



*Saskatoon
Community
Clinic*



Community Health Services (Saskatoon) Association Ltd.

455 Second Avenue North, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 2C2 Phone (306) 652-0300 Fax (306) 664-4120

December 18, 2013

Re: Support Letter for Sanctum

To Whom It May Concern:

Saskatchewan has the highest per capita rate of new HIV infections in Canada. In turn, the Saskatoon Community Clinic – Westside, in partnership with others, serves the highest number of HIV+ clients in Saskatchewan. We provide (or have provided) primary health, community and/or support services to over 380 HIV+ clients and their families. A significant portion of Westside's \$1.8 Million budget is devoted to caring for the complex health and support needs of these patients.

I support the planned development of a hospice for HIV+ people as contemplated by Sanctum. Sanctum's mission, goals and objectives are consistent with the Saskatoon Community Clinic's philosophy to build community capacity and sustainability.

Sanctum proposes to better serve HIV+ clients through provision of a ten bed hospice solution which would include health and social assistance for clients. Towards this end, Sanctum is embarking on innovative work through partnerships with government and other organizations. Sanctum is in the process of engaging business leaders and community-based and human service organizations in a collaborative fashion to build a sustainable solution from the ground up.

The lack of available hospice care for people who are living with complex health and social needs due to HIV infection represents a significant gap in Saskatoon. Consequently, I am pleased to offer a recommendation for support of Sanctum as I believe it can provide a necessary component to our current network of community services in Saskatoon.

Sincerely,

Tim Archer, Executive Director
Saskatoon Community Clinic

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