

ATTACHMENT D

City of Kamloops Opinion Letter on Supervised Consumption Services



March 7, 2017

Dr. Trevor Corneil
VP Population Health & Chief Medical Health Officer
Interior Health
505 Doyle Street
Kelowna BC V1Y 0C5

Dear Dr. Corneil:

RE: City of Kamloops Opinion - Mobile Supervised Consumption Service

Thank you for your February 2, 2017, letter requesting an opinion from Kamloops City Council regarding Interior Health's submission to Health Canada for an exemption under Section 56 of the Federal *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* to operate a mobile supervised consumption service (SCS) in Kamloops.

On September 13, 2016, Interior Health presented to Council on the concept and steps moving forward for exploring the installation of an SCS in Kamloops. At that time, Council supported, in principle, the concept of an SCS in the community as an opportunity to address the opiate overdose crisis that was declared on April 14, 2016.

Following this initial support, the community and Interior Health have engaged in conversations regarding the injection drug problem in Kamloops, the concept of an SCS for the community, and the concerns related to the opiate overdose crisis and an SCS. As part of Interior Health's public consultation, the Community Action Team and the Social Planning Council (which comprises multiple stakeholders) supported the ongoing conversation from September 2016 to January 2017. Those stakeholders included citizens from the community, municipal staff from the Community Safety and Corporate Services Department and the Social and Community Development Section, the RCMP, Kamloops Fire Rescue, Emergency Health Services, Kamloops Regional Correctional Centre, and various not-for-profit organizations involved in direct services supporting the local street population and those facing addiction.

The concerns and dialogue expressed supported the desire for a more coordinated response to this crisis. It was also noted that, outside an SCS model, the continuum of care for those entrenched in addiction needs further definition for the whole community. Specific concerns regarding the SCS model included the need for further dialogue with the community on the model proposed (e.g. location, schedule, meeting user needs, and services available through the SCS). As a result, the City supports Interior Health's submission to Health Canada to implement a mobile SCS subject to the following conditions:



7 Victoria Street West | Kamloops BC V2C 1A2 | P. 250-828-3494 | F. 250-828-3314 | www.kamloops.ca

S:\DCSJ\Jobs (c3)\265473_Interior Health - Mobile Consumption Service_LET\265474_Interior Health - Mobile Consumption Service_LET.docx

- The SCS shall remain at the initial, pre-determined locations and shall not be relocated to alternate locations without the full support of the City.
- Interior Health shall meet at least quarterly with City's Law Enforcement and Emergency Responder officials and the City's Social and Community Development Supervisor to review the operations of the SCS and any relevant statistics.
- Interior Health shall present an overview of the successes and concerns of the SCS to the City's Coordinated Enforcement Task Force at least two times per calendar year.
- Prior to implementation of the supervised consumption services in the City, Interior Health will provide assurance to the City and the community that the supervised consumption services unit will operate in a sustainable manner and include all necessary safety precautions, such as limited vehicle idling, sustainable power sources, and adequate ventilation and emission control systems to eliminate the risk of releasing potential harmful emissions into the atmosphere.
- Interior Health will commit to expanding current prevention and treatment resources to help further reduce the number of drug users in our community.

As a result of the community dialogue and presentations that Interior Health has provided to the community and Council, we provide the following resolution determined at our March 14, 2017, Regular Council meeting:

[INSERT RESOLUTION]

Yours truly,

P. G. Milobar
Mayor

JC/lm/ts

cc: National Compliance and Exemption Division
Office of Controlled Substances
Controlled Substances and Tobacco Directorate
Health Environments and Consumer Safety Branch
Health Canada