

Temporary Supervised Consumption and Treatment Services (SCTS) Site - Update

Presented To:	City Council
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Prepared by:	Christina Leader Children and Social Services
Recommended by:	General Manager of Community Development

Report Summary

This report provides information on the Supervised Consumption and Treatment Services (SCTS) site located at Energy Court lot, operated by Réseau ACCESS Network.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan, Health Impact Assessment and Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP)

The report supports Council's Strategic Plan around Quality of Life and Place as it aligns with the Population Health Priorities of Indigenous Youth, Mental Health, Housing and Healthy Streets by providing options for services to those individuals that are homeless in the community. This report has no relationship to the Community Energy and Emissions Plan.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Background

On May 25, 2021, the Community Drug Strategy Committee (CDS) provided Council with an update regarding the Supervised Consumption and Treatment Services site (SCTS) project. Council passed a motion calling for staff to continue supporting the Community Drug Strategy Committee and its partners by assessing all possible properties and locations that could be suitable for hosting a SCTS site and to continue supporting the preparation of a federal application for a Supervised Consumption and Treatment Services (SCTS) site.

In an update report to Council dated June 15, 2021, Council approved Energy Court as the location for a SCTS site and that the setup costs be funded from the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve – uncommitted, in an amount not to exceed \$800,000.

The Community Drug Strategy Committee (CDS) pursued an application for an urgent public health needs site as an interim solution while the permanent application continues. Federal and Provincial funding was not available for a temporary Supervised Consumption and Treatment Services (SCTS) site and therefore, Réseau ACCESS Network (Réseau), Public Health Sudbury and District's (PHSD) selected operator for the site, was asked to submit a draft budget based on working knowledge of other sites in Ontario.

On June 29, 2021, Council approved the operating budget for a SCTS site. Funding for the site was treated as an un-budgeted expense in 2021 for the remainder of the year, and a maximum amount of \$1.1 million would be added to the 2022 draft budget to be funded on the tax levy.

Provincial Funding Update

Provincial funding for operational expenses has not been confirmed at this time, which may result in an operating deficit for the program if the Province does not confirm funding in 2022. As well, the Province has confirmed with staff that they will not cover retroactive costs incurred in operating or capital.

Réseau and PHSD continues to work with the Province on requests for the funding application. Réseau has submitted a revised budget to the province to reflect staffing changes, and further identified needs —the total annualized operating budget (minus one-time expenses for the temporary site) is approximately \$1,374,000.

Construction and Operations

The City of Greater Sudbury has completed renovations to the buildings off Energy Court, which will act as a Temporary SCTS site while PHSD awaits full approval of a permanent site.

An Occupancy Permit was issued to Public Health and Réseau ACCESS Network on April 1, 2022. They can now access and prepare the space for operation, which includes an inspection and approval by Health Canada to authorize an exemption to operate a SCTS site. Following a site inspection by Health Canada which, occurred on April 8th along with the training of staff the site and pending approval from Health Canada, the site will be open to the public daily from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Next Steps

Staff will continue to support PHSD and Réseau as they work towards meeting Health Canada operational requirements. Staff will provide updates to Council regarding the Provincial funding application. Staff will make recommendations to Council during the 2023 budget if Provincial funding commitments do not materialize.

Resources Cited

1. “Community Delegation Presentation – Community Drug Strategy CDS” presented to City Council, May 25, 2021, <https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40052>
2. “Community Drug Strategy CDS”, City Council Resolution CC2021-156 carried May 25, 2021, <https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40064>
3. “Update – Supervised Consumption Site Property Review”, Manager’s Report presented to City Council, June 15, 2021. <https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40279>
4. “Update – Supervised Consumption Site Property Review”, City Council Resolution CC2021-181-A1 carried June 15, 2021, <https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40311>
5. “Purchasing By-law”, By-law 2014-1 being a By-law of the City of Greater Sudbury Governing Procurement Policies and Procedures, Consolidated Version, <https://www.greatersudbury.ca/city-hall/by-laws/by-law-pdfs-en/c-by-law-2014-1/>