Nov. 30, 2018

Cathy Nolan, Managing Director Street Level Women at Risk 511-200 Queens Av. London ON N6A 1J3

Re: Permanent supervised consumption and treatment services in London

Dear City of London Council,

On behalf of the Street Level Women at Risk (SLWAR) Program, I would like to express our support for the invaluable services that a permanent supervised consumption and treatment services in London would provide. The Temporary Overdose Prevention Site has been a success (56 overdoses reversed, over 10,000 injections off the street, over 150 people into drug treatment, less needle waste downtown). It has made a positive difference in the lives of Street Level Women at Risk participants who access support and services at the Temporary Overdose Prevention Site.

Street Level Women at Risk supports the rezoning at 446 York Street because it will save lives. The location is within walking distance of both Dundas and Richmond and Dundas and Adelaide, the two biggest London hot spots for drug use. This would reduce a barrier for SLWAR participants who have experienced long term chronic homelessness, abject poverty, substance use, mental health challenges and trauma. It will help get injections off the street (and into a controlled environment) where people feel safe. It will provide wrap-around services, including addictions treatment, mental health counselling, and HIV testing which are all essential for the long term health and well-being of the people we serve. The partners, all of whom are valuable members of the Street Level Women at Risk Collaboration Advisory Group, have proven that they can run a service that respects neighbouring businesses and residents.

With this letter I ask that you proceed with the rezoning at 446 York Street as the new home for the Permanent supervised consumption and treatment services.

Sincerely,

Cathy Nolan RSW

Managing Director Street Level Women at Risk Program

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