



St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish

Parafia Św. Stanisława Kostki

W służbie Bogu i Polonii od 1912 roku

4.7 (g)

November 29, 2021

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Proposed CTS Site for Hamilton's Ward 3

With this letter I would like to voice my concern over a proposed CTS site at 746 Barton Street East, Hamilton. The proposed location is situated merely 170 m from our Church and Parish Hall, which are the heart of Hamilton's Polish community, its religious and cultural centre. Nearly 10 000 people (3,200 families) are registered in our Church and use its programs and venues regularly. We hold 13 regularly scheduled religious services each week, not counting additional services like funerals, baptisms and weddings - slightly over a hundred of these performed each year. Our Parish also runs various youth and senior groups, organizes cultural and social events, and is a home for other numerous outreach and community-oriented groups and initiatives, such as AA, CWL, KofC, Street Ministry Outreach for the Poor and Homeless, etc. In the near future we are planning to open a licensed daycare centre which will be run by the Missionary Sisters of Christ the King who are ministering in our community. On a weekly basis, on average, our church is visited by approximately 2000 people who come from near and far to benefit from what our parish and the neighbouring Polish businesses have to offer related to their faith and culture.

Having said this, many of these regularly attending people have expressed to me (by email, in person, and through numerous signed petitions) their deep concerns regarding the vicinity of the proposed CTS site. They fear for their own wellbeing and safety, that of their elderly parents/grandparents, their children, as well as the physical/material wellbeing of our church and neighbourhood. They have put countless volunteer hours and financial means into making our Church and Hall safe and accessible to all, hoping their care and effort will add to the ongoing revitalization of our struggling neighbourhood. These people, mostly immigrants themselves, are questioning not only the location of this Safe Injection Site, but also the sincerity of its supporters, as there was absolutely no consultation, honest discussion or straightforward information shared with the local residents, businesses, schools and churches by the applicants.

I value and share the opinion of my parishioners both in the matter of the location of the proposed CTS, which I, too, deem wrong, and regarding the lack of transparency in the process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Father Michał Kruszewski, C.R.,
Pastor

8 Saint Ann Street
Hamilton, ON L8L 6P8

Tel: (905) 544 0726

Fax: (905) 544 8783

E-mail: stankostka@cogeco.ca

www.stankostka.ca