



"Deeds Not Words"



**John B. Pare
Chief of Police**

August 25, 2017

Chair and Members
Community and Protective Services Committee

RE: Letter of Support for London Becoming a 'Safe City'

On behalf of the London Police Service please accept this as our support for the project proposed by the City of London and Anova to participate in the *UN Women's Safe City Initiative*.

Our members witness first-hand the impact sexual violence has on individuals, families and communities. For many years, we have worked alongside community partners in addressing sexual violence in our community, but there is still work to be done.

I understand the focus of this project is sexual violence in public spaces. Sexual violence, including harassment, in public space reduces women's and girls' freedom of movement. It reduces their ability to fully participate in our community – in school, work and in public life in general. It can limit their access to essential services and their enjoyment of cultural and recreational opportunities. It also negatively impacts their health and well-being.

We believe there is a key role to be played by not only Council but all community partners, including Anova, in calling attention to the issue of sexual violence in our community, including public spaces. We must continue to work collaboratively to effectively combat and prevent sexual violence and harassment across all settings.

We are pleased to provide this letter of support and look forward to getting started on making London a 'Safe City' for all.

Yours truly,

For John B. Pare, M.O.M.
Chief of Police



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