Council Members in Attendance: Councillors Reid (Ward 1); Devine (Ward 2); Mann (Ward 3); Liggett (Ward 4) (Arrived at 5:00 p.m.); Wolf (Ward 5); Adshade (Ward 6); Hamilton (Ward 7); Ermeta (Ward 8) with Mayor McGarry in the Chair.

Staff Members in Attendance: David Calder, City Manager; Dave Bush, Deputy City Manager – Corporate Services; Yogesh Shah, Deputy City Manager – Infrastructure Services; Hardy Bromberg, Deputy City Manager – Community Development; Cheryl Zahnleiter, Deputy City Manager – Corporate Enterprise; Lisa Shields, City Solicitor; Sheryl Ayres, Chief Financial Officer; Kevin De Leebeeck, Director of Engineering; Elaine Brunn Shaw, Chief Planner; Bryan Cooper; Senior Planner-Policy; Danielle Manton, City Clerk; Jennifer Shaw, Deputy City Clerk; Briar Allison, Council Committee Services Coordinator; Greg Elgie, Business Systems Analyst;

Others in Attendance: Diana Morris, River Mill Development Corporation; Mary-Jane Patterson, Reep Green Solutions; Members of the general public are participating via Live Stream.

Meeting Called to Order

The meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the City of Cambridge is held virtually via Microsoft Zoom and live streamed to the City of Cambridge website. Mayor McGarry welcomes everyone present and calls the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and the meeting adjourns at 11:03 p.m.

Indigenous Territory Acknowledgement

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There are no disclosures of pecuniary interest.
Public Meetings

Statutory notice of today’s Public Meetings was given by publication in the Cambridge Times on Friday, February 26, 2021 for Public Meeting A.


Presentations


   Using a PowerPoint presentation, Bryan Cooper is in attendance virtually to speak to Public Meeting Report - 155 Equestrian Way- River Mill Development Corporation – Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment.


   Using a PowerPoint presentation, Diana Morris is in attendance virtually to speak to Public Meeting Report - 155 Equestrian Way- River Mill Development Corporation – Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment

Delegations

The Chair called for two recesses to allow additional members of the public attending virtually to call in to speak regarding Public Meeting A.

There were no call ins to speak to Public Meeting A.

Resolution: 21-068

Moved by: Councillor Devine

Seconded by: Councillor Mann
THAT report 21-075(CD) – 155 Equestrian Way- River Mill Development Corporation – Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment be received;

AND THAT the application R02/21 be referred back to staff for a subsequent report and staff recommendation.

CARRIED, on a recorded vote 8-0

In Favour: Councillor’s Adshade, Devine, Ermeta, Hamilton, Mann, Reid, Wolf and Mayor McGarry

Opposed: None

The Chair declared Public Meeting A closed at 10:58 a.m.

Council reconvened at 5:02 p.m.

Presentations

1. Mary-Jane Patterson, Reep Green Solutions re: 21-003(IFS) Reep Impact Report

   See item #1

2. Danielle Manton, City Clerk and Paul Kan, Manager of Realty Services re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

   See item #2

3. Sue Cummings re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

   See item #2

Delegations

2. Dan Clements on behalf of Dr Hank Nykamp re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
3. Dan Clements re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

4. Bob Howison re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

5. Sandra Sutherland re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

6. Kayla Andrade re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

7. Cindy Watson re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

8. Amy Di Nino re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

9. Samuel Puchala re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

10. Laura Laugalys re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

11. Adam Cooper re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

12. Ted & Cheryl Kewley re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

13. Carol Thorman on behalf of the Cambridge Wellbeing Advisory Committee re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

14. Carol Thorman re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

15. Jim Boni re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

16. Stacey Bauer, Montessori School of Cambridge re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
17. James Dover re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

18. Matthew Hayes re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

19. Amar Bhuee re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

20. Lori Bennett re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

21. Nicole Blair re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

22. Priya Hiebert re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

23. Jesse Burt, ACCKWA re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

24. Jeffrey Shaver re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

25. Henry Bout re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

26. Kyla Shaw re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

27. Dave re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

28. Brian Kennedy on behalf of Downtown Cambridge Business Improvement Area re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

29. Lee MacNeil re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

30. Cindy re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
31. Meaghan Fariello re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

32. Anna Maria Iredale re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

33. Glen Stewart re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

34. Deborah Donner re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

35. Keith B Rivers re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

36. Clifford Vanclief re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

37. Breanna Hawke re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

38. Daryl Tyrwhitt re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

Correspondence

1. Klaus Gute re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

2. Ed Heather re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

3. Bev Langlois re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

4. Ted Kewley re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

5. Robert Pettit re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

6. Donna Wilkie re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
7. Kyla Shaw re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

8. Glen Stewart re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

9. Kate Fraser re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

10. Maureen Boyce re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

11. Christopher Dalton re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

12. Lori Roy re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

13. Lee Taggart re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

14. Stephanie Pye re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

15. Laura Down re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

16. Keenan Meyer re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

17. Alex and Elaine Kovacevic re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

18. Donna Friese re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

19. Stacey Perry re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

20. Kevin Nixon re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

21. John Fink re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
22. Kay Nadalin re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
23. Carman M. Curtis re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
24. Pam and Tony Spagnola re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
25. Christine Carey re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
26. Jill Ruth re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
27. Henry Baulier re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
28. Margret Thiesburger re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
29. Melanie House re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
30. James Dover re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
31. Ashley Williamson re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
32. Lynette Amalfi re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
33. Patrick Sparrow re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
34. Shelley-Ann Jelley re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
35. Linda Fletcher re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
36. Sabrina Laramee re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
37. Eric re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

38. Cory Kirchin re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

39. Glenn & Shelley Marriott re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

40. Gord Flett re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

41. Jim Boni re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

42. Todd Wilson re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

43. Michele Holmes re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

44. Jim Holmes re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

45. Pat Grant re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

46. Sherri Roy re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

47. Breanna Hawke re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

48. Pat Stagger re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

49. Curtis Rae re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

50. Doug Spry re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

51. Tony Potopilnyj re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
52. Rondi Zeeman re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

53. Julie MacLeod re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

54. Geoff Smith re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

55. Chandler Balsdon re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

56. Shari Vezeau re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

57. Lori O’Brien re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

58. Wesley Crawford re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

59. Maryann Hendriks re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

60. Stuart Johnston re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

61. Jamie Bennett re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

62. Anke Wilson re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

63. Maria Smith re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

64. Amar Bhuee re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

65. Paul Galvao re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

66. Eva Murphy re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
67. Breanna Lytle re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

68. Greg Quinnell re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

69. Sandy Falkiner re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

70. L L Boldt re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

71. Jenn Roswell re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

72. Gary Staveley re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

73. Michael Fister re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

74. Ethan M re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

75. Robert Lofsky re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

76. Shane Wilmot re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

77. Cindy Rocha re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

78. Joanne Kitzman re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

79. Marlee Waldron re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

80. Brooklyne Road re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

81. Carolyn McLean re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
82. Ellen Heuss re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
83. Dave Berry re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
84. Ingrid Town Cowan re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
85. Cambridge Memorial Hospital re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
86. Carol Whitehead re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
87. Tracy Shaban re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
88. Kathryn Schuiling re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
89. Araya Jupp re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
90. Dave Schmalz re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
91. Carol re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
92. Liane McPhee re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
93. Irene O'Toole re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
94. Stacey Baur re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
95. Brian Kennedy, Downtown Cambridge Business Improvement Area re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
96. Francine Boucher re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

97. Ron and Barbara Rogers re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

98. Stacy Vazquez-Abrams re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

99. Rick Heidenreich re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

100. Kaylea Findlay re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

101. Kim Decker re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

102. Angela White re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

103. Donalee Mc Intyre re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

104. Christine Wingate, Moms Stop the Harm re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

105. Ed Gazendam re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

106. Brenda Adams re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

107. Heather Kickham re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

108. Tena Chaves re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

109. Linda Albright-Thiel re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

110. Shannon Heidenreich re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
111. Patricia King re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

112. Patrick Vannan re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

113. Taylor Dunstan re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

112. Jill Nielsen re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

113. Anna Maria Iredale re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

114. Bridget Norris-Jones re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

115. Susan Benton re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

116. Waterloo Region Integrated Drugs Strategy re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

117. Wilmot Family Resource Centre re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

118. Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

119. Cassandra Burrows re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

120. Stephany Rocha re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

121. Rev Michiko Bown-Kai re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

122. Jennifer Hutton, Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Ontario re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
123. Constance Peacock re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

124. Joanna Han re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

125. Deborah Donner re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

126. Christine re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

127. Jason and Judith Lefebre re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

128. Kenneth Lin re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

129. Michele Dunsford re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

130. Jack Jackman re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

131. Patricia Thomas re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

132. Meredith and Clifford Vanclief re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

133. Scott Corbett re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

134. Alissa Poore re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

135. Sue Rivers re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

136. Ron & Marlyn MacFarlane re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

137. Denise Schmalz re: 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification
Consideration of Reports

Infrastructure Services

1.  21-003(IFS) Reep Green Solutions 20+ Years of Community Action Impact Report
Resolution: 21-069
Moved by: Councillor Adshade
Seconded by: Councillor Hamilton

THAT Report 21-003(IFS), Reep Green Solutions 20+ Years of Community Action Impact Report be received.

CARRIED, on a recorded vote 8-0

In Favour: Councillor’s Adshade, Devine, Ermeta, Hamilton, Liggett, Mann, Reid, Wolf and Mayor McGarry

Opposed: None

Corporate Services

Councillor Mann left the meeting at this time.

2. 21-125(CRS) Appointment of Deputy Mayor and Alternate at Regional Council

Moved by: Councillor Hamilton
Seconded by: Councillor Reid

THAT Council receive Report No. 21-125(CRS) Appointment of Deputy Mayor and Alternate at Regional Council for information;

AND THAT Councillor Mike Mann be appointed as Deputy Mayor for the remainder of the 2018-2022 term of Council;

AND THAT Councillor Mike Mann be appointed as an alternate to Regional Council pursuant to the Regional Policy for alternate members;

AND THAT staff be directed to incorporate the Deputy Mayor role, as well as the Acting Mayor structure into the Procedure By-law once it is revised;

AND THAT staff be directed to complete a review of the structure for Acting and Deputy Mayors with Mayor and Council at the start of each terms of Council;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct the City Clerk to notify the Regional Clerk once Council appoints the alternate member of Regional Council.
**Waive Notice Requirements**

Resolution: 21-070  
Moved by: Councillor Reid  
Seconded by: Councillor Hamilton

THAT the notice requirements of the procedure by-law be waived to consider a matter in closed session.

CARRIED, on a recorded vote 8-0

In Favour: Councillor’s Adshade, Devine, Ermeta, Hamilton, Liggett, Reid, Wolf and Mayor McGarry

**Consideration of Matters in Closed Session**

Resolution: 21-071  
Moved by: Councillor Adshade  
Seconded by: Councillor Devine

THAT in accordance with Section s.239 (2)(f) of the Municipal Act, 2001, Council convene in Closed Session to consider the following subject matter:

Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose (legal advice)

CARRIED, on a recorded vote 8-0

In Favour: Councillor’s Adshade, Devine, Ermeta, Hamilton, Liggett, Reid, Wolf and Mayor McGarry

**Council to Rise from Closed Session**

Resolution: 21-072  
Moved by: Councillor Wolf  
Seconded by: Councillor Reid
That Council rise from Closed Session and reconvene in Open Session at 6:42 p.m.

CARRIED, on a recorded vote 8-0

In Favour: Councillor’s Adshade, Devine, Ermeta, Hamilton, Liggett, Reid, Wolf and Mayor McGarry

Opposed: None

**Amendment**

Resolution: 21-073
Moved by: Councillor Wolf
Seconded by: Councillor Ermeta

THAT Clause 2 of Report 21-125(CRS) Appointment of Deputy Mayor and Alternate at Regional Council be amended to add the following after the words “Deputy Mayor”: “until the lifting of the Municipal Emergency or the end of 2021, whichever comes first;”

AND THAT the following new clause be added to the recommendation after Clause 4: “AND THAT staff be directed to complete a review of the structure for Acting and Deputy Mayors with Mayor and Council by the end of 2021.”

CARRIED, on a recorded vote 7-1

In Favour: Councillor’s Adshade, Devine, Ermeta, Hamilton, Reid, Wolf and Mayor McGarry

Opposed: Councillor Liggett

**Main Motion, as amended**

Resolution: 21-074
Moved by: Councillor Hamilton
Seconded by: Councillor Reid
THAT Council receive Report No. 21-125(CRS) Appointment of Deputy Mayor and Alternate at Regional Council for information;

AND THAT Councillor Mike Mann be appointed as Deputy Mayor until the lifting of the Municipal Emergency or the end of 2021, whichever comes first;

AND THAT Councillor Mike Mann be appointed as an alternate to Regional Council pursuant to the Regional Policy for alternate members;

AND THAT staff be directed to incorporate the Deputy Mayor role, as well as the Acting Mayor structure into the Procedure By-law once it is revised;

AND THAT staff be directed to complete a review of the structure for Acting and Deputy Mayors with Mayor and Council by the end of 2021.

AND THAT staff be directed to complete a review of the structure for Acting and Deputy Mayors with Mayor and Council at the start of each terms of Council;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct the City Clerk to notify the Regional Clerk once Council appoints the alternate member of Regional Council.

CARRIED, on a recorded vote 5-3

In Favour: Councillor’s Adshade, Hamilton, Reid, Wolf and Mayor McGarry

Opposed: Councillor’s Devine, Ermeta and Liggett

3. 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification

Councillor Mann rejoined the meeting at this time.

This report was subsequently referred to the April 6th Special Council Meeting per below the below motion.

Motion: Refer all Remaining Items

Resolution: 21-075
Moved by: Councillor Wolf
Seconded by: Councillor Hamilton
THAT Council refer all remaining items from the March 30th Special Council Meeting to the Special Council meeting to be scheduled for April 6th, 2021.

CARRIED, on a recorded vote 9-0

In Favour: Councillor’s Adshade, Devine, Ermeta, Hamilton, Liggett, Mann, Reid, Wolf and Mayor McGarry

Opposed: None

**Introduction and Consideration of By-laws**

Resolution: 21-076

Moved by: Councillor Wolf

Seconded by: Councillor Hamilton

21-024 Being a by-law to Appoint a Deputy Mayor and an Alternate on Regional Council for the Corporation of the City of Cambridge, as amended.

CARRIED, on a recorded vote 8-1

In Favour: Councillor’s Adshade, Devine, Ermeta, Hamilton, Mann, Reid, Wolf and Mayor McGarry

Opposed: Councillor Liggett

**Motion to Receive Correspondence and Presentations**

Resolution: 21-077

Moved by: Councillor Wolf

Seconded by: Councillor Mann

THAT Council receive all presentations and correspondence at the Special Council Meeting held on March 30, 2021 for information.

CARRIED, on a recorded vote 9-0
In Favour: Councillor’s Adshade, Devine, Ermeta, Hamilton, Liggett, Mann, Reid, Wolf and Mayor McGarry

Opposed: None

**Confirmatory By-law**

Resolution: 21-078

Moved by: Councillor Mann

Seconded by: Councillor Adshade

21-025 Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the City of Cambridge

CARRIED, on a recorded vote 9-0

In Favour: Councillor’s Adshade, Devine, Ermeta, Hamilton, Liggett, Mann, Reid, Wolf and Mayor McGarry

Opposed: None

**Close of Meeting**

Resolution: 21-079

Moved by: Councillor Liggett

Seconded by: Councillor Ermeta

THAT the Council meeting does now adjourn at 11:03 p.m.

CARRIED, on a recorded vote 9-0

In Favour: Councillor’s Adshade, Devine, Ermeta, Hamilton, Liggett, Mann, Reid, Wolf and Mayor McGarry

Opposed: None
Hello,

This is an initiative that will not serve our community well. Not only are the locations proposed terrible locations as they are close to schools and families living in the area, it is not safe for children. There is already too much drug abuse happening in our area as we find needles everywhere. I now have a newborn at home and we don't feel comfortable having addicts around our home. We are already scared to walk alone. This CTS site is a band aid solution to a problem that isn't being solved. Our taxpayer dollars should not be going into this solution but rather it be contributed to mental health funding and rehab centers and halfway home solutions between rehab so people struggling with homelessness and addiction are not found back in the same position after coming out of rehab.

Please have this letter included in the agenda for the meeting.

Thank you

Alden Isaacs
We request that our letter be included in the agenda for the council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 30th. We are NOT in support of a drug consumption site in Cambridge. We would like to know we live in a safe neighbourhood. And that children will be safe attending school and playing outside. As we are senior citizens it is very important for us to feel safe. It is bad enough we have to stay indoors because of the pandemic. But to know we have to stay indoors because there are drug influenced people walking around the neighbourhood is not a good thing. PLEASE do not let CTS sites into Cambridge.

Thanking you in advance for you cooperation in this matter. We remain

Your truly,
Alex and Elaine Kovacevic
Dear Mayor McGarry and City Councillors

I am writing to you today to express my unwavering support for a Consumption and Treatment Services Site in the City of Cambridge. Please include my letter as part of the official records for the meeting of March 30, 2021.

As a resident Cambridge, I understand the benefits of the Kitchener CTS site, not least of which is the saving of lives. Within the first 6 months of the Kitchener site being open, 71 overdoses occurred and not one was fatal. Had the CTS not been running, many, if not all these people would have died.

Similarly, at InSite in BC, since opening in 2003 there have been 2395 overdoses and not a single fatality.

Simply put, CTS's save lives. The people who need this service are human beings; they are people. They are members of our communities who are our parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, friends, children. They are citizens of the City of Cambridge and deserve access to a safe, supportive environment in which to use drugs.

You may not understand why people use drugs, and you may judge them for doing so. However, one thing I am hopeful you can understand is that they deserve to live. And a CTS will significantly increase the chances that they will.

I urge you to open a CTS site in the City of Cambridge and to do so with haste as it is literally a matter of life and death.

Sincerely

Alissa Poore
Student, WLU
Resident of the City of Cambridge
Hello it has come to my attention of the two CTS sites (8 Oxford St. and 15 Easton St.) . This is very concerning to me as a mother of 3 who lives right in the middle of both proposed sites . I’ve lived on Haddington Street for almost 30 years great memories on this street as a child now I’m raising my own children and let me tell you the past 4 plus years living on this street has been ridiculous I’m sure your well aware we had a drug house to which we finally as a neighbourhood came together to get rid of . My children seen far to much living a couple doors down from a drug house , my youngest was terrified to play outside . Just when I thought great we can have peace and quite and my children don’t have to witness drug addict behaviour I find we now may be close to a CTS site .... This worries me as a parent . Both my children’s schools will be close by these proposed sites (Manchester and G.C.I) . I do not agree with this and it’s not fair to the residents and children whom live near by . Please hear my voice !

Amanda Field
I live at [redacted] and am very concerned with the proposal for the injection site to be situated on Oxford St.

I, like most of my neighbours, do not want this located in a very dense residential area. There are many home owners and rentals in this area including apartment buildings.

Many children live here and would be exposed to potentially very volatile situations that they will not be able handle. Within blocks is Galt Collegiate Secondary School, Manchester Elementary School, Montessori School of Cambridge and Pluto Daycare.

There are several commercial businesses and home businesses, like my own, in this area that will undoubtedly experience a negative impact by this site location.

There are also many elderly who live in this area and may have a difficult time if any possible altercations arise.

My neighbourhood has issues with crime. I have experienced my car being rummaged through on several occasions, my garage was broken into and 4 bikes stolen. My property is often used as a cut through to the bridges. In the past the wooded area behind my property has been used as a camping location. I already called the police on several occasions annually.

I feel by putting this site in this neighbourhood you will be putting the residents, especially children and the elderly, at a greater risk and create an exponential increase in existing issues with theft and property damage. This will have an absolute negative impact on an area in the midst of revitalization.

I do not want this here, my neighbours do not want this here.

Sincerely
Amar Bhuee
Attention to Mayor, council and staff,
Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

I find it alarming that we are now at the point of proposed site locations, despite the overwhelming opposition to any such site by your elected constituents and consultation reports. I have lived on Cambridge St since 2000 which was a great neighbourhood for many many years. We have had so many break ins and trespassers on our property we have had multiple cameras installed. After a trespasser in summer 2020 we upgraded our system and as a result between July and December we have had 6 occurrences all caught on camera and reported to police.

#20-139707 theft of bike and skateboards
#20-139237 theft of generator
#20-177361 trespasser
#20-242119 stole popcorn machine
#20-257584 attempted break in to vehicles
#20-260454 attempted break in to vehicles

Having this site so close to our home will only amplify the issues. I will have a daughter going to GCI in a year and she will be walking past this area. Along with the students from Manchester. I will simply write this; I do not support a drug consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. I do not support the continuing path of site selection.

Regards,
Angela White
Good Day Everyone,

With meetings being held online and at times I cannot speak at, I am writing an email to express my concerns about a CTS in Cambridge.

Putting a CTS in Cambridge has been an ongoing battle/debate for the past 4 years. During those 4 years little time or money has been spent on getting people help to get off of drugs. The CTS caters to only a small group of people, where as improving our rehab, detox and mental health services would benefit so many more. I understand that you want to save lives (I do as well) but in reality a CTS does not save a life. Anytime you use illegal drugs it causes damage to your major organs, including your brain. Every time naloxone is used to revive a person it causes damage to their bodies. We all need to have compassion for anyone addicted to anything but there is a point where you are basically loving them to death. Add to that talk of a safe drug supply and we really are loving them death because those drugs are not "safe" they are still causing damage to the persons body and brain.

Kitchener has had their CTS for over a year now and fatal ODs are still going up. People are blaming that on covid but since I see groups clustered together outside the CTS and outside the shelters I do not think that is the reason. When you walk into the CTS in Kitchener there is nothing that would point someone to treatment, no signs, no pamphlets etc. and the staff are not allowed to talk about treatment unless they are asked by the client. The treatment part of the CTS is nowhere to be found in the actual CTS. If a client would by chance ask about treatment they are referred to long wait lists and lots of red tape. A lot of the rehab programs say you have to be clean for X number of days to get in so most will need to go to detox first. The wait list for detox can be anywhere from 3 to 6 months, then once you are finished with detox you then have to wait for a bed to open up in rehab (wait lists are well over 6 months) so you are basically just put back out onto the streets. By the time a bed opens up they have already gone back to drugs as that is the only life they had to go back to, so now they need to detox again. Its a wash, rinse and repeat cycle of life that needs to be broken and the only way to do that is to spend money for on demand detox, rehab and sober living so when they ask for help they can go then and there.

Cambridge needs to stand up and be the city that puts treatment first and says NO to a CTS / Safe drug supply and says YES to fighting to get people out of the addiction cycle.

Could you please include this email in the agenda of the next council meeting that deals with CTS, thank you.

Sincerely
Angie Campbell
This email is being written and should be included in the March 30, 2021 council meeting.

The 2 proposed CTS sites in Galt on Easton Street and Oxford Street are unacceptable!

There are families and businesses located in the direct vicinities of both addresses. Do you not care for the safety and well being of your constituents?

I usually walk to and from work daily, sometimes very early in the morning or late at night. The proposed locations would not make me feel safe doing this AT ALL, knowing that people that are freshly injected and influenced by whatever drug was just taken are also going to be in the same area and could possibly bother and/or attack me or my children.

My son goes to Manchester Public School and again, I walk him to and from school on a daily basis. He’s still pretty young and we walk with him, but at some point he will want and need to walk on his own without parent supervision. That’s part of growing up. Can you GUARANTEE HIS SAFETY when he walks by Easton Street to get to or from school?

Having to keep an eye open for junkies to avoid should not be a responsibility of children that are on their way to school, or even just walking in their own neighborhoods.

Property values in the area are going to plummet if these sites are used. Houses are currently selling well above asking prices here and across all of the K/W area. We feel that the value of our homes would be negatively impacted if either of these sites are chosen.

I realize there is a possible need for something like the CTS sites, keep it downtown where the users usually are and keep them in a more controllable area to some degree instead of spreading them even further into residential areas. How about adding the CTS site right in the Bridges building?

Or, how about in your own back yards? You want to tell me that you would be fine, knowing there would be a safe injection site right next door or across the street from YOUR homes? I think not.

Anke Wilson
To the citizens that are concerned about the upcoming safe consumption site.

I understand why you would have concerns. And it makes sense that you would. I want to help explain if I may why having a safe consumption site is a smart plan. First of all let me tell you that the problem of substance use has been ongoing world wide. It is in all our towns and cities and in all the countries world wide. But there is one country that has handled this some years ago and has been highly successful. Portugal now has less people using substances. They have less overdose deaths. The money that used to be spent on policing, courts and jails went to rehabilitation and it worked. People were given safe supply and therefore the death toll lowered. If this country can reduce the number of people using and dying from contaminated substances then we should be seriously getting on board with what they are doing so we can start to get this pandemic under control. No one wants high crime rates. No one wants to see people dying in the streets. No one wants to see needles in our parks.

No one wants to see this continue the way it has been going People use substances for many reasons. Substances like alcohol, gambling cigarettes, whatever it takes to feel better are often wanted “just to take the edge off or to forget or to stop the pain- mental or physical. It could be a student that is stressed. A young lady that was raped. A kid that was abused. The problem is that eventually it causes more problems that what it was originally intended to help. Addiction is a disease. And it needs to be treated as such. Quite often it stems from trauma of some sort and develops into something that people cannot control. None of these people wanted to be addicted. And had no idea that they would be - until the were. Just like all the cigarette smokers. And a lot of us know how hard that was to give up.

Prohibition doesn’t work.

If people have a safe place to use their substances they aren’t going to be dying from fentanyl or carfentanly poisoning or any of the other stuff that is cut into the supply. Crime rates will lower if people aren’t buying stuff on the streets. With safe supply and safe consumption sites, we can clean up the horrendous pandemic that is going on in your neighbourhoods. We can stop all these deaths.

There are university students, musicians, lawyers, highly successful people that are dying from a contaminated supply. We NEED safe consumption sites.

I know what I’m talking about. 3 1/2 years ago I lost my 36 year old beautiful son to a fentanyl poisoning. Mathew had been very successful with his recovery for several years. His kindness to others was ongoing and a part of who he was. He was an incredible stone mason and bricklayer, he was a funny guy that loved to laugh and make others laugh- a handsome young man that had many friends and a huge family that all loved him. When his stepbrother was killed in a car accident, my son was devastated and his pain was too much- he relapsed. Just once. But it didn’t turn out to be just once. The addiction grabbed hold. And there was no help. He was desperate for help with his grief and for his substance use. He had to wait several months for a bed in rehab. He was trying his best and going to meetings and going to work and keeping in touch with me, his mom. And then he didn’t. I got the call that ever parent dreads. I held my sons hand for 6 days while he was in a coma and as his brain died. I don’t want to hear of more moms going through what I have gone through. Please, consider doing something that will change the route this pandemic is going. My boy is gone. But your neighbours and your nieces, nephews and sons and daughters and friends and grandchildren- don’t let them be next. Don’t let this continue to go on the way it has been going. If it isn’t working, we need to do something different. Thousands every year in Canada are dying and it needs to stop. What we have been doing in the past hasn’t worked. So let’s try this. Let’s do something different. Let’s get on board and give it a chance.

Please do the smart thing and let’s stop this pandemic once and for all.

Support a safe consumption site in Cambridge.

Sincerely

Anna Maria Iredale
I am NOT support the proposal of the cts locations at all. I have great concerns for families, children, their schools and community in the main. Please stop this project for the sake of us all.
Thank you,
Cambridge resident.

Araya Jupp
I am no comfortable with a consumption side in Cambridge at all. We have enough going on with bridges not being taken care of I can’t even go to shoppers drug mark with my daughter cause if the things I don’t not want her to see. Now you want to place a consumption site between a school and a daycare are you insane. I works at OATC and they don’t get enough support to get people clean and you just want to invite addict in and be ok with it. We need to get this off the street but encourage more people to do drugs. Use your heads support places trying to get people clean. I also think you need to rethink bridge and stop allowing addicts in it should be for a homeless center only you are on drugs you should not be aloud in! You wanna make it safe in Cambridge go add a drug consumption site go put it beside the cop shop so they can deal with is not the public

Ashley Williamson
It will be an absolute no for me. This solves nothing other than prolonging people’s lives that don’t want to live and ruining others lives in the process. We can provide many examples of cities that have these sites and the damage it does to the neighbourhood. You can’t undue this once you approve it. It will forever take our city down a path we won’t recover from.

Bev Langlois
Dear Council,

I would like to urge the council to vote in favour of a CTS in Cambridge.

A CTS would provide a safe location for those members of our city experiencing addiction. A place that ensures safe consumption, possibility of immediate treatment and connection to wrap-around services, which could help overcome addiction. As a city we owe this very important site to assist our most vulnerable citizens.

We need act together to show our humanity.
Bev Whittall
Dear Council
I know you folks are probably tired of hearing from me but I worry so much that the voices you do hear
don't not fairly represent many if not most of us who love our community.
I would hope that the council will be supportive of the recommendations that staff come up with. We
have had the advantage of time since the Guelph and then the Kitchener started operating and so many
of the myths put forward by those opposed to a CTS have proven to be incorrect.
Cambridge is certainly as caring for its citizens as either of our neighbours.
Thank you for all the time and effort you all contribute to making Cambridge a better place to live and
work.
Take care

Bob Howison
To whom it may concern,

I am emailing each of you to address a letter in the mail I received in regards to safe injection sights in Cambridge. One location being directly across from my residence. Offering safe injection sites does not solve the ever growing problem not only Cambridge but KW region faces. Our area has the highest fentanyl overdoses in Ontario and by allowing safe injection sights we are fueling the issue instead of resolving it. The purpose of our tax dollars is to change the path our city is headed not allow it to continue. I am heavily against the proposed locations but even more opposed to any other locations being explored. Perhaps look at providing healthcare and mental health services to those who need it rather than allow a "safe" place to do illegal substances and further destroy their lives.

Tax payers safety should be more of your concern. I am a single 20 year old female who works afternoons. I would not feel comfortable or safe coming home to my residence after work at night. This would force me into a position of finding new accommodations to call home and with the damage the pandemic has caused to many locals this is not an option.

Thank you,
Breanna Hawke
To whom it may concern:

As a new resident of Cambridge Ontario, it was very shocking to receive a letter regarding TWO proposed locations for a CTS site, so close to child learning centers, among other amenities!

There shouldn't be any further thought towards allowing a drug consumption site in Cambridge!

This is very concerning to myself, my family and friends.
What if something were to go wrong?
Have you put your complete trust in these addicts NOT to; break in to our homes our businesses, to harm or god forbid do worse crimes to our children, to our family, our friends because the addict failed to thrive in this society?
I would NOT feel safe to go anywhere if these site were accepted.
Does the city council really think it is appropriate to proceed with a CTS!?

There are young children, elderly family members, daycare, schools and businesses, who are near these "proposed locations."
This is not something I am supportive of.

I am requesting that this letter be included in the agenda for the council meeting scheduled for Tuesday March 30th.

Thank you for your time.

-Breanna Lytle
Hi, I've just received information that you are considering placing a CTS on Oxford St. As a former homeowner on Roseview I would beg you to find a site that is not within the downtown boundaries. The residents in this area have had to deal with problems from the bridges for years and a CTS would just be adding insult to injury for these homeowners. Their property value will be greatly affected by this movement. I'm not sure why this location is even being considered since there was a bylaw passed to ensure that this couldn't happen in the core.

Brenda Adams
Greetings.

The thought of a CTS site in our City just infuriates me. Knowing that someone is trying to install one within 500 m of my home and many other residents of this community is absurd. You as our elected officials must take into consideration the needs of the tax paying citizens who live close to these selected sites. I'm sure you are aware there is a elementary school in close proximity to bother of these sites, as well as two daycares, and The Muslim academy, not to mention many families with very young children, some within feet of said proposed sites.

I understand there is a need to help people who are addicted, a site where people can use the drugs that they are addicted to is in no way shape or form of help. We need these funds put forth for detox and rehab. Anything else would be in my opinion be cruel and unusual treatment not just for those that are fighting addiction, but those who have to live near and raise their children near these sites

Please vote against any such site in our City. And forge ahead with treatment for those affected by addiction.

Please include this e-mail in the agenda for the council meeting for March 30th. Re: item# 21-121 (CRS)

Respectfully yours

Brent Woodworth
Greetings Jan

I am very disappointed in the news today of the selection committee choices for the location of the proposed safe injection sites. Have we the people of Haddington St not seen enough in the last 5 years, with 32 finally closed our children can venture out to play with other kids on the street, however this will be short lived! The committee who selected these sites must not be looking at the broader picture and only see dollar signs in there field of view.

I have spoken with many businesses in the impacted area of these two proposed sites and all have said the will move there business elsewhere.

You know how passionate the residents of Haddington St have been over the problems seen on this street, can you imagine a drug deeper selling his drugs eight next to a school of day-care, because it will happen, so will the gun violence, the theft, and so on.

What do we as tax paying citizens have to say or do to let the powers that be know that we will not stand for this.

Respectfully yours

Brent Woodworth
Dear business and property owners,

TOMORROW, Tuesday, March 30, Cambridge City Council will be reviewing a report on possible Consumption & Treatment Site (CTS), formally called Safe Injection Site (SIS), locations within our City. **WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT. SPEAK OUT AGAINST the proposed location within the 500m buffer area of our downtown Galt Core.**

Presently, there are two locations identified in the report for Council's review and approval for public consultation; one of the two locations, 8 Oxford Street, is within the 500m buffer of the downtown Galt core. City Council should immediately remove this location from the public consultation process as it goes against their promise.

Last year, Council ultimately decided to forgo enacting a permanent by-law prohibiting a CTS within the City of Cambridge, choosing instead to move forward on a path that relies heavily on trust that their position would be unwavering. That position is that they would not support a CTS within the Galt core or within 500m of the downtown.

The BIA continues to echo Council's promise to stakeholders; that no CTS will be located in the core or within 500m of the downtown. BUT a report from City staff, putting forth a location for approval to proceed to Public Consultation, within the 500m buffer of the downtown Galt core, threatens our assurance from Council.

Some of our elected leaders and a couple of outspoken community members have shared that they believe there is a change in the opinion of CTS within our City; that there is growing support for a CTS, and some have even gone as far as to say that Council should reconsider their stance and move forward with supporting downtown Galt as a viable location.

The BIA's stance has remained the same: No Consumption Treatment Site, formally called Safe Injection Site (SIS), within our Galt core or within the 500m buffer of the downtown. THAT SAID our collective voice might not be enough to dispel the recent spike by some individuals to encourage City Council to sway in their position.

We need support from each of you to ensure that our Mayor and Council hear us loud and clear as we say **NO to a CTS within the Galt core and 500m buffer of the downtown. And further to that, City Council sees to it that the proposed location at 8 Oxford Street, as outline in the report, is immediately removed from moving forward to the public consultation phase.**

Email City Council at:  
council@cambridge.ca  
and remember to forward or CC us at info@downtowncambridgebia.ca

Request to be a delegate at tomorrow's Special Council Meeting at 5:00 pm:  
CLICK HERE to register.

Email or call our Mayor & Councillors, and speak directly with them:  
CLICK HERE for their contact information.

See below the link to the full report on proposed CTS Locations:
Turn to page 177 for the report on CTS site recommendations. Location #2, 8 Oxford Street, is within the 500m buffer of the Galt Core and in a residential area not supported by the Province’s guidelines.

Best Regards,

Brian Kennedy
Executive Director | Downtown Cambridge Business Improvement Area
Explore The Core! #DTCbridge
Telephone: 519-622-3510
info@downtowncambridgebia.ca
www.downtowncambridgebia.ca
Book A Phone Meeting with Brian Kennedy: https://meetings.hubspot.com/info6801
Dear Mayor McGarry,

My name is Bridget and I am writing in response to the proposed CTS in Cambridge. I understand there is a council meeting tomorrow to make a decision.

My youngest son who is about to turn 6 years old currently attends the Montessori School of Cambridge at 9 Roseview Ave. I am also a member of the Board of Directors.

I am very concerned about the proposed sites. While I understand that the approved distance from a “Consumption and Treatment Services” site (CTS) to schools or daycares is at least 200m, MSC is 280m away; not far outside of this approved acceptable distance. Not to mention the children enjoy going for walks in the neighbourhood. My son and I take the bus and walk to school several times a week and I am concerned for mine and my son's safety if the CTS were to be so close to our school and within our walking route.

It is also located within a residential neighbourhood and is surrounded by family homes; which is not part of the criteria for a CTS site location. In addition, the proposed travel route from the Bridges and Downtown Core up Cambridge St. is a short 66m to MSC if they choose to take this route. They could in fact go up Park Hill, which would then lead them to go right past our school on their way to the CTS site. Both of these scenarios are unacceptable in keeping our children and families safe!

Further, Laneway 173 is directly behind our school and is adjacent to our playground. This creates another clear pathway between the school and the CTS site as well as providing a sheltered area for those using and discarding needles. We have grave concern that by having a CTS site so close to the school and within a residential area, this will promote more crime related activity.

The Montessori School of Cambridge has personally been a part of our family and community for over 5 years now. My older son attended and now my younger son is finishing up his final year. I know the impact this school has had on my children's growth, development and learning. I hope that many more families will be able to experience MSC and I would be so extremely disappointed if they had to close due to families feeling unsafe in the neighbourhood.

I do sympathize with the complexity of the ongoing opioid crisis and hope that alternative options are provided to help those in need. In conclusion, the proposed CTS locations are unacceptable and I oppose such a site being in any residential community.

Sincerely,
Bridget Norris-Jones
With our mayor's background in nursing, she will understand the need to start with mental health supports. Social workers, beds for immediate mental health crisis, low income housing. When addicts have received counselling/medication to help with rational cognitive thoughts, they can then choose their own path for recovery. Right now we are asking people in crises, with their untreated mental health issues controlling their every waking hour to put all of that aside and fix themselves. Meanwhile we're giving them the wrong "support" by feeding their addiction with everything except the street drugs. We're telling them that we'll keep them "safe" with a clean needle to inject what will become their death sentence. Overdose in a consumption site, we'll bring you back to life. We won't talk about the brain damage, organ damage and reduced life expectancy with every injection. We're let them feel that overdosing is no longer a feared outcome. Russian roulette with every injection, until the "safe" injection site is closed and they die on the doorstep. How irresponsible of those officials elected to protect all citizens of our community. This issue is complex with many overlapping resources needed to help people get their minds and bodies out of the cycle of addiction.

Your constituents have been very vocal with a clear message. Help those who at this moment, with their complex needs, can not possibly help themselves. Is is irresponsible to do anything less and downright immoral to feed into their addiction by supporting drug dealers and looking the other way at all other illegal activities. A loud and unmoving no to any consumption site within Cambridge. Yes to treatment with ongoing supports.

Brooklyne Road, Cambridge
Ward 4
I think the current galt shelter is a mess an putting the local children in harms way.

Bruce Deighan
March 29 2021
City of Cambridge Council
50 Dickson Street
Cambridge, ON
N1R 5W8
re: Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation

Dear Members of Cambridge City Council,

People who use drugs are important, valuable, and vulnerable members of our community. The ongoing risks to their health and welfare due to drug use are high. Many individuals present to Cambridge Memorial Hospital’s Emergency Department with infections, overdoses, and other health challenges related to drug use. Tragically, some of those people die in our local hospitals. Others do not make it to the hospital to begin with. 98 people in Waterloo Region died related to overdoses in 2020. These people are mothers, fathers, siblings, children, loved ones and friends.

Consumption and Treatment Services sites are an important part of a comprehensive healthcare system. They provide essential services including overdose prevention and reversal, education, linkage to treatment options, and access to harm reduction supplies. They are staffed by nurses, peer support workers, and outreach workers who engage their clientele with caring and compassion. The benefits of these sites are well-researched and wide-reaching – from decreased rates of communicable diseases and reduced pressure on emergency departments to decreasing discarded sharps and enabling access to treatment. However, the most critical benefit is the lives that are saved. This leaves people with an opportunity to seek treatment. It means families don’t experience that tragedy. First responders, healthcare workers, and peers do not have to witness deaths and then share that terrible news with loved ones. These sites prevent trauma, loss, death, and pain.

Consumption and Treatment Services sites are unhelpful if they are not located where they can be used. They must be in areas where drug use occurs and be available by transit. Accessibility to people with differing abilities, backgrounds, and support needs is important. The operating hours must be adequate, and there are many other considerations to ensure that these sites are best positioned to meet the local needs. The perspective of people who use drugs and the personal and professional connections that support them is critical in planning effective access to healthcare. We need to move ahead with a Consumption and Treatment Services site in Cambridge, ensure the site is available and accessible to those who need it, and focus on the lifesaving care necessary for some of our most vulnerable citizens.

Sincerely,

Dr. Arthur Eugenio
Chief of Emergency Medicine

Melissa Sockett, RN
Manager of Emergency Department

David Hopkins, RSW
Social Worker, Emergency
To whom it may concern:

At this very late date, I have just learned of a proposed site at Rose and Oxford Streets. I was under the impression that a site had been confirmed at 150 Main Street which is easily accessible.

I was therefore shocked to learn of a proposed site at Oxford and Rose Streets. This is a very residential area in rather close proximity to not only the Montessori School on Rose Street but also the Pluto Day Care on Brook Street. Manchester School also draws children from this area.

It is necessary to have CTS Sites in order to help those with addictions. They have proven to be helpful. However, I am of the opinion that the choice of a site on Oxford at Rose is not a "safe" one.

I sincerely hope my comments will be read and heard by those in the Cambridge Council who are considering this matter.

Sincerely,
Carman M. Curtis
I do not support the implementation of drug consumption sites in Cambridge!!!!!!! Please include my letter in the agenda for the council meeting on March 30.

Carol
To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my many concerns regarding having a CTS site located at 8 Oxford Street. This neighbourhood is, an old established neighbourhood with many retired and seniors living within their homes for years. Their lives, properties damaged, vehicles broken into, and feelings of being unsafe, have already been disturbed with the presence of The Bridges and "questionable" people wandering the area.

Not only are the seniors at risk with this location, as are the children that walk daily to Manchester School. Who are going to protect these children? Pluto Daycare is just around the corner, and you often see the workers taking those children for a walk. All these people are vulnerable if this location goes through.

Please take this wonderful neighbourhood and the people living within it, feelings into consideration. Please have my letter included in the agenda scheduled Tuesday March 30th.

Thank you.

Carol Whitehead
I would like to state that our household is in support of a proposed CTS site for Cambridge. Our issue with the 2 proposed sites is that it’s close to our neighbourhood. Since the implement of The Bridges our neighbourhood has experienced events which have caused us to feel unsafe. We have had backyard invasions in the middle of the night on 3 occasions and our garage was broken into. Theft of only food from the fridge and a men's bicycle tells me the break in was from a homeless person in survival mode.

We request that you select a location other than our neighbourhood for the CTS site. Please consider how having a CTS site close to your home would affect the value of your home and your household's sense of security. Our suggestion is that you find a location that will least affect Cambridge residences.

Carolyn McLean
Dear Mayor McGarry and City Councillors

I am writing to you today to express my unwavering support for a Consumption and Treatment Services Site in the City of Cambridge. Please include my letter as part of the official records for the meeting of March 30, 2021.

As a resident of the Region of Waterloo and an undergraduate student at WLU, I understand the benefits of the Kitchener CTS site, not least of which is the saving of lives. Within the first 6 months of the Kitchener site being open, 71 overdoses occurred and not one was fatal. Had the CTS not been running, many, if not all of these people would have died.

Similarly, at InSite in BC, since opening in 2003 there have been 2395 overdoses and not a single fatality.

Simply put, CTS’s save lives. The people who need this service are human beings; they are people. They are members of our communities who are our parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, friends, children. They are citizens of the City of Cambridge and deserve access to a safe, supportive environment in which to use drugs.

You may not understand why people use drugs, and you may judge them for doing so. However, one thing I am hopeful you can understand is that they deserve to live. And a CTS will significantly increase the chances that they will.

I urge you to open a CTS site in the City of Cambridge and to do so with haste as it is literally a matter of life and death.

Sincerely

Cassandra Burrows
Just to be clear I do not support the CTS-sites any where in the City of Cambridge specifically near the Bridges. We already have tremendous problems there. Furthermore I think the Bridges should relocate to a more suitable location and convert that building for only homeless families in need.

Celia Chaplin
Attention to Mayor, council and staff,

Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

It's taken me a few days to compose this email to all of you in regards to site selection of a CTS within Cambridge.

I find it alarming that we are now at the point of proposed site locations, despite the overwhelming opposition to any such site by your elected constituents and consultation reports.

As a tax paying citizen of Cambridge who has children, I beg of you to reconsider having any consumption site within Cambridge. I will simply write this; I do not support a drug consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. I do not support the continuing path of site selection. I do however, support the investment in rehabilitation services for individuals suffering from addiction. Having a consumption site will only enable these individuals addictions rather than helping them. They need services that will help get them the treatment they need, not supply them with the drugs they are trying to escape from. Please for the safety of our children, and all of the Cambridge tax paying citizens, do not move forward with ANY consumption site within Cambridge. My children deserve the right to a safe community to grow up in.

Regards,

Chandler Balsdon
As a resident of Cambridge the Safe Injection Site issue was brought up in the past. The residents of Cambridge made it quite clear we are not in favor of a injection site in our city.

A resident of Cambridge
Christine Carey
As a concerned resident of Cambridge the Safe Injection Site issue was brought up in the past. The residents of Cambridge made it quite clear that they are not in favor of a Injection Site in our city. For the life of me why would you even consider the 2 sites you are looking at, close to schools and smack dab in the middle of Residential areas. Lots of children and Seniors live in these areas have you even considered this Seniors will be a prisoner in their own homes how fair is that. Its proven that these sites don't work. BC is prime example. Have you even considered Rehabs why would you enable this

A concerned resident
Christine
Dear Mayor McGarry and Council Members,

My name is Christine Wingate and I am on the Board of Directors (Ontario) for Moms Stop The Harm (MSTH). I am writing in support of Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services new site identification that is scheduled to be discussed at the Special Council meeting on Tuesday, March 30.

Moms Stop The Harm is a network of Canadian families impacted by substance use-related harms and deaths. We advocate to change failed drug policies and provide peer support to grieving families and those with loved ones who use or have used substances. Our mission is to end substance use related stigma, harms and deaths. Our vision calls for an end to the failed war on drugs through evidence based prevention, treatment and policy change; we support a Harm reduction approach that is both compassionate and non discriminatory for people who use substances.

We know from experience that stigma forces people to use substances alone and sadly all too often die alone. Structural stigma is created by laws and policies. I am sure that you know that supervised consumption sites and services save lives and benefit communities. They provide a safe, clean spaces for people to bring their own substances to use, in the presence of trained staff. This prevents accidental overdoses and reduces the spread of infectious diseases, such as HIV. Supervised consumption sites can offer a range of evidence-based harm reduction services, such as drug checking. These sites can also provide access to important health and social services, like housing, employment assistance and food banks, including substance use treatment for those who are ready. These sites also help reduce the strain on emergency medical services.

According to the Office of the Chief Coroner (Ontario) effective March 1st, 2021, there are 2,167 opioid related deaths (confirmed and probable) that were reported to date from January to November 2020. This represents a 59% increase over the same time period in 2019 (1,367 deaths).

The overdose crisis continues to be one of the most devastating public health emergencies of our lifetime with an estimated 20,000 deaths in the last five years alone. These are preventable deaths of community members who are children, parents, siblings, friends and family.

As per the government of Canada, Canadian and International evidence shows clearly that supervised consumption sites and services help to save lives, connect people to social services and serve as pathways to treatment.

Please vote "yes" to saving lives and reducing harm by approving a Consumption and Treatment Services site in Cambridge.

Christine Wingate  
Moms Stop The Harm  
Board of Director Ontario
Hello,
I have been recently made aware of two proposed locations for CTS in Cambridge, both in close proximity to where I live at [redacted], Cambridge, ON, N1R 4B3.
I would like to say that I am in full support of these services being available at 15 Easton street and/or 8 Oxford Street.
These are life saving services that not only prevent people from dying of overdose, they also provide a safe place for people to use their drugs so that they are not doing so in backyards, alleys, store bathrooms or other public spaces.

The overdose crisis has taken many lives, so many families are torn apart from addiction and unable to mend because their loved ones are gone. I believe as a member of my community we need to be doing as much as we can to help people who are struggling. These services provide a pathway to change and help.

I have seen these services in Vancouver, Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto. Consumption and Treatment sites are one proven effective method to reduce overdose deaths and make neighbourhoods safer.
If we give into fear mongering and misinformation and allow that to stop Cambridge from providing this service, more people will die.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. Please include this in the agenda for the council meeting scheduled for Tuesday March 30th. I would be happy to talk more about this in the future.

Christopher Dalton
To whom it may concern this is in regards to the safe injection site hello my name is Cindy Rocha I live at [redacted] St my concern with this is due to my home day care and my child safety I've done day care for the last 13 years in this home I also have lived in this neighborhood my whole life i have always felt safe . my mother and father live on the next street my aunt and uncle also live on the street after they have been here for about 60 years in these houses I do feel a safe injection site is not fit for this neighborhood it is a residential area with lots of elderly people day cares schools and businesses perhaps of rehabilitation site located downtown near the bridge would be something to consider being a single mom and a day care provider it is my job to protect these children and I feel with a safe injection site i just wont feel safe i am not in support of this

please include this in the agenda for the council meeting scheduled for Tuesday March 30th

cindy rocha
Dear Mayor McGarry and City Councillors

I am writing to you today to express my unwavering support for a Consumption and Treatment Services Site in the City of Cambridge. Please include my letter as part of the official records for the meeting of March 30, 2021.

I am a resident of the Waterloo. As a concerned citizen, I feel that Cambridge has a CTS. Saving lives no matter what area should be of a first response action. Statistically it is shown that the CTS's do save lives.

You may not understand why people use drugs, and you may judge them for doing so. However, one thing I am hopeful you can understand is that they deserve to live. And a CTS will significantly increase the chances that they will.

I urge you to open a CTS site in the City of Cambridge and to do so with haste as it is literally a matter of life and death.

Sincerely

Constance Peacock
Morning,

I am sending this email to inform you as a resident of Cambridge I am against the proposal of a CTS. I like many others thought it was pretty clear residents are against a location in Cambridge but here we are wasting time on this topic again. Galt has already been devastated by the uprise of crime, drug use, discarded needles and litter. This would just be one more thing to send Cambridge in the wrong direction. Enabling drug users instead of offering proper services like rehab will never be the right direction.

Cheers,
CK
Attention to Mayor, council and staff,

Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

I do not support a drug consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. I do not support the continuing path of site selection.

Care for our kids safety, care for our properties, care for a clean SAFE city and overwhelmed police service with a weak justice system that works to release offenders under "supervision" which is merely a revolving door. Possession under, intoxicated in a public place, theft, mischief, threats, Arsen, property damage. These all have a direct correlation to drug use, homelessness and mental health. We need to address the mental health issues, not make an environment for drug addicts to USE MORE and abuse the resources (ODSP, WELFARE, CERB, METHADONE, HOSPITALS)

My dog keeps biting kids and doesn't know how to stop. I am not going to introduce him to a daycare once a day until he realizes he doesn't enjoy biting kids anymore.

Overall, the government has failed the drug addicts and the public when mental health hospitals were closed and the justice system believed in social work and enabling the patterns to continue.

Talk a walk through yours jail's, your police departments, your court systems and hospital's and speak to FRONTLINE staff for the real picture in what is happening on a daily basis.

Regards,

Curtis Rae
New sites are not the solution to our problem in the Cambridge region. Let’s invest public money in rehabilitation centres. CTS is not working. This is encouraging use. Let’s promote a better lifestyle.

Dan
I called Jan L, council member for ward 4, this morning and spoke to my displeasure at these proposed CTS's. Mostly residential neighbourhood(s), we shouldn't be having these conversations at all, as these sites are breeding grounds for crime. Look at east end Vancouver, Toronto, Hamilton etc. all prime examples for what you can expect. Children and elders scared to walk down the streets for fear of being harassed or worse. No one wants to see or deal with this negative behaviour. I do not want my tax dollars funding or supporting any such sites that only enable drug users. Those council members who virtue signal to the benefits of these sites should be ashamed of themselves, or if they really think a CTS is a good idea, put the site beside your own house and see how that works out for you. Please include my letter in your agenda for tomorrow's meeting 21-121 regarding CTS proposal.

Dave Berry
As a long time resident of Haddington st 35+ years we have delt enough with Shirley and 32 Haddington st and drugs crime and thefts on our st. It has been nice after 32 has been shut down, kids out playing riding bikes on the street again new neighbors moving in, more kids After numerous times voicing our feelings on injection sites seems like nobody listens to the people of Cambridge, treatment is better than enabling ,to put this anywhere in Cambridge is absolutely ridiculous let alone in a residential area

Dave Schmalz
Good day Mrs McGarry,

I with my family have lived in Hespeler for 35 years. We moved from the Toronto area to provide a slower pace and safe environment for our children to grow up and go to school. I'm sending this email to voice my opposition to a safe injection site anywhere in the city of Cambridge. I believe in recent years the city of Cambridge has seen a dramatic increase in crime and I believe that an injection site anywhere in the city of Cambridge would only create more problems as well as lowering property values. Yourself and city council were elected by the citizens of Cambridge to serve and listen to the citizens of Cambridge.

This city is changing and not for the good. I urge you to please reconsider a safe injection site anywhere in the city of Cambridge.

Regards,

David Savoie
Hello Cambridge Council

I am writing to you to support a consumption and treatment service site,

My name is Deborah and I am Amelia's Granny, for those of you who dont know, please let me share a brief piece of our story.

Nicole is my daughter age 29 and Amelia is my granddaughter age 20 months
Nicole has been an addict for 15+ years. She has overdosed, not sure how many times, contracted hepatitis, worked in sex trade, multiple incarnations, all due to her addiction disease. I lived life waiting for the dreaded phone call to identify my child.

When she called me to say she was pregnant, i had several questions, which she answered with one statement, "i got into the methadone program. I'm not using street drugs anymore." Amelia was born June 17, 2017. I was there, i cut her umbilical cord, it was a happiest day. Nicole and Amelia moved in with my husband and I. Nicole and Amelia both thrived here, Nicole continued to achieve many successes, and Amelia was growing into a sweet, compassionate, well behaved little princess. In November of 2018 i started noticing some behaviour changes in Nicole, in late January 2019, she abruptly moved out taking only bare minimum, on February 21, 2019, Amelia had a fatal accident, when she went into her mommy's zippered pocket and found mommy's "candy bag" while mommy was "sleeping", At age 20 months Amelia passed away from carfentinal poisoning.

My life, as well as many others, will never be the same again, ever. I not only lost my precious Angel Princess Amelia, but i also lost my baby, Amelia's mommy, my daughter, Nicole,

In Nicole's recovery she accomplished:
- Taking drivers training, getting her driver's license, and securing automotive insurance
- replacement of all her identification and keeping it safely kept
- Obtained her GED
- applied and was accepted into the WIST program at Conestoga College
- Obtained part-time employment as part of her college program
- Made arrangements for daycare

These are just some of the accomplishments.

Now my daughter Nicole is locked up in prison for Criminal Negligence causing Death, the death of her precious daughter. And a place where when you go to visit, you yourself are treated like a criminal, judged, looked down upon.

Yes my daughter Nicole did the most horrific, unforgiving act by having her stash accessible to Amelia, but Nicole is still my daughter, and i love her, she is a human being, and while in recovery an accomplished human being.

My daughter Nicole suffers from addiction desease, and when she is in suffering stage, that is no longer my Nicole. And now when Nicole has finished serving her 4 years sentence, i will spend every day waiting for the phone call.

Had there been a place where she could have gone safely, she might not have been in a unsavory place with my Granddaughter and just maybe my precious Princess Elmo, Cookie Monster, and Trolls loving Angel might still be alive, for me to continue watching her grow up.

Please vote yes for safety, let your vote make a difference for all the families who have a person in their life, with a horrendous illness.
Thank You
Deborah Donner
Good Morning,

I was astounded to see the news report that 8 Oxford St. is being considered as a consumption site. This location is in the centre of a residential area. The only way to get to the site without a vehicle is by foot through residential streets. The other option is through the wooded area where the city just erected fences to stop trespassers. Even though this is an area of century homes it is home to many young families and two daycare centres. In this time of crazy real estate prices, this is an area where a young family might actually afford a home with a backyard. This site seems like someone has put a pin in a map to avoid visibility in the core but not considered any other factors. If we really cared about the people needing these services there are several empty buildings surrounding the main bus terminal. Look at the attached picture taken on Roseview Ave and please take this site off your list of possibilities.

Thank you
Don Cowan
I write to state I am strongly opposed to any CTS, SIS or any other named addiction enablement program in Cambridge.

It didn't take a lot of research effort to see that since the Kitchener site was opened late in 2019, overdose deaths have in fact increased by a whopping 155% region wide, with 98 in 2020 and 63 in 2019. Hasn't

I take no issue with giving a helping hand to those of our fellow citizens in need but believe this considered approach will only serve to make their addiction more acceptable in the users mind while offering no treatment or deterrent. Sites like this will only serve to be a beacon in bringing more of these troubled people from outside of our city. It will destroy, diminish and devalue whatever community it is placed in.

My support for this position:
- Not even Sanguen's own website mentions treatment services "supports and referrals" are as close as they get.....pamphlets?
- There were no such issues downtown Galt or Cambridge before Bridges was built, do not add to it.
- Overdose deaths have in fact risen since the first site was opened in KW.
- Will only serve to bring more of these addicts to our city.
- Increased crime in whichever neighborhood it is placed in.

Don Dewsbury
40 year resident of Cambridge
Good afternoon,

I’m writing a letter in support of the SCS (supervised consumption services). I was born in Kitchener and have remained a resident of the region of Waterloo for over 20 years. In that time I have lived in Galt, and enjoyed being a part of that community. As a professional, I am also a social worker, and a community advocate.

I’d like to start by making a few comments about the history of health/community services. The social work and services come out of a desire to pursue social justice. The society as a whole was not in agreement of why societal issues existed or what should be done, but we understand now that peoples opinions and feelings about people (good people (deserving)) or bad people (undeserving)) influenced their beliefs about what should be done (punishment or services) and that approach has caused harm.

Unfortunately, social services and programs are often still left to peoples opinions and feelings. As a social worker, I am very aware of the lack of knowledge and understanding about addiction. People see it as a reflection of character flaws, failing morality, weakness, and is punishment for those who made ‘bad choices’. However, addiction is not those things, using that ideology has not stopped or lowered the rates of addiction. I believe this fear, anger, shaming and abstinence only mindset is continuing to hinder needed progress. When science based responses, research led service provision, results that show transformation in peoples lives is available for our community.

I would urge this council to consider the lives being lost as we wait for the feelings and opinions of some. Consider the specific objections to this site. There are doctors, executive directors, front line workers, people with first hand experience who are giving responses to the concerns of the community. However, some people will not be satisfied because they don’t believe this community deserves this service. The existence of an SCS challenges their beliefs about people. The answers to those questions can be dealt with in counselling, or at religious institutions but should not be allowed to influence the launching of this public health service.

The SCS has been in conversation for some time, and it continues to be delayed under the guise of community consultation. As council people I’m sure an ideal process is one where everyone agrees, but lives of value, worth, purpose, joy, lives that deserve care are being lost and we can’t afford to continue waiting. This process might be a struggle and bring discomfort, but that is what your role (council members) calls you to endure. We need council members who respond to opportunities that will create the best outcomes for peoples lives, because you are in a position of power I hope you use it well.

Thank you for your time.

Donalee Mc Intyre
Hello,

I would like to voice my concern regarding the recent proposed CTS locations in Cambridge.

The two locations proposed are 15 Easton St and 8 Oxford St.

The idea of a consumption and treatment site, where people have a safe place and are cared for and have their needs met and are looked after is not something I have any concerns about. The only concern I have is the proximity to Manchester Public School. The location of 15 Easton St is 500 meters (approximately) from Manchester and the location of 8 Oxford St is 750 meters (approximately) from Manchester.

If consumption sites are to be implemented in Cambridge, I would prefer that they were not adjacent to our schools or nearby our schools.

Thank you,

Donna Friese
Kathryn
It is incredibly disappointing that you and council are not listening to your constituents. The proposed locations are in close proximity to businesses, residential and to public schools? The money needs to be put into rehabilitation options. More money and effort has to be put into mental health and drug addiction solutions not into CTS sites. It is obvious that this is the cheapest way that the government can appear to be doing something about drug addiction and mental health issues. **We do not want any CTS sites in Cambridge.** Vancouver has a number of CTS sites and deaths from drug overdoses continue to rise. Do you want Cambridge to be the next East Hastings?

Please add my letter to the agenda for the council meeting scheduled on Tuesday, March 30th, 2021.

Sincerely,

Donna Wilkie
Attention to Mayor, council and staff,

Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

It's taken me a few days to compose this email to all of you in regards to site selection of a CTS within Cambridge.

What can I possibly say, that hasn't already been said and ignored? I've been pondering over the years of emails, delegations, reports, statistics, public consultations, recommendations, petitions and community feedback.

I find it alarming that we are now at the point of proposed site locations, despite the overwhelming opposition to any such site by your elected constituents and consultation reports.

I do not doubt that there are some who support, mainly invested proponents of drug consumption sites from surrounding communities, but there continues to be a lack of consideration from the thousands of voices in opposition. May I remind council and staff of the report in which it addressed and affirmed, that council was not listening.

I will simply write this; I do not support a drug consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. I do not support the continuing path of site selection.

I know I will be called upon by my community to speak again with the need to stand up for our concerns. I will not let our voices be cast aside.

Regards,

Doug Spry
Cambridge Resident & Tax payer
Your Worship Ms. McGarry, Councillor Liggett and Cambridge Councillors:

I am opposed to the location of CTS within 500 metres of the downtown core and therefore am opposed to the option of a possible location at 8 Oxford Street (as outlined in the Staff Report). In spite of the fact that Council did not pass a permanent by-law prohibiting a CTS within 500 metres of the core, I request that City Council abide by previous assurances and immediately remove the proposed location at 8 Oxford Street from any further consideration (including the public consultation phase).

I would also note that the report states that CTS locations are not to be within 200 metres of residential areas even though it is not a provincial criteria (stated criteria as per 3) c. iv.). Yet the 8 Oxford Street location is directly within a residential area. This is another reason why this location should not be considered any further.

Regards,

Ed Gazendam, Ph.D., P.Eng.
Dear Mayor McGarry and Council

I am writing to express my continued opposition to consumption sites in Cambridge and hope instead you will advocate, like me, for more detox beds, rehabilitation on demand, mental health supports and affordable housing. As long as we continue to only fund down stream efforts we will never make a dent in the number of tragic and needless deaths.

While other communities with CTS sites are being touted as success stories, NONE have shown a decline in overall death rates from opioids. We need to try better solutions, that will address the fact that most deaths are happening in private homes which people are less likely to leave to use distant consumption sites.

I urge you to reject the identified sites and concentrate on long term solutions that will actually stem the tide of people falling into addictions as well as providing hope for those already affected.

Ed Heather
Good morning,
Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council at the March 30th meeting.

I am writing to voice my opinion on the proposed sites (SIS) etc.

I do not want to say too much about the specific proposed locations, because I believe you will just remove them from your list and continue on finding alternative ones.
I will state though, that I do not understand whatsoever, why you would choose either of these, in lieu of how close they are to schools/daycares and right in the middle of residential areas.
I live on York Place (right behind the proposed site on Oxford), and I can tell you that for some time already, there have been drug addicts/dealers roaming around the area, because there is a dead end on York, situated right behind this proposed site, PLUS, a laneway, right off that same dead end. We already find garbage/needles etc., in that laneway. If this site is chosen, it will be much worse.
What a great location for all the addicts to gather, leave garbage and needles everywhere....maybe even a place to sleep????
So, between the dead end and the laneway, the residents of this street will be terrified and likely our homes will be broken into. We've already found a guy walking up and down our driveway looking into our house and around our property. I work from home and am usually alone during the day. My husband actually put a golf club beside my desk in my home office in case I should need to protect myself. You all well know, that drug addicts will do anything to get money or something to steal to get the money.
The trash, crime and disorder will only get worse.
My husband and I are in our 60's and walk our dog at least twice per day, and always worried about our dog stepping on a needle or broken glass. I also, often go for walks alone, and when I do, am always on edge about who or what I might run into. We have a 2-year-old granddaughter we would like to take out for walks or to the park, but will not take the risk or expose her to an environment where we might be approached by someone tweaking out and/or being offensive or assertive towards us - maybe even attacked.
We pay almost $4,000 year for taxes and we are afraid to walk in our neighbourhood! Is this fair? So not only do we pay unusually high taxes in this city, but now we can't even enjoy the city. And may I add, there is becoming less and less TO enjoy in this city.
Everywhere you go in this city, you are on edge either about stepping on needles/glass or being confronted by a drug addict. Even the parks are off limits now because of all of this.
You want $4,000 a year from me and I can't even go the park OR walk in my neighbourhood without fear? You can't possibly be serious.

I certainly don't have all the answers, nor do I profess to, but I think I have common sense. Something this council is showing very little of.
There are homeless in this city and there are drug addicts. The homeless are NOT a problem. The drug addicts ARE a problem. Two separate issues.
The drug addicts will never go away or stop being a problem until they get help/rehabilitation. In fact, will only get worse, if they don't get the help they need.
Providing a safe place for them to get clean needles etc. is NOT helping them. So, eventually, you will need more and more of these sites to accommodate the growing number of addicts. You need to push back on our prov/fed government to get what this city NEEDS.
We need the resources for helping and rehabilitating these drug addicts. PERIOD.
For all the money this province has spent on SIS's, we probably could have helped a lot of addicts become clean and sober instead.
I am a home owner @ [redacted]. My family and I are 100% against this proposed application for a CTS site. We have got to see first hand the drama - ODs, police, fire, and ambulance services 24/7 form drug use and activity - just good my street.

Despite the controlled environment implication, its what happens out side the building when people are buying and selling drugs to shoot up.

Places like this do not belong around schools or even neighbourhoods. Our streets turn into a highway of questionable people at best, and a garbage dump covered in litter from the drug induced state or the craving and lack of thinking leading up to injecting.

I suggest in the cambridge smart center, the hospital, or in an industrial area period. Away from the hard working family's and their property.

As a closing note, Let me ask: what is the point of a clean needle when the person is still injecting God knows what into them. Why not supply clean drugs at this point?

Eric.
Hello,

My name is Erin Dej and I am a resident of Cambridge, and East Galt specifically. I am writing to City Councillors to voice my whole hearted support for a Consumption and Treatment Site in Cambridge.

Criminal justice efforts to address substance use have failed miserably. This is because drug use is a health issue, not a criminal justice issue. People who use drugs are not bad people. They are not inherently dangerous or criminal. They are people; people who happen to use drugs. Their lives are as valuable as mine, or yours, or anyone else, and they deserve access to life saving care as all Canadians should expect in this country. People are dying because the drug supply is unsafe and because people are forced to hide and often use alone for fear of criminal charges. The overdose crisis is concomitant with the pandemic. There is expected to be a 50% increase in the number of deaths this year in Ontario. In the first three months of the pandemic 695 people in Ontario died from an opioid-related death. That’s 695 people - actual human beings in our province who mattered and who had loved ones who cared about them. The devaluation of life that has penetrated our social systems and policies for decades has become increasingly visible throughout this pandemic. The lives of the elderly, of low-wage workers, and yes, of people who use drugs, have been positioned as 'less than' others. This is not ok. We cannot allow this to continue.

So many Canadians are proud of our universal health care system, as they should be. But how universal is that care if we know a way we can save people's lives and choose not to because we don't like it? It is un-Canadian and it is inhumane to deny access to a CTS in this community. Not only should there absolutely be a CTS in Cambridge, but it also needs to be located in a place where people will actually use it. It must be located in the urban core where people can walk to access it and it should be located somewhere where people do not feel judged or stigmatized for using drugs.

I implore City Council to do the right thing - to say yes to a CTS and to find a location that works for people who use drugs. You will not be able to find a location that is NIMBY-free so if the NIMBY comments are going to come regardless, it might as well be a site that Councillors can be proud of, knowing it will work best for its users and save people’s lives.

Thank you for your consideration,

Erin Dej
To whom it may concern
Making a safe injection site at both the locations stated is a bad idea and is in a bad location. People don't need a safe injection site, they need a rehabilitation site where they can get help. Giving them a safe injection site is not helping them. The locations these safe injection sites are being made is in the middle of a residential area with schools and daycares nearby. Having these people and needles near these locations could be dangerous for the people and kids nearby.

Ethan.M
The argument is simple: safe injection sites have not delivered on their promises and have caused a significant increase in trash, crime, and disorder. Public health experts have built safe injection facilities with little public input, creating problems for long-time residents. As Ontario Premier Doug Ford told reporters: "If I put (a safe injection site) beside your house, you'd be going ballistic."

An emerging body of evidence suggests safe injection sites may cause more harm than good. In Alberta, public health authorities released a bombshell report that showed the sites did not reduce overall overdose deaths or opioid-related emergency calls. And they led to an increase in crime, discarded needles and social disorder in surrounding neighborhoods.

Residents complained that they were not involved in the process and felt "less safe than before." After the release of the report, Alberta Premier Jason Kenney announced that the provincial government would consider closing or relocating some of the safe injection sites.

Ontario, Alberta and Manitoba are three of the five largest Canadian provinces, and home to the urban populations of Toronto, Calgary and Winnipeg. Premiers Doug Ford, Jason Kenney and Brian Pallister all challenge the ideology of "harm reduction" and have spoken on the public’s frustration about safe injection sites.

Since taking office, Premier Ford cut funding for three safe injection sites, Premier Kenney froze funding for new safe injection facilities and Premier Pallister announced his intention to support law enforcement over harm reduction.

First, the activist narrative on harm reduction—that it saves lives without collateral costs—cannot be maintained. Safe injection sites have an extremely poor record of moving drug users into treatment and recovery, with some referral rates as low as 1%. As a result, neighborhoods that host safe injection sites, like the Downtown Eastside in Vancouver, often devolve into open-air drug markets, with hundreds of homeless addicts sleeping in the streets. This, of course, only compounds the problem and externalizes the social costs onto neighbors and small businesses.

Already, in some American cities that have come closest to implementing safe injection sites, there are echoes of the Canadian uprising. In 2017, five cities surrounding Seattle quickly passed local ordinances banning safe injection sites; U.S. Attorney Brian Mora warned Seattle lawmakers that any attempt to create a safe injection site would immediately be shut down by the federal government. Earlier this year, Philadelphia announced it would open the nation's first safe injection site, then quickly reversed course after working-class residents in South Philadelphia rebelled against the plan.

Moving forward, opponents of "harm reduction" must build on these successes and develop a coordinated strategy to prevent the establishment of safe injection sites. We all can learn an important lesson from cities like Vancouver and Seattle: there is no such thing as safely using heroin, fentanyl and methamphetamine. If all else fails move the bridges and the site to a Location away from schools, daycares and old folks homes. Consider an industrial location with access to public transport!

Eva
An open letter to Katherine McGarry mayor, and to regional council and staff, regarding site selection of Drug Consumption Sites in Cambridge.

Attention to Mayor, council and staff,

Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

I’ve been pondering over the years of unanswered emails except by a select few and few I mean one or two people. I am sure this will be one of many more that will fall on deaf ears. It has become glaringly apparent that Community feedback does not seem high on your list of priorities.

Despite the overwhelming opposition to any such site by your elected constituents and consultation reports you choose to doggedly push on.

Yes the addicts need help but not at our expense! Not at the expense of the Elderly, the children, business owners, taxpaying citizens. Their needs do not supercede the majority. They can receive the same help on the outskirts of town. It in the heart of our town!! There continues to be a lack of consideration from the thousands of voices in opposition. May I remind council and staff of the report in which it addressed and affirmed, that council was not listening.

Simply Said ; I do not support a drug consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. I do not support the continuing path of site selection anywhere in our town! Move the bridges to the outskirts of town so the bulk of addicts will relocate and then you can build your CTS sites once the bulk of these addicts has moved to those areas! Stop destroying tourism and our beautiful down town core. Stop endangering our vulnerable citizens the children and the elderly! Stop forcing local business to move out!

I won’t allow our voices be silenced .

Regards,
Eva R. Murphy
Good morning

I m NOT support the proposal of Consumption narcotics and Treatment site between Pluto Daycare and Montessori School of Cambridge. This is a crazy idea to put the crack heads more in Cambridge town they are already making our beautiful Downtown like a junkyard, you People don't have grandkids or own kids so please don't do that to our children. We vote for you because we trust you.

Mother, and Teacher
Ewa Durakiewicz
To whom this may concern,

As per the majority of the people around this area, I believe it is important to express my/our level of concern regarding the upcoming CTS location as per described in the most recent letter shared with the neighbourhood. There is already a men's shelter within 1 KM of here which the majority of the people residing here have had to deal with. With the shelter in the area, we have had to face disturbances, police contact as well as small and big crimes in the neighbourhood. Allowing a CTS site so close to daycares as well as our homes and children is OBSURD! Why should we as homeowners have to worry and stress the safety of ourselves, our children and our possessions?? This is ridiculous. I am 150% OPPOSED to this proposition. Long term effects of the CTS may be beneficial to the actual addicts but will have a VERY NEGATIVE impact on our geographical region. I VOTE AGAINST THIS GARBAGE PROPOSITION.

Thank you!

Francine Boucher

A VERY CONCERNED HOMEOWNER
Attention to Mayor, council and staff,

Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

I find the proposed site locations to be absolutely ridiculous. Not only are they in residential areas with many children living mere feet away but also a stones throw from a public elementary school. Does nobody see the dangers in this? Also there is a plaza beside one site, there are already enough people in the parking lot asking for money, smokes and quite frankly, some are so brazen that it is scary at times. Also, the buildings are not big enough to supply all of the support that is required. To simply enable addicts is one thing and that's all this sized building would be good for, but one would figure that other supports should also be involved as a start to prevention.

A large building like old city hall is required and all support systems could be together. Why would you consider moving these people farther away from all of their other resources to survive which are in the core. Or is it because you make too much money as Hollywood North to allow that to possibly effect it.

I do not support a drug consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. I do not support the continuing path of site selections.

Regards

Gary Staveley
Mayor,

Respectfully, staff has brought forward TWO potential sites.

TWO.
Both of which are bad choices, particularly the Oxford Street location.

Hardly what one might call a careful consideration to be brought forward to the taxpayers for THEIR consideration.

Please include this as a response as a part of the agenda record.

 Regards,

Geoff Smith
As a resident of Roseview Avenue for over 20 years, I am writing to express my extreme disappointment at the lack of leadership shown by the Mayor and the rest of City Council in considering the site at Oxford Street as a potential candidate for the location of a CTS facility.

This neighbourhood already has more than its fair share of group homes and has seen a marked decline due to its proximity to The Bridges. Break-ins and drug addicts passed out on the street are now routine as more and more people migrate up the hill looking to use drugs or who are wandering through the neighbourhood looking for homes that are not as secure as they could be. There is even now a drug supplier living in a rental unit who has a steady stream of dealers who drop by during the day to resupply. Business is booming! It is open and brazen and the city has done nothing to address the decline; the solution for the city is to now foist even MORE of a burden onto this neighbourhood because it is conveniently located to the source of a problem that was created by the City of Cambridge in the first place.

The real issue at the heart of this matter is the ill-advised and poorly planned location of The Bridges. When this facility was first proposed, we were promised that it would serve young families in need of temporary or transition housing. What happened to that vision? The old adage of “build it and they will come” has never been more appropriate and this site is now a draw for drug addicts outside our community who break into our homes to feed their addictions. Look at what this has done to our downtown – is this what Council wants for this city? This is a problem of your own making and yet the taxpayers in THIS neighbourhood are the ones who are paying for your lack of direction and control. We moved into this neighbourhood at a time when it had the potential to be something. Owners took pride in the maintenance of their homes and the beautification of their yards. It was right on the edge of a vibrant downtown core and now look at what it has become – a dumping ground for sites and services that have NO place in a residential area. We have done our part, thank you.

City Council has actively taken steps to degrade this neighbourhood because it is a convenient location for services that are not wanted in other, more affluent areas of the city. For example, by granting variances and changing the zoning in the area, the neighbourhood has seen a marked increase in the number of apartments owned by absentee landlords who do nothing to maintain their properties. But what do you care? [redacted] and councillors who don’t even reside in their own wards.

Furthermore, there are CHILDREN who live and play in this neighbourhood – there are schools and a long-established daycare that regularly walks toddlers past this proposed site. What are you thinking?? Your planning assumes that this is an acceptable site because the daycare falls JUST outside the 200m exclusion zone (275m by my calculations). These children walk through the neighbourhood EVERY day – is the onus supposed to be on the daycare staff to walk the children in their care down a route that doesn’t take them past a site that will inevitably draw even more drug addicts to the area? The daycare is NOT a fixed site and the children who attend have every right to walk and get the exercise that they need without being concerned for their safety or being exposed to users of a CTS site. Council needs to address the problem in its ENTIRETY by relocating The Bridges and its ancillary services including a CTS site to a location that does NOT impact the taxpayers who pay your salary. Given the unlikelihood of this ever happening, please reconsider your intent to locate the CTS site at Oxford Street and find a more suitable location. This neighbourhood has already done its part.

Please include a reading of this letter as part of the official agenda.

Thank you.

Regards,

Geoff Smith
I am a long time resident at 23 Bond Street. I am most concerned of the idea of a safe injection site that is being looked at for Oxford street. Our neighborhood is being slowly renewed with new families, with lots of kids playing in the neighborhood. Also friendly neighborly people who love this area. We have had to deal with the repercussions of the Bridges for years. We don’t need a drug site in our neighborhood. We have young families, schools daycares and older people who have made this area our home, and neighborhood we are proud of.

Glen Stewart
Cambridge Council,

I have examined the data regarding the number of lives saved in communities that support CTS’s and find it to be very positive. While a CTS may not be the cure for the underlying issue, it will save lives. And that is a start.

I want to live in a community that is compassionate towards those people and families struggling with this terrible problem. I want my community to take steps to save lives and stop the pain and grief.

I support a CTS in Cambridge.

Thank you,

Glen Whittall
Hello,
We are residents of Roseview Ave.
We are deeply concerned of the locations that have been chosen for the CTS Sites in our neighbourhood, a neighbourhood which already has significant problems with The Bridges and with Argus House.
Your proposed sites are ludicrous, being in such close proximity to 2 schools and a daycare and should not be in any residential area, especially in a residential neighbourhood that has been saturated with issues due to the Bridges for many years.
I would suspect that none of you would like a CTS Site in your neighbourhood. Please include our correspondence in the agenda for the council meeting scheduled for Tuesday March 30, 2021.
Glenn & Shelley Marriott
I would approve this for Cambridge however would qualify it by saying it should not be located in the three major downtown areas.
This site needs transportation facilities and room to be surrounded by supporting infrastructure. Gord Chaplin Sent from my iPhone
My name is Gord Flett and I have been a lifelong resident of Cambridge all of my 56 yr life. I’m emailing you all my opposition to any CTS sites anywhere in Cambridge. I speak from my own experience of being addicted to opioids for more then 10yrs and have seeked out help and treatment of all kinds. There is already several facilities that offer treatment to addicts that WANT help. Suboxone is considered the number one treatment available to get off these street drugs and is now available to prescribe from family doctors/nurse practionener in Ontario and available at several other locations in our cities downtown core. Its maintains addicts at a safe dose and allows addicts to live a normal life while being monitored by trained professionals. Its also 6 times safer then methodone regarding overdose. Promoting programs like this is much safer then enabling addicts to continue putting toxic drugs into needles and injecting themselves. Not to mention its covered under OHIP,most drug plans,ODSP and OW. Tell me how much this would reduce crime in Cambridge?? Addicts wouldnt need to steal to feed there addiction. Providing CTS sites is just prolonging drug addiction and wasting useful resources that could be better spent on other programs that actually help people get off drugs. This is where our leaders need to focus attention on. I hope all that receive this email read it and are welcome to share at any city hall meetings or agendas.

Thank You,
Gord Flett
I live on Rich Ave and have participated in meetings, in person and virtually, where this matter has been discussed.

I find myself torn as the need for these facilities is real and urgent but the location - 150 Main Street - seems to present a real risk that the merchants in the area between there and the river will be adversely affected. If that should happen then we face the risk that that section will not be viable as a commercial centre. Additionally the residents in adjacent streets have been subjected to disturbing interactions with ‘homeless’ people

If an alternative locale could be found I would wholeheartedly support the establishment of a CTS.

Gordon Divitt
Hello.
I am totally not in support for a drug consumption site in cambridge. Especially at the 2 sites that were selected as they both are way to close to residential neighborhoods. There is a couple schools in very close walking distance. 1 is a high school who's us bad for our youth today. The other is even worse as there is a junior public school and also a couple daycare's within 2 blocks of both locations. First of all. Allowing people to do those illegal things is bad enough without them being in jail. And now promoting to allow them to do these bad things in our city. This is not good. I believe that there are other cities that have done this and the areas that they allowed one of these sites to be set up. Just turned that area into a red light district of those individual cities. I feel that cambridge as a whole should not be promoting these sites. Not even in the proposed locations.... but not at all. Cambridge is a nice place to live and this would totally ruin our town. That myself and my entire family. Extended as well. All have lived in cambridge our whole lives. This is not worth it. Those people that you are trying to help. By allowing them to do illegal drugs right in front of us it wrong........

How about trying to get real help and not put a bandage on the situation that is the wrong way to go. Please spend our tax dollars on the people that actually are part of society and pay taxes... I would like this letter to be included in the agenda of the upcoming meeting!!!
Thanks
Greg Quinnell
Please do not continue with placing a safe injection site in Cambridge. The people of Cambridge have spoken and do not want it in our city. According to Vancouver and Seattle these sites cause more problems of drug traffickers being allowed in the area of the sires. The results are there. Please put the money the sites would cost to assist those who are homeless, those who need help with mental health issues and those who are trying to get off the drugs but have no where to go to get assistance. Please do no go ahead in Cambridge.
Heather Kickham
Kindly include my letter to the agenda for the council meeting on Tuesday March 30th

I am a homeowner and resident in Cambridge Ward 4.

It has come to my attention that Council will be discussing possible areas for a CTS site within Cambridge. I have never voiced my concerns yet, I would like to start by saying I empathize strongly with homelessness and the many challenges faced by individuals who are often battling addictions, but while I strongly support drives to save lives and prevent overdoses, I am firmly against enabling and normalizing the use of illicit drugs.

A CTS site in Cambridge:

1) Will result in a strong concentration of drug users in the area near the CTS site looking to finance their drug habit, home break-ins and robberies will skyrocket within walking distance of the CTS site.

2) Drug dealers will congregate nearby the CTS site to cater to their clients, as we have noticed from nearly every drug busts in the news, these are dangerous and unstable individuals that carry weapons with intent, and have an extensive criminal record which gives them little regard for human life, whether it be the lives of addicts or innocent bystanders.

3) We are not a big city, we are a combination of villages in a semi-rural setting. This lower population density and lack of foot traffic and policing resources (unlike cities such as Vancouver or Toronto) make us ill suited to control a large concentration of individuals battling addiction, this also facilitates break in’s and other criminal activities, they generally go unnoticed until it is too late. Do not compare outcomes of CTS sites in Vancouver, Toronto, or even Kitchener to Cambridge!

Discarded needles in public are a major source of concern, but by facilitating and centralizing drug usage, we will be making things worst, the strain on our community and our public resources will be unbearable.

I have been the victim of copper wire theft at my home last year, the thief being a drug user, proceeded to inject intravenous drugs by my front door. My reaction to this event (once the frustration of being robbed faded), was to go to the water street pharmacy to inquire about obtaining a naloxone kit in the event I could save a life. I was not able to get one, I was met with questions as to why I would even want one, and the obligation to enter a registry of methadone kit carriers that will be associated with my health card. With the stigma that comes with drug usage, I doubt anyone who is not directly implicated with drug addiction would be willing to enter a registry that could see them facing stronger scrutiny when looking for prescription drugs or healthcare! This is simply unacceptable.

If you would like to battle this opioid epidemic,

1) Lay down more resources to awareness programs, ensuring first responders and the population in affected areas are well prepared to identify signs of drug overdose and know what
to do. Provide training sessions open to the public to train people to understand signs of drug overdose and know when and how to use Naloxone kits.

2) Allow individuals in areas with high rates of drug usage and overdose to have access to naloxone kits without scrutiny or a need to enter a registry.

3) Enroll more police and social workers to help addicts seek treatment, and ensuring they have proper access to essentials, not to help them inject a drug that is killing them!

You do not fight a drug epidemic by helping people get high with wraparound services, this CTS site will endanger our lives, our community, and disincentivize addiction recovery.

-- Henry Baulier
I think you need to read the Childrens Charter of Rights. Putting these sites near schools or residents homes where young children live endangers these children as addicts have a tendency to leave dirty needles thrown on the ground where young children can find them. Enabling addicts does not help them, what they need are more mental health and addiction facilities where they can get the proper help they need.

Origin: https://www.cambridge.ca/en/your-city/Childrens-Charter-of-Rights.aspx?fbclid=IwAR2F9AOSngz4kNiPowZ1tQgEpQk6N6U7ZEUYYy-_X0IvqR_4_8KcLDWAPbngw

This email was sent to you by Hope A Dekker
Dear Mayor McGarry and Council members:

I was very concerned to hear that my neighbourhood (Oxford at Roseview) is being considered as a location for the proposed consumption site.

I have worked in the not-for-profit sector for more than 20 years and understand the importance of healthy communities. The suggestion of installing a site like this in a residential neighbourhood is not acceptable.

It is already bad enough that we frequently have foot traffic coming up from the Bridges down the hill - people climbing into the waste bins outside the corner units, and often sleeping behind them. There is empty land right behind the proposed building with a lane close to our home where we have found people loitering and leaving garbage. It can be quite scary to walk the dog early in the morning and have men coming out from the bushes there. Please don’t compound this issue.

This is a residential neighbourhood - and adding this service here where we have families, daycares, schools and lots of seniors and children is very disturbing.

We have already had issues with someone leaving their needle kit on our front porch, others taking shelter there sitting on our front deck to smoke...

As I work from home alone during COVID while my husband has to go into the workplace, this has been scary enough.

This is currently a pretty great neighbourhood with friendly neighbours, lots of dogs, kids and great access to downtown Galt and walking trails. We understand the need for the Bridges of course, but making our street a destination for drug use is not OK.

Please consider a different site - a non-residential area possibly close to transit like across from bus station seems to make more sense.

We love our home and don’t want to have to leave - but having a consumption site two houses away from our home is scary... it will also signal a rapid drop in property value and in community safety for us, our senior neighbours, the two daycares in the area and our schools.

Please look at other options.

Best regards,

Ingrid Town Cowan
Dear Mayor McGarry and Council,

I am writing to ask you to please go ahead with the CTS for Cambridge. I am aware that Cambridge has huge addiction issues and a large number of drug dealers. The supply of drugs is unregulated and dangerous and the constant stress for those suffering with addiction is consuming their lives.

When the main task of the day is to get money for the next fix, it is impossible to think of anything else, it is a form of slavery that results in crime, in order to get the drug and death because of the fentanyl risk in all drugs. The local drug industry is run on violence, coercion and crime. If we are to feel safe we need services to help control this pattern. Safe Treatment sites have been proven to take the stress and often the crime out of addiction so that people can focus on getting their lives back together again.

The fear of CTS is based on a public lack of knowledge of how these sites work and the outcomes for citizens. Each person with an addiction disability has at least six friends and family around them who are affected by this disability. Addiction is not social behaviour, it is a disability condition. Please move forward on the CTS by voting to approve it at Council.

Irene O'Toole
I am a resident at bond street and I do not support the drug consumption site in cambridge at 15 Easton street and 8 Oxford street

Jack Jackman
Dear council members,

As a local resident of Oxford street neighbour in East Galt I am against the proposed CTS site location. Not only are the two proposed locations in primarily residential neighbourhoods but they are also located close to schools (Galt Collegiate Institute, Manchester public school, Montessori school of Cambridge) and a daycares (pluto). These are homes of hard working single families with children. The implementation of these sites must be reversed or at least placed downtown where the majority of users are located. To bring these sites into a residential area is completely irresponsible by the local government.

I think there are much better solutions to crisis of drug users rather than setting up CTS site and i am against the idea.

Should we not shield our children from the dangers of the word? Children should not be subjected to the company of drug users on a daily basis. If your interests are truly in community development then getting rid of the proposed CTS program and putting funding in other forms of treatment would be better. Passing the buck onto residential neighbourhoods will only help to spread the crisis further afield. A high school is literally steps away. Please contain this matter in the downtown core where it persists. The community of Oxford shire should not be imposed upon by the problems of its neighbour.

Please include this letter in the city council meeting for Tuesday March 30th. I would like the link for the meeting and I would like to read this email out loud on March 30th.

Best,

James Dover
Attention Mayor, City Council, and Staff,

Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

There has been an overwhelming amount of opposition to any and all Consumption and Treatment centres in Cambridge. That has been shown time and time again through community pushback and Councillors who do not support the CTS sites.

Although I understand there are those who support CTS sites in our community, I do not support the continued process of CTS site selection in Cambridge for multiple reasons.

1. I do not support the current proposed sites being in residential areas, close to schools, daycares and my own home. The proximity to these areas are outlined as being necessary to take into consideration within the Government of Ontario’s CTS application guide, and it appears as though the proposed locations have been chosen because they lay just outside the outlined parameters. There has been no public mention as to how community concerns will be addressed, because they lay just outside the 200m mandated by the CTS application. This is unacceptable.

The proposed location at 8 Oxford St is just under 400m from a daycare, and 250m from a Montessori school. This equates to a 5 minute walk. It is necessary for the city to take this into consideration and do better for our children and families in the area. I walk these streets everyday with my child and family, and they are close proximity to the proposed location despite the parameters laid out in the CTS application.

I live 100m from this proposed location and have not been contacted or consulted. Further, I have lost family to opioid abuse, and I still do not support CTS sites in Cambridge.

2. Within the Government of Ontario’s application guide, neighbourhood data surrounding opioid related mortality and morbidity is taken into consideration. The proposed location at 8 Oxford St. is located approximately 550m from the Bridges Shelter Location. Educational and life saving services should be better funded within an already problem laden location in the city instead of moving these types of services to yet another location in the city. The city already ignores the issues running rampant within and surrounding the Bridges, and I do not believe that a CTS site will help to alleviate these issues.

3. Public education of this matter has been practically non existent. I am not convinced this model is best suited for our city and believe the city has not done its due diligence to inform and educate the community in Cambridge as to how this model will be enacted, monitored and supported as it moves forward. I fear the CTS sites will simply be a bandaid solution that will be enacted and ignored. Again, I live less than a 2 minute walk from a proposed location and have not received any information or education on CTS sites in Cambridge.

4. Multiple studies on CTS sites in other areas and countries show that many people who use these sites still inject themselves the majority of time outside the site. CTS sites simply spread already known drug use throughout our communities, closer to schools and daycares. Studies in Lethbridge Alberta have shown an increase in drug abuse anti social behaviour, and an increase in the quantity and types of drugs circulating due to CTS sites. Observations outside a Toronto Safe injection site include drug use,
drug deals, violence and harassment of people walking down the street. Again, these proposed sites in Cambridge are MINUTES away from daycares and schools.

My final statement is that I do not support Consumption and Treatment Service sites in Cambridge in their current models.

Thank you
Jamie Bennett
Good evening:

We are requesting to please include this letter in the planned City Council meeting to happen this Tuesday March 30th, 2021.

We just found out with great disappointment, frustration and disapproval, about the 2 proposed Consumption and Treatment Services sites in our beautiful city of Cambridge; my husband being a lifetime resident of Galt (45 years) and myself for 15 plus years, our family live very close to the 2 proposed sites (Easton St and Oxford St. - Galt), so you can understand our worry, concerns and fear about this wrongly proposed decision, not just to our family but all our neighborhood and the families in the surrounded residential areas.

Having these CTS sites in our city, its just going to escalate and worsen the situation of what we already deal with the dependants from the Bridges area, and it will further attract other homeless/drug users from surrounding cities.

Personally, myself and my children (age 7 and 13) have dealt in the past with scary experiences with homeless/drug users/panhandlers, e.g. being stopped to ask for money in a rude way; happen to see the individuals being high and yelling in the streets to themselves or car drivers; seeing on the streets used needles that have almost stepped on; to see the camping, littering, being high, yelling to themselves and even fighting by Grand River Dan Spring Way.

While my children have had these bad experiences in our regular family walks and sometimes in their way to school, which they attend to St. Peters Catholic School and soon, my teen to go to GCI, it makes them feel very scare and unsafe. No children should feel this way nor growing up in this kind of unhealthy environment and it affects their mental health and put in risk their well-being. Young ages should not being taught nor explain about drug issues but instead they should be growing up with a healthy mind, free of these kind of sights... having to try to explain to them in a "soft" way, still it makes them not wanting to play with their friends in our neighborhood. So, as parents of two, we strongly believe these sites are not beneficial in any way for our children nor any children. To be growing up around these injection sites, are not a good example for the children, teenagers neither for our society.

We have considered moving away from Cambridge for these important reasons, but economy and the concern of leaving behind relatives, has made this difficult to do. So we are here instead, trying to speak up and turn our city to be more family friendly and a beautiful town again.

It should be a common sense than, instead of providing these individuals with CTS sites, that "feeds" their addiction and keeps them away from turning their life around, they rather feel that the goverment is approving their addiction, which is totally wrong. What these indiviuals need is the support of the Goverment by proving them instead proper Mental Health institutions where they should be interns to help them quit their addictions, so they can find the light at the end of their dark tunnel. This is what these individuals really need, please! For their own sake and our society.

We want to quote what the Convention of the Rights of the Child says: # 6 Life, Survival and Development. Every child has the right to be alive. Governments must make sure that children survive and develop in the best possible way.
# 24 Health, Water, Food, Environment. Children have the right to the best health care possible, clean water to drink, healthy food and a clean and safe environment to live in. All adults and children should have information about how to stay safe and healthy.

# 33 Protection from harmful drugs. Governments must protect children from taking, making, carrying or selling harmful drugs.

According to Children's Rights, we as parents are doing our part to provide this for our children, you as Government of our city should support, contribute and provide this safe environment as well.

Please, we hope that you would reconsider your proposals and STOP going ahead with the CTS sites; as affected citizens, we are AGAINST not only to proposed addresses sites but against to locate the Consumption and Treatment Services in Cambridge at all!

Sincerely,
Mr. & Mrs. J. Lefebre (Jason and Judith) and family.
I live near both sites. Our neighbourhood is already not that great due to the homeless people that wander up Cambridge street from the bridges. We already have [redacted] in our alley ways we don’t need more crazy stuff happening from people getting high in our neighborhood too. We are very close to 2 day care centres and a elementary school and a high school. This is not a good area to have this location. It should be at the hospital or at the police station where it can be closely monitored so it does not affect tax paying citizens.

I would like to say we should not have a site in Cambridge at all.

The two locations purposed are certainly not the locations you should be considering.

Thanks a Cambridge resident

Jenn Roswell
March 29, 2021

Dear Mayor McGarry and City Councillors:

Please accept this letter in support of Safe Consumption and Treatment Services in the City of Cambridge.

At Women’s Crisis Services of Waterloo Region, we have seen first-hand the devastating impact of addictions. Often, addictions and mental health are a significant part of the struggles our clients navigate alongside the trauma that they have experienced.

We work hard to partner with other organizations to ensure our clients get the services that they need and deserve. The Safe Consumption Site in Kitchener has been a great resource for our Anselma House residents and outreach clients from the Kitchener Waterloo area. We would advocate for a similar site for our Haven House residents and Cambridge Outreach clients. These sites truly save lives.

Thanks for your consideration

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hutton MSW, RSW, MBA
Chief Executive Officer
Women’s Crisis Services of Waterloo Ontario
(519) 741-9184 (2111)
Jennifer.hutton@wcswr.org
Dear Mayor McGarry and City Councillors

I am writing to you today to express my unwavering support for a Consumption and Treatment Services Site in the City of Cambridge. Please include my letter as part of the official records for the meeting of March 30, 2021.

As a resident of the Region of Waterloo and PhD Student in the Faculty of Social Work at WLU, I understand the benefits of the Kitchener CTS site, not least of which is the saving of lives. Within the first 6 months of the Kitchener site being open, 71 overdoses occurred and not one was fatal. Had the CTS not been running, many, if not all of these people would have died.

Similarly, at InSite in BC, since opening in 2003 there have been 2395 overdoses and not a single fatality.

Simply put, CTS’s save lives. The people who need this service are human beings; they are people. They are members of our communities who are our parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, friends, children. They are citizens of the City of Cambridge and deserve access to a safe, supportive environment in which to use drugs.

You may not understand why people use drugs, and you may judge them for doing so. However, one thing I am hopeful you can understand is that they deserve to live. And a CTS will significantly increase the chances that they will.

I urge you to open a CTS site in the City of Cambridge and to do so with haste as it is literally a matter of life and death.

Sincerely
Jessica Hutchison
Hi there,

I support implementing a Cambridge CTS with wraparound services in our City. I think it would be beneficial having it located in downtown Galt or as close as possible.

Thank you,

Jill Bennett
Hi:
I have been saddened to see the responses of so many rejecting Consumption and treatments sites in Cambridge. Our neighbours who are suffering with addictions need to have some improved safety and better opportunity to ask for help. It does not help anyone to try to ignore the problem. It is here and it is dangerous for all involved. Please go ahead and set up these important sites. I am a retired Public Health Nurse from this region.
Jill Nielsen
With all respect to the Cambridge officials who obviously do not live nor have children attending schools close by, nor have any concern for any child's welfare, these proposals will directly affect innocent children, perhaps create even more young people to get involved in the sub culture of drug use let alone all and any aspects of this situation.

Find a place far away from children at the very least.

I'm not against a safe injection site.

I'm in favour of one but absolutely NOT in these proposed sites.

Put them in your neighborhood away from children or create a safe site within the hospitals or convert the Rona store into a safe injection site. They could get covid shots and help for their health issues. And its on a bus route. Give them a bus pass.

Problem solved.

Stay away from congregations of innocent and vulnerable children.

Respectfully

Jill Ruth
"Dear Mayor, Councillors and Staff of the City of Cambridge, Ontario

We, the undersigned, as residents, business owners and tax payers of the City of Cambridge, ask that you vote against any motion which includes placing, allowing, or asking for a drug consumption site (also known as a SCS, CTS, SIS or OPS) in the City of Cambridge. Instead, we ask that you advocate for treatment for those suffering with addictions, by focusing on detox, rehabilitation and mental health supports. We ask that you please listen to those you were elected to represent and work with the province and the Region to find a solution that does not include the continued consumption of illegal substances."

Cambridge has enough issues already with the homeless and other failed projects, you are ruining our city, stop it!

Jim Boni, property owner, Taxpayer in City of Cambridge
Dear Mayor, Councillors and Staff of the City of Cambridge

As a resident, business owner and tax payer of the City of Cambridge, I ask that you vote against any motion which includes placing, allowing, or asking for a drug consumption site (also known as a SCS, CTS, SIS or OPS) in the City of Cambridge.

Instead, I ask that you advocate for treatment for those suffering with addictions, by focusing on detox, rehabilitation and mental health supports.

I ask that you please listen to those you were elected to represent and work with the province and the Region to find a solution that does not include the continued consumption of illegal substances."

Sincerely,

Jim Holmes
Council of Cambridge,

My family has received a letter with the information that on March 30th Cambridge City Council will consider a city staff report on possible locations for a Consumption Treatment Site (CTS) for citizens-in-need in our community.

I have several points to make. Although the letter presumes that "results refute any negative arguments" and implies that there is no other way to prevent overdose deaths. But YES, there are many other ways to avoid ODs. Preventing kids from using drugs in the first place can be simple and cheap. Instead of investing in Consumption Treatment Sites (CTS) we would rather invest that budget in sports and many other community driven activities, keeping our kids busy and away from a lifestyle that would bring them to harm's way.

We are all aware that drugs don't affect its user alone, it affects their family and our entire community for sure. The first time it is always a choice and if we don't show our kids that there are other ways to deal with their problems they will also end in this terrible situation. Some might say that addiction is not a choice, but read carefully my sentence "first time it is always a choice".

I definitely don't want to raise my family in a city with this kind of program, I chose Cambridge just to stay away from it (common in big centres) and grow my family in a safer place. I already have suffered several incidents in life because of drugs (robbery, guns to my head, etc), and I don't want my kids to go through the same issues I went through.

I want to remind you all about the known law of supply and demand: where there are customers there will be sellers (drug dealers). This fact will not change just because we are creating a "Safe" site for drug use. As a matter of fact it will happen exactly the other way around.

Another point is that whoever is under influence does NOT think straight and they can no longer decide what to do in a proper way even when they want out after being chemically hooked. No one can prevent them from committing crimes as burglaries, robberies or even rape.

I would not think twice about moving away from Cambridge if this bad idea moves forward, I would be taking my investments and taxes far away from here.

Sincerely
Joana Borges
Dear Mayor McGarry and Town Council,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for a Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS) Site. Please include my letter as part of the official records for the Special Council Meeting on March 30th, 2021.

As an individual who recently bought a home in Cambridge, and works in the Waterloo Region, I would like to express my sincere and serious support of a Cambridge CTS site. CTS sites are an integral part of addressing substance use in communities across Ontario and Canada. They at a minimum save lives and that should be enough proof to implement a CTS site in Cambridge. On top of providing lifesaving services, CTS sites have so many other valuable benefits. Research shows that providing harm reduction services like CTS leads to a reduction in fatal and non-fatal drug poisonings and are also key in providing a safe space where people can receive care free from stigma. CTS sites also reduce risk factors that lead to infectious diseases, and provide increased access to health and social services, and are a cost-effective means to help address problematic substance use.

The Waterloo Region has seen an alarming rise in drug-related poisonings, approximately 98 people died from suspected opioid-related overdoses in 2020 alone, this number is likely an underrepresentation as it does not capture deaths from other substances. From 2019-2020 Waterloo Region had a 56% increase in opioid related deaths and a 158% increase from when opioid surveillance started. This number is astounding as they are all deaths that could have been prevented.

The solution to helping address problematic substance use in Cambridge will not be solved by a CTS site alone but I hope that it is the first step towards deeper community discussion around Nimbyism, collaboration, compassion, and understanding on substance use.

In closing, I cannot stress the urgency of this matter, literal lives depend on it.

Sincerely,

Joanna Han
Dear representatives of our city,

I am writing to express my disapproval and disappointment with the consideration of a CTS in Cambridge. I am not writing regarding the proposed locations as I believe no site is acceptable.

I have not heard or read any good results in other locations that have had CTS sites.

Please please go against what other cities have tried, and failed, and do something different and successful that addresses the mental health needs, homeless needs, safety concerns, drugs getting in to our city, etc that our city is dealing with. A CTS is a bandaid solution in my opinion.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email.

Joanne Kitzman
Hello

I am writing this regarding the two locations proposed for a SafeR injection Site. I refer to it as safer rather than safe because it never completely safe to inject drugs into one's system, moreso with street drugs cut with fentanyl, heroin and others.

In such a lengthy time I find it difficult to see that only two locations passed muster, yet both are reasonably close to Manchester School and Montessori.

Even with no schools nearby, they are residential areas. Having a CTS should not be seen as a win as others who live, shop or go to school may lose.

A year or so ago at least one councillor hoped it would be within an existing medical facility.

As for wraparound services onsite, what are they exactly? If mental health counselling, the general public should also be permitted to use such services as their cases continue to go unchecked. Trust me when I say teleconferencing or zoom is not the same as one to one interaction.

Even with a CTS in Kitchener numbers are still high. Even if a fatal overdose were to happen at a CTS they do not confirm the death so in a way zero deaths at CTS would be true if only on paper.

Addicts do not all operate on a timeline. They get high when and where they are.

If any proposed CTS were to be, I could only agree to one in an existing medical building or the hospital, not in a residential area.

Joe Lethbridge
Hello,

I am writing to voice my concerns about the proposed locations for the consumption and treatment services sites within Cambridge. Please include this letter in the agenda for the Cambridge council meeting scheduled for Tuesday March 30, 2021.

First, let me begin by stating that I understand and appreciate the need to support members of our community who are struggling with addiction and mental health concerns. They deserve care and support.

However, I am deeply concerned about the locations of the proposed CTS sites, particularly 8 Oxford Street.

The neighbourhood within which the 8 Oxford Street location is situated is residential. It is surrounded by single family homes, multi-unit homes, apartment buildings, places of worship, and several childcare facilities and schools. While it does border on the railyard and contains a handful of small businesses, there is no denying that the neighbourhood is just that—a neighbourhood where people are living.

Additionally, the close proximity of this proposed site to schools and childcare facilities is a grave issue. These extremely short distances (such as 750m to Manchester Public School, 650m to Galt Collegiate Institute, 350m to Pluto Daycare, and 290m to Montessori School of Cambridge) should be evidence enough that 8 Oxford Street is the wrong location for a CTS site.

Thank you for listening to the concerns of myself and my family. We hope that a more suitable CTS site can be found.
John Fink
Good morning,

I am writing in regards to a CTS site that will be coming to council once again in the coming weeks.

I ask that council remember that there was overwhelming opposition to a CTS site anywhere in Cambridge during the last round of consultations.

I as well as many others have done extensive research and connected with people across the country where similar issues exist and it is clearly evident that these harm reduction policies are failing, not only those struggling with addiction but also the surrounding communities as a whole.

At this time, the definition of “need” in our community supports rehab and preventative education. I urgently request that Council respect the community as a whole and to not have a CTS allowed anywhere in Cambridge, but instead advocate for a designated centre that supports on demand mental health treatment, rehabilitation and preventative education within our schools and community.

Kind regards,

Julie Currie
Say NO to CTS
All it is doing is keeping addicts addicted.
We need rehab, not places to use drugs. Give people a chance to get clean instead of making them wait and fend for themselves. There are many who want to get clean and get a job and get an apartment and take pride in themselves and in their community... this is not working!!!!!!
You think this is helping but it's not.
You are "helping a few" for the sake of the general public.. turning neighbourhoods into holes (literally).. vandalism, theft, drugs offered to children, violence... is this the city you want? Would you want a HARMFUL injection site next to your house? So the drug addicts can be around your children and grand children?? Give your heads a shake and SHUT THIS DOWN!!!!!!
This is ridiculous.
Open rehab centre's or life help centre's not drug centre's.

Julie MacLeod
I write this email concerning the issue of a Safe Injection Site in Cambridge. Thank you for the extensive study regarding the appropriate location of an SIS.

The gravity of the opiate crisis in our community has reached epidemic levels. In my work of 24 years at the Cambridge Self Help Food Bank I often met individuals that would benefit from such a site. I would encourage council to consider putting this site at 150 Main St. This has already proven to be most valuable in a location with other services used by this population. I believe to establish it outside of the core area of Galt would be a huge mistake.

I realize that there are some individuals in our community that do not agree with this suggestion. However, I believe the less vocal segment of our city would support this initiative proven to have worked for the benefit of those that need the service in a multitude of cities across Canada.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted.

June Anderson.
Mayor McGarry, Council, Clerks and to whom it may concern:

I am a concerned citizen of Cambridge and I have recently become aware of the possibility of a "Harm Reduction" site being considered here in Cambridge - again! In no way do I, and many of the constituents of Cambridge, agree on having a "harm reduction" site in Cambridge.

People promoting these "harm reduction" sites claim they save lives and yet a person using the site can leave while they are still high and OD just down the street. A pregnant woman can use the site with no questions asked. This is not safe at all.

People promoting these sites claim there are wrap-around services available knowing full well there are none available. These sites are not open 24/7. A person struggling with addiction isn't going to wait until business hours to use the site. A person struggling with addiction isn't even going to go out of their way to use the site. They will use when and where it is convenient for them. Continued drug use will eventually damage the brain and internal organs not to mention damaging the families involved.

Suggestion: The funding used to hand out free drug paraphernalia (that gets tossed all over the streets and parks) and the funding going towards "harm reduction" sites could be used towards funding something that will work - Treatment Centres.

When promoting saving lives - please consider Treatment over Enabling. Long term treatment with supports in place, once the person leaves the treatment centre, should be considered.

I truly believe a lot more lives will be saved with Treatment Centres not the "harm reduction" sites.

Karen Houston
Hello,

In light of an upcoming city council meeting that will be addressing a CTS in Cambridge, I wanted to share that I strongly support a CTS in Cambridge.

It’s time to recognize how much a CTS location is needed to target overdose deaths. Folks who are suffering from drug addictions need support and access to safe drugs — in order for them to stay alive to hopefully one day receive help they need to overcome their addictions.

There’s a loud voice from a small group of folks in Cambridge that are against CTS— please don’t let their loud voice convince you that the majority of the folks in Cambridge feel this way. I’d also encourage each city councillor to look at the research conducted around CTS’ and also to look to other city’s, who have already implemented this type of support. Please use this information make a decision on how we are going to help citizens of Cambridge who are suffering from addiction. Their lives are important and we have a responsibility to help.

Kind regards,

Karin Devries
Please reconsider. Please don't do this to our city. It is bad enough already. We do not need CTS's to bring more users. 
Please add my email to the agenda for your Mar 30th meeting.
Thank you.
Kate Fraser
From: Kathryn Rose Schuiling [mailto:kathrynschuiling@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 11:54 AM
To: E_mayor
Subject: [External] Potential CTS Sites Unacceptable

Good morning,

I am a resident of Cambridge and live on Oxford Street, the same street as one of the potential CTS sites. I am requesting that my email be added to the agenda for the meeting discussing these issues.

When I read the article in the Cambridge Times about these potential locations I was absolutely disgusted. Both potential locations are in close proximity to numerous schools and located in residential neighborhoods. The council has determined that those students at Galt Collegiate Institute, Manchester Public School, Montessori School of Cambridge, and the small children that attend Pluto Daycare's safety and peace of mind are unimportant. It is completely unacceptable that children would have to walk past a CTS site on their way to school. I do not understand why placing a CTS site in a residential neighborhood would be considered an acceptable choice?
The potential location 8 Oxford Street is a block away from Galt Collegiate Institute, down the street from Montessori School of Cambridge, and two blocks away from Pluto Daycare. I would like an explanation why these student's safety is not a concern and how the City Council will justify having drug addicts and drug use in a residential neighbourhood with families and small children.

I purpose the City Council members should recommend their own neighbourhoods or sites close to their children's schools instead since they see no problem with having a CTS next door to homes of families.

I sincerely hope the City Council members are prepared to explain to these schools and this neighborhood why they consider these families so unimportant, and insignificant.

These locations need to be rejected. And City Council should think about what kind of message they are sending to this neighbourhood.

It goes without saying how unbelievably saddened and disappointed I am that I have to write such a strongly worded email. My partner and I have had so much anxiety and stress since learning the City has picked these locations. We live 4 doors down from one of the potential locations. We had hoped to start a family and live in this neighbourhood for the foreseeable future. Now we must think about the safety and peace of mind of ourselves and our future family. If either of the potential locations is chosen, we will feel there is no other option but to move.

It is the responsibility of City Council members to reject these locations.

I hope your conscience will guide you to the only acceptable choice, rejecting these potential CTS sites.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Schuiling
Hello, I am writing to voice my concerns about the proposed locations for the consumption and treatment services sites within Cambridge. Please include this letter in the agenda for the Cambridge council meeting scheduled for Tuesday March 30, 2021.

First, let me begin by stating that I understand and appreciate the need to support members of our community who are struggling with addiction and mental health concerns. They deserve care and support.

However, I am deeply concerned about the locations of the proposed CTS sites, particularly 8 Oxford Street.

The neighbourhood within which the 8 Oxford Street location is situated is residential. It is surrounded by single family homes, multi-unit homes, apartment buildings, places of worship, and several childcare facilities and schools. While it does border on the railyard and contains a handful of small businesses, there is no denying that the neighbourhood is just that—a neighbourhood where people are living.

Additionally, the close proximity of this proposed site to schools and childcare facilities is a grave issue. These extremely short distances (such as 750m to Manchester Public School, 650m to Galt Collegiate Institute, 350m to Pluto Daycare, and 290m to Montessori School of Cambridge) should be evidence enough that 8 Oxford Street is the wrong location for a CTS site.

Thank you for listening to the concerns of myself and my family. We hope that a more suitable CTS site can be found.

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Kay Nadalin
This letter is to inform the Cambridge City Council that I am a citizen living on Easton St. the newly proposed CTS site. I am not in support of this decision. I do not want a site in Cambridge at all. I do not want this site on Easton St. for many reasons ..... 1st being children live directly located next to and 2 doors down from this building. 2nd a partially disabled single woman and an elderly lady who has care that comes into her home for her also live on this street. 3rd this neighborhood is vulnerable and does not need to have a council that doesn't even care about Cambridge's innocent tax payers.

I don't understand the wish to install a crime ridden, needle ridden CTS site. The city already neglects this area, they do not clean up the homeless sites at the end of this road... they allow the addicted and homeless to defecate, urinate and shoot needles into their arms on this street as it is. Giving them a safe place will only attract more undesirable behavior. If you can't clean it up now what makes you think you can clean up after the site goes in. These addicts will get high and wander out into the street....into the plaza, panhandling, stealing, approaching customers....they can be angry, and irate, they get naked in the parking lot across from my home and they are confrontational. .Never mind their drug dealers who wait and supply them with illegal drugs hanging around all the children and schools in the area. I continually watch cop cars sit in the parking lot not doing anything... they just sit there with total disregard for people's safety. I literally have seen cops drive by a drug addict defecating across the street directly in front of the window where 2 children under 5 yrs old live I Am so disappointed with my city.... grew up here, I used to be able to walk my dog downtown, I can no longer do that... last time I was attacked by a drunk homeless man.... I can no longer order my food from a restaurant downtown safely as i was accosted by a homeless drug addict last time I tried to pick up my red basil food. Oh by the way I didn't report these incidents because your police force does nothing to the aggressors, calling police has only ever wasted my time, they stand their looking into your eyes and say "what do you want us to do about it" my answer.... Your Job.

I am shocked that this CTS site was ever even thought over.... clean up the downtown core, clean up your city, move CTS sites, move the bridges, put them near the hospital, put them near a police station, put beside an industrial area........ say no to residential and school districts..... say no altogether. say no to CTS sites in Cambridge,........

I have lived in Galt for 43 years and had to move out of downtown to get away from the blatant disregard for our downtown core and for our innocent residents.. I could no longer live there and was forced out due to the concern for my safety. I moved up to the delta onto Easton St. And here comes the Cambridge council to force me out again... So what are you gonna due to protect me .... put in a CTS site that should do the trick....NOT! Why are these drug addicts safety more important than the safety of innocent tax paying citizens.

I would like this letter to be included in the meetings agenda for Tuesday March 30th. She should ask herself how it would feel if they put a CTS/SIS site beside her home....... but of course higher paying taxed area's with high income housing would never be considered ... just throw us expendables under the bus instead.

From Kaylea Findlay
resident from Easton St.
Good morning,

This email is in regards to proposed safe injection sites at 15 Easton Street and 8 Oxford Street in Cambridge. Please do not invite drug users into family friendly residential neighborhoods with several schools and daycare centers nearby. I should not need to tell you how irresponsible the selection of either of these locations would be. I do not feel there is really any good locations to create a safe haven for the use of narcotics, but you could at least keep it away from neighborhoods packed with children if you feel the need to enable such activity. I will be sure to keep your decision in mind the next time I have an opportunity to vote.

Thank you and be well.

A concerned lifelong resident of Cambridge,

Keenan Meyer
I do not support drug consumption site in Cambridge at 15 Easton street and 8 Oxford Street

Kenneth Lin
Honourable Council:

I am writing today to express my concern with Council Item 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification to be addressed Tuesday March 30th for consideration.

I cannot express not only how disappointed I am in the recommendation of the Community Wellbeing Committee recommendation of only 2 sites located at 8 Oxford St. and 11 Easton St. but also how obviously uninformed and irresponsible these recommendations are. It would certainly seem they were chosen out of desperation with little regard for the wellbeing of the community and a lack of other options. Perhaps the competence of the committee should be questioned or additional resources be made available to them.

Personally I will state I am not in favour of a Consumption and Treatment Services site however it has become quite obvious Council is bent on implementing such a site within The City of Cambridge. I cannot speak to 11 Easton St. but I do live directly in the neighbourhood of 8 Oxford St. and I can attest this is a family neighbourhood of single family or low density housing. It is a quiet neighbourhood where people live and play, you will see people walking the neighbourhood on a regular basis, elderly walking their dogs, children playing or riding their bikes and skateboards down the quiet streets. How you can even contemplate placing a building that will have a steady flow of people travelling through this family neighbourhood while under the influence of mind altering substances often leading to very unpredictable behaviour. I say once again this is beyond irresponsible.

If you must move forward with such a site then a residential neighbourhood is not an acceptable choice. If people are not in favor of such sites they should have the choice to avoid such areas but when you actually place it in the back yard of where they live that choice is removed. Regardless of your preference, can you honestly look in the mirror and say yes I would want this directly beside my residential home, beside the home of my elderly parents, beside the home of my son or daughter or their young children. I suspect if you are willing to be honest that answer would be no.

I strongly urge Council to reconsider location for such a site that once placed will be placed forever. These proposed locations are unacceptable and the Wellbeing Committee should be directed to find alternative sites that are not directly in the middle of a residential neighbourhood.

I am not even arguing if a site should be implemented but should Council move forward with a site, then move forward with a site that considers all the residents of Cambridge.

I implore Council to reject this recommendation from the Community Wellbeing Committee and direct them to re-evaluate options in search of a more suitable site. I can assure you, should you move forward these sites, they will be met with overwhelming public objection. As much as those suffering from addiction need support, a residential neighbourhood is not an appropriate place to supply such services.

I do hope you take the time to read this and your consideration is appreciated.

Regards
Kevin Nixon
Cambridge Council Members:

Please accept this email as my support for:
1. A CTS site in Cambridge
2. The two locations that have been recommended by City staff.

There has always been a need for a CTS site in our community and the pandemic has only shone a bigger spotlight on the problem of overdoses in Cambridge. Perhaps if we had established a CTS earlier, many more people would be alive to tell the story of how important it was in their lives. As a community we have a responsibility to provide services to ALL members of Cambridge. Research, and the experiences of centres in Guelph and Kitchener, highlight the positive impact that CTS sites have had in their communities. Don’t our community members deserve the same?

Sincerely,
Kim Decker

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Kim Decker
Ladies / Gentlemen,

I strongly object to the two proposed sites (see subject line).

Both sites are in/or very close to residential areas with many elderly people and young families with kids and schools and daycare places.

I also feel strongly that a site like this should not be in this town.
Sincerely,

Klaus Gute
Good Afternoon,
As a life-long resident of Cambridge I am saddened and angry at the way my city is deteriorating. Setting up these sites is not the solution to people's problems. Individual issues need to be addressed and supported, we need to provide mental health support, detox sites and other solutions for these people. There are many reasons why people use drugs and by giving them a constant supply, you are not addressing the issues.
I do not support the CTS sites in Cambridge, they do not work!
I am requesting that my letter be included in the agenda for the council meeting scheduled for Tuesday March 30th.

Regards,
Krys Woods
Dear clerks,

I own a rental property and am a resident in close proximity of both proposed sites of the CTS. I understand the city feels it needs to keep it close to where people can access it but the locations you have chosen will have a negative impact on the neighbours and businesses near them. As statistics have shown there is an increase in crime and disturbances near every CTS location that has been built so far. All you have to do is look at any site and speak to any of the neighbours near it. There are schools, daycares and residential houses near each of the proposed sites and you have not taken into account the impact on the people that are in the area. Where do you think the addicts that just received their drugs will go when they are high? Where do you think drug dealers will want to spend time to get clients? The locations are also near to Bridges which we know has already caused problems due to the behaviour and the loitering that is allowed in the area and now this site will be added which is in close proximity. Does it not make sense that a large percentage of the homeless and addicted will congregate in this area of the city? I have 4 children and my tenant has 4 children and I no longer allow my children to walk alone in the neighbourhood or ride their bikes around the street unsupervised due to the clientele at the Bridges and the fact they walk our street high and possibly violent. There has been an increase in breakins and theft and it will only get worse if a CTS is put in the neighbourhood. As soon as my tenant heard it would be located near us she notified me she would be leaving if it does happen. It will not be easy for me to find another tenant already with the issues we have been facing and with a CTS near I am sure it will be impossible. I will be forced to sell my home and my investment property and purchase something somewhere I and my tenants will feel safe living. The city does not have a plan to increase the budget or offer more spots in rehabilitation programs or shorter waiting lists to addicts yet it wants to provide addicts with a safe place to continue to be addicted while ignoring the needs and wants of the homeowners and business around it. There is already a lack of accountability for the actions of this population and the citizens in Cambridge are becoming increasingly frustrated with the actions of the council and the mayor. I have seen grassroots groups spend their own time cleaning up discaded tent cities due to a lack of response from the city as well as an increase in people considering vigilante actions due to a lack of action from the police to deal with the blatant crime that continues to occur unchecked in the city. The Bridges is no longer a safe place for the homeless which is what is meant to be and is over run with addicts and the area is no longer a safe place to be. By adding a CTS you are again adding another problem to the situation and not addressing the real needs and solving any issues. The continued response of the govt officials of the region is contributing to the citizens leaving in droves, businesses closing doors and the community becoming increasingly upset with the situation that is happening. You are not listening to what your voters are saying and I would hope that you would see that these locations will continue to alienate the very people that pay taxes and want to make this community a better place. There are many other ideas you could support and I am passionate about helping people in need and helping them heal but this is NOT the way to do it. It is enabling people, ruining the city and negativity affecting the people you have been elected to protect. Please consider not only choosing a different site but also changing your mind about putting a CTS in any location. I would ask that you look to alternative options that other cities are doing that actually work, think outside the box and provide support that actually would help addicts to stop doing drugs and become productive members of society and heal from their trauma. A CTS will never do that and it is naive of you to expect that this is helping anybody at all other than the people that will profit monetarily from this situation.

I would ask that you include me in any notifications regarding this site and I would like to attend all upcoming meetings in relation to the proposed sites.

Kyla Shaw
Dear Mayor & elected Councillors

It is my understanding that you have been asked to proceed with the process of securing a CTS site in Cambridge. The two options being proffered include Easton St and/or Oxford St.

Both these sites are residential areas with neighbours as close as a driveway away - poor choice.

Both these sites are very close to elementary schools and/or daycare centers.

Despite loud and prolonged objections from the citizens of Cambridge, why you have decided to pursue ANY location is extremely questionable and unnerving to me. The interim bylaw passed not once, but twice negating the downtown cores was but a slight indication that people were opposed.

The NUMEROUS reports from Seattle, WA., Vanvouver, BC among many others speak volumes as to the negativity of these sites. The so-called benefits have been repeatedly outnumbered by the cons. Why is this being ignored repeatedly???

If a single person TRULY wanted helpful solutions to this Opioid crises, you would blatently refuse any site, service, or dollar to be invested in a CTS and demand such monies be put into detox and rehab facilities.

Why and how could you support an addict in the throes of said addiction until such time as they eventually die from such a game of russian roulette? Why and how could you support enabling as opposed to stopping such action? Open the venues that will remove the addiction, not the places that enable it to continue.
To deny that's what a CTS, SIS, SCS, or any acronym of the day, does - is to deny your common sense.

Six months to a year to even begin the actual help process is not acceptable. Getting the necessary funds into treatment cannot happen as long as those valuable dollars are funneling into enabling establishments.

Please do the humane thing. Please do the right thing and keep those places out of Cambridge and stand firm & proud in pursuit of true assistance, not the farce these alternative money wasting sites have become.
Put Cambridge on the map for detox and rehab .... stop following the crowd into the depths of death.

Please.

L L Boldt
I request my letter be included in the agenda for the council meeting scheduled for Tuesday March 30th.

I am opposed to safe consumption sites in the city of Cambridge Ontario. I believe there is no such thing as safely using heroin, fentanyl and methamphetamine. I believe rehabilitation is the way to truly help and cure an addiction.

I also believe having a safe consumption site will attract addicts from other areas outside of Cambridge just as The Bridges did years ago, and continues to do almost on a daily basis. I used to volunteer at Out of the Cold. I thought The Bridges was a good idea, so the homeless could go to one localized place for meals and to sleep. I now see that The Bridges was a huge mistake and no longer feel safe in the city I have lived in for the last 40 years.

Thank you

Laura Down
To whom it may concern,
I can’t tell you how upset I am to hear that this address might be of consideration for a CTS site.
It is in the middle of a neighbourhood consisting of two day care schools, an elementary school and a high school not to mention the many families of elderly people.
This location once had a beer store in place. The traffic almost destroyed the neighbourhood. Fortunately it was removed from the area into a more suited address.
I hope the powers to be will do a better assessment of areas and realize that 8 Oxford St. would be a disaster.
Would you please send me notification of any meetings or information concerning this topic.
I thank you in advance,
Lee Taggart..(resident for 50 years)
Dear Mayor McGarry and City Councillors,

I am writing to you today to express my unwavering support for a CTS Site in the City of Cambridge. A professor of mine, Jessica Hutchison, informed us of the meeting on March 30, 2021. As someone who is pursuing a MA in Community psychology following my undergraduate degree, I felt a responsibility to send this message in the hopes that my voice is heard.

Although I was fortunate enough to be raised in an upper-class household, I am not ignorant of those who live on government assistance such as welfare, assisted housing, and charitable donations. As I continue my journey through post-secondary education, my ultimate goal is to use my knowledge to continue to help those in need. Having the opportunity to someday work in a field supporting those who have been deemed “addicts” or “criminals” would be one of the most rewarding pathways I can choose. Ultimately, no matter where life takes me, I will carry the structured values I uphold, which surround equitable resource allocation for all. I acknowledge that the fortune and privilege life has offered me can be used to make a positive contribution to society.

As a psychology major with a minor in criminology at Laurier, I understand the benefits of the Kitchener CTS site, which has proven to save lives. Within the first 6 months of the Kitchener site being open, 71 overdoses occurred, and not one was fatal. Had the CTS not been running, many, if not all of these people would have died. Similarly, at InSite in British Columbia, since its opening in 2003, there have been 2395 overdoses and not a single fatality.

These facilities save lives, and people who need this service are a part of our communities. They deserve access to a safe, supportive environment to use drugs. You may not understand why people use drugs, and you may judge them for doing so. I know that my perspectives on the population have changed as I chose to educate myself rather than resort to societal norms of bias. However, I hope you can understand that they deserve to live and that it has been shown that a CTS site will significantly increase these odds.

I urge you to open a CTS site in the City of Cambridge and do so with haste, as it is literally a matter of life and death.

Sincerely,

Liane McPhee
An open letter to mayor, council and staff, regarding site selection of Drug Consumption Sites in Cambridge.

Attention to Mayor, council and staff,

Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package I am going my strong concern in regards to site selection of a CTS within Cambridge. Ayr would be a perfect location!!!!

What can I possibly say, that hasn't already been said and ignored? I've been pondering over the years of emails, delegations, reports, statistics, public consultations, recommendations, petitions and community feedback.

I find it alarming that we are now at the point of proposed site locations, despite the overwhelming opposition to any such site by your elected constituents and consultation reports.

I do not doubt that there are some who support, mainly invested proponents of drug consumption sites from surrounding communities, but there continues to be a lack of consideration from the thousands of voices in opposition. May I remind council and staff of the report in which it addressed and affirmed, that council was not listening.

I will simply write this; I do not support a drug consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. I do not support the continuing path of site selection.

I am part of the Cambridge community and we need to voice our concerns. You as our mayor and councillors need to listen. I will not let our voices be cast aside.

Regards,
Linda Albright-Thiel
Hello Everyone.

**I am expressing my opposition of the proposed CTS site for Cambridge, Ontario.** I feel that money would be better spent on treatment and rehabilitation site instead.

**I am making a formal request that my email be added as a letter to be included in the agenda for the council meeting scheduled for Tues., March 30, 2021. Re: Item #21-121(CRS)!**

I'm thinking that the city is using this problem as a money grab for provincial/federal monies to add to the coffers to host such a site in our city. It is bad enough that users are being bussed to The Bridges from other cities because they will not, cannot, won't deal with the problem that is in THEIR own city. Shame on our Mayor and Councillors!!

These sites also attract those who deal in these drugs to accost the attendees of said "safe injection" sites to use what they have instead. "Get a better high" from our stuff. From what I've seen in the news and read in the papers, Vancouver's drug problem has only gotten worse with such sites in their once fair city.

My father and first husband were both substance abusers - their substance of choice was alcohol. Through all of the years, I have found that giving them more alcohol was **NOT** the way to get them to stop drinking. Once an alcoholic, they cannot have even one drink of alcohol without the very real threat of relapsing back into the abusive, anxious, person with many interpersonal problems.

- My dad went to the Chedoke treatment centre in Hamilton - court ordered because he had been stopped for drinking and driving. He wasn't sent to a "safe alcohol consumption" site. He was sent where he went through a program designed to help him understand that he did not have the ability to function as a contributing member of society while he was abusing alcohol.
- My first husband went to the St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospital - court ordered because he had tried to kill himself jumping off a bridge because he was fully intoxicated and did not have the ability to function as a contributing member of society.

The same affects are seen in drug-substance abusers. A so-called "safe" injection site has not proven successful in various cities (i.e., Vancouver is a prime example), nor in the studies that have looked at the benefits to the abusers of such a program.

An addict does not care where he/she gets their state of euphoria. Think about it..... why would he/she walk, take a bus, ride a bike to an injection site when he/she can sit on the sidewalk or wherever is the MOST convenient to do the same thing only MUCH quicker??!! Videos and pictures have been posted on Facebook of addicts literally shooting up in downtown Galt in the alleyway that leads to various businesses (who are also taxpayers).
Some abusers are doing so on the grounds of the local public schools!! How nice for the children of Cambridge to see, touch, and potentially get stabbed by one of these needles. Why go to a safe injection site when the "Tent City" will provide them a place to go and abuse themselves on government property?

Crime is up significantly because these addicts need fast money to get their next fix of euphoria. And.... while in the state of euphoria, they do not know what they are doing and/or they do not care because they are not in their sane state of mind. They are not mindful of their surroundings or of their actions while the drugs take all coherency from them.

**Instead of enabling these addicts to further destroy their dignity and health, send these people to an institution that has programs designed for them to become lose their dependency on any type of substance (alcohol/drugs). Help them learn to become good members of society where their function is to stay sober/healthy and contribute to the good of the community as a whole.**

Perhaps they could/should learn a trade or a hobby that uses their too abundant free time to think about something other than their next fix ... **that should NOT be handed to them at a CTS.**

Thank you.

Kind regards,
Linda Fletcher
Ward 6 Resident

Lessons Learned from Vancouver SIS:

“*I feel like we’re telling people to just stay on drugs, keep ruining your life!*” said Joelle Anderson, who is in recovery.

...  

“It’s funny, the poorest postal code in Canada — the moniker the Downtown Eastside often takes — literally overlaps the most expensive neighborhood in Vancouver,” said Travis Lupick, a local journalist who wrote a book about the history of supervised injection in Vancouver. “This neighborhood, it’s being crunched into a tighter and tighter space.”

The neighborhood’s main businesses shuttered decades ago, making way for poverty and pain of all kinds.
Attention to Mayor, council and staff,

* Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

This email is in regards to site selection of a CTS within Cambridge and outlines my position.

I find it alarming that we are now at the point of proposed site locations, despite the overwhelming majority opposition to any such site by your elected constituents and consultation reports.

I do not doubt that there are some who support, mainly invested proponents of drug consumption sites from surrounding communities, but there continues to be a lack of consideration from the thousands of voices in opposition. May I remind council and staff of the report in which it addressed and affirmed, that council was not listening.

My entire family (including extended), do not support a drug consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. I do not support the continuing path of site selection. I live in Galt near the methadone clinic and the crime is absolutely exploded exponentially since it’s inception. Adding a consumption site is going to have an even bigger effect on surrounding neighborhoods. When people get high they leave the front door and when they’re high kicks in they commit crime, are out of their minds and no longer have any form of self control. These sites will be an invitation to all of the addicts from the surrounding towns to come here as well. This is simply not acceptable.

These people need treatment and rehab’s but the majority are not willing to go and it is unacceptable to pander to their addictions when they may never be ready to go into recovery. I will never support my tax dollars to support people who use illegal drugs and then force the community to accept their criminal behaviour. These sites - AND the BRIDGES need to be put nowhere near the rest of our vulnerable society that’s been continuously attacked by the criminal behaviour that these addicts force upon it.

Regards,

Lori Obrien
City of Cambridge
Re: Consumption and Treatment Site Proposal

Mayor McGarry and Council,
I am opposed to safe consumption sites in the city of Cambridge, Ontario. I truly believe there is no such thing as safely using heroin, fentanyl, methamphetamine, and the like.
I believe the only viable and compassionate solution to help and cure addiction is through rehabilitation.
I ask that my email be included in the agenda and be notified of all upcoming meetings regarding this topic.

Truly,
Lori Roy
Please include in the agenda for the council meeting schedule to Tuesday March 30th, 2021

Honourable Council:

I am writing today to express my concern with Council Item 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification to be addressed Tuesday March 30th for consideration.

I cannot express not only how disappointed I am in the recommendation of the 2 sites located at 8 Oxford St. and 11 Easton St. but also how obviously uninformed and irresponsible these recommendations are.

Personally I will state I am NOT in favour of a Consumption and Treatment Services site.

I live directly in the neighbourhood of 8 Oxford St. This is a family neighbourhood of single family homes. It is a quiet neighbourhood where people live and play, you will see people walking the neighbourhood on a regular basis, elderly walking their dogs, children playing or riding their bikes and skateboards down the quiet streets.

I am a woman approaching 50 and I take pride in my home with fruit trees and landscaping. We have invested money, and a lot of effort to make our home beautiful. It is our retirement income. We have already installed lighting and security cameras to mitigate the thieving that has progressed substantially in our area over the last 5 years. Who will pay for the additional measures that we will have to take should a consumption site be placed in our near vicinity? Who is going to compensate for the loss in equity of our home. I do not want to live in fear of being pricked by a needle while doing my gardening. I don’t want to live in fear going for a walk around my block or even getting out of my car to enter my home after dark. I DO NOT WANT TO LIVE IN FEAR!

I understand that something must be done but how you can even contemplate placing a building that will have a steady flow of people travelling through this family neighbourhood while under the influence of mind altering substances often leading to very unpredictable behaviour. I say once again this is beyond irresponsible. Who will claim responsibility for me, or the 85 year old woman down the street walking her dog, or the 7 year old little girl that was riding her bike this morning when something happens because of your recommendation? We matter too.

If you must move forward with such a site then a residential neighbourhood is not an acceptable choice. If people are not in favor of such sites they should have the choice to avoid such areas but when you actually place it in the back yard of where they live that choice is removed.

I strongly urge Council to reconsider location for such a site.

I am not even arguing if a site should be implemented but should Council move forward with a site, then move forward with a site that considers all the residents of Cambridge.

I implore Council to reject this recommendation and to re-evaluate options in search of a more suitable site.
I can assure you, should you move forward with these sites, they will be met with overwhelming public objection. I have spoken with many residents in my area who feel that their voices are not being heard. As much as those suffering from addiction need support, a residential neighbourhood is not an appropriate place to supply such services.

I do hope you take the time to read this and your consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lynette Amalfi
Please councillors consider what a big waste of money these CTS sites are. They do NOT help as they only continue to have the drug user continue their cycle of drug use damaging their bodies further. Mayor McGarry having a background in healthcare, I would hope you would use that medical knowledge to know CTS is not the solution the drug users or the taxpayers need. Please advocate to help get users off drugs using rehab and counselling. We sorely lack funding for this and mental health. Don't waste it on CTS please! They don't work and the only ones trying to convince you they do are companies like Sanguen that are getting rich off of these poor users keeping them perpetually addicted.

Feel free to read this email at any upcoming council meetings.

Thank you,

Lynn
Dear Mayor

The thought of drug addicts, which would be drawn in concentrated numbers, as well as the gathering of drug dealers, so close to where I live, and a grocery store which I frequent disturbs me tremendously. I feel the city needs to pursue viable options to help addicts recover physically, mentally and emotionally. If instead the city goes ahead with safe injection sites then they need to be away from controversial areas. I fear the cost of the fall out of having these injection sites in the proposed areas will be greater than anyone anticipates. I strongly implore the city to not put any safe injection sites in Cambridge.
Thank you
Margie Lake
To whom it concerns

I feel it is necessary for a CTS site in Cambridge, preferably with counseling available. However the site must be located in an area that is safe and compatible with the neighbourhood. Eight Oxford Street is not such a site.

Please consider the upset and worry to the residents and schools nearby. Using 150 Main Street as a site seems to be a much more logical choice for a site.

Margret Thiesburger, Bond Street
Mayor,

This report outlines two potential sites for the CTS facility only. Where is the transparency in the process, what happened to the other 25 candidate sites? Where was the community participation in that part of the process? This lack of transparency must stop.

Please include this response in the Agenda for Tuesday Council meeting.

Maria Smith
Mayor & City Councillors,

I have come across the disappointing news that a CTS site is being proposed at 8 Oxford St. Conveniently located one block over from the Bridges and thereby centrally locating the CTS facility within the neighbourhood that has brunt the majority of the negative impacts associated with a drug culture originating at that Bridges location. And the blame for this I place on the shoulders of City Council.

With the introduction of the Bridges my neighbourhood has changed completely and further impacted how I interact with my surroundings. I no longer take walks beyond Roseview Ave and Bond St out of fear. Experiences such as:

1. Driving down Cambridge Street towards City Hall and having a young lady jump in front of the car and refuse to leave the roadway, bringing potential harm to herself and myself.
2. Attempted break-in at our garage from inside our backyard.
3. Harassment while gardening in the front yard.
4. Finding a discarded bag of drug paraphernalia on the boulevard in front of our home with 16 needles.
5. Discarded personal items strewn on the front lawn, abandoned after an evening of drug induced revelry.
6. Decorative items placed at the front of the house stolen and damaged.
7. Drug trafficking in the lane way behind our home.
8. Witnessed two individuals casing a neighbours home (....the neighbour already having had the misfortune of a break-in and subsequent theft.).
9. Being verbally assaulted and having a broom handle thrown at myself while walking my dog in the neighbourhood.
10. Finding a young lady passed out on the street and having to call the authorities.
11. A walk down town to the river’s edge now means having to be aware of discarded needles. (This is no longer an option).
12. Taking a walk through Soper Park now means being extra vigilant as you do not know what you will encounter. (This is no longer an option).
13. Having the Police come knocking at my door to encourage reporting of suspicious activities. Is this suppose to make us feel safe? Not in the least.

And the experiences of neighbours:
1. Being broken into and having personal items stolen.
2. Squatters on their property and being told by the authorities that they cannot be told to leave.
3. Have uninvited guests enter their home while they are present.
4. Neighbours being physically assaulted.
5. Neighbours having to stay up into all hours of the night to protect their loved ones and property from intruders.
6. Good neighbours selling their homes because of fear.

No citizen should have to live under these circumstances. No citizen should have to fear the surroundings that they call home.

The Bridges originally, as sold to the neighbourhood, was to provide transitional housing for families in need. How it went from this to a haven for drug addicts is unclear to me. When was this change of use communicated to the public? What approvals process did this change of use go through? This has placed
both the clientele of the Bridges and the surrounding residents in harms way. This is unacceptable and unconscionable. City Council by turning a blind eye has created this situation.

And now to add insult to injury a CTS facility is being proposed to be located within the heart of this community. A community that has more than shared the brunt of the harmful impacts of locating a care facility in a site that is not compatible with the programmed use and where there is inadequate infrastructure for the specific program. The current “Bridges” is not compatible with its location and needs to be relocated in its entirety. The Mayor and Council need to address this situation fully and not continue to proceed with half measures.

The “check marks” on the list that supposedly make 8 Oxford a viable site for the CTS facility are disingenuous. To indicate that the proposed site is located 200 m away from schools, day care facilities and parks is not true. Oh yes, these may be located just outside the 200 m boundary, but does Council really believe that the clientele will not walk walk or locate themselves within the exclusion zone surrounding the Montessori school or the Pluto Day care? Where are the clientele going to go AFTER they have injected their drugs? Does Council really believe that the clientele will not walk to Soper Park as they do now from the Bridges? (Note that needle collection still takes place in the park as I witnessed last Monday.) And does Council really believe that locating the CTS facility one block over from the Bridges lessens the impact on the student population of GCI? Do we really want our impressionable youth exposed to this type of culture?

My street, Roseview Ave, exists in a residential neighbourhood. A street that has toddlers from the Day Care facilities walked by every morning. Their path takes in the laneways and streets of the surrounding neighbourhood, including Oxford Street. Students from GCI come and go at various times of the day. Throughout the day there is a flurry of dog walking, trips from doing groceries on foot, mothers taking their children for a stroll, neighbours visiting out on the street etc. This is a neighbourhood that is very much alive with activity. When will City Council acknowledge this and start making decisions that support the positive development of this side of Galt? From City Council we continue to experience and receive decisions that thwart the progress and development of this area - zoning modifications that are non-compliant but City Council turns a blind eye to that fact (44 Roseview Ave), alterations to the fabric of the neighbourhood altering its character permanently (the development of the School of Architecture student housing, an eye sore and not in keeping with the contextual language of the neighbourhood, eliminating a public transition path that allowed for cohesiveness between the upper residential zone and the lower core zone.) In addition, by not including the neighbourhood in the Heritage designation proposed for the core area, but conveniently setting the boundary at Park Hill, Council has revealed their true agenda and the entire process is rather calculated. This neighbourhood has an impressive collection of period architecture, a history that is rooted in the fabric of the Town and already designated Heritage buildings.

The so-called “hot spot” in the study is a creation of Council’s own doing. And as such, Council needs to correct the situation and not further impact the citizens of this neighbourhood and the rest of the city.

Please include the reading of this letter as part of the official agenda for Tuesday’s meeting.

Regards,

Maria Smith
Mayor McGarry, Councillor Liggett, and members of Cambridge City Council:

I believe that the services provided by The Bridges and other outreach agencies are critical for the well-being of all, especially the most vulnerable members of our community. I also believe that research supports CTS sites save lives.

With that said, I do not believe the proposed location of 15 Easton St. or especially 8 Oxford St. are appropriate locations for a CTS.

Both the ROW Literature review and Cambridge Supervised Consumption Site studies provided examples of CTS sites across Canada. The vast majority of these sites are in urban core areas, and many are in very close proximity or adjacent to other health facilities/agencies. They are not located in residential neighbourhoods.

On page 53 and 54 of the Cambridge Supervised Consumption Services Planning Study: “In addition to the above, the OP could also be amended to identify other land use considerations as they relate to avoiding land use conflicts, such as whether the proposed CTS site was separated an appropriate distance from:

• Busy commercial areas or active public spaces that could generate conflicts between the general public and those leaving supervised consumption facilities after consuming;
• Parks;
• Childcare centres;
• Key pedestrian corridors;
• Elementary or secondary school properties;
• Municipal pools, arenas and community centres; and,
• Residential neighbourhoods.”

There are licensed home childcare providers and several public childcare providers and schools (including Montessori School of Cambridge, Pluto Daycare, Ontario Muslim Academy), and these programs regularly take their children for walks around the neighbourhood.

In addition, children who attend Manchester Public School (750m from the proposed site) come from all across the neighbourhood and funnel through the intersection at Oxford and Bond Streets (less than 50m from the proposed site) to cross the tracks to get to school. This "key pedestrian corridor" is filled with children and families multiple times a day. This is not an appropriate distance. These children already have to cross busy railroad tracks and a secondary highway (Hwy 8/Dundas St.) to get to school, many without adults.

Adding a CTS in any residential neighborhood is not appropriate. If we want to follow the lead of other cities, we need to find a space right downtown with other supports nearby to help our most vulnerable community members.

Sincerely,
Marlee Waldron
As a resident of Cambridge the safe injection site issue was brought up in the past. The residents of Cambridge made it quite clear that they are not in favor of an injection site in our city. If you feel you cannot represent the people who elected you maybe you should step down a resident of Cambridge

Martin Sinclair
In consideration of a proposed CTS site location in Cambridge ON,

I find it beyond comprehension that you collectively, the Cambridge City Council directed by the Region of Waterloo, are now at the point of proposing site locations for a CTS site, despite the overwhelming opposition to any such site by an ever growing number of your elected constituents, consultants, by hoards of emails, delegations, reports, statistics, public consultations, recommendations, petitions and community feedback not only here, but across Canada.

Obviously there is a sector who will support this effort, proponents of the idealism of harm reduction, fanfair from neighbouring communities in Ontario, those that expect financial gain from such endeavours, but there continues to be a lack of consideration from the thousands of voices in opposition in the city of Cambridge and Waterloo Region in this direction.

I wish my voice to be heard. **I DO NOT SUPPORT A DRUG CONSUMPTION SITE ANYWHERE IN CAMBRIDGE, ON.** I do not support the continued path of this site selection.

Thank you, Maryann Hendriks

Maryann Hendriks
I live at 60 Roseview Ave and am very concerned with the proposal for the injection site to be situated on Oxford St. I, like most of my neighbours, do not want this situated in a very dense residential area. There are many home owners and rentals in this area including apartment buildings. Many children live here and would be exposed to potentially very volatile situations that they will not be able handle. Within a kilometre of this area is Galt Collegiate Secondary School, Manchester Elementary School, Montessori School of Cambridge and Pluto Daycare.

There are several commercial businesses and home businesses in this area that will undoubtedly experience a negative impact by this site location.

There are also many elderly who live in this area and may have a difficult time if any possible altercations arise.

My neighbourhood has issues with crime. I have experienced my car being rummaged through on several occasions, my garage was broken into and 4 bikes stolen. My property is often used as a cut through to the bridges. In the past the wooded area behind my property has been used as a camping location. I feel by putting this site in this neighbourhood you will be putting the residents, especially children and the elderly, at a greater risk and create an exponential increase existing issues with theft and property damage. This will have an absolute negative impact on an area in the midst of revitalization.

I do not want this here, my neighbours do not want this here and the community at large DOES NOT WANT THIS INJECTION SITE.

Sincerely
Matthew Hayes
Hi,

My wife and I live at 60 Roseview ave, our back yard backs on to The Bridges shelter and my front lawn intersects with Oxford. When we moved into this area a few years ago we knew there would be some extra issues with being in such close proximity to the shelter. We have had our garage broken into as well as our car more then several times. Our backyard is frequently used as a short cut to the shelter. The wooded area that surrounds the lot has often been used for tents and it’s not an uncommon sight for drug users to be both on the street in the surrounding blocks as well in the wooded area. We have taken this all in stride and have been understanding with the homeless issue that our community is facing.

The proposal to put a safe injection site on Oxford street will only take an existing problem and increase it exponentially. This neighbourhood already has many issues with crime and to add another driving factor seems as the region is intentionally causing more issues for the residents in this area. There is a preschool and Montessori with in a block of this location and a school with in two. How is the location in the middle of such a dense residential area being considered? Would not a better location be the hospital? I believe they had been receptive to the idea but were not able to accommodate it while under construction.

I implore you and the other councillors to reconsider this as a potential site.

All the best,
Matthew Hayes
I would like this letter to be entered into the meeting on Tuesday April 30th regarding the CTS Site Location.

Typically a drop in numbers indicates something is working when it comes to disease. CTS sites for some reason work the other way. Any time a CTS site opens the numbers increase – more deaths and more addiction. Yet people applaud this as if something positive is happening. There is a spin put on this that reverses all logic. In fact they tell us that because of these increases, and the fact it is working so well, that we need another one.

Stop and think about that. Really think about that. Does it make any sense at all?

CTS sites do postpone death, but not even for THAT DAY, only for the period the person is in the site.

If we all get vaccinated, everyone, and the number of illnesses and deaths from Covid increases – do we keep using the same vaccines? Do we allow the government to tell us ‘it is all we have available’? Especially if we know we have options, options that actually work. Would we honestly allow them to tell us to just keep taking it, because they believe (even without changing it in any way) that miraculously one day it might work? Would we be okay with that? No. So why have we accepted this argument for 20 years when it comes to CTS? It doesn’t work and we should be ashamed of ourselves that we have watched this for almost 20 years and did nothing but keep repeating the same thing.

Really help our addicted, really do something to get people real help. Put accessible detox and rehab anywhere you want. But please be the leader and not the follower. Please say no to CTS sites in our City. Please give real hope to the addicted and to their families and not another 20 years of ‘but it’s all we have’. CTS operators have a loud voice, they use the Media and Social Networks, they are highly organized and manage to run campaigns for years to open one single site (Cambridge is a perfect example of that) they are determined and will not quit. Yet they are totally silent on getting readily accessible to rehab, detox or mental health. For 20 years their mantra has been ‘another CTS’ and nothing but ‘another CTS’. Time for a change don’t you think?

I beg of you – do not open this in our City. Lead the way to really helping the addicted.

Maureen Boyce
Hello,

I am writing to plead the city that they don’t put an CTS site in either of these locations. We have many families with small children on this street and the street behind that will be put at risk. There are daycares and schools very close to both locations. This is a very public spot and doesn’t serve anyone in the community.

There is already too much drug abuse happening in our area as we find needles everywhere. I now have a newborn at home and we don't feel comfortable having addicts around our home. We are already scared to walk alone in the day and never in the evening. This CTS site is a band aid solution to a problem that isn't being solved. Our taxpayer dollars should not be going into this solution but rather it be contributed to mental health funding and rehab centers and halfway home solutions between rehab so people struggling with homelessness and addiction are not found back in the same position after coming out of rehab.

We are angry that we were not notified of this. We are very concerned for the safety and well-being of the children and families of this community.

Please have this letter included in the agenda for the meeting.

Thank you,

McKenzie Burrill
I am voicing my objection to the implementation of a safe consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. My reasoning behind my objection is not relevant suffice to say it is not wanted.

Please include this letter in the agenda for the council meeting on Tuesday March 30th.

Melanie House
Dear Mayor McGarry, Council and City Staff

RE: Report 21-121(CRS) Cambridge Consumption and Treatment Services Community Consultation and Site Identification.

I request that this email be included in the agenda and that I receive notification of any and all upcoming meetings concerning this topic

I am opposed to a CTS facility in Cambridge. I support rehabilitation facilities that focus on well-being and improving quality of life for all community members. We have an opportunity to be a world class leader in coming up with a made in Cambridge solution to the overdose situation.

I fully support the well-being of all community members and ask that Council and City Staff look carefully when deciding on locations of any CTS

Neighbourhoods, where community is growing and where children ride their bikes and play together are not ideal for CTS locations and the crime, tenting and drug use that comes with CTS locations. The proposed sites of the CTS facilities do not consider the existing community around the location, the families, children, elderly that live and play throughout the neighbourhood.

It is estimated (stats from realtor.ca) that the neighbourhood where 8 Oxford St is located, has 64% of homes with children. Of those homes, 46% have children under 14 years of age. Again, over half of the residences have young people living there. It is a disservice to those young people in our community to be forced to live with hard drug use being the norm in their streets. The community around Oxford Street location has been held hostage due to the increase in crime, trespassing, yelling, screaming and overall discomfort for over 5 years now, we do not need more added to the ongoing situation.

8 Oxford St. is a 4 minute walk to Pluto Day Care, a 4 minute walk to Montessori school, a 6 minute walk to a Muslin School and there is a resident daycare 290 meters from the locations of Oxford St.

If you are not familiar with this neighbourhood, you may not realize that there are laneways behind the homes, laneways that provide easy targets of homes for thieves, an easy place to hide for illegal activities like drug dealing or using substances, all right where families walk and children play.

It is known there is a “safe zone” around CTS or similar locations and we do not want our homes to be in that safe zone as we need continued Police presence due to the already uncomfortable occurrences we are experiencing.
I ask each of you when voting on this agenda item, please remember you are voting to allow City Staff to explore these locations which gives a green light to the site selection. These locations are less than ideal and I strongly urge that Council direct City Staff to come up with a better solution and better location. Each of you know where we stand and what we expect to see for all community members, we contribute to this City on many levels and are disappointed to see these two locations as the best options.

Thank you

Meredith and Clifford Vanclief
I DO NOT support any drug consumption sites (CTS) in the city of Cambridge. I DO NOT support the continuing path of site selection in the city of Cambridge!!

Michael Fister
Council of Cambridge,

My family and I OPPOSE to the CST in Cambridge.

Firstly there is nothing positive about (if you ever went to Kitchener downtown when it is dark you would understand how bad it is) and I am stunned by the patronizing paragraph “Unfortunately, Councillors are still hearing loud messages from a small group of Cambridge citizens who continue to argue that a CTS will increase drug use and cause harm to local residents and business owners alike. They want CTS banned from ever coming to our community. We have carefully observed the implementation of a Guelph CTS and a Kitchener CTS. Both have produced very positive results that refute negative arguments.” Absolutely NO ONE is in favor of it, at least no one I know who lives in the entire Cambridge / Waterloo / Kitchener is ok with it.

Secondly we came from Vancouver, a city completely changed to worse due to those “progressive” policies that filled many great spots of the city with drug dealers and its “customers” (victims). We left Vancouver for Ontario due to that as well. We can’t raise kids in a place like that and we won’t think twice about moving away from here if we ever see any of this in our city. Consequently taking our Tax Payment away from this Community.

Thirdly you should be focusing on eliminating the drug dealing in our city, not validating / normalizing its consumption. REFUND OUR POLICE AND ALLOW THEM TO WORK! Only then treat the population / victims from this hideous crime, by providing them the detox needed for them to think clearly. They cannot think straight under effect and reviving them from OD is not the way.

Lastly although Canadian Citizens my family and I came from Latin America, from a place that still suffers from Drug Cartels and the “collateral” violence. ALL of this is a consequence of several things allowed by the Government. It is all good until authorities lose control and the cartels take charge. We saw that once and it hurts us a lot to see that Canada might be going in the same path.

Sincerely,

Michel L. Chagas
Monday March 29, 2021

Your Worship Mayor McGarry, city councilors, city clerk and all present at this City Council Meeting for Tuesday March 30, 2021,

I am writing this letter because I recently received two hand-delivered letters from concerned citizens in my Ward 4 neighbourhood concerning City Council’s selection of 8 Oxford Street and 15 Easton Street in Cambridge for drug consumption sites to be operated in the Region of Waterloo. I was both shocked and appalled at this selection, for many reasons, first of all that it would be right in the middle of a residential area. I have lived in the Region of Waterloo for 26 plus years, the past almost six years on Bond Street. I chose to live here because it is an excellent neighbourhood where people actually talk to and help one another.

I see the daily parade of young mothers walking their school aged children along Bond Street to Manchester Public School. I also see, in warmer weather, the Montessori School teachers from the Montessori School on Roseview Avenue walking their young charges along the street. Walking through the neighbourhood several times a day, I see the preschoolers outside the Brook Street location of Pluto Day Care. Your selection of 8 Oxford is within 290 to 350 metres of the preschool and daycare. It is also within 750 metres of Manchester PS. It is also very close to Galt Collegiate Institute, whose students also pass by my home.

This neighbourhood has already come to terms with and supported The Bridges shelter. This did not come without loss of property, damages and disruptions. We are however a community and wish to work together to help our fellow citizens. This selection of CTS sites is telling your citizens that you wish to totally disregard the safety and well-being of the many young children who reside in this area. Further, there are many young mothers who have recently moved to these neighbourhoods, and had no idea that this was a possibility, let alone pending.

The opioid crisis is not going away any time soon. However, this was started by legitimate drug companies who sold opiates knowing that they were addictive. Millions of dollars of lawsuits have been paid out to verify this result. Now, across Canada and in the U.S. opioid addiction is killing people and leaving families decimated. CTS Sites need to be connected to Region of Waterloo sites and or medical facilities like our hospitals. They do not belong in any residential area. I do not support a CTS site at 8 Oxford Street or 15 Easton Street.

Respectively,

Michele Dunsford
Dear Mayor, Councillors and Staff of the City of Cambridge

As a resident, business owner and tax payer of the City of Cambridge, I ask that you vote against any motion which includes placing, allowing, or asking for a drug consumption site (also known as a SCS, CTS, SIS or OPS) in the City of Cambridge.

Instead, I ask that you advocate for treatment for those suffering with addictions, by focusing on detox, rehabilitation and mental health supports.

I ask that you please listen to those you were elected to represent and work with the province and the Region to find a solution that does not include the continued consumption of illegal substances.

Sincerely,

Michele Holmes
Dear Council,

I wanted to pass in my thoughts regarding a CTS here in our city.

As an 18 year resident of this city I am more worried about our fellow citizens than ever before. The opioid crisis has taken a bad problem and made it catastrophic. We are losing people day in and day out. A safe place to be able to deal with their daily troubles and better connection to the services available is essential. To just simply leave people to live and use on the streets is giving up our humanity.

Please move forward with the next steps in bringing a CTS to Cambridge. Let's not give up and allow our humanity to erode further.

Mike Shanks
I wish to inform Councillors that I STRONGLY OBJECT to the proposed CTS site on Oxford Street, I am sure you all realize that the location is surrounded by residential, primary school, and a daycares. If you have not surveyed the area, please do so, to see how children will see what is happening on a daily basis. Also we have so many brake-ins in this neighborhood, as we are so close to the Homeless shelter.

Please re-think the decision you are making, as this is a residential neighborhood and surrounded by secondary, primary and daycares. I STRONGLY OBJECT TO THE 8 OXFORD STREET, LOCATION FOR THE CTS SITE.

Nelson & Lumina Rodrigues
Attention: Mayor, council and staff

Re: Item # 21-121(CRS)

Please include this letter in the agenda.

I have lived in Cambridge all my life. I am very concerned by the thought of a consumption site being in my city. I and my family DO NOT condone this anywhere in Cambridge.

Our mom lives near the area you are proposing to put this site in. She is 88 years old, lives alone, and pays municipal taxes. She is already afraid to go for a walk, even though she is totally self-sufficient and of sound mind. Because we already have an issue in Cambridge of increased crime and theft, caused predominantly by drug use, she is afraid to go for a walk with her dog by herself. There are many seniors that live on this same street, one woman who is 101 years old! The site being recommended by council is in the neighbourhood of family! An injection site has no right to be near schools, seniors, or children!!!!

It has been proven statistically that these injection sites are not helpful to any community. There are more overdoses, more criminal activity so addicts can get their “fix”. I do not want that “risk” near my mother!

There is a daycare across the street from her, with children from 1 – 3 years old. Kids don’t need to see that. People with drugs go to the “site” and “safely” inject. What about those people who need their fix and don’t have the money? You don’t think they won’t be hanging around looking for their fix?

Cambridge’s biggest focus should be on treatment facilities. I have a child who is suffering from addiction, and unless I have millions of dollars, there is no help for him!!!! And I know I am not alone. Almost everyone I speak to has someone or knows someone who has this problem. A CTS site doesn’t solve the problem. Drug addicts use wherever and whenever they can. Focus should be on treatment, mandatory if it has to be.

I know of so many people that are leaving Cambridge because of the drug problems and crime that exists here now. Most of my friends have left, or are leaving because they just can’t take the B.S. anymore. I refuse to leave at this point because I have decided that until this is made right again, and we can walk our streets safely I have to have a voice!!

Nicole Blair
Dear elected representatives of Cambridge,

How many petitions? How many votes of NO do we need to emphasize that the citizens of Cambridge do not want a safe injection site in the struggling downtown core? Is the strategy to wear down the electorate? To keep trying until no one is looking?

Please find another solution. Perhaps fund the regional hospitals to provide these additional services in outpatient type environments. Perhaps look at alternatives such as rehabilitation and addiction counselling services.

I’ve lived in Vancouver’s downtown east side. I’ve walked through neighbourhoods in Hamilton and Kitchener with these CTS facilities. It’s not pleasant and hurts the potential for commercial development in these areas. Our downtown core is struggling with business closing faster than they’re opening. Do we want a downtown with nothing more than shuttered businesses and a CTS site? Right beside a new LRT station?

There are other options to help those with addiction issues. Safe injection sites are not the only answer. Let’s do what fits our city best and helps our downtown core get back on its feet and drive commercial and local development and growth.

Please vote NO on yet another proposal to open a CTS site in downtown Cambridge.

Nuno
Please include this email in the minutes and meeting Tuesday March 30th 2021.

Like an overwhelming number of Cambridge residents have said in the past and continue to say, my husband and I say NO to a CTS site ANYWHERE in our beautiful historic city. This strategy has failed over and over in other cities as it will here! Please take the monies allocated for CTS and spend it more wisely on rehabilitation to give the addicted a fighting chance to get their lives and self respect back. Enabling has never helped anyone and never will.
NO TO CTS IN CAMBRIDGE! Please listen to your constituents.

Pam and Tony Spagnola
Cambridge, Ontario
PLEASE say NO to this site in Cambridge. We as taxpayers (me for the last 40 plus years) should be heard.

The sites listed are in a residential area and close to schools. That is unfair to the taxpayers living in those areas.

After growing up in Cambridge including my family and now 5 grandkids I am so disappointed in what Cambridge is becoming.

I understand times change and we get bigger but there has to be some control on how the budgeting is working along with the safety of all citizens.

We are paying to promote gaslight and bailing out theatres, painting stripes on sidewalks and yet there is no money for detox and help centers. It seems like we are puppets for the region in all of the decisions.

The $ for the site could be used for help for the drug addicts. This is just enabling and not treating the root of the problem.

PLEASE listen to Adam Cooper and Kayla Andrade. We are lucky to have these individuals trying to help all people of our community.

Kind Regards,

Pat Grant
Good afternoon,

This email is in regards to the above report. It is my understanding that 2 sites have been identified as possible locations for a CTS in Cambridge.

As outlined in previous emails by myself and others, I don’t believe the sites being presented in the report are the best choices for the families/children living and attending schools, daycare centres and using the public park in these neighbourhoods.

I find it hard to accept that Council would vote for either of these 2 locations.

1. 15 Easton Street is only a 2 minute walk from Manchester School and a 3 minute walk from Soper Park.

2. 8 Oxford Street is only a 2 minute walk from Pluto Day Care and 1 minute walk from Montessori School as well as a 4 minute walk from Soper Park.

Facilities assisting those with addictions, mental health issues and counselling are needed in our community, however, harm reduction centres are not necessarily the best solution to this crisis and definitely not situated so close to schools, daycare centres and public parks.

I would hope that Council would consider the Cambridge Memorial Hospital as the only feasible site.

Thank you,
Pat Stager
Cambridge Council and Mayor:

I am opposed to a CTS site in Cambridge. On record Mayor McGarry says health services are calling for this. Are they the only ones who have a say? What about the rest of us? Like my neighbour Nick. He was kneeling on his lawn removing weeds because he likes to keep his place looking nice. A homeless person walking casually knocked Nick over. For keeping his place nice Nick was treated with scorn, disdain and violence from a passing homeless person. Meanwhile the homeless feel they are entitled to free shelter, food, and now a safe injection site. We owe them! They don't have to do anything such as work, or even pick up their own garbage. And those of us who do are beneath their contempt because we do. And let us not forget the drugs they will be using are still illegal. How are they going to pay for them? I know! By breaking into people's houses - like mine has, twice! Or the next best option - trafficking in substances themselves. Yes, let's do whatever we can for these people. They cannot, or more like will not, do anything for themselves. Except put a needle in their arm, knowing full well it could kill them. I call it voluntary assumption of risk. How much do we owe them? An intractable problem that will never go away if you build a safe injection site, now that Bridges brought the problem to downtown Galt.

Please ensure that this letter is included in the agenda for the council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 30, 2021.

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Patricia King
(I would appreciate my email to be included as part of the agenda package for the Cambridge City Council meeting on Tuesday, March 30, 2021)

Mayor McGarry and City of Cambridge Councilors,

Once again I would like to add my opposition to any form of CTS within the City of Cambridge and that will never change. The only option I would support is funding for counselling, mental health, detox, rehab, an advanced sober living program and eventual housing. To take up the challenge WITH us via local, regional, provincial to federal because that is what it is going to take.

Keeping people trapped in a broken system of drug addiction and poverty is inhumane in my eyes and sometimes we have to step up and be the parent, teacher or caregiver instead of the enabler. We have to be the voice of change.

Since I last wrote:

The Region of Waterloo had the Raddison hotel in Kitchener as a temporary shelter. Violence, motel damages and ODs were common place before that option ended.

Next was the Inn of Waterloo which had approximately 130 people in winter over flow. Transportation to a CTS, which Kitchener does have, was offered for those who wish to go there. Yet that very motel was having daily over doses and (weekly?) deaths. After a few short months a fire broke out in a room by one of those being housed. News media stated damages were estimated at one million dollars.

No other location in the Region would offer further accommodations so they were moved over to the Holiday Inn in Guelph where staff has stated they were the worst ever to be accommodated. Last week one of the “residents” committed robbery at a near by variety store and it took three hours with a stand off with police before that person was arrested. The next day Guelph social media headlines read “Thanks Kitchener”. I wonder what options will be available for winter of 2021/22. Let alone landlords which are very aware of what its happening out there.

Guelph has also opened a CTS in their city yet their latest news states their OD rates have gone up by 242 per cent.

The majority of those with mental health and addiction issues are not IV drug users. Alcohol, cannabis, crystal meth and cocaine are a bigger problem. Many use at any given time in a social setting with “friends”. Some do use alone. Of all that I have met, none are interested to take the time out during these moments to go to a consumption site even when free transportation is provided.

People are continually told these sites save lives and possibly so. But common sense for those who look beyond that, we see that the “majority” are being over looked. Adequate funding for detox, treatment, etc is not as profitable as keeping the addiction alive. Who ever thought of the advertising and marketing strategy of ‘CTS SAVES LIVES” should be commended as creating one of the best slogans ever since it did appear to have worked. Yet IMO a bigger change needs to happen with funding as this is not the answer.

Respectfully,

Patricia Thomas
Hello. I would like to request the following letter be included for the city council meeting scheduled for this coming Tuesday March 30th.

I'd like to state this right off the bat, **I am very much in favor of CTS Cambridge locations** regardless of where they go. I feel that it is essential that these sites are opened so that the risks and deaths associated with drug use can be mitigated and helped. I am a resident of 32 Portland St in Cambridge along with my wife and infant daughter and we basically are a few doors down from the proposed 8 Oxford St location.

The people that these CTS Cambridge sites will service are just that, people. They are citizens of this city same as me and my wife and daughter and they are hurting and in need. Denying the CTS locations is an effort to sweep the drug problems of Cambridge under the rug and away from people eyes and neighborhoods but that will just prolong the problems that need to be addressed. The people who will be using these CTS sites are already in our neighborhoods, they're already our neighbors and as a community we should be concerned with helping our neighbors, not shuffling them off and saying, "not in my backyard".

CTS will not encourage drug use, drug use happens regardless of whether it's right or wrong, legal, or illegal, it's a symptom of many much greater societal problems that we face, and seeing as they are societal problems, we should face them together as a society and as a community and not shy away from them.

Thank you for hearing this message and for seeing this project through, no matter what the outcome is I appreciate your efforts.

Patrick Sparrow
Attention to Mayor, council and staff,

Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

I have seen the rancour surrounding the proposal of safe consumption sites coming to our beautiful city and find it disappointing. I along with many others applaud the decision to address the cities drug problem. Those Individuals against the site are misguided on the science and get their beliefs off each others hate for those who they see as lesser.

Do not listen to the vocal minority. Listen to the science. The only way to get these needles out of our parks is safe supervised sites with services available for those willing to seek treatment.

I am adding my name to those for the site. For the safety of the community and for the betterment of our most vulnerable.

No location will ever satisfy those that rant about “those people” on Facebook. They don’t want to admit the problem exists everywhere, our city is not an isolated case. Only by confronting the problem will we be able to solve it. Please vote yes on scs in Cambridge.

Patrick Vannan
Hello,

I believe we need to proceed with a CTS in Cambridge. Guelph and Kitchener CTS have produced very positive results.

I believe that implementing a Cambridge CTS with wraparound services is an important action for Cambridge to take.

Thanks,
Patti Toporowski
To Whom it may Concern.

I would like to express to City Council that I am completely against having a CTS site anywhere in Cambridge and I am asking that Cambridge be the city that concentrates on getting more / better detox, rehab, sober living and mental health services that could help not just people addicted to drugs but people with any addiction. Its time to do better.

Could you please include my email in the agenda for the CTS site selection please.

Paul Galvao
I am writing to you as my elected officials regarding the decision to put a CTS in the Cambridge area. This harm reduction initiative has been proven not to work in other cities/provinces. The results speak for themselves with increased overdoses, increased deaths, crime and unsafe communities. Cambridge already has enough problems with drugs, discarded drug paraphernalia and crime and I do not feel the a CTS is a viable or compassionate solution. I am asking you to listen to the tax payers of Cambridge and vote against placing a safe injection site in Cambridge. On this very important topic I would like my voice to be heard and I look forward to your support. *Please add my email to the agenda.

Thank you,
Pauline Brittenden
Cambridge citizen for 57 years
I am opposed to Safe Injection Sites in Cambridge Ontario

The argument is simple: safe injection sites have not delivered on their promises and have caused a significant increase in trash, crime, and disorder. Public health experts have built safe injection facilities with little public input, creating problems for long-time residents. As Ontario Premier Doug Ford told reporters: "If I put (a safe injection site) beside your house, you’d be going ballistic."

An emerging body of evidence suggests safe injection sites may cause more harm than good. In Alberta, public health authorities released a bombshell report that showed the sites did not reduce overall overdose deaths or opioid-related emergency calls. And they led to an increase in crime, discarded needles and social disorder in surrounding neighborhoods.

Residents complained that they were not involved in the process and felt "less safe than before." After the release of the report, Alberta Premier Jason Kenney announced that the provincial government would consider closing or relocating some of the safe injection sites.

Ontario, Alberta and Manitoba are three of the five largest Canadian provinces, and home to the urban populations of Toronto, Calgary and Winnipeg. Premiers Doug Ford, Jason Kenney and Brian Pallister all challenge the ideology of "harm reduction" and have spoken on the public's frustration about safe injection sites.

Since taking office, Premier Ford cut funding for three safe injection sites, Premier Kenney froze funding for new safe injection facilities and Premier Pallister announced his intention to support law enforcement over harm reduction.

First, the activist narrative on harm reduction—that it saves lives without collateral costs—cannot be maintained. Safe injection sites have an extremely poor record of moving drug users into treatment and recovery, with some referral rates as low as 1%. As a result, neighborhoods that host safe injection sites, like the Downtown Eastside in Vancouver, often devolve into open-air drug markets, with hundreds of homeless addicts sleeping in the streets. This, of course, only compounds the problem and externalizes the social costs onto neighbors and small businesses.

Already, in some American cities that have come closest to implementing safe injection sites, there are echoes of the Canadian uprising. In 2017, five cities surrounding Seattle quickly passed local ordinances banning safe injection sites; U.S. Attorney Brian Mora warned Seattle lawmakers that any attempt to create a safe injection site would immediately be shut down by the federal government. Earlier this year, Philadelphia announced it would open the nation's first safe injection site, then quickly reversed course after working-class residents in South Philadelphia rebelled against the plan.

Moving forward, opponents of "harm reduction" must build on these successes and develop a coordinated strategy to prevent the establishment of safe injection sites. We all can learn an important lesson from cities like Vancouver and Seattle: there is no such thing as safely using heroin, fentanyl and methamphetamine.
March 29, 2021

Dear Cambridge City Council,

Please include the following letter in the upcoming council meeting scheduled for March 30th, 2021:

As a resident of Galt and a local faith leader, I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you my support for the proposed CTS locations. I am writing to you as a Christian who believes that living out my faith includes supporting and contributing to a world where the sacredness of all life is affirmed. My faith teaches me to build communities where those most marginalized in society are offered the same hospitality, healing, and care that Jesus taught in his ministry. In the wake of a drug poisoning epidemic that has taken far too many lives, I see CTS as a modern day revelation of the life-giving and life-sustaining Spirit of Christ in this world.

Given the ability for CTS to deliver much-needed life saving resources, I hope that the city of Cambridge will not only support the proposed locations of 15 Easton St and 8 Oxford St, but will work to create a city that is committed to combating the stigma that hurts people who use drugs.

I feel very privileged to have been able to learn with and from people who use drugs about the importance of CTS. However, I understand that this is an issue that not all people have had a chance to engage in and that it can be easy to respond to proposals like this from a place of fear or uncertainty. My prayer is that this city will let compassion guide this decision, not fear.

Yours in Christ,
Rev Michiko Bown-Kai
--
peace,

Michiko Bown-Kai
Good afternoon,

My name is Rick Heidenreich, I live with my family at [redacted]. I was very disappointed to hear this past Saturday about the proposed injection sites on East and Oxford streets in Cambridge. Since living at [redacted] for the last 15 years the crime and drug problems have increased because of the bridges. The police say there is nothing they can do to deal with the problems. Now the City of Cambridge thinks it’s a great idea to open a legal [redacted] in our neighborhood. My son, by the age of 8 years old had seen 2 overdoses on our street. We want drug addicts and criminals out of our neighborhood, not brought in with the blessing of the city, protect us don’t [redacted] If you think it’s a good idea to bring drug addicts into a neighborhood then invite them to your street because crime and drugs are out of control in our area and nobody cares. It feels like our area is becoming the city dump if you choose to make that happen then please buy my house before the injection sites devalue it. My family will gladly move away. I say NO to the injection sites.

Rick Heidenreich
To all concerned;

There is data from other jurisdictions that crime increases around safe injection sites and there is so-called "de-policing" or lack of response to drug-related problems in the area. Any proposed injection site will become a nidus of criminal activity. As a resident and taxpayer in the City of Cambridge, I ask that you vote against any motion which includes placing, allowing, or asking for a drug consumption site (also known as a SCS, CTS, SIS or OPS) in the City of Cambridge.

Instead, I ask that you advocate for treatment for those suffering from addictions, by focusing on detox, rehabilitation and mental health supports. I ask that you please listen to those you were elected to represent and work with the province and the Region to find a solution that does not include the continued consumption of illicit substances.

Please ensure that my concerns be included in the agenda for the council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 30th.

Thank you

Robert Lofsky, Ward 7
Dear Sirs:

We do not believe that the proposed site on Oxford Street is a suitable location for a consumption and treatment services operation.

The location is in the midst of a large residential area populated by mainly retired seniors. We believe it would be more suitably located in a location central to the downtown core. We would ask that you take these comments into consideration and provide us with any notice of public meetings pertaining to this issue.

Yours truly,

Bob and Gail Pettit,
Yes, we are in favor.
These people need our help.
Ron & Marlyn MacFarlane
March 29, 2021

To the Mayor and Councillors of Cambridge

We learned of the two sites chosen for a possible CTS site on the 6:00 news, no notification about the choice of site via mail, flyer or posted sign at the site by the city.

Yes, there is a problem with drugs in Cambridge. However, drug use is illegal and as much as we have sympathy for people who are addicted. Allowing a standalone taxpayer funded site is sending the wrong message to users.

Council did not want this CTS site in the core areas, the same reasoning should apply for all areas and neighbourhoods in the city. Before you dismiss this as NIMBYism, how may Councillors and Advocates can honestly say they would welcome one in their immediate neighbourhood.

One site chosen is in close proximity to 3 daycares, 2 schools, a homeless shelter and a youth emergency shelter.

There are already problems in the area with local addicts, the problems do not need to be compounded by drawing addicts from the Preston and Hespeler areas along with their suppliers.

Two final thoughts - Instead of funding a stand-alone site spend the money on shutting down the supply of illegal drugs.

- If a CTS site is truly needed, put it at a site that taxpayers already fund and where overdoses end up- at the Hospital (it’s reasonably central and on a bus route).

In closing, we request that neither site be funded or approved by council.

Yours truly

Ron and Barbara Rogers
To Mayor, council and staff,

Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

I find it concerning despite the overwhelming opposition to any such site by your elected constituents and consultation reports that we now have 2 proposed locations in residential areas!

I have lived in Cambridge for 48 years! I do not support a drug consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. I do not support the continuing path of site selection.

Regards,

Rondi Zeeman
Hello,

I am opposed to safe consumption sites in the city of Cambridge Ontario. I believe there is no such thing as safely using heroin, fentanyl and methamphetamine. I believe rehabilitation is the way to truly help and cure an addiction.

I moved and purchased a house in Cambridge Ontario 2 years ago in the hopes of building a nice, safe and tranquil family life for myself, my husband and my now 2 sons. I do not want them to grow up being exposed to injection sites and drug users whenever they go outside the doors. Cambridge cannot continue to keep going into this direction, in order to make a real change the people with drug addictions need real sustainable help and the citizens need safety, peace and quiet.

Please include my letter to the agenda of the council meeting scheduled for March 30, 2021.

Thank you,
A very concerned tax payer and citizen of the city of Cambridge, Ontario.

Sabrina Laramee
Please include the below email in the agenda for council for March 30th regarding the CTS... Thank you,
Sandy Falkiner

Hello and I hope this email finds everyone well and safe. I am writing to you with regarding the latest information concerning the two locations for a possible Consumption Treatment Site in Cambridge. While I understand that this is a terribly difficult position for council to be in, I continue to remain steadfast in my initial stance that I cannot support the current model of a Consumption Treatment Site, or in other words, a standalone CTS in Cambridge at either of these locations or in any locations, whatsoever, as this model stands. I have taken strides to try and understand both the pros and cons of this issue, and it is with the utmost respect for all human life that I find I simply cannot change my mind and support a standalone CTS. There is no “treatment” component to the model.

I understand the need to connect and meet persons with addictions on their own level, and I understand that the upper tier governments have given us very little to operate with in order to help resolve this ever-growing crisis. I understand that to some people, it is a question of life-and-death and I respect and value those sentiments, opinions, beliefs, and in some cases, lived experience. I would ask that you try and understand, respect, and value my opinion as well with this matter. I also have lived experience, through the eyes of the children of our community who, in some cases, came into care because of addiction within their family. I do NOT judge a person who has found themselves in this desperate situation, but I DO rise to defend the children who are continually hurt, disappointed, and traumatized because of the domino effects of addictions. I have lost former foster children to addiction. On a personal level, I have watched two of my foster grandchildren succumb to fentanyl and lose custody of their children. I have and continue to support their mother as she raises these grandchildren, and already we see the trauma in the eyes of her 5-year-old grandson who doesn’t understand why he can’t live with his mom. These are MY lived experiences; different than persons with addictions themselves, but equally devastating and painful.

In January 2018, the 3rd Edition of Principal of Drug Addiction Treatment: A Research-Based Guide was released by the NIH (National Institute on Drug Abuse). There are 13 key recommendations or guidelines outlined here. I will not list them all but will provide the website for your perusal. I must; however, point out two key points without entering into discussion or elaborating on them. They speak for themselves; number three is “Treatment needs to be readily available” and number eleven “Treatment does not need to be voluntary to be effective”. I urge council to continue to push for better access to on-demand treatment and not settle for a consumption site. A consumption site is just that; a place for consumption of illicit drugs, and in my opinion, will lead to more and more of them. We only need to look to B.C. to see the terrifying reality of not offering treatment. I worry that we will follow the slippery slope that BC seems intent on in terms of the provision of youth consumption sites. After 26 years of fostering and supporting children, no one will ever convince me that we should teach children how to inject and provide them with the tools to do so. When a child cuts to alleviate their inner pain, I do not provide the razor or a safe room to cut. I remove the razor and take pains to lock up all and any sharpies, and then I dig for the root of the problem. Same concept, for to do otherwise is, in my opinion, neglect.

Approximately 45% of the proportion of calls for opioid overdose in our region is in the 20 to 34 year-old-age range. What seriously alarms me is that we, without so much as a sigh, watched 25 youth beds for 16-24 year old’s disappear from our community overnight and in the middle of a pandemic. The message that sends to me is that we don’t care enough to make sure they have a roof over their head,
but we will ensure they can use their illicit drugs safely. That is not a message of love and connection, in my humble and respectful opinion.


Regards,
Sandy Falkiner, resident of Cambridge.
My name is Scott Corbett, I'm a resident and home owner on Wellington street in Cambridge. I've lived in Cambridge for nearly 40 years. My wife has also lived in Cambridge for over forty years. We have 2 children.
Because of our homes location near Bridges we have had several uncomfortable situations with people leaving or heading to Bridges. My wife and children are afraid to use our front yard because some of these troubled people yell and scream as well a beg. We have had packages stolen off the front porch. I've chased away a homeless woman stealing packages off the neighbor's porch.
We DO NOT need a drug consumption site in Cambridge.
WE DO NOT NEED A DRUG CONSUMPTION SITE IN THIS AREA AS WE ALREADY HAVE MORE THAN OUR SHARE.
Manchester school is in our neighborhood as well as some daycares and we don't want more reasons for troubled people to be roaming around our neighborhood.
These people are in need of help, providing them with help to get past their problems, not places to continue
Please ensure my concerns and letter are included in any council meetings including March 30th 2021
To my elected members of the city of Cambridge. My name is Shane, and I live on Haddington st. in Galt. I've been a home owner since 2012, and a resident of Cambridge since 2007. I am not in favour of a CTS site in Cambridge, and utmost adamantly against a CTS site in my neighbourhood. CTS sites don't belong around schools, daycares, and in neighbourhoods where working class citizens work and live. These sites bring crime, and instability to these areas. If one of these two proposed locations are decided, especially for the proposed easton st. Site, Haddington st. will be a street chosen by users to access easton st. Being a homeowner of Haddington st. I am very concerned for the safety of my property, and walking in my neighbourhood at anytime of the day. These sites are only a band-aid solution, and will not fix the underlying problem. This proposed CTS site will definitely have a negative effect on property values in this area. If my elected members of the city of Cambridge are in favour of a CTS site, then they should propose to have sites established in their neighbourhoods, not in mine!! My elected members owe it to me as a tax paying citizen of Cambridge, to provide a safe city and neighbourhood for me to work and live. Putting a CTS site in my neighbourhood, or any other neighbourhood will not make any citizen of this city feel any safer. Absolutely no CTS sites in the city of Cambridge. There is already a CTS site in Kitchener. The Region of Waterloo has a very efficient public transportation network to transport addicks to the CTS location in Kitchener. I request a moratorium on the public consultation be delayed until the pandemic is over. Thanks for taking my concerns into consideration in this matter. Shane.
Hello,
My name is Shannon Heidenreich I live on Brook street for the past 15 years. We found out the disappointing news, that two injection sites will be placed in our neighbourhood, East & Oxford street both close to day cares and schools. Since the bridges has opened our cars and home have been broken into by addicts and the police tell us there is nothing they can do. My son can not even go to Soper Park due to the addicts and their needles there. It’s an unsafe park. Now our council is wanting to opening two injection site, inviting more crime into our neighbourhood. How am I as a mother able to allow my son to go outside and play knowing that the City of Cambridge protect the drug dealers and addicts more than my family who pays their taxes and contributes to the community.
I ask council to help protect and keep our children safe in their own community, please say NO to the injection site so my son can safety play outside.
Thank you
Shannon Heidenreich
An open letter to mayor, council and staff, regarding site selection of Drug Consumption Sites in Cambridge.

Attention to Mayor, council and staff,

Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

It's taken me a few days to compose this email to all of you in regards to site selection of a CTS within Cambridge.

What can I possibly say, that hasn't already been said and ignored? I've been pondering over the years of emails, delegations, reports, statistics, public consultations, recommendations, petitions and community feedback. We don't want this at all!!! When are you going to start listening to the people who live here, voted you in, and pay taxes?

I find it alarming that we are now at the point of proposed site locations, despite the overwhelming opposition to any such site by your elected constituents and consultation reports.

I do not doubt that there are some who support, mainly invested proponents of drug consumption sites from surrounding communities, but there continues to be a lack of consideration from the thousands of voices in opposition. May I remind council and staff of the report in which it addressed and affirmed, that council was not listening.

I will simply write this; I do not support a drug consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. I do not support the continuing path of site selection.

I know I will be called upon by my community to speak again with the need to stand up for our concerns. I will not let our voices be cast aside.

Regards,

Shari Vezeau
Hi, I'm emailing to state what we think about these needle places on either Easton or Haddington areas...we live on Norfolk Ave our house is behind the plaza so we experience alot as of now we do not need to experience anymore its bad enough ppl go down on the tracks hollering and sometimes they are under the bridge not sure if you see under there but its a huhe mess waterloo region will not tend to this area as its CP's area when you call them the officer comes from Hamilton it is very dangerous but no one cares our taxes are raised but yet we have to keep everything pad licked our garage and yard we need to put cameras up to help keep our place safe I have a note on my front door to ring the door bell its not fair what about all the children and teens in these areas please find a different option as Cambridge doea not want this here....we the voters will be voting the ones out who push for this as well we are done....

Shell
March 24, 2021

Please add this letter to any discussions or council meetings when these sites will be discussed.

I was shocked to read a letter to the editor of a Dan who was in support of Consumption Sites. I thought council understood that the residents of Cambridge did not and will not support a site anywhere in Cambridge. Council stated that they would not support one in the downtown core and yet, that letter is trying to convince people that it will be a good thing to have a drug injection site near residents and schools. Our new councillor Scott was told that we did not want a site when he came to our door. Why do we have to keep on saying the same thing over and over again?

The location does not matter and these sites do nothing much to help those suffering addiction. We all know that this will be just one step closer to safe supply of drugs. This is wrong on so many levels that I can’t write them all down in this email. I have friends in Vancouver that volunteered in this sector and saw first hand how addicts using safe supply also end up taking street drugs to get the high that they need.

These harm reduction initiatives do not work. They are short lived, and nothing more than a band aid solution. The more that these addicts stay on drugs, either a safe supply or illegal, the more harm they do to themselves and their families. These harm reduction methods only promote harm to the addict and the surrounding community and to their children, if they have any, starting a new generation of children who are traumatized in youth and then seek drugs to numb their struggles. Approving a site will make all of council culpable of this harm being continued.

Council represents everyone in this city and not just one group or the social agencies who profit on the backs of taxpayers to grow their business. Our city needs to stop trying to sustain lives in a continuous addicted lifestyle, and wasting so much money on the expansion of failing injection sites, and start putting money to better use, with on demand and in house treatment centers for mental well being and a better quality of life.

Thank you for listening

Shelly Snyder

Cambridge Resident
Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

It's taken me a few days to compose this email to all of you in regards to site selection of a CTS within Cambridge.

What can I possibly say, that hasn't already been said and ignored? I've been pondering over the years of emails, delegations, reports, statistics, public consultations, recommendations, petitions and community feedback.

I find it alarming that we are now at the point of proposed site locations, despite the overwhelming opposition to any such site by your elected constituents and consultation reports.

I do not doubt that there are some who support, mainly invested proponents of drug consumption sites from surrounding communities, but there continues to be a lack of consideration from the thousands of voices in opposition. May I remind council and staff of the report in which it addressed and affirmed, that council was not listening.

I will simply write this; I do not support a drug consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. I do not support the continuing path of site selection.

I know I will be called upon by my community to speak again with the need to stand up for our concerns. I will not let our voices be cast aside.

Regards,

Sherri Roy
March 29, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: OPPOSITION NOTICE TO THE PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL CTS SITE

This letter is in representation of the Board of Directors of the Montessori School of Cambridge, as well as our entire Montessori community.

We understand there has been an increase in both opioid usage and deaths within our City. The facts surrounding usage and deaths are disheartening and we want to offer our thank you to all those who continue to advocate and care for those in these troubling situations.

Our school houses 85 children ages 18 months to 6 years and we employ 15 staff. The school is located on Roseview Avenue in a beautiful yellow brick building. It is our purpose as Montessori Educators not only to support and foster healthy relationships and community, but to in fact delve deeper and play an important role in raising children who are confident, self assured and have strong leadership skills. We work with children to ensure they have compassion for others with a focus on community awareness and helping others.

With the above being said, the Montessori School of Cambridge has been the epitome of diversity, culture, education, community and family for just short of 50 years in Cambridge/Galt and generations of families have attended and supported our school. Furthermore, we have created a safe place for families within our community.

Being a member of the Cambridge/Galt community since 1972, we feel this contribution and dedication must continue now and well into the future. We must stand with our many families who live within close proximity and are safely able to walk from their houses to school without being at risk of crime related events. In addition, it is our duty as educators to provide a safe place for families and children to attend school.

While we understand that the approved distance from a “Consumption and Treatment Services” site (CTS) to schools or daycares is at least 200m, our school is 280m away; not far outside of this approved acceptable distance. It is also located within a residential neighbourhood and is surrounded by family homes; which is not part of the criteria for a CTS site location. In addition, the proposed travel route from the Bridges and Downtown Core up Cambridge St. is a short 66m to our school if they choose to take this route. They could in fact go up Park Hill, which would then lead them to go right past our school on their way to the CTS site. Both of these scenarios are unacceptable in keeping our children and families safe!
Further, Laneway 173 is directly behind our school and is adjacent to our playground. This creates another clear pathway between the school and the CTS site as well as providing a sheltered area for those using and discarding needles. We have grave concern that by having a CTS site so close to the school and within a residential area, this will promote more crime related activity.

Quite pointedly, by having a CTS so close to our school, it will put our business at risk of closure due to parents not wanting to send their young children to a school that is in such close proximity.

We empathize with the complexity of the ongoing opioid crisis and hope that alternative options are provided to help those in need.

In conclusion, the proposed CTS location is unacceptable and we oppose such a site being in any residential community.

Sincerely,

Principal
Good afternoon,
I am writing this letter to be included in the agenda for the upcoming council meeting scheduled Tuesday March 30th.
I am not in support of the proposed location on Oxford Street. This location is visible from my front door, we already have enough problems in this neighborhood with the Cambridge shelter in close proximity. I already feel unsafe walking in my own neighborhood we do not need this at my own home. This is a family neighborhood with many schools and daycares in the area. I don't believe these centres should be in residential areas, or at all. We should be supporting treatment centres not continuing to support their addiction.
Sincerely
S.perry
Dear Cambridge Council

I am writing with regards to the 2 proposed Consumption and Treatment Services sites at 15 Easton Street and 8 Oxford Streets. As a Cambridge resident I strongly oppose the opening of ANY CTS sites and especially oppose opening them in residential areas where local communities will be so negatively impacted. 8 Oxford street is in remarkably close proximity to the Montessori School of Cambridge (only 280 metres away) where I work and where my 4-year-old son attends. We often walk through the neighbourhood and pass this proposed site and we are not the only ones to do so. There are many families that live in this neighbourhood as well as another childcare centre Pluto Day Care (only 350m away). The residential neighbourhood around 8 Oxford is also within the catchment area for Manchester Public school and GCI high school and many children and teens walk these routes to get to school. The thought of putting a consumption site in the middle of this residential neighbourhood within such close proximity to families, schools and childcare centre’s is not acceptable.

It is a known fact that these sites bring increased crime to the area. Not to mention the number of discarded needles and other drug paraphernalia that will be left on the community streets. According to the Kitchener CTS site dashboard, since opening in November 2019, 457 needles have been recovered within the perimeter of the 150 Duke Street site during needle sweeps. Those are needles that have been unsafely discarded directly outside of the centre with a dedicated needle drop, the program is obviously not being used. I can only imagine how many more needles are littered in the surrounding areas beyond the site’s perimeter, left for children and neighbours to find.

Something needs to be done to lower the Overdose fatalities in the region, however a CTS Site is not the answer. The time, effort and funds need to be directed to detox and rehab services that are so desperately needed so that when someone suffering from addiction wants to get help, the proper help is available for them.

Please include my email in the Meeting agenda scheduled for March 30th 2021.

Stacy Vazquez-Abrams
I am a very concerned resident on Cambridge st in the high rise and a mother of an 11 year old girl, who I would like to add likes to go for walks with her friend in the neighbourhood and walks around the block on Oxford st. We don’t have a back yard and going for walks in the close neighbourhood is all she has for outdoor fresh air and exercise after school. So if this CTS site goes on Oxford st, you are taking away her freedom of being able to go for a walk and get some fresh air with her friend, because I won’t allow her to walk the neighbourhood with who knows what roaming the area. I’m already paranoid of who she may bump into now. Also I can’t believe that this site would even be an option with a daycare a 4 mins walk away, what are you thinking. It’s bad enough we have the trouble and needles and drug stuff happening right down the street you want to add this to the neighbourhood. I’m sure there is a non residential area and not 4 mins away from a daycare around Preston or hespeler in a non residential area. Please I am begging you as a mother and a resident of this area please do not put a CTS site on Oxford st. I would like my email included in the agenda, also I would like any notifications of any upcoming meetings regarding this topic. Why are these sites not being considered away from residential areas? I see enough addicts in this area shooting up, getting high, walking around tweeking out on god knows what. I as an adult of 45ys, don’t feel safe as it is walking in this area and now you are considering this to add to it. I seriously don’t know who came up with this area but you didn’t think it through very good. Please I am begging you do not put the CTS site on Oxford St. Why are these sites not on hospital property where these ppl can get medical treatment if needed without having to use an ambulance to bring them to the hospital. These sites should not even exists to begin with!! Why isn’t the money being used to help mental illness and help the addicts instead of helping them get high! Do you not see what is happening to our beautiful Cambridge!!!! It is being taken over be drug addicts and mental health. Cambridge was once a beautiful city to live in and now it’s full of garbage and drugs.
Stephanie Pye
To major of Cambridge

We moved to Hespeler over 10 years ago to make a life and settle in a fantastic caring village. Only in the last three years the city has approved numerous developments and we are rapidly losing the village community. The more Cambridge grows the more big city issue crime and drug use homelessness. I was part of a previous group for Hespeler and we had many closed door meetings with the previous major and even had the present major join us on walks highlighting the homeless issues and illegal camps in the area. My wife runs a home daycare and we NEVER thought we would see the day we would be teaching babies not to touch discarded needles and drug paraphernalia left laying around the sidewalks and pathways. We never thought we would have to install cctv around our home to deter criminals from stealing from us.

STOP the consumption sites doesn’t allow the drug use and don’t enable people to commit crimes to feed there drug habits. Put the resources to helping rehabilitate the people give them a second chance of a good life. Don’t enable them to destroy themselves, families and many more. This is a complete insult to the honest voters that put you in the major seat not listening not understanding and not having an option what is correct for Hespeler and for Cambridge.

Think twice this is not good for anyone. !!

Steve Melia GSC
In consideration of a proposed CTS site location in Cambridge ON,

I find it beyond comprehension that you collectively, the Cambridge City Council directed by the Region of Waterloo, are now at the point of proposing site locations for a CTS site, despite the overwhelming opposition to any such site by an ever growing number of your elected constituents, consultants, by hoards of emails, delegations, reports, statistics, public consultations, recommendations, petitions and community feedback not only here, but across Canada. Obviously there is a sector who will support this effort, proponents of the idealism of harm reduction, fanfare from neighbouring communities in Ontario, those that expect financial gain from such endeavours, but there continues to be a lack of consideration from the thousands of voices in opposition in the city of Cambridge and Waterloo Region to this direction.

I wish my voice to be heard. I DO NOT SUPPORT A DRUG CONSUMPTION SITE ANYWHERE IN CAMBRIDGE, ON. I do not support the continued path of this site selection.

Stuart Johnston
My husband and I want you all to know that we are totally AGAINST these proposed sites that are almost NEXT DOOR to a public school AND a daycare!
WHAT ARE YOU PEOPLE THINKING?????

We are requesting that this email/letter (whatever you want to call it) (OUR VOICES) be added to the agenda for the council meeting scheduled on Tuesday March 30th.

Respectfully,
Sue Balfour and Gord Balfour
"Aspire to Inspire
before you Expire"
Mayor McGarry and Cambridge City Councillors
I am writing this email in support of moving forward with plans for a CTS for the City of Cambridge. When we began this discussion years ago, it was to establish a safe injection site (SIS), and our Church Council was ready to recommend to our congregation that we offer a place for that to happen, recognizing the good work that Sanguen was doing in our community, and knowing more was needed. We even had our property assessed for what changes would need to be made to our facilities to make that happen. Of course, that plan was halted because of the bylaw preventing the establishment of an SIS in the core. In the interim, the WINS Program (Working to Improve Neighbourhood Safety) did have a home in our church facility, until its recent move to 150 Main St. Since then, the discussion has evolved from a Safe Injection Site to a Consumption and Treatment Site - not just a place for "injection", but for consumption - recognizing that some consumption is oral, but can still be contaminated with fentanyl, carfentanil, or other dangerous chemicals - something that can be assessed for clients of a CTS before consumption.

The concern for access to treatment that has been the focus of some opposition to the original SIS concept, is now a part of the CTS with the presence of wraparound social services that give clients the opportunity and access to supports should they wish to explore their options.

As a Council, you have supported the identification of some potential sites for a CTS - the report for which is coming to you for consideration this week. I would encourage each of you to support acceptance of this report, and its recommendations for community consultation so that, as a community, we can continue to move toward a solution to this issue in our community. The issue will not go away, no matter how long we try to ignore it. A CTS may not be the perfect answer, but I believe it is one step in the right direction to address the needs, not only of our citizens suffering addiction, but also those surrounding businesses and communities impacted by public and unsafe consumption.

Sincerely,
Sue Rivers
To Cambridge City Council:

I have been operating Cedar Lake Studios on Ainslie St. N for the last three and a half years. I looked at a number of cities before deciding on Galt, which had all I was looking for: a thriving local community, gorgeous architecture and natural beauty to attract out-of-town visitors, and a growing downtown. All of those have helped my business be successful. However, there have been ups and downs because of the homeless/drug situation.

Last September the problem had escalated so much that I seriously considered moving the business to another city. I had three encounters within my store, and had some nervous walks home (even in daylight). I however was buoyed by the increased police presence and the addition of the night-time security, and decided to stay (for now).

I was glad that I stayed, as the community came together like never before to support local business during the fall and Christmas season, and there seemed to be a decline in incidents.

So many people continued, and many more started to shop downtown, and commented on how they had made a conscious effort to do so because of the pandemic, and its impact on small business. The wide-spread commitment resulted in the best last-quarter sales yet. I believe it is a win-win-win situation, and builds a stronger community.

After all this, and with two lock-downs in less than a year, I am incredibly disappointed to hear that council may be back peddling on their commitment to keep a CTS site away from the area. I have personally experienced negative situations with people who are clearly not in a sober or clean state, and likely also have nothing more to lose. In fact as I write this email, someone is walking by the front of the gallery swearing loudly enough to be heard at the back of my space. Having a site where people can inject drugs and then wander the downtown is not a good idea. It also attracts those desperate for money for drugs, and drug dealers, both of which are not good for business.

Finding the right balance in this is surely difficult, but I wonder if the amount of time and energy directed to the location of CTS site could have been better spent dealing with the roots of the issue, rather than focusing on a band-aid.

If you want to know if the downtown business and residents have changed their position on this situation, another survey should be completed. Anecdotal information, like that which I have given, is only helpful to alert one of a situation or to give it a human face.

Thank you for considering the perspective of this business owner, and Galt resident.

Susan

--

Susan Benton
I am writing this on behalf of myself who owns a home at 110 Winston Blvd and my daughter who owns a home at 170 Adler. Safe injection sites are not the answer and we do not want them in the Hespeler area. My sister is an addict and she went to BC and lived there for 3 years taking advantage of this program. In her mind she has been off drugs for 3 years as the government paid for them and it was all legal. She returned to Ontario 4 months ago and went into withdrawl and was back to getting a hit off the street. In both cases she still stole from people. the only thing that changed was the drugs were free, she went back to BC, they can keep their sites, the area around these areas are terrible and devalued and i do not want to see that in our lovely city, sincerely two of your voters

Tabatha Dean
Dear Mayor McGarry and City Councillors,

I am writing to you today to express my firm support for a Consumption and Treatment Services Site in the City of Cambridge. Please include my letter as part of the official records for the meeting of March 30, 2021.

As a resident of the Region of Waterloo and Undergrad Student in the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience at WLU, I recognize the advantages to a CTS site in Kitchener, of utmost importance the saving of lives. Within the first 6 months of the Kitchener site being open, 71 overdoses occurred. None of which were fatal. Had the CTS not been running, many, if not all of these people would have died. Similarly, at InSite in BC, since opening in 2003 there have been 2395 overdoses and not a single fatality.

Simply, CTS's save lives. The people who need this service are people; they are human beings. They are members of our communities who are our parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, friends, children. They are citizens of the City of Cambridge and deserve access to a safe, supportive environment in which to use drugs. You may not understand why people use drugs, however, one thing I am hopeful you can understand is that they deserve to live. A CTS will significantly increase the chances that they will.

I urge you to open a CTS site in the City of Cambridge and to do so with haste as it is literally a matter of life and death.

Sincerely,

Taylor Dunstan
Undergrad Student, WLU
Resident of Waterloo Region
I just found out that 8 Oxford Street has been put forward as a potential site for CTS in Cambridge. Reading through the information in the agenda for Tuesday’s meeting, I see that it checks all the boxes - except for residential areas.

I would like to express my extreme opposition to this site. I have lived at 50 Roseview Ave for over 36 years and have seen the street evolve from rather run down to a much more pleasant street with property upgrades from one end to the other. When The Bridges was first proposed, I was one of the few in the neighbourhood not vehemently opposed to the project. My wife and I were very ok with the way it ran for the first few years. Then we encountered a number of incidents ranging from vandalism, trespass, break and enter and theft. (over $20000 in losses, much not covered by insurance). The city eventually responded with erecting a fence that has cut down on the use of our property as a thoroughfare between The Bridges and Roseview, a campsite and drug consumption but minor thefts and vandalism continue to be an issue.

If the decision is made to place the CTS on Oxford street, we will literally have the problem in our backyard and front yard. I feel this neighbourhood has done its share in helping the city cope with a difficult situation. In addition, the site barely meets the 200 m setback from Pluto Day Care, Cambridge Montessori School, GCI, Manchester School and the Cambridge Muslim School.

The above concerns do not take into account whatsoever my opposition to consumption sites in general, but that is another matter.

Please make the right decision and reject any CTS site in any residential area in Cambridge.

Ted & Cheryl Kewley
Please uphold your promise to stakeholders; that no CTS will be located in the core or within 500m of the downtown. BUT a report from City staff, putting forth a location for approval to proceed to Public Consultation, within the 500m buffer of the downtown Galt core, threatens our assurance from Council.

Tena Chaves
To whom it might concern

I AM strongly Opposed to have a consumption site anywhere in Cambridge whatsoever. Spend our tax dollars on rehab, not on more harm(reduction) and get all the already over drogged people back on their feet by giving em real help ,not more drugs .

Regards
Tibor Muzslai
Good morning.

I'd like this letter to be included in your planned city council meeting on Tuesday March 30, 2021.

I read a report on CTV news this morning about the 2 proposed CTS sites on Easton St and Oxford St in Galt and am appalled that these locations have been chosen so close to residential, retail and school areas.

What were you thinking? We already have enough drug dependant people standing at the intersection of Hespeler / Water street and Corenation / Dundas St begging for money to feed their addictions and this is only going to make it worse.

I know the Freshco at Dundas & Hespeler is already dealing with the drug dependant people on a pretty much daily basis and thats without a safe injection site within a 2 minute walk / 140 m distance to the store. Nothing like having freshly shot up junkies walking into a grocery store (where resident families should be able to shop in safety!) to get beer to further fuel their high! Great thinking...

This is only going to drag the dependants from the Bridges area and downtown Galt right into the residential areas and small retail area, making it unsafe for people like me and my family to leave my home in the evening to walk my dog. My twenty year old daughter already feels unsafe here after dark and now your planning on adding this to the mix? NO THANK YOU!

I shouldn't have to feel unsafe walking in my own neighborhood.

I am AGAINST not only these proposed sites rather against CTS sites in Cambridge as a whole!

Regards,

Todd Wilson.
A concerned citizen.
To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this email to voice my opinion about putting in a CTS (drug injection site) in Cambridge. I am completely against having a CTS in Cambridge. We should be using this money for services that will get people off of drugs and break the cycle for the next generation and when I say services I do not mean a safe drug supply. The government funded rehab, detox and mental services currently offered in waterloo region have long wait lists and mountains of red tape which will deter most people before they get in to a program.

So I am asking you to not put a CTS in Cambridge. I would also like this email included in the next council agenda that will be dealing with the CTS process.

Regards,
Tony D
Dear sirs and madams,

I firmly and staunchly oppose the building of these 2 sites. It is reprehensible and evidence of a morally bankrupt council that these sites were even suggested or supported given their locations.

Tony Potopilnyj
To Council,

I wanted you to simply know that I am in support of moving forward with the site selection and assessments.

I see that there are many people in fear of this being located in their city. I think it would be prudent for City of Cambridge to implement a carefully thought out PR campaign to dispel fears of it being in their neighbourhood. I see a great campaign being done right now by the province working hard to dispel fears over vaccines.

I am in support of this. Thank you for your work on this. I am sure it is a stressful topic.

Thank you,
Tracy Shaban
I do not want an injection SITE in my City of Cambridge or in Galt. We need to spend more money and time in helping the people who have additions get the help they need to get better. I DO NOT WANT AN INJECTION SITE IN MY CITY. I want to walk without worrying about my dog stepping on a needed. I don't want tent city's in my community

This needs to STOP

I pay taxes to live in a safe city.

trish miner😊
March 26, 2021

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please note my strong opposition to the establishment of a CTS site in our city of Cambridge. Although I am well aware of the existing problem of addiction in our community, I do not understand how such a facility will provide relief. Rather - will the provision of a safe consumption site not enable users and hence prolong the addiction by providing an aura of „normalcy“? It seems to me that a hospital is best suited to provide help and referral to appropriate therapies.

The two proposed sites may check most of the identified boxes for CTS sites, however they are situated within established neighbourhoods and very close to a school and a daycare centre. Please consider the needs of the people living there.

I would appreciate receiving further information as you try to arrive at the best solution for Cambridge and especially the neighbours in the vicinity of the proposed sites.

Sincerely,

Ulrike Gute
Good evening,

I’m writing in support of my mother’s previous email condemning the proposed safe injection site being discussed here in Cambridge. I live at 170 Adler Drive here in the Hespeler community. I am NOT in support of these drug consumption sites and fear that this will be the demise of our beautiful city. The amount of crime and harassment that has been a result of the Bridges location has been devastating, especially for our small business owners. The Shopper Drug Mart employees across from the bridges face the consequences of this every day, I urge you to go and ask their opinion on adding another avenue for this destruction here in Cambridge. Not to mention, the safety of the individuals at the local library in Galt. My fiancée used to go there to study frequently but couldn’t go anymore because so many drug addicts were frequenting to use the internet- some taking the opportunity to watch adult movies. We need to find a way to rehabilitate these individuals, not aid in progressing the addiction and homelessness in our city and surrounding areas. I agree, something must be done to help these individuals but the current strategy and the proposed strategy of safe injection sites is not it. We ourselves have a family member who’s struggled with addiction for over 3 decades. She believes she’s on the road to recovery because she’s doing drugs SAFELY at these injection sites with encouragement from the local government- this is not the way!

I am urging you to reconsider these developments by talking to locals who care about this community. Please, go speak with local businesses impacted by the Bridges Center as well as shoppers drug mart employees, local home owners and our librarians. Let’s work as a community to find a better solution with a heavy focus on rehabilitation and healthy assistance programs.

Thank you in advance for your time and I appreciate your consideration in keeping our beautiful city healthy and safe for all of its members.

Regards,
Victoria Dean
March 28, 2021

Re: Consumption and Treatment Services

Mayor McGarry and members of Council,

On behalf of the Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council (WRCPC), I am pleased to report that the WRCPC strongly supports efforts to establish Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS) within the City of Cambridge. The WRCPC is a 35-member collaborative and national model for crime prevention through social development. The first in Canada to anticipate and identify the bootleg fentanyls as a threat to public health and safety, the WRCPC continues to advise on opportunities, and function as a collaborative catalyst for life-saving initiatives at local, provincial, and national levels.

Consumption and treatment services are a critical pathway for meeting our neighbours where they are at, both literally and figuratively. The evidence from the plethora of studies indicates supervised consumption services achieve their intended purpose of preventing, reducing, and/or treating acute and chronic medical conditions, preventing fatal overdoses onsite, and establishing authentic opportunities for engagement with community, health, and social service systems. The WRCPC is not aware of any evidence that CTS increases crime, rather CTS reduces issues of disorder, contributing to an overall positive impact for communities. We note that the evidence of this positive impact has grown in the decade since the Supreme Court of Canada unanimously affirmed the evidence in favour of consumption services in a 9-0 decision. The addition of wrap-around services as a feature strengthens the value of local consumption and treatment services for both individuals and communities.

Consumption and treatment services are a guaranteed life-saving opportunity in an era where fatality data continues an alarming trend in the wrong direction, with little end in sight. The WRCPC encourages sustained and concentrated investment in a suite of evidence-informed approaches in prevention, harm reduction, and treatment as part of a robust, comprehensive strategy to improve public health and safety for all members of the community. Consumption and treatment services are a key intervention in that suite of opportunities.

The WRCPC recognizes that the poisoning crisis continues to provoke health debates in ways that other important but less common health issues do not, in communities and councils from coast to coast to coast. The WRCPC very much acknowledges the challenges before members of Council, and trusts that the final decision is one that is reflective of the robust evidence base, and the high value experienced in municipalities that have established consumption and treatment services.
The WRCPC extends its gratitude to Councillors for consideration of consumption and treatment services in Cambridge. The lives at stake matter and their deaths are preventable through the interventions that you are considering. If we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Richard Eibach, Chair
Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council
March 29th, 2021

City of Cambridge
Special Council Meeting
Consumption and Treatment Services Site

Dear Cambridge Council,

On behalf of the Waterloo Region Integrated Drugs Strategy (WRIDS), we urge the City of Cambridge to implement a Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS) site in Cambridge. In 2020, the Waterloo Region recorded an unprecedented number of opioid-related poisoning fatalities and from 2019 to 2020, there was a 56% increase in suspected opioid-related deaths. The urgency to avoid similar preventable deaths in 2021 and beyond cannot be overstated.

The WRIDS is a multi-sectoral collaborative strategy that aims to prevent, reduce, and/or eliminate problematic substance use and its consequences in Waterloo Region through efforts in prevention, harm reduction, recovery and rehabilitation, enforcement and justice, and integration. The WRIDS has approximately 130 individuals that participate in the Steering Committee, Pillar Coordinating Committees, and various working groups, all working together to help create Waterloo Region safer and healthier for all.

The WRIDS, through its Steering Committee and with support of community partners, supports CTS as a part of a public health approach grounded in health equity. Research shows that providing harm reduction services like CTS leads to a reduction in fatal and non-fatal drug poisonings and are an important life saving service. CTS also offers a wide range of other benefits including providing a safe space where people can receive care free from stigma, reduces risk factors that lead to infectious diseases, and increases access to health and social services.

Problematic substance use is a complex health and social issue, the response needs to be comprehensive, collaborative, compassionate, and evidence-based. The WRIDS sincerely hopes that a CTS site in Cambridge will be implemented to improve both individual and community health and safety.

Sincerely,

Eugene Fenton

Chair of the WRIDS Steering Committee
An open letter to mayor, council and staff, regarding site selection of Drug Consumption Sites in Cambridge.

Attention to Mayor, council and staff,

Please include my email in the upcoming agenda package for council.

It's taken me a few days to compose this email to all of you in regards to site selection of a CTS within Cambridge.

What can I possibly say, that hasn't already been said and ignored? I've been pondering over the years of emails, delegations, reports, statistics, public consultations, recommendations, petitions and community feedback.

I find it alarming that we are now at the point of proposed site locations, despite the overwhelming opposition to any such site by your elected constituents and consultation reports.

I do not doubt that there are some who support, mainly invested proponents of drug consumption sites from surrounding communities, but there continues to be a lack of consideration from the thousands of voices in opposition. May I remind council and staff of the report in which it addressed and affirmed, that council was not listening.

I will simply write this; I do not support a drug consumption site anywhere in Cambridge. I do not support the continuing path of site selection.

I know I will be called upon by my community to speak again with the need to stand up for our concerns. I will not let our voices be cast aside.

Regards,

Wesley Crawford
March 29, 2021

*Katie bounded into my preschool door with her huge infectious smile and saucer like eyes, full of curiously and light. Katie was always full of energy, laughter, and goodness. She was always the positive one, the one to make others laugh... including me.*

*Sitting at Katie’s funeral a few short years ago, I thought of this moment and my heart ached for her mother, her family, and our community.*

*Katie (not her real name) died from drug poisoning.*

Dear Council Members,

I beg you to support the proposed creation of supervised consumption services in Cambridge.

It’s time to re-think how we see the problem of drug usage in our communities and to realize how much of this problem the result of our own ignorance is, prejudice, and a “war on drugs approach” to drug policies.

We need a new drug policy strategy, a strategy which includes a variety of initiatives including the creation of safe, supervised consumption service sites and address a wide range of drug related issues including mental health, food insecurity, and homelessness.

I know this is a hard decision. But I beg you to be brave and courageous.

I beg you to help create the change needed on how we see and address the pain, suffering, and trauma our youth and young adults who rely on drugs face.

Do this so you or I or anyone else never again attends a funeral due to drug use.

Trisha Robinson  
Executive Director, Wilmot Family Resource Centre  
*Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council Member*