

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 25, 2025 2:44:36 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca <clerk@hamilton.ca>
Cc: Ward 11 <ward11@hamilton.ca>; dan.muys@parl.gc.ca <dan.muys@parl.gc.ca>;
donna.skelly@pc.ola.org <donna.skelly@pc.ola.org>
Subject: Protect the Safety of Public Libraries

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

April 25, 2025

To: Councillor Mark Tadeson

RE: Proposal to Install Safe Injection Sites in Library Areas

Dear Sir,

It is clear City leaders have chosen to take the path of providing safe injection sites. This decision triggers a separate set of questions on how potential sites are selected. Specifically,

- What criteria is used to select potential sites?
- Are thoughtful risk assessments conducted by qualified individuals when comparing the merits of one location versus others?
- Are appropriate benchmarks used to verify predictions made during risk assessments?

If the answer to any of the questions above are, “No” or “Not sure”, it’s time to apply the brakes.

Libraries are public hubs that provide spaces for people of all ages and backgrounds to gather, interact and engage in various activities. Mothers bring babies and toddlers to Early Learning Centres. Students use quiet spaces to study. Older adults participate in book clubs. And they all feel safe doing whatever it is they do.

Where will these people go if they no longer feel safe going to the library?

Personally, I see merit in safe injection sites. But not at all costs. And not in areas where public safety could be materially jeopardized. Like near schools – and libraries.

I urge you to consider these concerns as the debate unfolds. I’m sure they will help Council reach the right decision on this important matter.

Best Regards

Kevin Kerr
[REDACTED]

Cc Dan Muys, Donna Skelly

Kevin Kerr

