



City of Vancouver
Police Department

JAMIE H. GRAHAM
Chief Constable

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

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April 21st, 2006

Ms. Beth Pieteron, Director General
Drug Strategy
& Controlled Substances Programme
Health Canada
123 Slater Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9

Dear Ms. Pieteron:

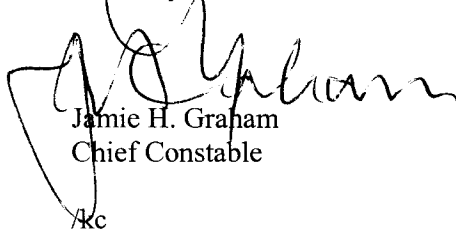
On behalf of the Vancouver Police Department (VPD), I would like to express my support for the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority's (VCHA) application for a continuation of the exemption, under Section 56 of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, for another three years.

The VPD has been working together with the VCHA and our government partners in developing a coordinated approach to the issues facing the Downtown Eastside. This coordination has had successes and we hope to continue to build on these in the future.

The Supervised Injection Site Scientific Research Project is an important project that supports the continuation of the Four Pillar approach. Our organization's primary responsibilities are safety and public order. The project will enable us to assess whether these kinds of initiatives contribute to the dismantling of the open drug scene in the Downtown Eastside. We are advised that more time is needed to properly evaluate the outcomes of this Project and for that reason we support the VCHA application for an extension.

My staff has been working on the front-line with the VCHA to ensure that both enforcement and health related goals are addressed in this project. We plan on continuing in the spirit of cooperation to create a more safe and healthy community.

Sincerely,



Jamie H. Graham
Chief Constable

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