

Hi, I'm not sure of the thought process bringing this to north London. All of the supports and "wrap around" services are downtown. When we had the shelter at Fanshawe Golf Club people complained that they were out of the core and we paid to transport them back downtown because that was where all of their supports were.

I work downtown enough to see the state of the Mission and the Salvation Army as well as the York Inn. I've seen how businesses struggle to deal with the fallout of homelessness and addiction, going out of business, theft and cleaning needles and feces up most mornings. Spreading the problem to another area of the city does not seem like a viable solution. Yes it sounds insensitive but I would rather see some form of meaningful treatment for people to get off of drugs and back on their feet. If I could encourage a viewing of YouTube videos, Seattle is Dying, Vancouver is Dying and Canada is Dying. It talks about all of these issues we are facing. So far Rhode Island is the only state to address change and it was through forced treatment. Canada is dying talks about the myth of "safe supply" and even mentions London Ontario. Giving dilaudids out at the clinic has now become widely known and is also part of the reason the unhoused are coming to London because those pills are turned into currency to purchase illicit drugs.

Businesses in the Fanshawe Wonderland area will suffer there is no doubt about that. It's sad to say but I've seen the downtown destroyed. We can pretend this isn't the reality but it is.

Yes people need housing AND meaningful treatment not replacement drugs or a safe supply.

Spreading this into another area of the city beside a toy store is a horrible idea. It needs to be where people can have the supports of all the other agencies that provide their wrap around support. How are they getting to clinics for their safe supply? Is this an additional cost for taxpayers?

Regards

Laurie Legg