

DOWNTOWN OCCUPANTOWN

June 27, 2016

Nancy Martins
Committee Administrator
Toronto City Clerk's Office
10th Floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Ms. Martins,

The Downtown Yonge Business Improvement Area (DYBIA) has worked directly with Toronto Public Health (TPH) in the consultations for the proposed Safe Injection Site (SIS) at Dundas and Victoria Streets. The DYBIA has been a long-standing partner of TPH's over the years and value the work our organizations do together in the Downtown Yonge community.

We recognise and appreciate the complexity of implementing a SIS – not only to serve at-risk individuals, but also from the perspective of the wider community. We agree on the importance of finding a harm reduction solution for Toronto.

Nonetheless, we do have concerns about the SIS and its proposed location which we believe should be considered as part of the SIS decision-making process:

- 1. To our knowledge, no formal site evaluation has been conducted to understand community or identifying the proposed location as optimal based on those needs.
- Specific metrics and/or data process needs to be implemented should SIS open at this location, to determine clearly and accurately not only the success of the SIS but also to track any unintended consequences to the surrounding community;
- 3. Specific goals regarding the expected decrease in community-based issues in and around the site location;
- 4. Recommendations on how the community can engage in the ongoing review of the SIS; and
- 5. A clear process going forward that can be followed TPH and/or Police Services be required to engage.

We value the relationship we have established with TPH over the years and we will continue to partner on projects that improve the quality of life for all Torontonians, especially as our neighbourhood and City continue to evolve. DYBIA takes an active role in the quality of life and experience levels on Canada's most iconic and active street. We will continue to be valued partners and work proactively in addressing those contributions to the City of Toronto.

Sincerely,

Paul Seaman

Chair, Board of Directors

Downtown Yonge Business Improvement Area (DYBIA)

cc. Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, Toronto City Hall Councillor Pam McConnell, Toronto City Hall