



September 28, 2020

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy and the SCS/SIS Site Selection Committee:

In light of the August 21st, 2020 article on *Simcoe.com*, "So many considerations: Supervised drug-consumption site selection committee narrows list of possible Barrie locations", the Downtown Barrie Business Association (BIA) wishes to advise you of their position on the matter on behalf of their membership.

**"The Downtown Barrie Business Association (BIA) does not support the existence of a safe consumption/injection site (SCS/SIS) within a one (1) kilometer radius of the current BIA boundary."**

Whilst the Downtown Barrie Business Association (BIA) does not take a position with respect to the existence of an SCS/SIS in the overall strategy to combat drug addiction, they do not believe that the existence of an SCS/SIS in the downtown core is compatible with the BIA's purpose to promote the area as a business or shopping area. (Reference: Province of Ontario - Business Improvement Areas <https://www.ontario.ca/document/business-improvement-area-handbook/introduction-business-improvement-areas>)

The membership of the Downtown Barrie Business Association (BIA) would like to know what oversight and policies are in place that consider location, efficiency of services and impact on member businesses, landowners, customers and residents in the area.

Whilst the BIA recognizes the importance of social services, mental health, addiction services, methadone clinics and dispensing pharmacies, they are concerned with the unregulated, disproportionate, intensification and duplication of services in the downtown.

Thank you for the consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly McKenna", is written over a light grey dotted background.

Kelly McKenna  
Executive Director  
Downtown Barrie Business Association (BIA)

**Downtown Barrie Business Association (BIA)**

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