

Toronto, March 17th, 2016

Board of Health
City of Toronto
c/a Nancy Martins
10th floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

sent by email: boh@toronto.ca

Dear Committee Members

Centre francophone de Toronto (CFT), the largest French-language community agency in Toronto hereby expresses its support for the creation of supervised injection sites (SIS) in downtown Toronto.

CFT serves a diverse population of French-speaking newcomers and people with multiple barriers to full participation to society. As a community health centre (CHC) and an ASO, with youth and adult mental health services and a health promotion program, our front-line workers are aware of the acute need for safe locations for drug users to mitigate the risk of HIV transmission. Safe locations are an essential element in the continuum of services and support needed to help addiction sufferers on the path to recovery.

CFT is particularly supportive of the recommendation to have one of three (3) SIS at Queen West – Central Toronto CHC, our immediate neighbour. In partnership with Queen West, we can ensure the availability of supports (medical, mental health, social worker, case manager, medical interpreter, patient navigator) in French at that SIS location. Furthermore, it would allow the two other sites to refer French-speaking clients to Queen West.

Should you need more information, do not hesitate to contact me.

Cordialement,

Lise Marie Baudry

Executive Director 416-922-2672 poste 248, lisemarie@centrefranco.org

Cc : Angela Robertson, Executive Director, Queen West-Central Toronto CHC

