

- REGISTERED NURSES ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO -

Position Statement on Supervised Injection Services

Supervised Injection Services save lives.

While this is the core of the reason we, as nurses, support supervised injection services (SIS), it only just begins to demonstrate why they are a necessary public health intervention.

Nurses have to watch as our clients, friends and family die from overdose and neglect because of the barriers they face due to the stigma of their drug use. Overdoses, hospitalizations, and deaths are on the rise in Toronto and across Canada.

This dire circumstance need not continue. SISs reduce overdoses, improve health outcomes and increase access to care for those who need it most. SISs represent one of the few instances when fiscal responsibility, scientifically-informed health care and compassionate public policy match-up perfectly.

Help take down the barriers that keep people from accessing us and the excellent, life-changing care we can provide. Let Nurses do their jobs, bring us one step closer to achieving our vision of a city free of barriers to accessing health services and needs.

Please support community consultation regarding the three proposed Supervised Injection Sites in Toronto. As nurses who live and who work in the affected areas, we look forward to taking part in this vital conversation.

Sincerely,

Four handwritten signatures in blue ink, arranged horizontally. From left to right: a signature that appears to be 'Nicholas Tsergas', a signature that appears to be 'Hilary Hall', a signature that appears to be 'Emmet O'Reilly', and a signature that appears to be 'Emma Tsergas'.

Nicholas Tsergas

Hilary Hall

Emmet O'Reilly

Emma Tsergas

The RNATO Steering Committee

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