

November 29, 2018

Clerk for the Planning and Environment Committee, City Clerk's Office
City of London
300 Dufferin Avenue
London, Ontario, PO BOX 5035
N6A 4L9

Re: the proposed rezoning of 446 York Street for use as a Permanent Supervised Consumption and Treatment Service

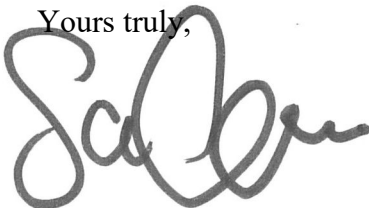
Planning and Environment Committee:

Please accept this letter as London InterCommunity Health Centre's support for the proposed reuse of 446 York Street as a clinic use, to allow for the delivery of supervised consumption and other medical and treatment services for people who consume substances. London InterCommunity Health Centre has provided inclusive and equitable health and social services to Londoners who experience barriers to care since 1989. We fully understand and publicly support the need for permanent supervised consumption and treatment services in our city, as we believe the services will save lives, and provide access to other health and social services that will improve the wellbeing of people accessing the clinic.

London InterCommunity Health Centre believes that 446 York Street is an optimal location for these services, as it is in close proximity to where the highest concentration of public injecting presently occurs. This location will also address concerns of community members who, while generally supportive of having such services in our city, requested that services be located at a reasonable distance from low-density neighbourhoods.

The positive impact of existing permanent supervised consumption and treatment services in Canada have been rigorously researched and extensively documented, and include: thousands of lives saved through overdose reversal, marked reduction in public consumption of illegal substances and improper disposal of needles, and improved neighbourhood safety. We have high confidence in the lead agency, Regional HIV/AIDS Connection, to deliver similar results.

Yours truly,



Scott Courtice
Executive Director, London InterCommunity Health Centre