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Councillor Joe Mihevc , Chair  
Toronto Board of Health  
[boh@toronto.ca](mailto:boh@toronto.ca)

June 30, 2016

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Regent Park Community Health Centre to encourage you to endorse the report on Supervised Injection Sites and its recommendations coming before you on July 4, 2016.

As you know supervised injection sites have proven to be an effective strategy in reducing the harmful health impacts of injected substance use. Having multiple sites in Toronto that are integrating with existing health services is recommended to both maximize their impact and facilitate their effectiveness with the unique Toronto context. The suggested sites – South Riverdale CHC, TPH The Works, and Queen West location of Central Toronto CHCs – are appropriate and strategic given the distribution of injection substance use across the City the readiness of those organizations to provide this important service.

The consultations processes outlined in the report reveal strong community support – in addition to the existing health evidence - and provide information to assist with the successful implementation of the sites.

We are pleased to note that the recommendations call for full capital and operational funding for these services as well as the full support of the City and Medical Officer of Health in seeking the necessary exemptions to federal legislation. Adequate funding for new services is essential.

Regent Park CHC sees the positive difference a harm reduction approach brings in our daily engagement with our clients and community. We strongly support the adoption of SIS as a health promotion service in keeping with our existing range of services and philosophy.

Thank you for your consideration and leadership.

Sincerely,

Sheila Braidek, Executive Director

cc Councillor McConnell  
Dr David McKeown  
Angela Robertson  
Lynne Raskin