

Site Selection Process for a Proposed SCS in Barrie

Prepared by: Gilbert Centre, CMHA, SMDHU

For Barrie City Council Meeting – June 24, 2019

Summary:

The original site selection process, and the additional investigations following the June 3 council meeting, have resulted in only one strong option for an SCS site in Barrie: 90 Mulcaster St. The SCS planning committee has found it to be the only site that meets all of the selection criteria and practical needs of an SCS site, other than its proximity to a park, which has been addressed through additional mitigation strategies. In particular, the unique features of 90 Mulcaster that are not features of any other site include:

- owned by CMHA Simcoe as a highly supportive landlord, rather than the significantly more challenging – and potentially unfeasible – option of renting a suitable space (given the need for a) landlord approval, b) landlord holding the space while awaiting provincial approval and funding of the application, and c) landlord supporting the SCS through any challenges that may be faced);
- co-located with CMHA's addictions and mental health treatment services, as well as primary care services; and
- adjacent to the David Busby Street Centre, where the need for an SCS has been well demonstrated.

The other potential site options, as outlined in this document, are far inferior to 90 Mulcaster in terms of the certainty they provide as suitable SCS sites, and in terms of their ability to optimally meet the needs of clients and the provincial government's application criteria. For similar reasons, out of the 15 Consumption and Treatment Services [sites approved](#) by the provincial government to date, 10 are located within Community Health Centres (CHCs), 2 are within homelessness services, 2 are within existing AIDS service organizations, and 1 is operated by a CHC but located off site. Within Barrie, given that there is not a CHC in the downtown vicinity, the most comparable site to these approved sites is 90 Mulcaster.

While the SCS planning committee strongly believes that the 90 Mulcaster site will not only serve clients well but will also decrease the significant community harms currently faced by the neighbourhood due to public drug use, the committee has heard the concerns about this site raised by some local neighbours, through several avenues of consultation and feedback. The committee has sought to address these concerns through a range of mitigation strategies, which are included in this document. These strategies have been enhanced based on the most recent feedback received by deputations and Council members at the June 3 Council meeting. Also appended is documentation of strategies that the David Busby Street Centre is implementing in order to address concerns raised regarding their site.

Introduction:

The purpose of this document is to respond to Barrie City Council's request for information regarding other sites considered for a proposed Supervised Consumption Site (SCS) in Barrie and the site selection process undertaken by the Gilbert Centre, Canadian Mental Health Association Simcoe (CMHA) and the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU), on behalf of the Harm Reduction Pillar of the Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy (SMOS). This process was conducted between February and April 2019, with the additional analysis of 3 other locations following the June 3 Council meeting: the Barrie Bus Depot, 136 Bayfield St. and 34 Simcoe St.

This information is intended to respond to the motion from Council on June 3rd:

That motion 19-G-168 of Section "C" of the Second General Committee Report dated May 27, 2019 concerning the Proposed Supervised Consumption Site Location – 90 Mulcaster Street be deferred to the City Council meeting of June 24, 2019 to enable Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy (SMOS) to investigate a more suitable location for the Supervised Consumption Site including looking at the vacant section of the Bus Station. (PLN015-19) (File: S08)

This document does not repeat information previously shared with Council in support of their meetings on May 27 and June 3, including the City of Barrie staff report, the SMOS SCS Community Consultation and Engagement Report, the SMOS SCS slide deck, and the SMOS responses to Council questions raised at the May 27 meeting.

Site Selection Process:

A site selection process was undertaken from February to April 2019, within the borders of Wellington St. to Vespra/Simcoe Sts. and Mulcaster St. to Bradford St. This area was decided based on where the highest concentration of drug use is located, as indicated by Emergency Department visits for the broader North Central area of Barrie (see Appendix A), as well as indicators for this more specific geographic area including reports from outreach services, location of needle exchange sites and the volume of distribution of those sites, and community consultation findings.

Sites that were available for purchase or lease within the desired area were compared to our selection criteria and practical needs, as outlined below. It is important to note that CMHA was also looking for additional space for mental health and addictions crisis services and were initially considering buying space for these services, in which the SCS could also have space. When it was determined that no suitable space was available to meet the needs of both the crisis services and SCS, CMHA offered to create space for an SCS at their currently occupied location at 90 Mulcaster St.

It is also important to note that the SCS Planning Committee had/has no ability to financially secure rental space in advance of a proposal being approved and funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care (MOHLTC), making it challenging or potentially unfeasible to rent a property from a private landowner. The MOHLTC has indicated by email that: "Only CTS applications that are approved for provincial funding may include costs for renting space in their CTS budget (if approved as a reasonable cost by the ministry), and CTS budgets can only take effect following the approval of the CTS application." An additional challenge that some communities have faced with attempting to rent property for an SCS is the lack of assurance from the landlord that the SCS will continue to be supported despite challenges that may be faced.

SCS planning committee's site selection criteria (as referenced in the provincial [CTS guidelines](#)):

- near where people use drugs
- access to wrap-around services, with a priority on addictions services, mental health services, primary care and social services
- acceptable distance from sensitive land uses

SCS planning committee's site selection practical needs:

- appropriate zoning and building code
- landlord approval for use of site as SCS
- property financially viable to purchase (when CMHA was entertaining this option) or to rent/lease

Barrie SCS – Sites Considered:

The chart below details the review that was undertaken by the Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy (SMOS) Harm Reduction Pillar to determine suitable locations for a SCS in Barrie. The criteria/needs considered and the data sources used are in keeping with the previous sections of this document.

Information on sensitive land use distances, as well as zoning and building code, were requested and received from the City of Barrie (see Appendix B). While a change of use process for building codes can be initiated if required, City of Barrie staff have indicated that this process can be lengthy with uncertain outcomes (i.e. the requested change may not ultimately be feasible). Therefore, this would introduce an element of uncertainty.

In addition to the sites originally investigated by the SCS planning committee and included in the below chart, three additional options were considered following the June 3 Council meeting: 24 Maple – Bus depot, 136 Bayfield, and 34 Simcoe. We investigated these sites, in particular, as they all have public sector landlords and/or services already on site, which could potentially help overcome the barriers of private sector rental as identified in the previous section.

Table 1: Potential fixed sites considered for Barrie SCS

Location	Proximity of 100-200 metres to sensitive use (Y/N) *see sensitive use guidelines below	Wrap Around services onsite (Y/N) *if No, services would be by referral	Near where people use drugs (Y/N)	Viable to purchase or rent/lease (Y/N) *funding for rent/lease not available from the MOHLTC until CTS application is approved	Landlord approval	Meets municipal zoning and building code requirements (Y/N) *Change of building code use required where indicated
13 Codrington	Y -Library Park	N	Y	N- Not avail for sale/sold	N/A	Zoning N and *Change of use req'd
40 Clapperton	Y -Library Park, and School	N	Y	N- Too expensive to purchase by CMHA, when CMHA was previously looking to purchase.	N/A	Y
49 High Street	Y -- Queen's Park	N	Y	N- No funds avail to secure rental/lease space.	No inquiry made d/t other site limitations	Y but *change of use req'd
110 Dunlop	Y - Queen's Park	N	Y	N-- No funds avail to secure rental/lease space.	No inquiry made d/t other site limitations	Y
15/21 Bradford Street	Y- Waterfront Park	Y – mental health	Y	N/A- Owned by CMHA – No space available as of June 2019	N	Y
80 Bradford Street	Y- Waterfront Park	N	Y	N- No space available as of June 2019. No funds avail to secure rental/lease space.	N	Y

90 Mulcaster Street	Y- Berczy Park	Y –addictions, mental health, primary care, social services	Y	N/A - Owned by CMHA	Y	Y
70 Wellington Street	Y— directly abuts Child Care Centres, School and Queen’s Park	Y - addictions	Y - However at the edge of the area where concentrated drug use is occurring	Would need to request space from RVH. No funds avail to secure rental/lease space	No inquiry made d/t other site limitations	Y but *change of use req’d
136 Bayfield Street	Y- School, Child Care Centres, Lions Park	Y – social services	Y	Would need to request space from landlord. No funds avail to secure rental/lease space	No inquiry made d/t other site limitations	Y
34 Simcoe Street	Y- Waterfront Park	N	Y	Would need to request space from landlord. - No funds avail to secure rental/lease space	No inquiry made d/t other site limitations	Y
24 Maple Ave	Y- Waterfront Park, School *also attached to Barrie Police Service satellite office which could impede use by clients.	N	Y	N – available space confirmed by City of Barrie as NOT current occupiable. No funds avail to secure rental/lease space	No inquiry made d/t other site limitations	Y but *change of use req’d

*Sensitive Use Guidelines from MOHLTC CTS application: “The ministry will also assess the applicant’s proximity to licensed child care centers, parks, and schools (including post-secondary institutions)” *”If the proposed site is within close proximity (e.g. 100m - 200m) to any of these, the applicant must specify how community concerns will be addressed through community consultation, and through ongoing community engagement.”

Option of a mobile SCS or trailer

In response to the suggestion that the SMOS Harm Reduction Pillar consider a mobile SCS or a trailer for Barrie, please note the following:

Within the Health Canada application, a mobile SCS can be applied for on its own. The province has identified that they anticipate mobile sites will have difficulty meeting the CTS application criteria around sensitive uses. On both applications (federal SCS and provincial CTS), the mobile stops have to be identified beforehand so Health Canada and the MOHLTC can assess them. There are several issues that are posed with a mobile unit, such as how long the unit is at each stop, the capacity to serve clients, the ability to provide wrap around supports, accessibility and adequate aftercare space. Health Canada has advised that applications for a mobile SCS must have an identified need for a mobile unit in their community. Providing mobile units are relatively new in Canada with only 3 such units offered. Utilizing a mobile SCS poses additional challenges with meeting the demand as the unit has set times and set locations that may not work for a wide population. As well, if a mobile unit is unavailable to be used, clients might not have another place to consume drugs.

In regards to a trailer, as per the MOHLTC CTS guidelines, the building used for a SCS must be a class D building, and meet a B2 building code requirement. It's unclear if a trailer would meet those requirements, as only one exists in Ontario. The sole SCS/CTS in Ontario that utilizes a construction trailer is Inner City Health in Ottawa. Inner City Health's trailer was only designed to be used as a temporary site for under 1 year. There were several concerns identified such as lack of space, wear and tear on the trailer, and the need to make it accessible under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act. Additionally, there is a lack of space at any CMHA properties in the defined search area for a trailer to be deployed considering the space needed for the ramp needed to make it accessible.

Community feedback on site options

MOHLTC CTS application indicates that, in assessing the applicant's proximity to licensed child care centers, parks, and schools: "Applicants will require evidence of support by local stakeholders, including residents." While some local residents have expressed concerns about the proposed SCS site of 90 Mulcaster St, it is important to note we have also received substantial support from local stakeholders and residents for the concept of an SCS in downtown Barrie, as well as specifically for the proposed site of 90 Mulcaster St. Those **letters of support** specifically noting 90 Mulcaster are included in Appendix C. In addition, letters/emails of support from local residents were also sent to City of Barrie clerk, not all of which the SCS planning committee was copied on. Of note as well is the fact that while four of the nine deputants at the June 3rd meeting spoke to specific concerns they have with the proposed site of 90 Mulcaster St., others spoke out against SCS in general anywhere in the downtown core, which is not a concern that is compatible with the needs identified by the SCS planning committee.

The [SCS Community Consultation and Engagement report](#) provides maps of location suggestions indicated by Community stakeholders and People with lived experience of drug use, as they were explicitly asked about this during their consultations, and the findings were considered during the site selection process. While the survey for the general public did not specifically ask respondents for recommended site locations, following the June 3 Council meeting a further analysis of the general

public surveys were conducted regarding where an SCS should be located. In their comments, 92 general public respondents did offer specific locations or areas in which an SCS should be located in Barrie, and these include:

- Hospital (n=17)
- David Busby Street Center (n=12)
- Industrial area in Barrie (n=12)
- City Hall (n=8)
- 80 Bradford St. and area (n=7)
- Health Unit (n=6)
- Police station (n=5)
- Methadone Clinic (n=4)
- CMHA Building (n=4)
- Medical facility (n=3)
- Area of Bayfield mall and the Kozlov mall (n=3)
- South end of Barrie (n=3)
- Outside of Barrie (n=3)
- Bus depot on Mary Street (n=3)
- 34 Mary St. (n=3)
- Old Barrie Jail (n=2)
- Other mentions include within emergency services, YMCA on Grove St., the soup kitchen, side - street downtown, near the train station, RAAM Clinic, north end of Barrie, west of Bayfield St. (Mary St. & Toronto St.) area, food bank, or north of Bayfield St. and Ross St. (1 mention each)

Summary of sites considered:

In summary, the preferred option remains 90 Mulcaster St as it meets nearly all of the selection criteria and practical needs of an SCS site, as outlined in the chart above and based on the CTS guidelines. None of the other sites are strong alternatives based on information available at this time, as they all have substantial limitations in one criteria/need or another.

Mitigation Strategies:

The following mitigation strategies will be identified in the SCS applications and implemented in order to address the concerns identified in the community engagement and consultation results. New additions were made to these strategies following the June 3 Council meeting, as identified in highlighted text.

The goal of the mitigation strategies is to ensure the SCS provides a safe, effective service to clients and one that is operated to minimize negative impacts on the surrounding community and improve community safety. It should be noted that these mitigation strategies will be reviewed for effectiveness at each SCS Advisory Committee Meeting (consisting of clients, community members and community partner agency representatives) to ensure smooth operation of the SCS from a client and community perspective. The Gilbert Centre, as the SCS operational lead agency will provide quarterly written status updates to the SCS Advisory Committee, SMOS Steering Committee membership and Barrie City Council for the first year of operation.

Community and Client Safety

1. In order to create safe space inside and outside of the SCS that encourages clients to use the space and feel safe from the potential of being victimized (i.e. theft of their drugs or personal belongings), being watched by the police or being watched by drug dealers, the SCS will provide adequate seating, space, privacy, non-judgmental and supportive staff, staff that are trained in de-escalation techniques and trauma-informed care, and will ensure a positive SCS relationship with the local police. In addition, a site Code of Conduct will be created by the clients and staff to ensure that everyone who uses the site is treated with mutual dignity and respect and to encourage clients to respect the safety and property of neighboring residents and businesses.
2. In order to mitigate community stakeholder concerns regarding possible increase in high risk behaviors and crime and an increase in vulnerable population in the immediate vicinity to the SCS, onsite security cameras and additional lighting (see Appendix D - site floorplan map) will be installed to deter loitering and facilitate optimal viewing of all areas of the properties adjacent to 90 Mulcaster St. In addition, the planning committee will conduct a site plan or a scoped site plan to explore how fencing, landscaping and lighting can provide optimal visual/sound barriers between clients and residential and business neighbors. The SCS will have a security guard onsite during hours of operation to help keep the area clear of discarded needles and other gear, as well as to discourage loitering and direct people to services to meet their needs, in order to support clients, deter drug dealing, and prevent disruption to the surrounding community. SCS staff will ensure ongoing positive communication with Barrie Police Service, in order to coordinate efforts to protect the safety of clients and community members. A fence will be built on the cement partition to the entrance to the SCS to deter loitering and provide a visual separation for clients and neighbors. In addition, please see Appendix E for Busby Mitigation Strategies.
3. In order to help mitigate community stakeholder concerns regarding negative perceptions of SCS from the community and safety concerns regarding found needles, SCS staff will create a needle sweep plan for the grounds of the SCS and will work with the Community Safety and Wellbeing and Connected Core Committees to coordinate needle sweeps in the surrounding neighborhood and other areas of high drug use in the downtown core. Effectiveness of needle sweeps between SCS staff and community partners will be monitored by the SCS Manager and SCS Advisory Committee. In addition, SMDHU will continue to promote used needle return through distribution of bio hazardous containers through the Needle Exchange Program Sites including the Barrie SCS.

Site Selection

1. The proposed site, 90 Mulcaster, was chosen as the site for an SCS in Barrie as this is in an area where people using drugs already spend considerable time, and where there is the potential to re-

direct clients from facilities that are currently being de-facto used for this purpose (e.g. the nearby public library and other businesses/buildings). This is in keeping with best practice to select an SCS location that is within 1 km distance from open drug use that is already occurring, and with feedback received from PWLE indicating one out of three would be willing to walk 4-15 minutes to an SCS. 90 Mulcaster was also chosen as the SCS site as it is ideally co-located with mental health and addictions and nurse practitioner services for clients; it is also nearby to additional health and social services; and it is not within 200 metres of sensitive land uses such as schools and licensed daycares. ***It is however within 180 metres of Berczy Park. The SCS planning committee intends to address this issue through:***

- a. **Consistent with the research evidence, the committee anticipates that the current open drug use and needle waste occurrence in this park will in fact be improved with a nearby SCS.**
- b. **As suggested by local residents, the park needs to be cleared of brush, cleared of used needles regularly, and increasingly monitored by police. The SCS manager will work with the Community Safety and Wellbeing and Connected Core Committees to coordinate these activities.**
- c. **In addition, harm reduction outreach to Berczy Park coordinated with community partners will assist with getting people linked to harm reduction, health and social services they need.**

90 Mulcaster is also *within 180 metres of the Season's Centre for Grieving Children*, an organization providing critical support to children and youth experiencing the loss of a parent or loved one. We will continue to liaise with the Season's Centre staff and management to ensure any issues are addressed in a timely manner.

2. If the SCS application is approved, 90 Mulcaster will undergo retrofitting to ensure accessibility, one way flow of clients from intake to discharge, separate injection and chill spaces, and proper ventilation. Parking for SCS staff will be secured.

Ongoing Community Engagement

1. In order to mitigate community stakeholder concerns regarding the negative impact an SCS could have on Barrie, an SCS advisory committee will be formed that includes, but is not limited to, clients of the SCS, neighbours and businesses surrounding the SCS, local police, community partner agencies and a staff member of the SCS. This committee will meet on a regular basis to address any potential challenges and to further the successes of the SCS. **Prior to this committee being established SCS staff will participate in a Neighborhood Advisory Committee that CMHA will take the lead in initiating in July 2019. This committee will ensure ongoing discussion and planning to ensure**

community and client safety for CMHA, David Busby Street Centre, and SCS clients. Please see Appendix E for Busby Mitigation Strategies.

2. Additionally, an SCS staff person will be identified as a community liaison to respond to public and media questions or concerns regarding the site and community safety planning. This staff person will then work with the SCS site manager to address concerns.
3. The SCS operators will be responsible for reporting data including but not limited to: number of clients accessing services, number of overdoses reversed onsite, number of client referrals to treatment and other health and social services to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) on a monthly basis. This data will also be made public on the Gilbert Centre's website (the sponsoring agency).
4. The services of the SCS will have ongoing assessment to ensure that the services are meeting the expectations of the clients, the community and the funding body, and to permit quality improvement. The Gilbert Centre, as operational lead agency, will provide a quarterly written status updates to the SCS advisory committee, SMOS steering committee, and Barrie City Council.

Access to Wrap-Around Community Services

1. The Gilbert Centre will ensure established links made between the SCS and relevant treatment, social and health service providers in Barrie as part of the SCS planning/application phase, are maintained and enhanced to ensure a smooth client referral process.
2. Defined pathways to mental health and addiction services as well as nurse practitioner services will be available onsite through CMHA, and other health and social services will be facilitated through referral. There will be a registered nurse onsite at the SCS at all times.
3. In addition, the David Busby Centre is located next door to the proposed SCS, and provides outreach services and emergency shelter support to the street-involved population and those at risk of homelessness.

Education and Awareness

1. In order to address community stakeholder concerns regarding lack of community understanding or knowledge, The Gilbert Centre, CMHA and SMDHU will continue engagement and education efforts with the general public regarding drug use and the opioid overdose crisis. Continued promotion of workshops and other educational events related to the root causes of addiction, prevention efforts and treatment options will occur. The Gilbert Centre, along with SMDHU and CMHA, will engage in efforts to increase knowledge and awareness of the Barrie SCS and mitigate negative perceptions of SCS through media, presentations and updates on organizations' websites. In addition, Gilbert Centre will host an open house of the SCS prior to opening along with monthly open houses afterwards, for the public to visit the site and engage with staff regarding the services provided, in

order to gain a better understanding of the SCS service. Harm reduction education and presentations to interested community groups will also be continued.

2. To address stigma associated with the SCS and people who use drugs, and to address the perception of the site as enabling drug use, there will be continued endorsement and public sharing of SMDHU's anti-stigma campaign entitled [*People who Use Drugs are Real People*](#). This includes campaign banners, videos, posters/post cards, as well as presentations to community partnerships.

Conclusion

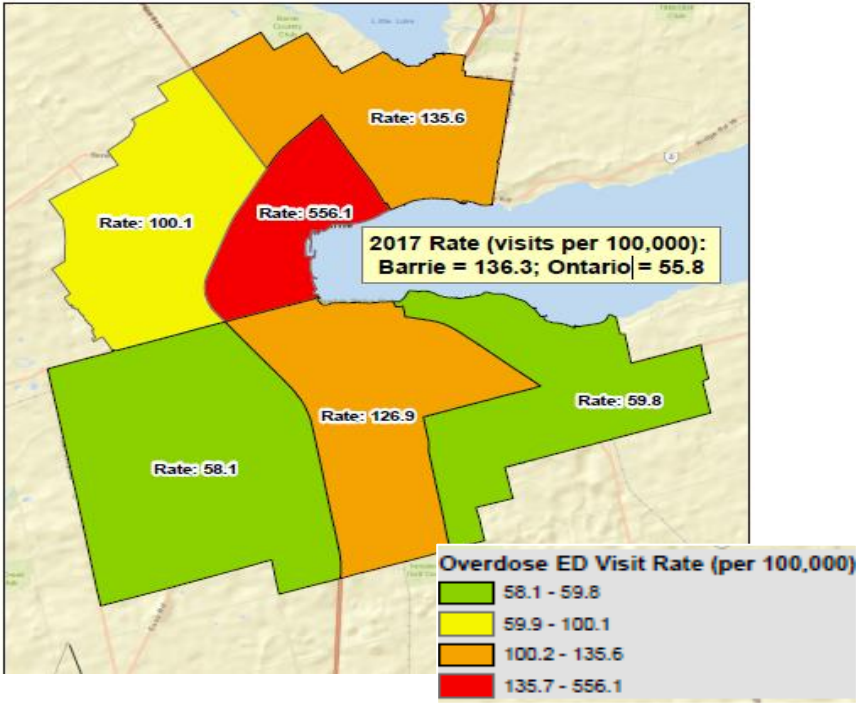
After careful review of the MOHLTC CTS application criteria and practical needs for an SCS site, matched with the sites that were selected for review in downtown Barrie, it has been determined that 90 Mulcaster St is the preferred site location. It is the only site that meets nearly all of the selection criteria and practical needs, and it has the following unique factors:

- owned by CMHA Simcoe as a highly supportive landlord, rather than the significantly more challenging – and potentially unfeasible – option of renting a suitable space;
- co-located with CMHA's addictions and mental health treatment services, as well as primary care services; and
- adjacent to the David Busby Street Centre, where the need for an SCS has been well demonstrated.

We remain committed to implementing mitigation strategies including engaging with local residents and stakeholders on an ongoing basis to address any issues as they arise. The SMOS SCS planning committee is confident that the proposed location of 90 Mulcaster St. in Barrie remains the preferred location to meet both client and local neighborhood needs and urges City Council to approve it as the proposed SCS site in the application process to both the MOHLTC and Health Canada.

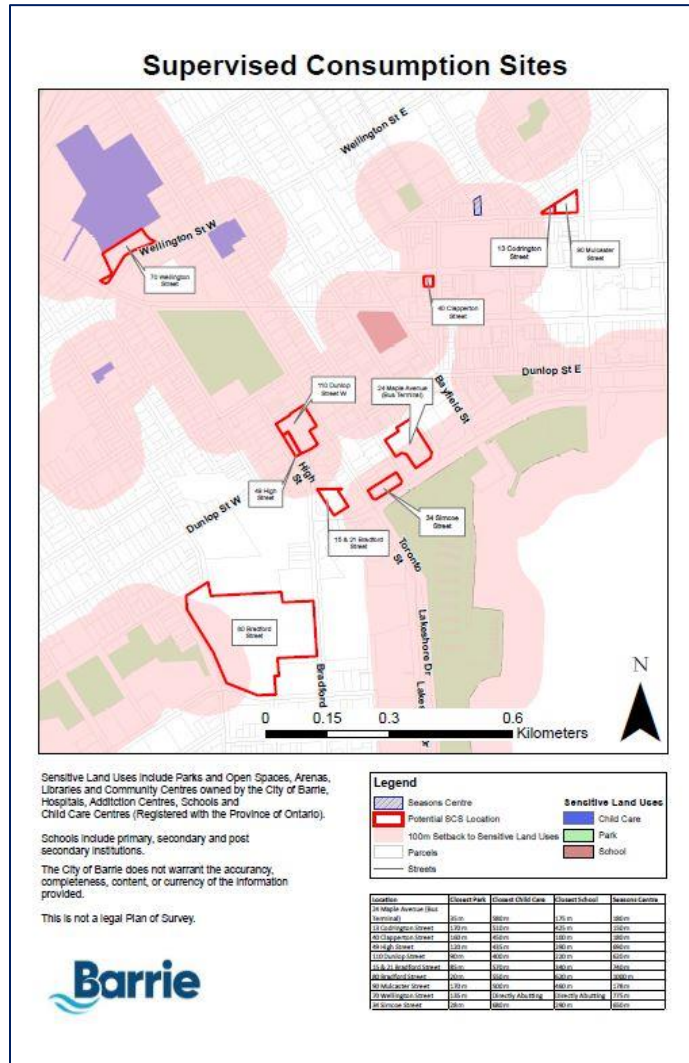
Appendix A

Opioid Overdose Emergency Department Visits Barrie Aggregated Census Tracts, 2017



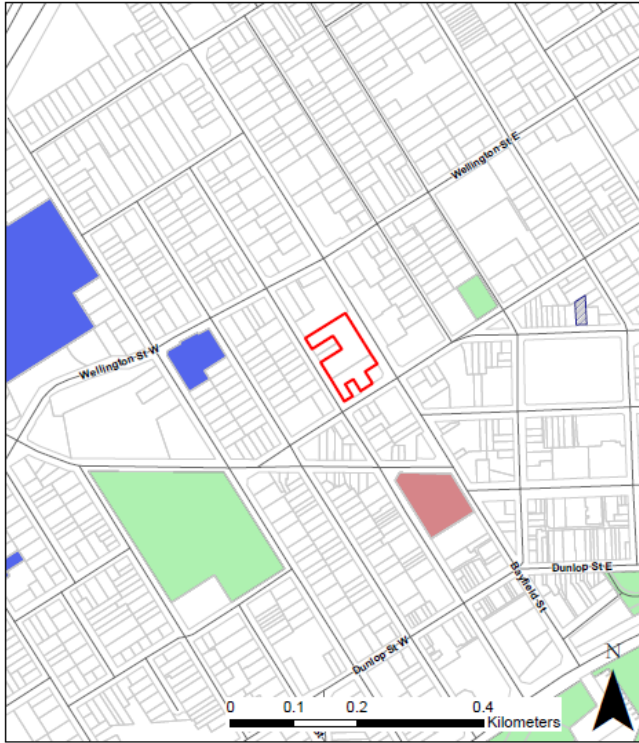
Appendix B - City of Barrie provided maps for sites investigated related to proximity to sensitive land uses and building code/zoning

All Sites – Distances Revised



SCS Bayfield – Distances

Supervised Consumption Sites - 136 Bayfield



Sensitive Land Uses include Parks and Open Spaces, Arenas, Libraries and Community Centres owned by the City of Barrie, Hospitals, Addiction Centres, Schools and Child Care Centres (Registered with the Province of Ontario).

Schools include primary, secondary and post secondary institutions.

The City of Barrie does not warrant the accuracy, completeness, content, or currency of the information provided.

This is not a legal Plan of Survey.

Legend

136 Bayfield	Child Care
Seasons Centre	Park
Parcels	School
Streets	



Location	Current Zone	Rezoning Required?	Current OSC Classification	Note
136 Bayfield Street	22-3	No	Some Group D Sites	Confirm suite for more information

Supervised Consumption Sites - 136 Bayfield



Sensitive Land Uses include Parks and Open Spaces, Arenas, Libraries and Community Centres owned by the City of Barrie, Hospitals, Addiction Centres, Schools and Child Care Centres (Registered with the Province of Ontario).

Schools include primary, secondary and post secondary institutions.

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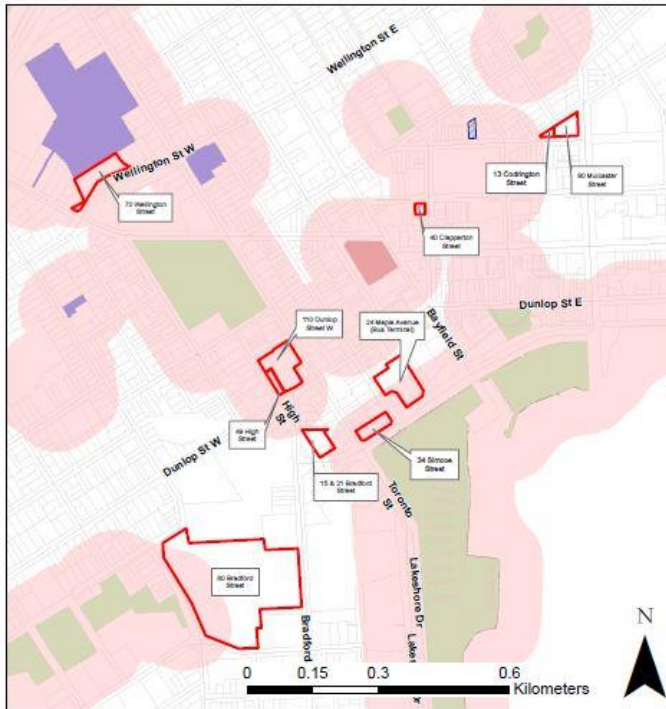
Legend		Sensitive Land Uses	
	136 Bayfield		Child Care
	Seasons Centre		Park
	Parcels		School
	Streets		



Location	Current Zone	Reasoning Required?	Current OBC Classification	Note
136 Bayfield Street	C2-1	No	Some Group D Sites	Confirm suite for more information

All Sites – OBC Revised

Supervised Consumption Sites



Sensitive Land Uses include Parks and Open Spaces, Arenas, Libraries and Community Centres owned by the City of Barrie, Hospitals, Addiction Centres, Schools and Child Care Centres (Registered with the Province of Ontario).

Schools include primary, secondary and post secondary institutions.

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This is not a legal Plan of Survey.

Legend

Seasons Centre	Child Care
Potential SCS Location	Park
100m Setback to Sensitive Land Uses	School
Parcels	
Streets	

Address	Owner	Access	Access Method	Access (24 Hr. Use/Restr.)	Notes
24 Maple Avenue (Bus Terminal)	City of Barrie	Yes	Access from Dunlop Ave	Access 24 Hr. Use/Restr.	Change of Use (Bus Terminal) required for signposting
40 Capperton Street	City of Barrie	Yes	Access from Dunlop Ave	Access 24 Hr. Use/Restr.	Change of Use (Bus Terminal) required for signposting
13 Codrington Street	City of Barrie	Yes	Access from Dunlop Ave	Access 24 Hr. Use/Restr.	Change of Use (Bus Terminal) required for signposting
90 Mulcaster Street	City of Barrie	Yes	Access from Dunlop Ave	Access 24 Hr. Use/Restr.	Change of Use (Bus Terminal) required for signposting
49 High Street	City of Barrie	Yes	Access from Dunlop Ave	Access 24 Hr. Use/Restr.	Change of Use (Bus Terminal) required for signposting
170 Dunlop Street W	City of Barrie	Yes	Access from Dunlop Ave	Access 24 Hr. Use/Restr.	Change of Use (Bus Terminal) required for signposting
24 Maple Avenue (Bus Terminal)	City of Barrie	Yes	Access from Dunlop Ave	Access 24 Hr. Use/Restr.	Change of Use (Bus Terminal) required for signposting
34 Elmwood Street	City of Barrie	Yes	Access from Dunlop Ave	Access 24 Hr. Use/Restr.	Change of Use (Bus Terminal) required for signposting
15 & 21 Bedford Street	City of Barrie	Yes	Access from Dunlop Ave	Access 24 Hr. Use/Restr.	Change of Use (Bus Terminal) required for signposting
80 Bedford Street	City of Barrie	Yes	Access from Dunlop Ave	Access 24 Hr. Use/Restr.	Change of Use (Bus Terminal) required for signposting



Appendix C – Letters of Support Specific to 90 Mulcaster St location

Subject: Support for the Safe Consumption Site at 90 Mulcaster Street

In support of the SCS Planning Committee, we want to express our continued support for their well-researched choice of 90 Mulcaster Street as the ideal site. With our city projected to grow to 250,000 residents the current almost epidemic addiction deaths would appear to be unstoppable. Not only must our city step in and put in a life saving compassionate centre in our core but seriously plan for other centres to the north and especially the south of Barrie. This major social problem is not just in the core for the unfortunate people "on inner city streets" its also secretly hidden in our quiet neighbourhoods. If life is priceless then our city must protect it no matter how and where it is displayed.

Mike Slinger, President

Barrie Taxpayers Association

www.barrietaxpayersassociation.com

Hi Janice,

I continue to support the specifically proposed site location of 90 Mulcaster Street.

Michelle

Michelle Bergin

Executive Director

Catholic Family Services of Simcoe County

t. (705) 726.2503, ext. 105 | Toll Free (888) 726.2503 | www.cfssc.ca

Hi Janice,

We are still in support of the SCS and feel that the location of 90 Mulcaster is an ideal location. I will try to come out to the council meeting on the 24th.

Thanks,
Steph

Captain Stephanie Watkinson

Executive Director
Ontario Central East Division

The Salvation Army Barrie Bayside Mission Centre
16 Bayfield Street
Barrie, ON L4M 3A4
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 38, Barrie, ON L4M 4S9

Good morning Janice,

I would like to extend my support for the proposal of the Supervised Consumption Site being located at 90 Mulcaster St.

Brian.

Brian Irving RCS, RP, CACII

Interim Manager:

Addiction Services

North Simcoe Muskoka RAAM Services

Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre

70 Wellington St. W

Barrie, Ontario L4N 1K4

www.rvh.on.ca

Tel (705)728-9090 x24311

Fax (705)726-3833

Irvingbr@rvh.on.ca





South Riverdale
COMMUNITY
HEALTH CENTRE

955 Queen Street East | Toronto, Ontario | M4M 3P3
main tel: 416.461.1925 medical tel: 416.461.2493
main fax: 416.469.3442 medical fax: 416.461.8245
srhc.ca

City of Barrie
City Hall, 70 Collier Street
P.O. Box 400, Barrie, ON, L4M 4T5

Re: SCS ratification Vote

May 31 2019

To Whom it may concern:

My name is Denise Baldwin and I am a Health Promoter for Harm Reduction at South Riverdale Community Health Centre in Toronto.

I am writing this email in hopes it can be shared with council as they prepare the ratification vote regarding SCS in Barrie on Monday June 3 2019.

I was born in Barrie and continue to call this city my home. I commute every day to Toronto for work. My family has roots at the Barrie Native Friendship Centre, as my mother is our community Elder. I have worked in the harm reduction field for the past 10 years within the city of Toronto and also provincially, with a focus on Indigenous harm reduction. Currently, I am a part of the Harm Reduction Pillar for the Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy as well as a part of the SCS working group through CMHA Simcoe, SMDHU and the Gilbert Centre. South Riverdale community Health Centre currently houses a safe injection site. I have taken part in deputations to Toronto council as well when my colleagues and I were fighting to have SCS's to be brought to the city of Toronto.

With my experience as a front-line worker in the global drug war, and my experience working within the safe injection site, I can say with confidence what a difference this life saving service is to citizens and community members who use substances. Not only does this service literally save lives, it also connects them to health care services, builds community and empowers people to take control of their health care needs if they choose too. Our SCS is fully supported by the local BIA, schools, churches and other community stake holders.

The high rate of opioid fatal overdoses within the city of Barrie is something that none of us as residents should ignore. This is an issue that affects us all greatly. I believe it is the duty of Barrie City Council to ensure that all residents whether housed or under-housed, be treated with dignity, compassion and ensure the best quality of life for everyone not just the privileged. I can also share, that I have met Barrie residents in these spaces and delivered harm reduction services too. It all intersects.



The truth of it all is that safe injection sites already exist in Barrie. Where you might ask? Well, it's in the bathrooms of restaurants, the library, the alley's and the parks. Having a space dedicated to safe injection will eliminate people using in public spaces. It will eliminate syringes being disposed of in a unsafe manner. It does not increase crime. These are all myths due to stigma around substance and drug use. I encourage council to reach out and receive some Harm Reduction 101 training either from myself, or the Gilbert Centre to gain a better understanding.

I hope council continues their endorsement of this vote. Lives are literally depending on this. Not that long ago, our community was and still is mourning the loss of a young Indigenous woman, who might be still here had we had the proper services for her, the proper education and prevention resources to help her and her family. Parents shouldn't be burying their children anymore, when we know we can do something about it.

Miigwech,

Thank you

In kindness and respect,



Denise Baldwin

Health Promoter Harm Reduction



CITY OF BARRIE - CITY COUNCIL_SIMCOE MUSKOKA OPIOID STRATEGY

May 29 2019 (Barrie, Ontario)

Updated Downtown Barrie Business Association (BIA) Position on Safe Consumption Sites (SCS)

In light of the announcement of 90 Mulcaster St being chosen as the Safe Consumption Site (SCS) location, the Downtown Barrie Business Association (BIA) Board of Management endorses the application by the Gilbert Centre and the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA).

For info on the Downtown Barrie Business Association (BIA), visit downtownbarrie.ca

For info on the Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy, visit <http://preventod.ca/about-smos>

Contact: Craig Stevens, Managing Director
Downtown Barrie Business Association (BIA)
Office: 705-734-1414 | Email: cstevens@downtownbarrie.ca

June 5th, 2019

City of Barrie
70 Collier Street
P.O. Box 400
Barrie, ON, L4M 4T5

Re: Proposed Supervised Consumption Site for Barrie, ON

Dear Mayor Lehman and Members of Barrie City Council:

We write to you as clergy in the United Church of Canada serving and/or living in the City of Barrie to offer our support for a Supervised Consumption Site (SCS) in the City of Barrie, and in particular at the location of 90 Mulcaster Street.

In the report titled *Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy: An Action Plan for Our Communities*, Dr. Lisa Simon and Dr. Rebecca Van Iersel in their 'Message from the Co-Chairs,' state that, "the burden of opioid misuse, addiction and overdose in Simcoe and Muskoka is an urgent problem. As an indication of this, rates of opioid-related deaths and emergency department visits in Simcoe Muskoka are well above provincial averages, and continue to climb substantially." We understand the need for urgent care and intervention for harm reduction. We support the action plan and foundation pillars as related to the SMOS report.

We support the 90 Mulcaster Street location for the SCS because of the counselling and addictions services offered on-site by the Canadian Mental Health Association and also because we recognize that those most in need, such as people at the David Busby Centre, are close by. We hope that the City Council of Barrie will support a site that offers intervention and treatment possibilities.

While we recognize the proximity of the address to Berczy Street Park, we also understand that, as Dr. Simon explained, there are ways to successfully mitigate the 100 to 200 metre variance. We concur that would include continued dialogue with the community.

We believe that the South Muskoka Opioid Strategy has taken many factors into consideration in choosing 90 Mulcaster Street. Several Barrie City Councillors stated: "We have to get this right" and we believe that SMOS is doing just that.

As Ministry Personnel in the City of Barrie we often engage with those who live on the margins. Our faith teaches us that we are called to act with justice when we see social issues in our community that need to be engaged. Reading through the SMOS Action Plan, Pillar Three: Harm Reduction, we are able to recognize that an SCS will not solve all the problems for the City of Barrie when it comes to addictions, but it will help to reduce the risk of HIV and Hepatitis C; it will enhance the pathways to treatment; it will be a step toward reducing public injection and it will provide an effective referral mechanism toward treatment.

We look forward to continuing to be part of the solution regarding the opioid crisis.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Susan Eagle (Minister, Grace United Church)
Andrea Wheaton, DLM (Minister, Burton Avenue United Church)
Rev. Phil Dallimore (Minister, Northwest Barrie United Church)
Rev. Hewitt Holmes (Minister, Collier Street United Church)
Jeffrey Dale, MFA (Youth Ministries Coordinator, Grace United Church and Shining Waters Regional Council)
Rev. Philip Cable (Registered Psychotherapist)
Rev. Thelma Arnott (Voluntary Associate Minister, Grace United Church)
Rev. George Moore (Voluntary Associate Minister, Grace United Church)
Rev. Patricia Gale-Macdonald (Minister Emeritus, Burton Avenue United Church)
Rev. Kirsty Hunter (Resident of Barrie; Minister, Minesing United Church)

35 additional letters signed by United Church members

Rev. Jane Sullivan (Resident of Barrie; Minister, New Lowell and Creemore United Church)
Rev. Ruth McDonald (Listening Post Minister; Voluntary Associate Minister, Burton Avenue United Church)
Rev. Dr. Todd McDonald (Resident of Barrie; Pastoral Relations Minister, Shining Waters Regional Council)

cc: **Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy**
c/o Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
15 Sperling Drive
Barrie, ON
L4M 6K9

May 31, 2019

Re: Letter of Support for the Proposed Supervised Consumption Site for Barrie, ON

To Mayor Lehman and Council,

I am writing as a resident of Ward 2 in appreciation for General Committee's initial approval of the plan for a supervised consumption site at 90 Mulcaster Street, Barrie, and to encourage City Council to formally approve this site.

As you are aware, the high rate of opioid-related overdoses and deaths in Simcoe Muskoka, particularly in Barrie, has been a growing concern impacting the health of our community. There were 81 opioid-related deaths in Simcoe Muskoka in 2017, with 36 of those deaths in Barrie. The rate of opioid related deaths in Barrie more than tripled between 2013 and 2017.

In 2017, Barrie ranked third among large municipalities in Ontario for opioid overdose emergency department visit rates. There were over 200 emergency department visits for opioid poisonings among residents of the City of Barrie in 2017 – **a rate more than double that of the province**. The central north area of Barrie (which includes downtown) had 10 times the rate of opioid overdose ED visits in 2017 than the provincial average, and four times the overall Barrie average. **Barrie is in a crisis when it comes to opioid overdoses and opioid related deaths.**

I sincerely applaud the work done in our region to date by Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy (SMOS) member agencies in the release of *An Action Plan for Our Communities* (refer to www.preventOD.ca) - a comprehensive strategy that covers harm reduction, medical and emergency response, prevention and treatment.

I have deep gratitude for the resilience and commitment of those directly involved in bringing research, evidence, and compassion into community conversations. To that I want to formally applaud Matt Turner, Dr. Gardner, Dr. Rebecca Van Iersel, and Dr. Lisa Simon. They are gifts to our region and have supported efforts to inform, educate, involve, consult and collaborate on this crisis.

As Council decides on the proposed site Monday, I encourage you all to take a moment to credit those who continue to work to decrease the stigma of those using drugs, increase access to treatment, are educating the community on harm reduction practices and have been engaging the community on this opportunity.

We know a supervised consumption site will benefit our entire community – both those who are using drugs and the surrounding community – through reducing overdose fatalities, reducing public injecting, enhancing pathways to treatment, reducing the risk of HIV and Hepatitis C from needle sharing, and promoting a safer environment for drug use.

I look forward to hearing of Council's approval and being part of the solution regarding the opioid crisis.

Respectfully Yours,
Ann-Marie Kungl, MPH
62 Oakley Park Square (Ward 2 resident)



Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy
c/o Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
15 Sperling Dr
Barrie, ON
L4M 6K9

60 Worsley Street
Barrie, Ontario L4M 1L6
tel 705.728.1010
fax 705.728.4322

June 17, 2019

Re: Proposed Supervised Consumption Site for Barrie, ON

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of the Barrie Public Library Board to offer our support for a supervised consumption site to be located at 90 Mulcaster Street in Barrie, Ontario.

The safety of the Downtown library is compromised by opioid use in Barrie, particularly in the Downtown core, and the Board believes a supervised consumption site nearby will discourage opioid use in our facility.

Individuals have been found using opioids and other drugs in exterior stairwells, outside the front entrance and in the washrooms. Since 2017, library staff members have administered Naloxone six times to individuals who have overdosed on library property. The Library Board has taken a zero-tolerance stance on drugs and drug paraphernalia in our library branches and have put in place several safety measures (security, secured washrooms, extra police presence, security cameras, etc.). While we are doing what we can to ensure our spaces are safe and welcoming for all, the bottom line is drug use has no place in the public library.

A supervised consumption site at 90 Mulcaster Street is an important step in harm reduction efforts and is a necessary measure to protect the safety of everyone using our library spaces. Several chief executive officers from urban public libraries across Canada have reported a decrease in drug use in their libraries when a supervised consumption site is located nearby. A supervised consumption site will not only increase safety for library patrons but is expected to benefit the entire community through reducing overdose fatalities, reducing public injecting, enhancing pathways to treatment, reducing the risk of HIV and Hepatitis C from needle sharing, and promoting a safer environment for drug use.

We look forward to continuing to be part of the solution regarding the opioid crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Austin Mitchell".

Austin Mitchell
Board Chair, Barrie Public Library Board

URGENT: Letter of Support for SCS endorsement at Council Meeting on Monday June 3, 2019

Attention Barrie Mayor and all Council Members:

We represent many families in this area who have lost a loved one to opioid overdose, or have a loved one who is at high risk of overdose death.

Many people feel distanced from this unprecedented epidemic of deaths ... until it happens to someone they love.

We also are members of, and represent, the policy position of Moms Stop the Harm, a Canada-Wide advocacy group of over 800 families who have lost a loved one to overdose death, or have loved ones at risk. MTSH strongly supports SCS and SIS initiatives across Canada. Every life is worth saving. No family is exempt from this epidemic of opioid deaths.

We are writing to Barrie Council in support of the General Committee's motion to endorse the application to Health Canada and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care for a Safe Consumption Site (SCS) in Barrie.

The proposal for an SCS in Barrie has been prepared by respected leaders and agencies in our community - SMOS, CMHA and Gilbert Centre. They have completed extensive consultations, have recommended an excellent location with many adjunct services, and they are working hand-in-hand with all Barrie services to help our most vulnerable population.

We urge all Barrie Council members to stand up and endorse this application. It is the right thing to do and this is the right time. We must not let fear-mongering colour ethical decisions. Every resident of Barrie deserves dignity, care and compassion.

Barrie has the second highest rate of opioid overdoses of large Ontario cities with populations over 100,000. Why is this the case?

Barrie was the first to support wide distribution of Naloxone to Emergency staff to prevent opioid overdose deaths. We encourage Barrie Council to also take a leadership role to providing a Safe Consumption Site to prevent overdose deaths and offer hope to those who are suffering from substance abuse problems in the downtown core.

The hope is that this will be a bridge to connection and ultimately a bridge to counselling and treatment. People who feel connected to their community and cared for are more likely to choose treatment.

Please vote to endorse this application for an SCS in Barrie. You will be saving lives.

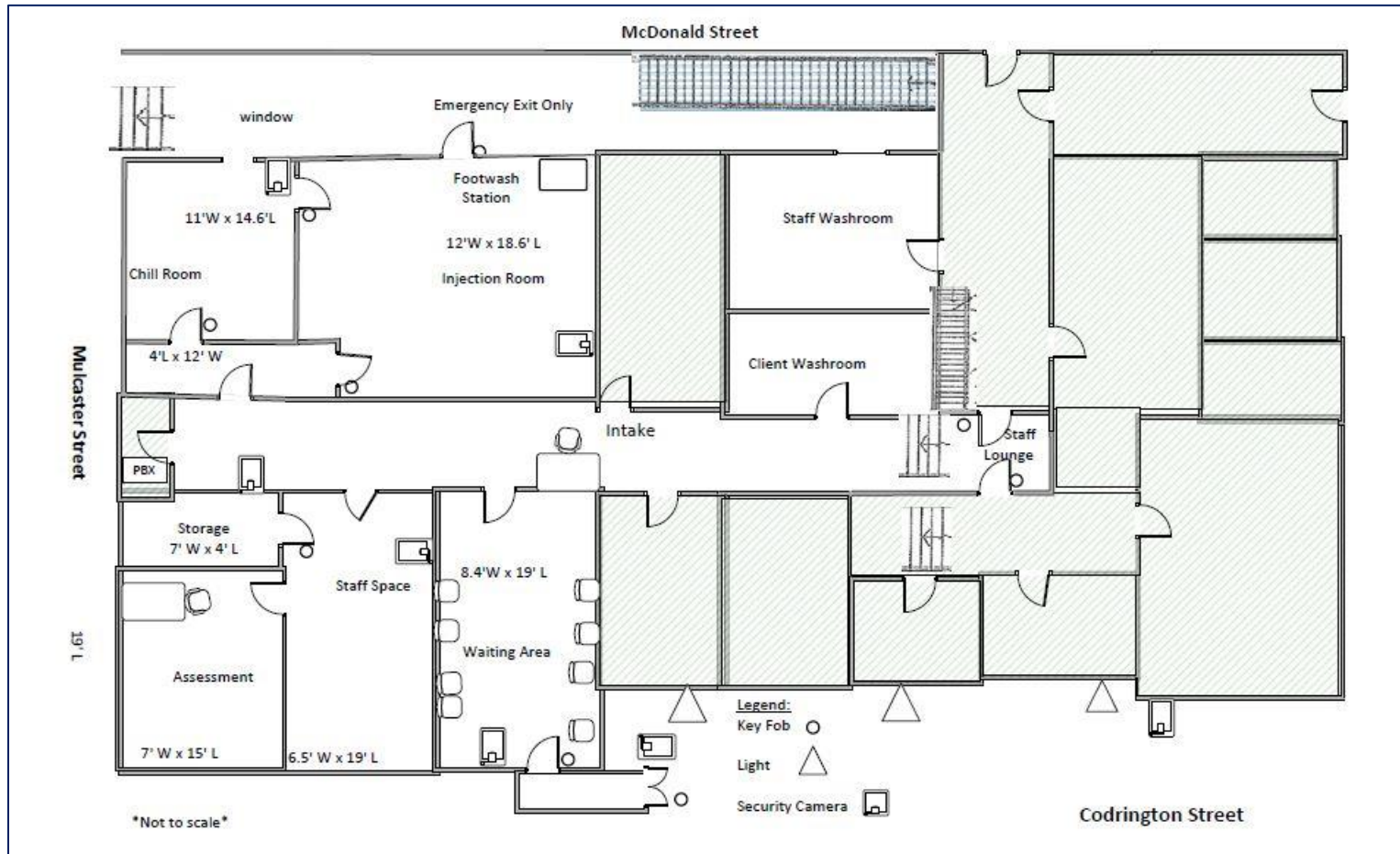
Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn and David Pollock MD

On behalf of our late son Daniel,

On behalf of many affected families in the Barrie area, and On behalf of Moms Stop the Harm

Appendix D – SCS Floor Plan



Appendix E – Busby Safety Plans

The Cause of Homelessness

"People who experience homelessness are not distinct and separate from the rest of the population. In fact, the line between being housed and unhoused is quite fluid. In general, the pathways into and out of homelessness are neither linear nor uniform. Individuals and families who experience homelessness may not share much in common with each other, aside from the fact that they are extremely vulnerable, and lack adequate housing and income and the necessary supports to ensure they stay housed. The causes of homelessness reflect an intricate interplay between structural factors, systems failures and individual circumstances. Homelessness is usually the result of the cumulative impact of a number of factors, rather than a single cause.

Structural factors

Structural factors are economic and societal issues that affect opportunities and social environments for individuals. Key factors can include the lack of adequate income, access to affordable housing and health supports and/or the experience of discrimination. Shifts in the economy both nationally and locally can create challenges for people to earn an adequate income, pay for food and for housing.

Poverty

Homelessness and poverty are inextricably linked. People who are impoverished are frequently unable to pay for necessities such as housing, food, childcare, health care, and education. Poverty can mean a person is one illness, one accident, or one paycheque away from living on the streets.

Housing

A critical shortage of housing that is affordable, safe and stable directly contributes to homelessness. The millions of Canadian families and individuals living in "core need" (paying more than 50% of their income on housing) are at serious risk of homelessness, as are families and individuals spending more than 30% of their income on housing. Arguably, the most impactful factor is the lack of affordable housing nationwide; however, discrimination can impede access to employment, housing, justice and helpful services. Racial and sexual minorities are at greater risk of such discrimination.

System failures

Systems failures occur when other systems of care and support fail, requiring vulnerable people to turn to the homelessness sector, when other mainstream services could have prevented this need. Examples of systems failures include difficult transitions from child welfare, inadequate discharge planning for people leaving hospitals, corrections and mental health and addictions facilities and a lack of support for immigrants and refugees.

Personal circumstances and relational problems

Individual and relational factors apply to the personal circumstances of a person experiencing homelessness, and may include: traumatic events (e.g. house fire or job loss), personal crisis (e.g. family break-up or domestic violence), mental health and addictions challenges (including brain injury and fetal alcohol syndrome), which can be both a cause and consequence of homelessness and physical health problems or disabilities. Relational problems can include family violence and abuse, addictions, and mental health problems of other family members and extreme poverty.

Domestic Violence

There is an undeniable connection between domestic violence and homelessness. Family violence, estimated to affect 237 victims per 100,000 people, (Statistics Canada, 2016) can force individuals and families to leave home suddenly, without proper supports in place. This is particularly an issue for youth and women, especially those with children. Women who experience violence and/or live in poverty are often forced to choose between abusive relationships and homelessness. Young people that are victims of sexual, physical or psychological abuse often end up experiencing homelessness. As well, seniors that are experiencing abuse and neglect are increasingly at risk of homelessness."

Reference: Stephen Gaetz, Jesse Donaldson, Tim Richter, & Tanya Gulliver (2013) The State of Homelessness in Canada 2013. Toronto: Canadian Homelessness Research Network Press.

The David Busby Centre and Community Context

The David Busby Centre has been proud to operate within a Harm Reduction philosophy since the early 1990's. As a social service that works within the homelessness sector, we have, unfortunately, witnessed several preventable deaths. However, as early adopters of best practice, our organization has been able to offer people access to services that are non-judgemental while treating participants with dignity and respect. Through these services, we have had the opportunity to build many trusting relationships with the people who access our facility and, as a result, have seen first-hand how these services empower people to drastically change their lives. Self determination when combined with access to supportive services, housing and appropriate treatment programs has the potential to alter the course of a participant's life. The David Busby Centre believes that until we see new, innovative and accessible ways for people to access immediate addiction treatment in a low barrier fashion then we will continue to see the cycle repeat. In order to be effective, communities must stock many tools in their "Harm Reduction Toolbox". A Safe Consumption Site is but one of those tools and the David Busby Centre is in support of this important tool being developed in our community.

The David Busby Centre one small piece of a very large, complex social need puzzle. As a low barrier social service agency, we provide support to many individuals that other organizations or service providers in the community will not, or are not able to, serve. For this reason, the David Busby Centre receives several referrals or drop offs on a daily basis from community partners including, but not limited to, the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre, Barrie Police Services, City of Barrie, County of Simcoe, Service Ontario, Service Canada, Canadian Mental Health Association and other shelters or human service organization. These referrals and drop-offs often occur when an individual is exhibiting negative behaviours associated with a mental health or addiction crisis but, as assessed by the healthcare or justice systems, are not considered to be an immediate threat to themselves or others. In these situations, the person is referred or dropped off at the David Busby Centre where we continue to care for the person – ensuring that they do not harm themselves or others. We do our best at the David Busby Centre to work with all of our community partners and respect the challenges that each organization faces, however, we feel these partnerships could be significantly improved if we were to engage in respectful, transparent, bi-lateral conversations.

Over the past few weeks, there have been statements made which indicate that The David Busby Centre is "out of control" and "mismanaged". These statements are not only unfair but false. Misinformed

comments and editorial bias sway the layperson's opinions causing them to pass harsh judgement on a not-for-profit organization that is already heavily taxed and spread incredibly thin. This is especially frustrating when the non-profit in question is the recommended referral agency for the entire community.

To be clear, yes, mental health and addictions challenges are "out of control" and "mismanaged" by the entire community. However, the David Busby Centre is part of the solution and will continue to participate with community partners on improved solutions to these community challenges.

Neighbourhood Allies and Safety Plan

The David Busby Centre works hard to be good community partners while working within our means both in terms of human and financial resources. We understand that for individuals who are not trained in de-escalation, mental health and addictions, or who do not have lived experience with mental health and addictions, bearing witness to a person who is experiencing a crisis can be very uncomfortable. However, it is also important to note that not all the people who access our services end up in a mental health crisis. Our organization provides much-needed services that help to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness but we are only one agency and our organization was not designed to support the massive increases in unsupported mental health and addictions issues within our community.

As an organization, we have also seen an alarming increase in the number of people with mental health and addictions needs who are unsupported. For this reason, we have implemented the following:

1. Trained staff/student outside monitoring the main entrance/smoking area consistently during our operating hours which is currently Monday through Friday 7am-5pm and Saturday/Sunday 7am-12pm. Staff and students monitor for safety activities such as ensuring that people are refraining from drug/substance use, refraining from any illegal activity, excessive language, de-escalation of any potential disagreements or potential altercations, etc. Additionally, our teams walk along McDonald Street to observe and collect discarded items or garbage.
Challenge: As soon as a participant steps onto public roads or sidewalks we no longer have authority. However, we continue to encourage good behaviours. If this happens, we ask people to move along off of the street and if they refuse then we call our partners at Barrie Police to follow up.
2. During the period of time when our organization offers overnight, emergency group lodging (December 2018-May 30th 2019) and throughout the day, our staff perform perimeter checks around the entire building (88 and 90 Mulcaster Street) and records activity during this time. Our team monitors and discourages behaviours listed in point #1.
3. During the period of time when our organization offers overnight, emergency group lodging (December 2018-May 30th 2019), after curfew, the staff move the "smoking area" from the McDonald Street entrance to the Mulcaster Street entrance for the duration of the evening.

The following discusses activities that we are working on with our landlord, Canadian Mental Health Association, and other community partners such as Barrie Police, Gilbert Centre, Health Unit, etc:

1. As the landlord, CMHA will be implementing monthly Neighbours Advisory Meetings. This Advisory Group will work together on solutions. The group will develop and follow a Terms of Reference. Meeting minutes will be recorded.
2. The David Busby Centre is working with our landlord (CMHA) and the City of Barrie on a solution that will not only increase privacy for the neighbours but also for the people accessing Busby services.
3. It is our understanding that CMHA, as the landlord, are in the process of installing outdoor cameras for added security.

Submitted by Sara Peddle, Executive Director of the David Busby Centre

June 17, 2019