

Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2018 8:31 PM
To: Lysynski, Heather <hlysynsk@London.ca>
Cc: PEC <pec@london.ca>
Subject: Rezoning 446 York Street

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Opioid Addiction Committee (OAC), a student organization at Western University, we would like to express our overwhelming support towards the rezoning at 446 York Street for the establishment of a permanent supervised consumption facility.

Supervised consumption facilities have continuously proven beneficial in communities across North America. Historically, the facilities have saved lives, reduced the spread of infectious diseases and exposed clients to crucial treatment/support services. The Temporary Overdose Prevention Site here in London has so far reversed 56 overdoses and has led to over 150 people entering drug treatment programs.

The success of the Temporary Overdose Prevention Site is evidence that the community is prepared to establish permanent supervised consumption facilities.

From a community perspective, we believe the benefits of the facilities will be swift and obvious. Less injection of drugs in public spaces, proper disposal of needle waste and a variety of other residual effects will undoubtedly improve the safety, cleanliness and overall image of this neighbourhood. Many additional steps will be taken to ensure that the sites have a positive impact on the community, such as adequate waiting spaces and aftercare rooms in the facility to prevent loitering in the area. Moreover, the site will have a full-time security guard, which will discourage any undesired behaviour near the site itself.

Through the tireless work of all parties involved, the municipal government has a critical opportunity to alleviate a problem that has been plaguing this city for years. The establishment of permanent supervised consumption facilities are in the city's best interest and any efforts to delay the rezoning of 446 York Street would be extremely discouraging.

Sincerely,

Ira Brown and Jonah Rakoff