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REGION OF PEEL
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

204-60 Queen St. E., Brampton, ON, L6V 1A9
Ph: 905 457 0447

TO: The Regional Chair and members of Regional Council

RE: Instituting a Safe Consumption Site in the Region of Peel

July 4, 2022

Homeless Health Peel (HHP) is a nurse-led non-profit organisation providing health care services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in the Region of Peel. In addition to primary care, our organisation provides specialty mental health and addictions to individuals who are ready for treatment. During the COVID-19 pandemic, HHP nurses supported individuals at the isolation hotel who were actively using substances and were able to ensure no overdose fatalities.

It is important to note that there were many individuals that were unable to complete their isolation period because of their need to use substances in a manner that we were unable to adequately support at the COVID-19 Isolation Hotel. Individuals who used substances lacked the close oversight and resources necessary to do it in a safe and non-judgemental environment. It is for this reason that the nurses of Homeless Health Peel support the Peel Public Health's proposal for a safe consumption site, with enhanced supports, within the Region of Peel.

While there is extensive research to show the effectiveness of a safe consumption site, we have seen the firsthand impact that not having a safe space to use substances has had on our patients and our community. Creating this safe space is vital to saving lives of our neighbours and community members and it is our hope that you will support this proposal.

Sincerely,

Clinton M. Baretto

Clinton Baretto, NP BScN MSc (Bristol) GNC(c)
Founder and Clinical Director - Homeless Health Peel

REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED _____
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED ☒ _____