live in the Lower Miller Creek neighborhood/Linda Vista. I am writing to express my support for the resolution supporting entheogenic plant practices and declaring that the investigation and arrest of individuals involved with the adult use of entheogenic plants on the federal schedule 1 list be amongst the lowest priority for the City of Missoula.

The purpose of writing to you is to share my support to push for local ordinances to decriminalize and make available education and information regarding respectful, responsible, safe, and meaningful access to entheogenic plants and fungi for those seeking them as a path toward spiritual healing, mental and emotional wellbeing or expansion of consciousness. I strongly believe that every human has an inalienable right to take part with the elements of the natural world either as a spiritual path or for the well-being of that individual. The decriminalization of entheogenic plants and fungi would bring new jobs and opportunities to Missoula. With the growing population of Missoula, I believe this is ideal. Hallucinogenic substances have been used in holistic medicine and for spiritual practices by various cultures for thousands of years.

I want to take this moment and share a recent publication of crucial findings regarding psychedelics. It is very important to read. Associations between classic psychedelics and opioid use disorder in a nationally-representative U.S. adult sample
https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-08085-4

I want to point out how the veterans have turned to psychedelics as a form of treatment. Veterans credit mushrooms with helping them with the post-traumatic stress, anxiety, and depression that are often tied with experiences in the military. Here are stories of this, it's important that we educate ourselves and hear from people's experiences.
https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/11/health/veterans-psychedelics-ptsd-depression.html

I support the resolution of the decriminalization of entheogenic plants and fungi. I advocate the inalienable rights of every human to take part with elements of the natural world in a meaningful, respectful way to benefit themselves and others. Please support this resoluton.

Here are more resources to read and educate.

A Carolina lab discovered how psychedelics bind to serotonin receptors on brain cells, setting the stage for the discovery of new kinds of antidepressants, anti-anxiety drugs, and treatments for substance use disorders.

https://thewell.unc.edu/2020/10/06/ps

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Bryan Eporu
Missoula, Montana