



Mayor Sam Sullivan  
Vancouver City Hall  
453 West 12th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

Dear Mayor Sullivan,

Vancouver continues to prove itself a world leader in innovative drug policy. A growing international consensus amongst medical scientists underscores our approach as a pragmatic and rational answer to the complex problems of drug addiction. Vancouver is proof that municipal governments can take positive action to ensure the health and well being of all citizens.

Last September, Vancouver residents benefited from your actions in support of an extended exemption (under Section 56 of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act) for InSite, North America's first supervised injection facility. As a result, InSite continues to provide injection drug users a clean, safe place to inject drugs under the supervision of trained health care professionals. The scientific evaluation of InSite's first three years provides evidence that this facility is a vital public health intervention, successful at preventing drug overdose deaths, reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS, limiting public disorder and moving more people into detox and addiction treatment.

Prescription maintenance and substitution therapy are key aspects of Vancouver's approach to reducing drug-related harm. Solid international research-based evidence supports such innovations. We commend the City of Vancouver for its ongoing commitment to pragmatic action and evidence-based solutions for individuals, families, and communities traumatized by addiction.

InSite for Community Safety is supported by individuals and groups dedicated to informing drug policy development and ensuring that future positive action can be made possible to save lives and keep our communities safe. IFCS supports your efforts promoting common sense solutions to this terrible problem. We look forward to working with you and other stakeholders to realize this vision.

Best Regards,

Nathan Allen  
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