

November 27, 2018

Councillor Stephen Turner
The Corporation of the City of London
Planning and Environment Committee (PEC)
300 Dufferin Ave, P.O. Box 5035
London, ON N6A 4L9

RE: File Z-8971 Rezoning of 446 York Street

Dear Councillor Turner:

The need to have Supervised Consumption Services (SCS) in our community is irrefutable. SCS help fill an important role in the continuum of health services and are highly effective at reducing the harms of illicit substance use, including overdose deaths, bacterial infections and transmission of bloodborne pathogens such as HIV and hepatitis C. SCS also provide an access point for individuals to connect with or be referred to other services and supports, including harm reduction supply distribution, education, housing, health care (e.g. wound care), mental health and substance use services and addiction treatment programs. As a result, individuals see improvements in their overall health and wellness.

As the largest social housing provider in London and Middlesex County, we know that these services are desperately needed for a significant percentage of our tenants as well as those addicted to opioids. There is evidence to show that SCS will be used and a public consultation process revealed a strong desire to support those addicted to opioid drugs in our community. London however, like most communities, is divided on the selection of a permanent site to establish a Supervised Consumption & Rehabilitation Services Facility.

Our vision centers on healthy homes and communities in London and Middlesex and making a difference by positively impacting lives using housing as the foundation. LMHC wants to be part of the solution and not the problem in addressing social issues in our community by showing that we CARE. As such, LMHC supports the rezoning application submitted by MLHU and RHAC to allow a clinic use for the intended purpose of a Supervised Consumption Facility at 446 York Street.

Kinds Regards,

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Sean Quigley

Chair, Board of Directors

Cc: Josh Browne, CEO

Chris Mackie, Middlesex-London Health Unit Brian Lester, Regional HIV/AIDS Connection