



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Dr. Suzanne Desjardins, Director
Office of Research and Surveillance
Controlled Drugs and Substances Programme
Health Canada, Address Locator: 3503B
Ottawa, Ontario
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Dear Dr. Desjardins:

On behalf of the City of Vancouver, I would like to express my support for the Vancouver Coastal Health application to your office for an extension of the current Section 56 exemption from the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act for the purpose of continuing the Supervised Injection Site pilot project that is underway here in Vancouver.

As Mayor and former City Councillor I have watched with great interest how this pilot project is playing out in our city. We have been through a tremendous amount of public process around this intervention and are hopeful that the knowledge that comes from the Supervised Injection Site project will assist other municipalities in Canada to address some of the serious harms from the use of injection drugs in their cities.

To date the impressive research findings that have been published demonstrate that this project not only provides a significant opportunity to generate knowledge, it also appears to be an important protective factor in the lives of those individuals that use the facility. The data that I have seen is compelling and I sincerely hope that we can continue to generate knowledge about injection sites and those who use them but more importantly I hope that we can continue to provide a much needed intervention for a highly marginalized and vulnerable population of injection drug users.

Yours truly,

Sam Sullivan
MAYOR