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Agency of Canada

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Mr. Andrew Sorfleet
President
Triple-X Worker's Solidarity Association of B.C.
Box 3075, Station Terminal
Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 3X6

Dear Mr. Sorfleet:

I am writing in response to your follow-up correspondence of February 21, 2019, concerning Section 6-7 of *the Canadian Guidelines on Sexually Transmitted Infections (CGSTI)* (2010) "Specific Populations-Sex Workers".

I am thankful for your additional feedback on the inclusion of people engaged in the sale, trade, or the purchase of sex within the Pan-Canadian Sexually Transmitted and Blood-borne Infections (STBBI) Framework for Action. This population, along with others, was identified as disproportionately affected by STBBI, as there is greater potential for other associated high-risk behaviours such as condomless sexual activity or injection drug use.

The Pan-Canadian STBBI Framework for Action aims to acknowledge STBBI transmission risks associated with the spectrum of sex workers, including individuals engaged in survival sex work and transactional sex in informal settings. Moving forward, the Public Health Agency of Canada will continue to engage with individuals and community-based organizations (including Triple-X) to achieve an approach reflective of lived experiences and ideas.

I appreciate that you have drawn my attention to the additional references to sex workers currently in the CGSTI, as well as the resources developed by your Association in collaboration with the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control.

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I also encourage you to share your resources with individuals or organizations across Canada who may be interested in this topic. For example, CATIE, which serves as Canada's knowledge broker for HIV and hepatitis C information, may provide a broader audience for your resources. To learn more, please visit CATIE's website at www.catie.ca.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Tam', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Theresa Tam