



Province of Manitoba

LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION

January 8, 2026

Aysha Mawani, Director General, Health Canada
Via Email: aysha.mawani@hc-sc.gc.ca

Dear Aysha Mawani:

We are writing to formally express opposition to the application for a supervised drug consumption site at 366 Henry Avenue. Manitoba's Progressive Conservatives stand with the residents and businesses of Point Douglas/North Logan, who have voiced clear and consistent concerns regarding both the proposed location and the flawed process that led to its selection.

The community letter submitted to Health Canada outlines these concerns in detail and effectively challenges the rationale being used to justify placing this facility in Point Douglas/North Logan. The issues raised highlight significant gaps in accountability, transparency, and evidence-based planning. The lack of a comprehensive plan with input from police, local residents and businesses points to a lack of proper preparation and due diligence from the NDP government.

A central concern is the absence of baseline data. The application provides no information on the number of overdoses currently occurring in the neighbourhood, nor any data from the past 12 to 24 months. Without this foundational information, it is impossible to assess need, evaluate risk, or determine whether this location is appropriate. The lack of a comprehensive plan with input from police, local residents and businesses points to a lack of proper preparation and due diligence from the NDP government.

The government asserts that the proposed site will improve health outcomes without increasing risks to public safety. Yet there are no defined success indicators, no measurable outcomes, and no explanation of how success will be evaluated, reported, or audited. Without clear metrics, it is unclear how the government can claim any anticipated benefits or ensure accountability for the site's performance.

Additionally, the application lacks essential operational details. There is no information on staffing levels, resource allocation, transparent operating budgets, long-term funding commitments, or oversight mechanisms. These omissions raise serious questions about sustainability, safety, and responsible management.



Public safety concerns are also left unaddressed. The proposal does not outline how the Winnipeg Police Service will manage issues such as loitering, public drug use, or paraphernalia disposal. There is no plan for coordination with police, EMS, or municipal services. If crime increases - as many residents fear - there is no strategy in place to respond. Furthermore, the application provides no current crime baselines for the community and no information on anticipated enforcement changes for police or paramedics.

Given these substantial gaps in evidence, planning, consultation, and accountability, the concerns raised by residents and local businesses are both valid and urgent. For these reasons, Manitoba's Progressive Conservatives support the community in calling on Health Canada to reject the proposed Henry Avenue location for this supervised drug consumption site.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. The residents and businesses of Point Douglas/North Logan deserve a process that is transparent, data-driven, and respectful of community input.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Obby Khan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Obby Khan, MLA
Leader of the Official Opposition

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Bereza", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeff Bereza, MLA
Critic for Housing, Addictions and Homelessness

Cc: Uzoma Asagwara, Minister of Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care
Bernadette Smith, Minister of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness