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Walter Furlan

Dear Honourable Prime Minister Trudeau

RE: Federal Exemption for Proposed CTS 746 Barton Street East Hamilton, ON

I am writing to you today as a business owner, resident, lifelong Hamiltonian and Canadian.

My wife and I own and operate a heritage conservation business out of 3 storefronts on Barton St in Hamilton. I reside with my wife above our shop in which we have invested heavily to restore.

WE DO NOT OPPOSE THE CTS SERVICE. We express opposition to the location of the site. It is inappropriate.

We choose to live here because of the diversity of the community. Indigenous, people of colour, and all sort of socio-economic persons reside here and contribute to this country.

I currently have 2 children serving in the RCAF. One a Captain he is charge of Griffon helicopter repairs, the ones currently being deployed in B.C. Another son a firefighter in Greenwood.

I am one of the few of Italian heritage that have settled here on Barton that did not listen to their parents' advice and leave to a more affluent area. I believe and care about this street and community.

I mention this because we are a family of service to this community and country.

Most people looking from the outside looking in think this community is poor, stupid and on drugs.

People that believe this sadly include our local politicians, medical and others that have predisposed that we would happily accept an injection site in this neighbourhood. They have no or little understanding of this community and they have seriously underestimated the people in this community.

In this area thriving churches, schools, daycares, seniors, services for young adults with intellectual challenges. A former Canadian Olympic boxer running a school for inner city kids, an African Caribbean club, thriving businesses and more.

This proposed CTS site is within 200 meters of all the above. Some are even closer.

There is more, the city and the proponents of the CTS, the Aids Network have not outreached at all to anyone in this community. Further they have attacked us viciously on social media saying that we were contacted but have not responded.

This is a deep disrespect of this community Mr. Prime Minister. Please have your people investigate this.

We are asking you to intervene directly in this matter. We ask that the federal approval to the Controlled Drug and Substances Act 56.1 application for CTS at 746 Barton Street Hamilton not be approved. We have over 1000 pen to paper signatures in opposition to the proposed location.

We are prepared to leverage the awakening of this community to it fullest. Please keep in mind that this is where industrial unionism was born in this country, a short way down the street from here. We are a resilient and self-reliant people.

I eagerly await to hear back from you Mr. Prime Minister as time is of the essence.

Sincerely,


Walter Furlan, for Barton Street and Country.