

APR 30 2021

ADMINISTRATION DEPT
CITY OF LANGLEY

April 23, 2021

Her Worship Val van den Broek
Mayor, City of Langley
20399 Douglas Crescent
Langley, BC V3A 4B3

Dear Madam Mayor:

Thank you for your letter of April 14, 2021 regarding the potential establishment of a Health Contact Centre including an Overdose Prevention Service (OPS) in the City or Township of Langley.

I appreciate the commitment of yourself and the City to be a partner in addressing the overdose crisis which, as you know, remains a public health emergency now in its fifth year. The overdose crisis is driven in large part by a highly toxic illicit drug supply that puts all of our citizens who use illicit substances – both those with substance use disorders and those who use drugs recreationally – at potential risk of severe harm and sudden death. A comprehensive approach to the public health emergency is required including education, harm reduction, treatment and support, as well as dealing with other issues including poverty, trauma and housing. Overdose prevention services are a vital component of the comprehensive approach in order to save lives and, where possible, provide a door to other support and treatment services.

Fraser Health has now completed its procurement process and has awarded the contract for a Health Contact Centre/OPS to Lookout Health and Housing Society. Lookout will now work with Fraser Health to design the Health Contact service. Lookout will conduct a search regarding a potential suitable location as a first step. Fraser Health and Lookout will work with the City and Township as appropriate regarding zoning, public consultation, neighbourhood advisory and other requirements in order to provide a service that saves lives and is a benefit for the citizens of both the City and Township.

Sincerely,



Dr. Victoria Lee
President and Chief Executive Officer

VL/tls

Cc: Norm Peters, VP Regional Care Integration
Meryl McDowell, Executive Director, Mental Health and Substance Use
Laura Caron, Director, Mental Health and Substance Use