



416-363-7300

129 Dundas St East  
Toronto, ON  
M5B 2N6

June 30, 2016

Councillor Joe Mihevc  
Chair, Board of Health  
City of Toronto

Re: Letter of support for The Works

I am writing this letter representing the Metro Drugs group of pharmacies. Our organization is pleased to support the Work's proposal to expand its harm reduction services to include supervised injections.

Metro Drugs has two locations in the downtown core - one at 129 Dundas St East (steps from The Works) and the other on the west side of the city at 1290 Bloor St West. Both these pharmacies service many clients with addiction profiles. We provide both medication as well as counselling to this patient population and have been doing so for the past ten years. The Works proposal would provide an excellent complement to our work in the community as it would limit unsafe practices that perpetuate addiction. Working with The Works for the past 5-7 years we have seen many clients cared for in ways that other clinics are unable to offer. The exemplary staff always put the needs of their clients first making themselves available 24 hours a day through a on call number. It is our belief that The Works is in the best position to initiate such a program.

An initiative such as this aligns well with our organization's approach to health care and substance abuse in our community. We would expect to see a decrease in transmissions of HIV, Hepatitis C, and other blood borne pathogens.

Metro Drugs would again like to reiterate our strong support for supervised injections at The Works. We would like to urge the board of health to recommend this important service for our community.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Demian", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael Demian

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