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Statement from Norman Inkster, former Commissioner of the RCMP and Former President, Interpol, on the introduction of Supervised Injection Services in Toronto

In my experience as the Former Commissioner of the RCMP, I know that Canada's drug problem costs lives and compromises public safety. It is a seemingly intractable challenge for health professionals, families and the community at large. The question then arises; "How can we, a caring and concerned public, work together to reduce harm?" Many Cities around the world use Supervised Injection Services (SIS) to meet this challenge.

Supervised Injection Services address both public safety and public health. Public injection drug use is both a crime and a source of public disorder. Supervised injection services reduce disorder and keep needles out of public places.

Conventional prevention, treatment and enforcement don't work for everyone. Some will stop using drugs on their own, and others will move in and out of treatment many times. While they fight to overcome addiction, an SIS helps them stay alive and makes our streets and public places safer.

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