

# Petition for continued operation of supervised consumption services and associated harm reduction programs



Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario

**To the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:**

- Whereas** a person dies every 2.5 hours from the toxic drug supply in Ontario;
- Whereas** supervised consumption services (SCS) sites – also known as consumption and treatment services (CTS) sites – have been instrumental in preventing thousands of deaths from the toxic drug supply;
- Whereas** the closure of SCS sites will increase the number of preventable deaths, injuries, hospitalizations, emergency room visits and the incidence of HIV and hepatitis;
- Whereas** SCS sites offer access to other health and social services, including addiction treatment;
- Whereas** the provincially-commissioned reviews of South Riverdale CHC found it desirable to maintain and enhance funding for SCS;
- Whereas** the closure of SCS sites is a withdrawal of health services for people who use drugs and is, consequently, a denial of their right to health care;
- Whereas** closing SCS sites will lead to an increase in drug use in public spaces; and
- Whereas** health care should emphasize prevention as well as treatment in a full continuum of care;

**Therefore, we the undersigned petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to:**

- reverse the decision to close SCS sites and ensure all established SCS sites remain operational and adequately funded;
- increase funding for SCS sites, including inhalation and other harm reduction services, for every community in the province in need; and
- ensure access to voluntary, publicly-funded and not-for-profit, evidence-based treatment.

Name (printed)	Signature	Address (including postal code)	City	Email (optional)	Phone number (optional)

Provide original hard copies to your local MPP or to: Ann-Marie Morris, Policy Department c/o Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario, 500-4211 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON, M2P 2A9