



Hon. Sylvia Jones  
Minister of Health  
777 Bay Street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

October 17, 2023

Dear Minister:

I am writing in support of Minoogwabi / La Place / The Spot, the supervised consumption site housed at Réseau ACCESS Network in Sudbury.

Along with prevention and treatment, supervised consumption services play a critical role in reducing drug-related harms at the individual and population levels. They have been shown to help reduce transmission of HIV, hepatitis C, and other blood-borne infections, and to lower the incidence of fatal overdoses.

They are also well positioned to help people connect with other health and social services, including providing substance use disorder treatment for those who are interested. In some cases a supervised consumption site may be the only potential point of contact a person has with the health system. Fatal drug poisonings are continuing to rise across the province, and cutting support for the services offered at this supervised consumption site will only exacerbate the crisis.

Supervised consumption services are not a luxury. They are, unambiguously, an essential and life-saving intervention. I urge you to ensure that the supervised consumption site at Réseau ACCESS Network can continue operating.

Sincerely,

Leslie Buckley, MD, MPH, FRCPC  
Chief, Addictions  
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

CC: Hon. Michael Tibollo

**Queen St. Site**  
1001 Queen St. W  
Toronto, ON  
M6J 1H4