



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 27, 2022

Consumption and Treatment Services Site (CTS) Receives Exemption from Health Canada *Approval Gives Final Green Light to Operation of CTS*

PETERBOROUGH – On the afternoon of May 26th, Fourcast, the host agency for Peterborough’s Consumption and Treatment Services site (CTS), received its exemption from Health Canada. This exemption represents the final approval with all conditions removed and is valid for a period of three years. The exemption is required to permit the use of illegal substances at the CTS and it means the facility can open to service users.

An exemption is a formal document issued to a person or group that authorizes specific activities with controlled substances or precursor chemicals that would otherwise be illegal. As detailed on the Health Canada website:

Health Canada manages exemption requests under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA). An exemption may be granted to allow a controlled substance or precursor to be used for specific scientific or medical purposes, or when it is determined to be in the public interest.

Executive Director of Fourcast, Donna Rogers, comments, “This exemption is the culmination of years of hard work. It is testament to the time and effort invested by a range of agencies and professionals foremost, backed by an incredibly generous and compassionate community who realize that the drug poisoning crisis demands immediate action. The CTS represents another key tool in helping us provide the health services and supports people need, but the real work is just beginning. The exemption officially gets us to the starting line.”

The Consumption and Treatment Services Site is anticipated to open on June 13th, 2022. Currently, staff are receiving training and the site is working towards opening for CTS users on this date. Site visits are currently underway with service agencies. Two site visits for the general public are planned for Monday, May 30th and Tuesday, May 31st between 5:00pm – 7:00pm. Masks are mandatory for any visits inside this health facility.

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For more information, please contact:

Cam Taylor

Fourcast

ctaylor@fourcast.ca