



ByWard Market Business Improvement Area

Zone d'améliorations commerciales du marché By

May 27, 2020

Councillor Mathieu Fleury
City of Ottawa
110 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, ON K1P 1J1

Re: Notice of Motion: Safe Supply

Dear Councillor Fleury,

Please accept this letter as general support for your Notice of Motion. At the May 25, 2020 ByWard Market BIA Board of Management Meeting, the Notice of Motion for Safe Supply was reviewed and discussed and generally supported.

The impacts of the opioid crisis, paired with the current housing and mental health crisis have presented very significant challenges and negative impacts on our community. Current policies and legislation have failed.

The concentration of social services and supervised injection sites in the downtown core have negatively impacted our area, our members and the community at large. The Board of Directors of the ByWard Market BIA support new and innovative efforts to address these challenges while also looking at options to de-centralize illicit drug use and drug dealing in our area.

While there is general backing for safe supply, this support hinges on associated services such as supportive-housing, health care and addictions services, like the current pilot project.

It is the hope of the Board, that through new and innovative approaches to this crisis, safe supply will decrease the negative impacts and burdens on our communities. This also includes the significant financial costs currently associated with addictions, drug dealing and homelessness.

The ByWard Market BIA has a long track record of working with the social service providers and the wider health community in their on-going efforts to address homelessness, addictions and mental health. We are prepared to assist in any way we can in the development of new policies and efforts in this regard.

Sincerely,
Jasna Jennings, Executive Director

