

Tara McArthur

From: Lisa Streets <lisa.streets@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 6:12 PM
To: cityclerks
Subject: Fwd: I support the proposed SCS site

Dear City Clerks,

I was advised by Mia Brown of SMDHU that this email should also be provided to you. Thank you!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lisa Streets
Date: Tue, May 25, 2021, 3:25 PM
Subject: I support the proposed SCS site
To: <council@barrie.ca>
Cc: mia.brown@smdhu.org <mia.brown@smdhu.org>

Dear members of council,

I wanted to take the time to write a long, well-researched letter in support of the proposed SCS site. But life got in the way, and I thought it would be better to just provide something brief but heartfelt.

I moved to Barrie 3 years ago, and my husband has worked downtown for many years. It's very apparent that there is a significant drug use issue in the city, and as much as some people wish it wasn't true (I have heard many say that they simply don't go downtown, and/or won't let their kids go there)...that doesn't solve any problems. Nor does it help the people who need to be kept safe when they wish to be, or alleviate the stress on emergency workers, downtown business owners, or the community.

I have read the research & community experience reports regarding SCS. I have spoken to people who work/volunteer at SCS, including some who are recovering drug addicts. I am confident that an SCS is an important community resource to protect our city's residents and reduce the strain on our emergency medical resources.

I have been heartbroken to see the continued delays that have occurred while a small but vocal sector of the community express fear & NIMBYism. They do not offer solutions to help people; they are operating from a position of denial, privilege & prejudice.

Please vote to proceed with the SCS. Although the proposed site was not my first choice, I trust the committee to make a well-informed & well-balanced decision. And frankly our city CANNOT wait any longer.

Best regards,

Lisa Streets
Ward 1 resident

Tara McArthur

From: Dr. Nina Hansen
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 3:05 PM
To: cityclerks
Subject: DEPUTATION (SCS)

To whom it may concern,

Firstly, I am NOT against a SCS and I do agree that there is an opioid crises. However, it is my strong impression that the decisions being made by the City of Barrie are wrong! The approved motion to move forward with 11 Innisfil Street as the location, is NOT OKAY.

My name is Dr. Nina Hansen, I am 32 years old and I am Barrie born and raised. I grew up and currently reside at . I attended Prince of Wales and Barrie Central before completing my bachelor of Science (Honours) at Queens University with Distinction. After which I completed my Doctorate in Toronto.

I currently run my business “Dr. Nina Hansen Chiropractic” out of my home at . I have worked over 8 years in post secondary education in order for me to provide health and lifestyle treatment to my current patient base. However, the proposed site is literally right across the street from my home and my business (I can see it from my window).

In recent years, I have observed an increase in homeless people and drug use in my neighbourhood, specifically around my house. The actions that have been taken to “help” or “fight” against the opioid crisis in downtown Barrie are laughable. It appears that City Planning is poor, and there is a huge lack of future planning in regards to the growth and success of downtown Barrie and the waterfront.

The location at 11 Innisfil Street is NOT the same as 80 Bradford Street. This is a residential street! The entrance and complete unit is SEPARATE from 80 Bradford. PLEASE consider that I have my niece and nephew here multiple times a week (ages 5 and 2); I have patients come and go, and I live in one of Barrie’s oldest and beautiful Heritage Homes.

Putting this site directly in a residential neighbourhood, near a children’s day care is absolutely absurd. Especially considering that patrons attending the SCS can leave and literally cross the street into Milligan’s Pond.

These actions are enabling the problem, not fixing it. And I certainly will make my voice and opinion known. I have first hand, witnessed the beautiful downtown Barrie fall by the waste side.

My suggestion—> We need to put an effort into creating an all encompassing health & treatment facility that includes Doctors, Therapists, Social Workers, Lawyers, the CMHA, methadone clinic and a SCS. When I completed my clinical year, I worked as a Chiropractor in a similar facility in Toronto that was a pilot project organized through St. Michael’s Hospital. There is ample evidence available to ensure that an interdisciplinary health, wellness and a SCS facility is the best option.

Furthermore, it is my STRONG opinion that if downtown Barrie and our beautiful waterfront has any hope or future at all... this “facility” will not be located downtown but rather up by the RVH. I do acknowledge that the majority of drug use and overdose cases are downtown Barrie... but this can and should be changed (or at least some effort made). People depending on these services will go where the resources are available. It’s not rocket science.

The Barrie Waterfront is within 5 minutes walking distance, and over the last few years we are literally “giving” downtown Barrie and the beautiful waterfront to the homeless and drug users. This has been a huge issue with all the

commercial and residential units on MARY Street. So why is Council not understanding this ?! I'm dumbfounded, that's an understatement.

I've woken up to individuals sleeping on my front porch, in my backyard, and just last week I stopped traffic in front of my house (corner of Perry and Innisfil) in order to help a man who was high and passed out on the road (it was 2 pm). I no longer take my niece and nephew to Milligan's Pond, nor do I feel safe there or even walking my block at night.

This is NOT okay and seriously it's going to result in complete destruction of our beautiful downtown Barrie.

Thank you kindly and sincerely for your time and understanding. This is a very important personal and professional matter that affects my life and the lives of my family. Please consider my opinion.

Nina Hansen
Chiropractor
Acupuncture Provider
Personal Trainer

Dr. Nina Has Your Back