

Jean-Guy Poirier
Stratford, ON
PTSD The Truth Behind The Smile

February 7, 2024

Dear Christa,

Please accept this letter as a formal request and proposal to the sub-committee and the City of Stratford council. I am formally asking the City of Stratford to waive any fees and costs associated with the rental of one of the halls at the Rotary Complex. I am the founder of PTSD The Truth Behind The Smile, a peer support service that has been providing peer services within the city of Stratford since 2018. I have proven in the past that the peer method for support within the mental health community is a vital tool to promote healing and better mental health. Last year, 2023, I launched two additional peer support groups in London and Kitchener. The projection for this year is to launch peer groups in the GTA and Eastern Ontario. I previously held a similar smaller event in 2019. This year we are aiming for bigger and better things.

I will hold the event on May 23rd, 2024. The event will consist of guest speakers and invited guests. This event will aim at tackling difficult topics and discussions surrounding mental health including PTSD, depression and anxiety. I expect that we will have no issues with nearing capacity within the 300 person hall. The event will be held within the hours of 7:00 - 10:00 pm and I will require staff services to assist in the set up and take down of chairs in the facility.

I kindly ask the City of Stratford to consider this request with the utmost attention. Up until now, my team and I have run this program within the parameters of our own budget, funds and services from other community members. I am assuring the City of Stratford that this event will stand out and prove beneficial to the residents of Stratford and surrounding areas. Please consider this request to have the fees waived for the mental health event to be held on May 23rd, 2024

Thank You

Jean-Guy Poirier

