

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Council communications

From: Walter Furlan

Sent: Saturday, January 29, 2022 2:10 PM

To: Kolar, Loren <Loren.Kolar@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Items for Board of Health meeting

Hi Loren

Could you please kindly add these 2 news articles below and this email to the next Board of Health meeting. It seems to contain pertinent information regarding injection clinics being in close proximity to primary schools. Especially relevant information in relation to St Ann and daycare which is 175 meters away from the proposed location and Prince of Wales School just beyond 200 metres and in close proximity to proposed injection clinics.

I would also respectfully ask the board reconsider the location, TAN is not consulting with the local community, nor have they. The board of Health data reveals that there are more opioid users in ward 2 than ward 3. The 2 proposed locations in ward 3 do not appear to be good use of public funds on the surface at least.

Thank you, Walter Furlan

[Irish judge rejects injecting room because it was near a school \(mracgroup.com\)](#)

[Richmond Schoolkids Counselling For Shocking Incidents \(mracgroup.com\)](#)

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Irish judge rejects injecting room because it was near a school

19 July 2021 | Media

In Ireland, a high court judge has rejected plans for Ireland's first medically supervised drug injection facility. One of the main reasons is because of its positioning near a school.

Approximately 100 drug users are expected to use it every day, 63 of them by the time children are turning up to go into the neighbouring St Audoen's primary school, the court heard. The building is just 150 metres from St Audoen's, which brought the High Court challenge to the planning decision

The school claimed the decision was irrational and that an injection facility would worsen the already serious problems in the area, which include the buying and selling of drugs, overdosing and other anti-social behaviour.

The school board contended that a school and such a facility were incompatible and it had identified what it believed would be adverse impacts on the school.

The inappropriateness of locating a drug injection facility in close proximity to a primary school was highlighted. The submission cited a report from a clinical psychologist, retained by the school, to the effect that to have any facility close to a children's learning establishment that appears to normalise illegal practices (such as needle exchange, injecting with drugs or anti-social behaviour) as being acceptable would have an influence on a child's understanding. The clinical psychologist is recorded as saying that children "model" their lives and behaviour on the many influences they are exposed to: what they see will influence what they will do.

It was noted that advertising of alcohol is banned from areas in and around schools and other educational facilities as well as a "no fry zone" around schools to help alleviate and safeguard against childhood obesity. Such plans have been made in the past to protect children.

It was submitted that the proposed development would give rise to increased drug use and activity in the area and would cause a de facto "drugs marketplace" to be created. It is a basic principle of economics that supply follows demand.

<https://www.independent.ie/irish-news/courts/high-court-rejects-plans-for-irelands-first-medically-supervised-drug-injection-facility-40656231.html>



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Richmond Schoolkids Counselling For Shocking Incidents

16 May 2021 | Media

In today's Herald Sun:

<https://www.mra.com.au/news/victoria/flinders-st-likely-place-for-melbournes-second-injecting-room/news-story/9ea93359f3df2f2d6bce1aa1ab01390f>

Children from a primary school near Richmond's injecting room are receiving counselling after witnessing a [spate of shocking incidents](#).

Neil Mallet, the father of two boys aged 10 and 12 who attend Richmond West Primary School, said children were having grief counselling after the school went into lockdown in March when a man was seen brandishing a knife on school grounds.

Another man was found dead near the school the day after the incident.

"I have been made aware at recent meetings between school parents that children are receiving counselling after the knife incident," Mr Mallet said. "They are also witnessing users injecting themselves and overdosing nearby school grounds and this is unacceptable.

"Politicians keep stating the injecting room saves lives but they are not addressing the fundamental issue, which is the safety of our children."

Paramedics attended an incident on May 3 where a man aged in his 40s was taken to hospital in a stable condition after falling from a multi-level carpark on Vere Street about 1.30pm, which is close to the school.

While it's unclear if students saw the incident or whether it was drug-related, parents say it has left them "shocked".

Last week, police were seen searching bags at the front of the injecting room in Lennox Street after a group of men were believed to be dealing drugs.

A man was also seen injecting himself as students walked past the facility.

But the injecting room's medical director Nico Clark said there was a significant reduction in the number of ambulance attendances where paramedics needed to use naloxone around the facility since the trial began.

"There's clear evidence that it's having a positive impact on reducing public injecting and public overdose in Richmond around the injecting room," Dr Clark said.



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