



TO: Chair and Members of the Finance & Facilities Committee

FROM: Christopher Mackie, Medical Officer of Health

DATE: 2013 October 3

COUNTERPOINT NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM AGREEMENT

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Finance & Facilities Committee review and make recommendation to the Board of Health to endorse the Board Chair to sign the Counterpoint Needle Exchange Program Agreement with the Regional HIV AIDS Connection as appended to Report No. 011-13C.

Background

At the September 19, 2013 Board of Health meeting, the Board reviewed [Report No. 092-13](#) "Harm Reduction Strategies". One of the harm reduction strategies highlighted in this report was needle and syringe exchange programs. In London, the Counterpoint Needle Exchange program is operated by the Regional HIV AIDS Connection (RHAC) and funded by the Health Unit.

Attached as [Appendix A](#) is the draft agreement between RHAC and the Board of Health. The purpose of the agreement is to outline the terms under which the Health Unit may continue funding the Counterpoint Needle Exchange Program (CNEP). The agreement also defines the obligations of RHAC with respect to the CNEP, including but not limited to financial reporting, requesting resources, service provision, record keeping, handling of confidential information, and insurance requirements.

The term of the agreement is open, but either party may terminate the agreement by providing the other party with six months' written notice. For 2013, the Health Unit funding for the Counterpoint Needle Exchange Program consists of \$234,991 provided 100% by the province and \$65,009 in cost-shared funding for a total of \$300,000.

This report was prepared by Mr. John Millson, Director of Finance & Operations.

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Medical Officer of Health