



October 23, 2023

Honourable Sylvia Jones
Minister of Health
sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org

Honourable Michael Tibollo
Associate Minister of Addictions and Mental Health
Michael.Tibollo@pc.ola.org

RE: Minoogawbi, La Place, The Spot Supervised Consumption Site

Dear Hon. Sylvia Jones and Hon. Michael Tibollo,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the lack of provincial funding for the supervised consumption site in my community of Sudbury, Ontario. As an intensive care unit (ICU) physician who has witnessed the devastating consequences of substance use firsthand, I am compelled to advocate for a more compassionate and effective approach to addressing this urgent public health crisis in Northern Ontario.

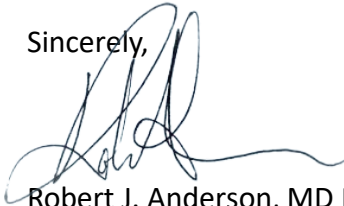
The sight of young individuals being admitted to the ICU due to drug overdoses is a heart-wrenching experience that no one, including healthcare professionals, should endure. Every time we admit a young person in critical condition following an overdose, we are reminded of the lives at stake and the emotional toll it takes on patients, their families, and their communities.

By providing a safe and controlled environment where individuals can access medical assistance, harm reduction resources, and addiction support, supervised consumption sites prevent deaths. In providing provincial funding for the supervised consumption site in Sudbury, trained healthcare providers can immediately intervene in overdoses, alleviating the burden on our already-strained healthcare system, and most importantly, spare families the loss of their loved ones.

I urge you to consider the life-saving potential of these facilities and provide provincial funding to make supervised consumption accessible on an ongoing basis in our community. I don't want to tell another family their loved one has died of an overdose that could have been prevented through the use of a supervised consumption site.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter, and I am open to discuss this further should you require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Anderson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert J. Anderson, MD FRCP

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