

26 April 2018

City of London Planning and Environment Committee
c/o City Clerk
300 Dufferin Ave
London, ON N6A 4L9

Dear Members of the Planning and Environment Committee:

I am writing in support of Dr. Christopher Mackie's recommendations that the Committee endorse the two identified sites as appropriate locations for a Supervised Consumption Facility (SCF) and commit that these sites will be zoned as such when the relevant bylaw is passed.

I am lending my support first and foremost as a member of the London community, and second as a researcher in epidemiology & biostatistics and professor in public health. My research focuses on helping decision-makers draw on the best available data-driven evidence to support their decisions. This is sometimes a very challenging problem; however, in the case of SCFs, the evidence is abundant and clear: Implementing a permanent consumption facility will reduce public injection behaviour, reduce transmission of blood-borne infections, improve access to care, and above all, save lives. There is no evidence that SCFs worsen crime. Dr. Mackie has gone to extraordinary lengths in collaboration with the City of London and the community at large to identify sites where an SCF can be as effective and impactful as possible.

Decisions that matter always flow from a synthesis of evidence and values. Lives will be saved by following Dr. Mackie's recommendations. As a community, we have a moral imperative to value those lives as highly as we value our own. Endorsing the sites is the evidence-based choice and it is the moral choice. I implore the PEC to do the right thing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel J. Lizotte', written in a cursive style.

Daniel J. Lizotte, PhD