



Addiction and Substances Policy and Programs Unit
Health Improvement Policy and Programs Branch
Population and Public Health Division
Ministry of Health

Authorizations Division
Office of Controlled Substances
Controlled Substances Directorate
Opioid Response Team, Health Canada

August 5, 2022

Brentwood Recovery Home is in support of the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit's (WECHU) proposal to establish a Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS) site at 101 Wyandotte Street East in the City of Windsor.

Over the last five years, opioid-related morbidity and mortality trends have continued to rise at alarming rates across Windsor-Essex County (WEC). The onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020 has only served to exacerbate the local opioid and overdose crisis, with substantial increases in opioid-related emergency department (ED) visits and opioid-related mortalities observed in the year since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

In 2020, there were a total of 358 opioid-related ED visits reported locally in WEC, which is 98 more than those reported for in 2019 (260) and more than tripled from those reported for in 2016 (108).¹ During the year of 2021, these cases continued to rise, with the highest annual number of opioid-related ED visits observed locally (505) since reporting began in 2003.¹ Seventy-one (71) opioid-related deaths were also reported locally in 2020, which represents the highest number of annual opioid deaths in WEC since reporting began in 2005.¹ Opioid-related deaths continued to be recorded in alarming numbers in 2021, with fifty-four (54) opioid-related mortalities recorded during the first nine months of the annual period alone (January to September of 2021).¹ These numbers represent individuals, families, friends, and loved ones that are greatly affected.

A CTS site is one of many harm reduction strategies aimed at reducing the risks associated with substance use in the community. These facilities are legally operated, indoor spaces where people come to use their own pre-obtained substances under safe conditions and with the supervision of medically trained workers. Research in Canada shows that CTS sites (referred to as "supervised consumption sites" under the *Health Canada* model) offer many health and social benefits for both people who use substances and the larger community and can help to save lives.² Brentwood supports the provision of a local CTS to offer essential, life saving supports and holistic services to people who use substances in our community.

The WECHU, in collaboration with partners involved with the *Windsor-Essex Community Opioid & Substance Strategy* (WECOSS) and the *CTS Stakeholder Advisory Committee*, has completed a series of comprehensive community consultations that support the overall feasibility, acceptability, and site-selection for a local CTS at 101 Wyandotte Street East. Brentwood Recovery Home agrees that 101 Wyandotte Street East is a suitable and accessible location for a local CTS, and endorses the WECHU's proposal to establish and operate a CTS site at this address.



BRENTWOOD

People helping people find recovery

As the Executive Director of Brentwood Recovery Home, I encourage you to support the WECHU's proposal as noted above. A CTS site at this location can help to prevent future deaths in our community and to support people who use substances in living safe, healthy, and meaningful lives. We are honoured to support this recommendation and look forward to the outcome of the proposal.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Dulmage
Executive Director
Brentwood Recovery Home

¹ Public Health Ontario (PHO). Interactive Opioid Tool – Opioid-Related Morbidity and Mortality in the Geographic Area of the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit. Retrieved from <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/data-and-analysis/substance-use/interactive-opioid-tool>. Accessed June 16th, 2022.

² Health Canada. (2022). Supervised consumption sites and services: Explained. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/substance-use/supervised-consumption-sites/explained.html>.

Windsor, August 5, 2022

Dear:

Addiction and Substances Policy and Programs Unit
Health Improvement Policy and Programs Branch
Population and Public Health Division
Ministry of Health

Authorizations Division
Office of Controlled Substances
Controlled Substances Directorate
Opioid Response Team, Health Canada

Canadian Mental Health Association, Windsor-Essex County Branch is pleased to support the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit's (WECHU) proposal to establish a Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS) site at 101 Wyandotte Street East in the City of Windsor.

Over the last five years, opioid-related morbidity and mortality trends have continued to rise at alarming rates across Windsor-Essex County (WEC). The onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020 has only served to exacerbate the local opioid and overdose crisis, with substantial increases in opioid-related emergency department (ED) visits and opioid-related mortalities observed in the year since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

In 2020, there were a total of 358 opioid-related ED visits reported locally in WEC, which is 98 more than those reported for in 2019 (260) and more than tripled from those reported for in 2016 (108).¹ During the year of 2021, these cases continued to rise, with the highest annual number of opioid-related ED visits observed locally (505) since reporting began in 2003.¹ Seventy-one (71) opioid-related deaths were also reported locally in 2020, which represents the highest number of annual opioid deaths in WEC since reporting began in 2005.¹ Opioid-related deaths continued to be recorded in alarming numbers in 2021, with fifty-four (54) opioid-related mortalities recorded during the first nine months of the annual period alone (January to September of 2021).¹ These numbers represent individuals, families, friends, and loved ones that are greatly affected.

A CTS site is one of many harm reduction strategies aimed at reducing the risks associated with substance use in the community. These facilities are legally operated, indoor spaces where people come to use their own pre-obtained substances under safe conditions and with the supervision of medically trained workers. Research in Canada shows that CTS sites (referred to as "supervised consumption sites" under the *Health Canada* model) offer many health and social benefits for both people who use substances and the larger community and can help to save lives.² Canadian Mental Health Association, Windsor-Essex County Branch supports the provision of a local CTS to offer essential, lifesaving supports and holistic services to people who use substances in our community.

The WECHU, in collaboration with partners involved with the *Windsor-Essex Community Opioid & Substance Strategy* (WECOSS) and the *CTS Stakeholder Advisory Committee*, has completed a series of comprehensive community



consultations that support the overall feasibility, acceptability, and site-selection for a local CTS at 101 Wyandotte Street East. Canadian Mental Health Association, Windsor-Essex County Branch hereby agrees that 101 Wyandotte Street East is a suitable and accessible location for a local CTS, and endorses the WECHU's proposal to establish and operate a CTS site at this address.

As the Chief Executive Officer of Canadian Mental Health Association, Windsor-Essex County Branch, I encourage you to support the WECHU's proposal as noted above. A CTS site at this location can help to prevent future deaths in our community and to support people who use substances in living safe, healthy, and meaningful lives. We are honoured to support this recommendation and look forward to the outcome of the proposal.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sonja Grbevski
Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Mental Health Association
Windsor-Essex County Branch



Wednesday, August 10, 2022

Thank you, your worship Mayor Dilkens, and City Councillors, for the opportunity to speak to the issue of a Consumption Treatment Site at 101 Wyandotte Street East and express our support.

Over the past several years the Downtown Windsor Community Collaborative has spoken formally and informally with residents regarding the increased drug use and its impact on our neighbourhoods, and the possibility of a safe consumption site located in our city core.

Conversations have been both for and against the concept. However, as discussions progressed and we grew informed of the plan, the predominant perspective moved to approval or at the least resigned acceptance. As downtown residents we experience firsthand the cost and damage to people's lives, to property and to enjoyment of life in the city core. It wears on us and our families when finding the consequences of use in our backyards, our alleys, and the accompanying theft that goes with supporting the addiction. We realize that there is no one solution to the problem of the drug addictions. We as neighbors have felt helpless as the years have gone by. Residents withdraw from participation in their neighbourhoods, exhibit anger or the extreme step of moving out of the city. Providing a safe consumption site gives residents another tool for directing users and a signal of hope for a way out of the predicament.

We realize that the 'war on drugs', criminal charges, or shuffling the problem to another street are not productive. We understand that the site is in our backyard. Creative solutions are required and we are satisfied that this is the best of all options.

As well, DWCC's involvement in RE/ACT, a recovery program that is abstinence-based, sees the place for harm reduction. A safe place for persons in active addiction under medical awareness and out of isolation only gives opportunity for change to occur in person's restoration to health. DWCC supports the safe consumption site and will do whatever it can to assist in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Cameron", is placed on a light blue rectangular background.

Robert Cameron (Executive Director, DWCC + RE/ACT)



Bruce Krauter
Chief
Essex-Windsor Emergency Medical Services

November 4, 2021

Addiction and Substances Policy and Programs Unit
Health Improvement Policy and Programs Branch
Population and Public Health Division
Ministry of Health

Authorizations Division
Office of Controlled Substances
Controlled Substances Directorate
Opioid Response Team, Health Canada

Re: Consumption and Treatment Services, 101 Wyandotte Street Est, Windsor

Essex Windsor EMS is pleased to support the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit's (WECHU) proposal to establish a Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS) site at 101 Wyandotte Street East in the City of Windsor.

Over the last five years, opioid-related morbidity and mortality trends have continued to rise at alarming rates across Windsor-Essex County (WEC). The onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020 has only served to exacerbate the local opioid and overdose crisis, with substantial increases in opioid-related emergency department (ED) visits and opioid-related mortalities observed in the year since the COVID-19 pandemic began. In 2020, there were a total of 358 opioid-related ED visits reported locally in WEC, which is 98 more than those reported for in 2019 (260) and more than tripled from those reported for in 2016 (108).¹ During the year of 2021, these cases continued to rise, with the highest annual number of opioid-related ED visits observed locally (505) since reporting began in 2003.¹ Seventy-one (71) opioid-related deaths were also reported locally in 2020, which represents the highest number of annual opioid deaths in WEC since reporting began in 2005.¹ Opioid-related deaths continued to be recorded in alarming numbers in 2021, with fifty-four (54) opioid-related mortalities recorded during the first nine months of the annual period alone (January to September of 2021).¹ These numbers represent individuals, families, friends, and loved ones that are greatly affected.

A CTS site is one of many harm reduction strategies aimed at reducing the risks associated with substance use in the community. These facilities are legally operated, indoor spaces where people come to use their own pre-obtained substances under safe conditions and with the supervision of medically trained workers. Research in Canada shows that CTS sites (referred to as "supervised consumption sites" under the *Health Canada* model) offer many health and social benefits for both people who use substances and the larger community and can help to save lives.² Essex Windsor EMS supports the provision of a local CTS to offer essential, life saving supports and holistic services to people who use substances in our community.

The WECHU, in collaboration with partners involved with the *Windsor-Essex Community Opioid & Substance Strategy* (WECOSS) and the *CTS Stakeholder Advisory Committee*, has completed a series of comprehensive community consultations that support the overall feasibility, acceptability, and site-selection for a local CTS at 101 Wyandotte Street East. Essex Windsor EMS hereby agrees that 101 Wyandotte Street East is a suitable and accessible location for a local CTS, and endorses the WECHU's proposal to establish and operate a CTS site at this address.

As the Chief of Essex Windsor EMS, I encourage you to support the WECHU's proposal as noted above. A CTS site at this location can help to prevent future deaths in our community and to support people who use substances in living safe, healthy, and meaningful lives. We are honoured to support this recommendation and look forward to the outcome of the proposal.

Sincerely,



Bruce Krauter Chief

CC:

¹ Public Health Ontario (PHO). Interactive Opioid Tool – Opioid-Related Morbidity and Mortality in the Geographic Area of the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit. Retrieved from <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/data-and-analysis/substance-use/interactive-opioid-tool>. Accessed June 16th, 2022.

² Health Canada. (2022). Supervised consumption sites and services: Explained. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/substance-use/supervised-consumption-sites/explained.html>.

Addiction and Substances Policy and Programs Unit
Health Improvement Policy and Programs Branch
Population and Public Health Division
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Authorizations Division
Office of Controlled Substances
Controlled Substances Directorate
Opioid Response Team, Health Canada

RE: CONSUMPTION AND TREATMENT SERVICES (CTS)

Family Services Windsor-Essex is pleased to support the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit's (WECHU) proposal to establish a Consumption & Treatment Services (CTS) facility at 101 Wyandotte Street East in the City of Windsor. Over the last five years, opioid-related morbidity and mortality trends have continued to rise at alarming rates across Windsor-Essex County (WEC). The onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020 has only served to exacerbate the local opioid and overdose crisis, with substantial increases in opioid-related emergency department (ED) visits and opioid-related mortalities observed in the year since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

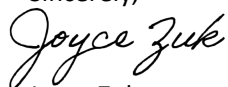
In 2020, there were a total of 358 opioid-related ED visits reported locally in WEC, which is 98 more than those reported for in 2019 (260) and more than tripled from those reported for in 2016 (108).¹ During the year of 2021, these cases continued to rise, with the highest annual number of opioid-related ED visits observed locally (505) since reporting began in 2003.¹ Seventy-one (71) opioid-related deaths were also reported locally in 2020, which represents the highest number of annual opioid deaths in WEC since reporting began in 2005.¹ Opioid-related deaths continued to be recorded in alarming numbers in 2021, with fifty-four (54) opioid-related mortalities recorded during the first nine months of the annual period alone (January to September of 2021).¹ These numbers represent individuals, families, friends, and loved ones that are greatly affected.

A CTS facility is one of many harm reduction strategies aimed at reducing the risks associated with substance use in the community. These facilities are legally operated indoor spaces where people come to use their own pre-obtained substances under safe conditions, with the supervision of medically trained workers, and with on-site linkages to basic medical care, social services, and mental health/substance use treatment. Research in Canada shows that CTS facilities offer many health and social benefits for both people who use substances and the larger community and can help to **save lives**. Family Services supports the provision of a local CTS facility to offer essential lifesaving supports and holistic wraparound services to people who use substances in our community.

The WECHU, in collaboration with partners involved with the *Windsor-Essex Community Opioid & Substance Strategy (WECOSS)* and the *CTS Stakeholder Advisory Committee*, has completed a series of comprehensive community consultations that support the overall feasibility, acceptability, and need for a local CTS at 101 Wyandotte Street East. Family Services hereby agrees that 101 Wyandotte Street East is a suitable and accessible location for a local CTS and endorses the WECHU's proposal to proceed with the submission of the federal and provincial applications to *Health Canada* and the provincial *Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care*, respectively, for approval of a CTS facility at this address.

As the Executive Director of Family Services, I encourage you to support the WECHU's proposal as noted above. A CTS facility at this location can help to prevent future deaths in our community and to support people who use substances in living safe, healthy, and meaningful lives. We are honoured to support this recommendation and look forward to the outcome of the proposal.

Sincerely,



Joyce Zuk
Executive Director



August 4, 2022

Dear,

Addiction and Substances Policy and Programs Unit
Health Improvement Policy and Programs Branch
Population and Public Health Division
Ministry of Health

Authorizations Division
Office of Controlled Substances
Controlled Substances Directorate
Opioid Response Team, Health Canada

Legal Assistance of Windsor is pleased to support the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit's (WECHU) proposal to establish a Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS) site at 101 Wyandotte Street East in the City of Windsor.

Over the last five years, opioid-related morbidity and mortality trends have continued to rise at alarming rates across Windsor-Essex County (WEC). The onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020 has only served to exacerbate the local opioid and overdose crisis, with substantial increases in opioid-related emergency department (ED) visits and opioid-related mortalities observed in the year since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

In 2020, there were a total of 358 opioid-related ED visits reported locally in WEC, which is 98 more than those reported for in 2019 (260) and more than tripled from those reported for in 2016 (108).¹ During the year of 2021, these cases continued to rise, with the highest annual number of opioid-related ED visits observed locally (505) since reporting began in 2003.¹ Seventy-one (71) opioid-related deaths were also reported locally in 2020, which represents the highest number of annual opioid deaths in WEC since reporting began in 2005.¹ Opioid-related deaths continued to be recorded in alarming numbers in 2021, with fifty-four (54) opioid-related mortalities recorded during the first nine months of the annual period alone (January to September of 2021).¹ These numbers represent individuals, families, friends, and loved ones that are greatly affected.

A CTS site is one of many harm reduction strategies aimed at reducing the risks associated with substance use in the community. These facilities are legally operated, indoor spaces where people come to use their own pre-obtained substances under safe conditions and with the supervision of medically trained workers. Research in Canada shows that CTS sites (referred to as "supervised consumption sites" under the *Health Canada* model) offer many health and social benefits for both people who use substances and the larger community and can help to save lives.² Legal Assistance of Windsor supports the provision of a local CTS to offer essential, life saving supports and holistic services to people who use substances in our community.

The WECHU, in collaboration with partners involved with the *Windsor-Essex Community Opioid & Substance Strategy* (WECOSS) and the *CTS Stakeholder Advisory Committee*, has completed a series of

comprehensive community consultations that support the overall feasibility, acceptability, and site-selection for a local CTS at 101 Wyandotte Street East. Legal Assistance of Windsor hereby agrees that 101 Wyandotte Street East is a suitable and accessible location for a local CTS, and endorses the WECHU's proposal to establish and operate a CTS site at this address.

As the Executive Director of Legal Assistance of Windsor, I encourage you to support the WECHU's proposal as noted above. A CTS site at this location can help to prevent future deaths in our community and to support people who use substances in living safe, healthy, and meaningful lives. We are honoured to support this recommendation and look forward to the outcome of the proposal.

Sincerely,



Marion Overholt
Executive Director
Legal Assistance of Windsor

¹ Public Health Ontario (PHO). Interactive Opioid Tool – Opioid-Related Morbidity and Mortality in the Geographic Area of the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit. Retrieved from <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/data-and-analysis/substance-use/interactive-opioid-tool>. Accessed June 16th, 2022.

² Health Canada. (2022). Supervised consumption sites and services: Explained. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/substance-use/supervised-consumption-sites/explained.html>.



WINDSOR REGIONAL HOSPITAL

OUTSTANDING CARE – NO EXCEPTIONS!

August 10, 2022

Attention:

Addiction and Substances Policy and Programs Unit
Health Improvement Policy and Programs Branch
Population and Public Health Division
Ministry of Health

Authorizations Division
Office of Controlled Substances
Controlled Substances Directorate
Opioid Response Team, Health Canada

Windsor Regional Hospital (WRH) is supportive of the concept of a Consumption & Treatment Services (CTS) facility for the residents of Windsor-Essex County (WEC), and supports the Windsor-Essex County Public Health Unit (WECHU) to develop and submit a proposal based on stakeholder engagement and researched best practices to the Province of Ontario and Health Canada for consideration.

We appreciate the urgent need for additional harm reduction strategies to address opioid related challenges for the residents of Windsor-Essex. In 2020, preliminary data reported by Public Health Ontario indicates that there were a total of 358 opioid-related emergency department visits in WEC, which is 98 more than those reported for in 2019 (260) and more than tripled from those reported in 2016 (108)[1]. Additionally, there were a total of 71 opioid-related deaths reported locally in 2020 which represents the highest number of annual opioid deaths in WEC since 2005. These numbers represent individuals, families, friends, and loved ones that are greatly affected.

Through our ongoing and strong partnership with WECHU, we look forward to ongoing collaboration on linkages to acute care as they continue to develop a model for CTS in our community. This model must be part of a sustainable addictions strategy and include pathways for rapid access to other services and safeguards to ensure appropriate supports are in place. Should The Ministry of Health and Health Canada give support for the site, we feel confident that the WECHU will ensure robust operational planning and engagement around these details.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Foster,
VP, Emergency, Mental Health, Trauma, Cancer, Renal & Office of Research
Windsor Regional Hospital

WINDSOR REGIONAL HOSPITAL
OUELLETTE - 1030 OUELLETTE AVE., WINDSOR, ONT, N9A 1E1
MET – 1995 LENS AVE., WINDSOR, ONTARIO, N8W 1L9
PHONE: 519-254-5577
WWW.WRH.ON.CA

COMPASSION is our
PASSION



8 August 2022

Addiction and Substances Policy and Programs Unit - Authorizations Division
Health Improvement Policy and Programs Branch -Office of Controlled Substances
Population and Public Health Division - Controlled Substances Directorate
Ministry of Health - Opioid Response Team, Health Canada

The Windsor-Essex Community Health Centre is pleased to support the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit's (WECHU) proposal to establish a Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS) site at 101 Wyandotte Street East in the City of Windsor.

Over the last five years, opioid-related morbidity and mortality trends have continued to rise at alarming rates across Windsor-Essex County (WEC). The onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020 has only served to exacerbate the local opioid and overdose crisis, with substantial increases in opioid-related emergency department (ED) visits and opioid-related mortalities observed in the year since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

In 2020, there were a total of 358 opioid-related ED visits reported locally in WEC, which is 98 more than those reported for in 2019 (260) and more than tripled from those reported for in 2016 (108).¹ During the year of 2021, these cases continued to rise, with the highest annual number of opioid-related ED visits observed locally (505) since reporting began in 2003.¹ Seventy-one (71) opioid-related deaths were also reported locally in 2020, which represents the highest number of annual opioid deaths in WEC since reporting began in 2005.¹ Opioid-related deaths continued to be recorded in alarming numbers in 2021, with fifty-four (54) opioid-related mortalities recorded during the first nine months of the annual period alone (January to September of 2021).¹ These numbers represent individuals, families, friends, and loved ones that are greatly affected.

A CTS site is one of many harm reduction strategies aimed at reducing the risks associated with substance use in the community. These facilities are legally operated, indoor spaces where people come to use their own pre-obtained substances under safe conditions and with the supervision of medically trained workers. Research in Canada shows that CTS sites (referred to as "supervised consumption sites" under the *Health Canada* model) offer many health and social benefits for both people who use substances and the larger community and can help to save lives.² The Windsor-Essex Community Health Centre supports the provision of a local CTS to offer essential, lifesaving supports and holistic services to people who use substances in our community.

The WECHU, in collaboration with partners involved with the *Windsor-Essex Community Opioid & Substance Strategy* (WECOSS) and the *CTS Stakeholder Advisory Committee*, has completed a series of comprehensive community consultations that support the overall feasibility, acceptability, and site-selection for a local CTS at 101 Wyandotte Street East. The Windsor-Essex Community Health Centre hereby agrees that 101 Wyandotte Street East is a suitable and accessible location for a local CTS and endorses the WECHU's proposal to establish and operate a CTS site at this address.

As the Executive Director and Interim Director, Clinical Practice (Street Health & Addiction Services) of the Windsor-Essex Community Health Centre, we encourage you to support the WECHU's proposal as noted above. A CTS site at this location can help to prevent future deaths in our community and to support people who use substances in living safe, healthy, and meaningful lives. We are honoured to support this recommendation and look forward to the outcome of the proposal.

Sincerely



Rita Taillefer, RN, MN
Executive Director



Shawn Rumble, BA, BEd, MES, RSSW, Psychotherapist, CSAT-Candidate, SRT, IAT, PRT, PBTT, ICGC-II, ICADC, ICCS, CADC-II (GA), CCS (GA)
Interim Director, Clinical Practice (Street Health & Addiction Services)
Windsor-Essex Community Health Centre

¹ Public Health Ontario (PHO). Interactive Opioid Tool – Opioid-Related Morbidity and Mortality in the Geographic Area of the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit. Retrieved from <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/data-and-analysis/substance-use/interactive-opioid-tool>. Accessed June 16th, 2022.

² Health Canada. (2022). Supervised consumption sites and services: Explained. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/substance-use/supervised-consumption-sites/explained.html>



Pozitive Pathways
511 Pelissier Street
Windsor, ON N9A 4L2
Tel. 519-992-0784
www.pozitivepathways.com

Dear,

Addiction and Substances Policy and Programs Unit
Health Improvement Policy and Programs Branch
Population and Public Health Division
Ministry of Health

Authorizations Division
Office of Controlled Substances
Controlled Substances Directorate
Opioid Response Team, Health Canada

Pozitive Pathways Community Services is pleased to support the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit's (WECHU) proposal to establish a Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS) site at 101 Wyandotte Street East in the City of Windsor.

Over the last five years, opioid-related morbidity and mortality trends have continued to rise at alarming rates across Windsor-Essex County (WEC). The onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020 has only served to exacerbate the local opioid and overdose crisis, with substantial increases in opioid-related emergency department (ED) visits and opioid-related mortalities observed in the year since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

In 2020, there were a total of 358 opioid-related ED visits reported locally in WEC, which is 98 more than those reported for in 2019 (260) and more than tripled from those reported for in 2016 (108).¹ During the year of 2021, these cases continued to rise, with the highest annual number of opioid-related ED visits observed locally (505) since reporting began in 2003.¹ Seventy-one (71) opioid-related deaths were also reported locally in 2020, which represents the highest number of annual opioid deaths in WEC since reporting began in 2005.¹ Opioid-related deaths continued to be recorded in alarming numbers in 2021, with fifty-four (54) opioid-related mortalities recorded during the first nine months of the annual period alone (January to September of 2021).¹ These numbers represent individuals, families, friends, and loved ones that are greatly affected.

A CTS site is one of many harm reduction strategies aimed at reducing the risks associated with substance use in the community. These facilities are legally operated, indoor spaces where people come to use their own pre-obtained substances under safe conditions and with the supervision of medically trained workers. Research in Canada shows that CTS sites (referred to as "supervised consumption sites" under the *Health Canada* model) offer many health and social benefits for both people who use substances and the larger community and can help to save lives.² Pozitive Pathways Community Services supports the provision of a local CTS to offer essential, life saving supports and holistic services to people who use substances in our community.

The WECHU, in collaboration with partners involved with the *Windsor-Essex Community Opioid & Substance Strategy* (WECOSS) and the *CTS Stakeholder Advisory Committee*, has completed a series of



Pozitive Pathways
511 Pelissier Street
Windsor, ON N9A 4L2
Tel. 519-992-0784
www.pozitivepathways.com

comprehensive community consultations that support the overall feasibility, acceptability, and site-selection for a local CTS at 101 Wyandotte Street East. Pozitive Pathways Community Services hereby agrees that 101 Wyandotte Street East is a suitable and accessible location for a local CTS, and endorses the WECHU's proposal to establish and operate a CTS site at this address.

As the Executive Director of Pozitive Pathways Community Services, I encourage you to support the WECHU's proposal as noted above. A CTS site at this location can help to prevent future deaths in our community and to support people who use substances in living safe, healthy, and meaningful lives. We are honoured to support this recommendation and look forward to the outcome of the proposal.

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Brennan
Executive Director
Pozitive Pathways Community Service

¹ Public Health Ontario (PHO). Interactive Opioid Tool – Opioid-Related Morbidity and Mortality in the Geographic Area of the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit. Retrieved from <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/data-and-analysis/substance-use/interactive-opioid-tool>. Accessed June 16th, 2022.

² Health Canada. (2022). Supervised consumption sites and services: Explained. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/substance-use/supervised-consumption-sites/explained.html>.

Le 25 août 2022

Madame, Monsieur,

Unité des politiques et des programmes de lutte
contre la toxicomanie
Direction des politiques et des programmes
d'amélioration de la santé
Division de la santé de la population et de la santé
publique
Ministère de la Santé

Division des autorisations
Direction des substances contrôlées
Équipe d'intervention en matière
d'opioïdes, Santé Canada

Le Conseil scolaire catholique Providence se réjouit d'offrir son soutien à la proposition du Bureau de santé de Windsor-comté d'Essex visant à mettre sur pied un site de services de consommation et de traitement (SCT) au 101, rue Wyandotte Est dans la ville de Windsor.

Depuis cinq ans, les tendances en matière de morbidité et de mortalité liées aux opioïdes continuent d'augmenter à un rythme inquiétant à Windsor et dans le comté d'Essex. Le début de la pandémie mondiale de COVID-19 en mars 2020 n'a fait qu'exacerber la crise locale des opioïdes et des surdoses, ce qui a contribué à augmenter considérablement le nombre de visites aux services d'urgence et la mortalité relatives aux opioïdes, constatées dans l'année qui a suivi l'éclosion de la pandémie.

En 2020, on a signalé un total de 358 visites aux services d'urgence liées aux opioïdes à Windsor et dans le comté d'Essex, soit 98 de plus que le nombre enregistré en 2019 (260) et plus de trois fois celui déclaré en 2016 (108)¹. Au cours de l'année 2021, ces cas ont continué de s'accroître, le plus grand nombre annuel de visites aux services d'urgence se rapportant aux opioïdes ayant été noté localement (505) depuis qu'on a commencé à les déclarer en 2003¹. On a également signalé en 2020 soixante et onze (71) décès relativement aux opioïdes localement, ce qui représente le nombre le plus élevé de décès annuels en ce qui touche les opioïdes à Windsor et dans le comté d'Essex depuis qu'on a commencé à les déclarer en 2005¹. L'enregistrement d'un nombre alarmant de décès liés aux opioïdes s'est poursuivi en 2021, dont cinquante-quatre (54) au cours des neuf premiers mois de la période annuelle seulement (de janvier à septembre 2021)¹. Ces chiffres représentent des personnes, des familles, des amis et des proches qui ont été grandement touchés.

La création d'un site de SCT est l'une des nombreuses stratégies de réduction des méfaits visant à atténuer les risques afférents à la consommation de substances psychoactives dans le comté. Il s'agit d'établissements exploités légalement, dotés d'espaces intérieurs où les gens se rendent pour consommer des substances

.../2

SIÈGE SOCIAL

7515, promenade Forest Glade
Windsor, Ontario N8T 3P5

téléphone 519-948-9227
sans frais 1-888-768-2219
télécopieur 519-948-1091

BUREAU SATELLITE DE CHATHAM-KENT

14, rue Notre-Dame, C.P. 70
Pain Court, Ontario N0P 1Z0

téléphone 519-355-1304
sans frais 1-877-250-4877
télécopieur 519-354-8337

BUREAU SATELLITE DE LONDON

1569, rue Oxford Est
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téléphone 519-673-1035
sans frais 1-800-407-2338
télécopieur 519-673-1924

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psychotropes qu'ils ont eux-mêmes obtenues au préalable dans des conditions sûres, tout en étant sous la supervision de travailleurs ayant reçu une formation médicale. Les recherches menées au Canada démontrent les sites de SCT (appelés « sites de consommation supervisée » selon le modèle de Santé Canada) offrent de nombreux avantages sanitaires et sociaux tant aux consommateurs de substances psychoactives qu'à l'ensemble de la société, en plus de contribuer à épargner des vies humaines². Le Conseil scolaire catholique Providence appuie la mise en place d'un site de SCT local afin de fournir un soutien et des services généraux essentiels et de survie aux consommateurs de ces substances dans notre comté.

Le Bureau de santé de Windsor-comté d'Essex, en collaboration avec des partenaires participant à la *Windsor-Essex Community Opioid & Substance Strategy* (stratégie communautaire de lutte contre les opioïdes et les substances psychotropes à Windsor et dans le comté d'Essex) et au *Comité consultatif des intervenants des SCT*, a réalisé une série de consultations communautaires exhaustives qui appuient globalement la faisabilité, l'acceptabilité et la sélection du site de SCT local au 101, rue Wyandotte Est. Par la présente, le Conseil scolaire catholique Providence convient que l'emplacement 101, rue Wyandotte Est est convenable et accessible pour servir de site de SCT local et approuve la proposition du Bureau d'y fonder et d'y exploiter ce site.

En tant que Directrice de l'éducation du Conseil scolaire catholique Providence, je vous invite à donner votre appui à la proposition susmentionnée du Bureau. L'établissement d'un site de SCT à cet endroit peut contribuer à prévenir de nouveaux décès dans notre comté et à aider les consommateurs et consommatrices de substances psychoactives à mener une vie sûre, saine et enrichissante.

L'honneur nous revient d'apporter notre appui à cette recommandation et nous avons hâte de connaître l'aboutissement de la proposition.

Veillez agréer, Madame, Monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments distingués.



Eugénie Congi
Directrice de l'éducation

/lc

¹ Santé publique Ontario. L'outil interactif sur les opioïdes : Morbidité et mortalité liées aux opioïdes dans la région géographique du Bureau de santé de Windsor-comté d'Essex. Extrait de <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/fr/data-and-analysis/substance-use/interactive-opioid-tool>. Consulté le 16 juin 2022.

² Santé Canada (2022). Explication des sites et des services de consommation supervisée. Extrait de <https://www.canada.ca/fr/sante-canada/services/dependance-aux-drogues/sites-consommation-supervisee/precisions.html>.



WINDSOR POLICE SERVICE

P.O. BOX 60
WINDSOR, ON N9A 6J5
PH. (519) 255-6700

JASON BELLAIRE
A/Chief of Police

FRANK PROVIDENTI
Deputy Chief

JASON CROWLEY
A/Deputy Chief

info@windsorpolice.ca
www.windsorpolice.ca

August 23, 2022

Mayor Drew Dilkens and City Councillors
350 City Hall Square West
P.O. Box 1607
Windsor, Ontario, Canada
N8A 6S1

Dear Mayor Dilkens and City Council:

Re: Proposed Consumption Treatment Services (CTS) Site @ 101 Wyandotte Street East

The Windsor Police Service (WPS) is a member of the Windsor-Essex Community Opioid and Substance Strategy (WECOSS) collaboration and we continually work with our partners in addressing the escalating opioid crisis. Lead by the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU), community health experts have applied for and commenced the process of establishing a Consumption and Treatment Service (CTS) site in the downtown Windsor area. Like others in the community, the Windsor Police Service relies on subject matter experts, such as the WECHU, to address health and medical issues.

A CTS facility is a strategy touted by health care experts to address the issue of substance use in the community. As a member of WECOSS, the Windsor Police Service provided resources to assist with identifying a proposed CTS site that prioritizes safety and security for those who will be visiting, working and residing in the area of the site. Following a broader collaborative assessment, 101 Wyandotte Street East was identified as the proposed CTS site.

The Windsor Police Service will allocate resources as needed to ensure that the staff, volunteers, visitors and residents in the area of the proposed CTS can work, visit and live in an area that is safe. The Windsor Police Service has no objection to this health lead initiative and will continue to provide assistance as needed for implementation of the CTS community plan.

Sincerely,

Jason Bellaire
Interim Chief of Police
Windsor Police Service



THE DOWNTOWN WINDSOR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
484 PELISSIER ST., WINDSOR, ONTARIO N9A 4K9
DWBIA@DOWNTOWNWINDSOR.CA
DOWNTOWNWINDSOR.CA
519-252-5723

October 20, 2022

Mr. Eric Nadalin
Director, Public Health Programs
Windsor-Essex County Health Unit
1005 Ouellette Avenue
Windsor, ON N9A 4J8

Dear Mr. Nadalin:

Re: Downtown Consumption and Treatment Services Site

Further to our letter of January 14, 2022, addressed to Mayor Drew Dilkens and Members of Windsor City Council, this letter serves to support the location of the SharePoint CTS site at 101 Wyandotte Street East.

The Downtown Windsor Business Improvements Association represents over 680 member businesses in the city centre and, as such, recognizes that the health and welfare of vulnerable Windsorites is of paramount concern.

There is significant evidence, including numerous peer-reviewed literature by academics and scientists, that health services such as those offered at consumption treatment sites promote the health of individuals who use substances. More notably, they save lives. As such, they are an open door to treatment and hope.

Consumption and treatment services sites provide a necessary health service as they have been reviewed and reported to reduce deaths by overdose as well as the sharing of equipment, which lead to transmission of blood-borne infections; they also increase much-needed access to addiction treatment. Most of all, they benefit the greater public by reducing public injection.

As a country, we are experiencing a large-scale overdose crisis, and we are not immune to it in Windsor-Essex, and especially not in the core. The opioid overdose epidemic on its own has been reported as the most severe safety crisis in Canadian history. With such dire news, we must increase opportunities for treatment for problematic drug use, and support evidence-based harm reduction services such as consumption and treatment services sites.

We have heeded the recommendations of experts, considered the concerns of our member businesses and the citizens of our community, and have discussed and researched recommendations and mitigation strategies.

In regard to the appropriate interior and exterior design, we must insist that the operators of the building, where the CTS site will be housed, ensure that it looks welcoming and clean and is becoming of the neighbouring businesses and residents. Additionally, we ask that the operators ensure the cleanliness and beautification, including floral enhancements, of the site and the street where it will be located.

Further, it has been evidenced that a welcoming and inviting outdoor space complete with seating, greenery, foliage and landscaping is tremendously advantageous to the facility's clients and to the neighbourhood, especially during the spring, summer and fall. As such, the DWBIA insists that this feature be added as a requirement of the project and facility. We are also requesting that the design of the exterior include railings delineating the facility from the roadway as well as from the abutting commercial quick service business.

In regard to communication and outreach mechanism, we request that neighbouring businesses have a direct voice with the CTS site so that their concerns are addressed quickly and seriously, and that the operators be required to enter into a Good Neighbour Agreement with the DWBIA and the City to help ensure the successful integration of the CTS site into the surrounding neighbourhood and the broader community. Further, we ask that a designated representative from the CTS site becomes an active and engaged member of the Downtown Windsor BIA's Downtown Safety & Security Roundtable.

Additionally, with regards to neighbourhood and environmental sweep strategies, we ask that the operators be required to retain services that will conduct daily alleyway and neighbourhood cleaning.

In regards to policing and law enforcement, we recommend adequate staffing and support, in line with the staffing and support levels needed within the CTS site itself. We will need police support for a strategy on how to minimize congregations of people who use, drug dealers and suppliers around the site. The DWBIA is requesting that the operators be required to provide 24/7 security services at the site.

The DWBIA confirms that the facility will operate from 10am to 6pm Monday to Sunday. Further, the DWBIA requests that it continues to have input on the site's hours of operation to ensure that it's open and accessible at the most optimal times including weekends and holidays.

We thank you in advance for your consideration. The DWBIA recognizes that the success of the CTS site is critical to the health and welfare of our most vulnerable citizens and we look forward to building a relationship responsive to the needs of the CTS site's clients, our businesses, our residents, and our community as a whole.

Sincerely,



Pat Papadeas
Acting Chair