



For Immediate Release

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## Applications Submitted to Bring a Consumption Treatment Services Site to Peterborough

**Peterborough, ON** - The partners working to bring a Consumption Treatment Service (CTS) Site to Peterborough are pleased to announce that the necessary applications have been submitted to the Provincial and Federal governments. The submission of these applications follows the recent conclusion of Community Consultation sessions with local businesses and residents in downtown Peterborough.

“Overall, we heard support for a CTS on Simcoe Street in downtown Peterborough in the community consultation sessions,” says PARN Executive Director Charles Shames. “Local residents and businesses understand the need to save lives in our community. We are committed to ongoing engagement with our neighbours to ensure the success of the site.”

“This announcement brings us one step closer to establishing a CTS in Peterborough,” said Dr. Rosana Salvaterra, Medical Officer of Health for Peterborough Public Health. “As a proven health intervention that will help to prevent drug poisonings and save the lives of our residents, we are committed to supporting our community partners as they continue to pursue this important work.”

In addition to conversations with local businesses and residents, consultations were also held with people who use drugs to gain their perspectives on the proposed site. The partners are committed to creating a space that meets the needs of people who use drugs without disruption for nearby neighbours.

“This is a huge step for Peterborough that will save lives and reduce the pain that so many families are feeling in our community,” says Gail Parry of Moms Stop the Harm Peterborough. “I work closely with so many moms who have lost their children to drug use in our region and we know all too well the stigma and misunderstandings that surround addictions. It is heartening to see the support that Peterborough has for a CTS.”

The application process for the CTS is twofold, requiring an exemption from the Federal Government to operate a site under Section 56.1 of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA), and approval from the Provincial Government. Provincial approval will provide the site with funding under the Province of Ontario’s Consumption and Treatment Services program.



Until funding is approved, the partners must carry the costs associated with this new site at 220 Simcoe Street and professional studies needed for the application. The Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough recently launched a \$50,000 crowdfunding campaign to support the Site. Donations to the Consumption and Treatment Services Fund can be made online: <https://cfgp.ca/project/cts-fund/>

A CTS will provide onsite services as well as defined pathways to addiction treatment services, primary care, mental health, housing and other social supports. The CTS will provide people who use injection drugs a safe, hygienic space to use those drugs under the supervision of health professionals in order to prevent opioid poisoning deaths.

### **Additional Quotes**

*"We were pleased to hear in the public consultations an understanding that a CTS is a necessary health intervention that will not only save lives but also improve health. We look forward to building trusting relationships in the CTS space, where people who face a lot of stigma elsewhere can come to get the help they want, including wound care and links to treatment and other health care."*

**- Suzanne Galloway, Executive Director, 360 Degree Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic**

*"CMHA HKPR remains 100 % committed to supporting an application for a safe consumption and treatment service for our community."*

**- Mark Graham, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Mental Health Association Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge**

*"Every day paramedics see first-hand the impact that the drug poisoning epidemic is taking on people living in our community. Recent developments provide us hope that we can turn the tide on the ever-increasing number of drug poisonings in Peterborough County and City. Peterborough County/City Paramedics are part of the MSORT team, which will help ensure that people who survive an overdose have access to crucial health, social and treatment services, and we are fully supportive of the efforts to bring a CTS to Peterborough."*

**- Craig Jones, Exec - Commander, Emergency Management & Operational Support - Peterborough County/City Paramedics**

*"The people working on the frontlines of the opioid crisis in our community are true heroes. These caring, compassionate experts are committed to literally saving lives. That is why our government is working to ensure they have the support and resources needed to win this public health crisis. Our newly federally funded MSORT team is now operating out of the former Greyhound station where they are doing their remarkably important work that includes close collaboration with the Elizabeth Fry Society's peer support harm reduction program. To date, our federal government has approved 40 supervised consumption sites which have been visited more than 2.2 million times, reversed nearly 17,600 overdoses without a single*

*death at a site, and made over 85,800 referrals to health and social services. The evidence is clear - these sites save lives."*

**-Maryam Monsef, Member of Parliament for Peterborough-Kawartha**

*"It is exciting to be moving forward with our community goal of establishing a Consumption and Treatment site. We are confident that we have an ideal location and a strong application. The support of this community is strong and has contributed to us presenting a comprehensive application to the province and we are eagerly awaiting their favourable reply."*

**- Donna Rogers, Executive Director, Fourcast**

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