

To whom it may concern

I am emailing councilagenda@london.ca giving permission to place my views on the record regarding the public agenda under item 2.10 CPSC.

I, personally, don't believe in further support for encampments and the unsheltered living in city parks--at least administered *in* the city parks. I believe funds for encampments and drug supplies should be spent on mental health inside actual facilities. I believe we should be working at going from an enabling culture to a zero tolerance one. From one where open drug use on our streets is not permitted. I understand people will say some have nowhere else to use. That is true. This is why I have written all 3 levels of government in the last couple of years to express my wish that new state of the art drug rehabilitation centres be built across Canada. This, however, is a very expensive undertaking. I believe drug manufacturers should pay for half. I think they should be sued to pay their fair share. I believe other programs should be cut to cover the other half. I believe the new facilities should be a cross between a jail and a hospital. I believe they should have all the 'bells and whistles' so to speak from counselling to drug treatment to resume building workshops, job and housing placement and more. I believe safe supply programs should be eliminated. I believe safe injection sites should not exist. I believe encampments should be prohibited. I believe drug paraphernalia or safe use items should not be handed out.

I believe that after new (lock down) drug rehabilitation centres are built and addiction and/or possession laws are strengthened that our police departments should arrest members of the public who are found doing illegal drugs or in possession of illegal drugs and breaking the law. I believe that the court system should offer a choice between voluntary rehab of individuals with addictions and in result they be given no criminal record OR a criminal record and jail for repeat offenders where they refuse rehab. It is my opinion that this would not deny any human rights any more than sentencing someone to anger management or domestic abuse counselling like we do now (No,

I am not comparing drug addiction to domestic assault I'm just comparing the fact that forced treatment of behavior occurs in other cases. I understand that many consider drug addiction to be a disease but as such I believe we should treat the disease by attempting to end the drug addition/dependency.

I understand the fentanyl epidemic has played a major role in drug addiction in Canada but I am also old enough to remember a time when people would be charged for drug possession and when these programs didnt exist. Now we hand it out through safer supply programs in the form of delaudid and it is sold for stronger drugs (<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.cbc.ca/amp/1.7255324>). I understand there are concerns that when drug treatment doesn't work and someone goes back to using that their body may not be able to handle the shock. I also understand that not doing anything people also die.

On a side note I also believe that our governments through all levels should work to provide more and better mental health facilities. Shuttered mental hospitals should be re-opened or rebuilt. I personally believe that long term homelessness would not be the problem it is today with better mental health and addictions facilities.

In my opinion, usually everyone experiences some form of homelessness for a couple of months during their lifetime be it from a breakup, divorce, move across the country, job loss, etc (I was homeless and "couch surfed" for 4 months when I first came to London at 23 years of age) but in my experience *long term* homelessness of a year or more is more likely to be the result of addictions or mental health issues.

I am therefore letting my opinion be known that I do not support the spending of 1.4 million federal dollars for outreach support in our city parks. It costs a lot more money to do things right but I believe it is worth it in the end.

Thank you,

David Hynes