

METHADONE CLINIC AND METHADONE PHARMACIES BY-LAW
AMENDMENT

file #02-8004

Monday, February 27, 2012.

I would like to thank the City of London for addressing this important issue with special thanks to John Fleming and his staff for their hard work.

Being here today in support of the proposal before you should not be equated to an indifference or a callousness by the community towards people that require the use of methadone.

We have engaged in this process because we want to see service delivery conducted in a manner that benefits both the client and the community.

The report of the Methadone Maintenance Treatment Practices Task Force (2007) makes a number of pertinent statements about community. These are found in section 9.5 "Best Approaches to Integrate Methadone Maintenance Treatment into Society and Communities."

I quote from page 72: "Over the course of the consultations, it became clear that the integration of MMT practices into residential communities is generally not well done."

To remedy the situation they recommend that "Clinics and physicians who provide MMT need to engage with and contribute to the community in which they are located." The suggestions and the recommendation they make (pp. 72 - 74) are worth reviewing.

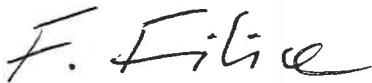
To the best of my knowledge none of the recommendations with respect to community have been adopted.

The City of London has done what it can, using the tools at its disposal, to strike a balance between the business of methadone treatment and the needs of community. This is no different than many other businesses. With the proposed zoning by-law amendment communities will be given an avenue of input.

It is our view that representatives from the Ministry of Health and the College of Pharmacy and the College of Physicians and Surgeons should have contributed to this work. It is our hope that they will step forward to support the work that the City of London has had the courage to do.

We endorse the proposal in front of you tonight and ask that you give it your full support.

I hereby request that we be given Delegation Status in the event this proposed by-law is appealed to the OMB.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "F. Filice".

Frank Filice, for

The Old East Village Community Association