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**From:** X Jasmine **S22(1) Personal Information**  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 18, 2025 3:43 PM  
**To:** Mayor and Councillors  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment to Temporary Use Permit for 40 Begbie Street

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed temporary use permit for the Health Contact Centre at 40 Begbie Street. While we understand and appreciate the intention behind harm reduction strategies, we believe that this specific location is entirely unsuitable and will have significant negative impacts on the surrounding community.

Our primary concerns are as follows:

- **Proximity to Sensitive Areas:** 40 Begbie Street is located in close proximity to residential areas, schools, businesses and Avil Centre. Introducing this kind of health centre (an overdose prevention site) in such an area is likely to lead to an increase in undesirable activities, including loitering, public drug use in the vicinity of the site, petty crime, and general disorder. This will inevitably compromise the safety and well-being of residents, particularly children, and deter families from using nearby amenities.
- **Quality of Life for Residents:** The cumulative effect of these issues will be a significant degradation of the quality of life for residents living near 40 Begbie Street. Property values may decline, tenants may leave, and the sense of community safety and pride will be diminished. Residents deserve to feel secure in their homes and neighborhoods.
- **Impact on Local Businesses:** The establishment of such a facility at this location could severely impact local businesses. Patrons and employees may feel unsafe, leading to decreased foot traffic and revenue. Businesses have already faced significant challenges, and the introduction of a site that could deter customers would be a severe blow to their viability and the economic health of the area.
- **Strain on Public Services:** While overdose prevention sites aim to reduce emergency calls, experience in other areas has shown that they can sometimes lead to an increased demand on local police, paramedics, and sanitation services in the immediate vicinity due to associated issues. Our local public services are already stretched, and this could place an undue burden on them.
- **Alternative Locations:** We urge the city to consider alternative locations that are more appropriately distanced from residential areas, schools, and high-traffic commercial zones. There may be industrial or less densely populated areas where such a facility could operate with less adverse impact on the general public. A thorough review of other potential sites, and a more comprehensive community consultation process for those sites, is essential.

While we support efforts to address the overdose crisis, the proposed location at 40 Begbie Street is not the right solution for our community. We strongly urge you to deny this permit and explore alternatives that prioritize both harm reduction and the safety and well-being of our existing neighborhoods.

Sincerely,  
Jasmine Xie

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Concerned Residents of the Begbie Street Neighborhood