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Date: April 29, 2025 at 9:16:51 AM EDT
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Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Cobourg Resident Experiences - 310 Division and Transition House

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Dear Northumberland County Councillors,

As a concerned resident of Cobourg. I've put together some photos and videos. As I am running out the door this morning for meetings in Toronto, I do not have the time to attach by cloud link all the photos and videos but promise to get them to you by tomorrow at the latest.

I live [REDACTED] away from 310 Division Street and Transition House and have resided here since February 2022 as a property owner. Our neighborhood, prior to the County purchasing 310 Division to expand Transition House, was sadly unsafe for the children. This was due to the residents of Transition House and their substance abuse issues. You will

see some brief examples of these issues in the fall of 2024, and currently the last two weeks. Over my three years here, I've seen a lot of crazy drugs related, intoxicated individuals, doing their hard drugs in front of our houses and business, and barely able to walk, coming over from Transition House. But I did not take photos or videos at that time. I was dealing with the extreme drug related issues and not sure why it was happening.

This is only a very small example of what is going on every day of the week. I work in the city of Toronto 2-3 times a week. And I miss a lot of what is going on even when I am here at home.

I understand Mayor Cleveland will be speaking about this at the council meeting tomorrow. I have spoken with him on two occasions in person, at his office, due to the severity of the situation.

I wanted to point out by map the properties of Transition House and 310 Division Street, and the green space (all circled in red hi-lite). This area has been taken over by the residents of these facilities, primarily the individuals with dangerous drugs, and their substance abuse issues.

In the pictures I've provided, both Cosic and Miller Financial on both sides of the green space have cut down beautiful trees to prevent the residents from hiding out from site doing their drugs. Although as you can see from my photos, this is not working. It is really sad. This is a beautiful area for not only the children but also their parents to hang out with their dogs, play and fish. This is a very busy street as is others in the area. People walk their pets, walk to the local businesses, and ride their bikes. There is a huge mix of wildlife that uses this greenspace. Ducks, Pigeons, smaller birds, racoons, opossums, rabbits, weasels, and of course, all the gray, black, and red squirrels and chipmunks. Large trout spawning in the spring, and salmon in the fall. (some pictures provided)

When I get mad and frustrated, stressed out, including not sleeping properly because of at all of this, I remind myself it's not the individuals of these facilities fault. They didn't put this shelter in the heart of a residential community with children everywhere. These residents have no greenspace to stretch their legs, go for a walk, a ball diamond to play baseball, volleyball, etc., and do their toxic dangerous drugs. So, they use our community as a very large extension of 310 Division Street. Including having full access to the dealers coming into our community.

I see used and sometimes unused drug paraphernalia all over the green space creek area and on our street. (pictures provided) We all lose or misplace things out of our pockets, bags, etc. But when someone is half comatose or massively intoxicated and can barely walk, that multiplies substantially. Losing toxic dangerous drugs is happening on our streets and in our green spaces and will continue to happen. And when will a child or possibly a group of kids lose their beautiful young lives because they eat a chocolate, or gummy, that's laced with fentanyl? Or they pick something contaminated with fentanyl or meth and then they rub their eyes, etc. Kids are kids, they play games, dare games are a big thing they do to show they are tough or brave. Picking up toxic or regular items left behind such as bags, with things inside lost or left is happening every day. See all the garbage in front of my house from Sunday by the creek. As of this morning, when I went to fill the bird feeder, nothing was cleaned up.

I am asking the county to put in motion, finding another location as soon as possible. Yes, you have insurance to cover the financial liabilities if a child dies by ingesting these poisonous toxic drugs or playing with the paraphernalia. But that will not bring a child back to life. This was a big mistake, putting this large facility in the heart of a residential community with children everywhere.

"Mistakes are a fact of life. It is the response to error that counts." Nikki Giovanni

Thank you for reviewing this.

I've also included two of my neighbors in this email, whose properties are both on the green space. [REDACTED].

Brett Newell

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]