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**Date:** October 17, 2023 at 9:56:46 PM EDT  
**Subject:** (EXTERNAL SOURCE) Info

Hello everyone,

Hope all is well!

The word on the street these days is not very kind or positive about the Town of Cobourg and **ALL** of its 20 K plus residents.

What specifically is Cobourg doing currently to promote Cobourg in a positive light to tourists, locals and anyone else besides the usual marketing and advertising?

One of the main issues I'm hearing from most local residents is the concern for everyone's health and safety.

The constant gathering of people downtown in parking lots, bus stop shelters and in the streets everywhere who seem to be doing dangerous illegal drugs in plain sight of kids, the elderly, the tourists and everyone has just become very alarming. Local residents are constantly finding the remains of these tools used for illegal drug consumption left behind everywhere.

Having homeless people living in the streets without the use of washroom facilities is really not safe for anyone. The people with the hazmat safety suits who do the cleanup at the encampment site is not something anyone wants to see.

Are we going to be using the public washrooms at the bus shelter downtown by the skating rink this winter ?

I can tell you that many local residents are feeling very discouraged with our Town and the tourists are feeling very concerned and staying away.

I am sure some of you who follow real estate have seen the dramatic increase in homes for sale and especially in the east end of Town.

I wanted to let you know about a call I received yesterday that was very embarrassing. A potential buyer from Quebec called to get some info on a property that's for sale and during the conversation let me know that they were not sure and very concerned about the feel good town. Their exact words were ( what's with all the crack heads in Cobourg ? ) to which I quickly replied this is a major problem everywhere these days not just Cobourg and no easy fix is available.

They very clearly let me know that yes maybe that's true but this problem in Cobourg seems to be so out of control right now. This was not something anyone wants to hear from tourists and potential investors and maybe even new residents to our town.

**The reality is that this is NOT a problem everywhere these days. I do a lot of traveling daily in Northumberland and the issues Cobourg has are not everywhere in Northumberland.**

Please tell me that there's a bigger plan in place for our safety than just waiting for the Province or the Federal government to get involved?

Can we maybe organize some community volunteer program ( like street angels ? ) to patrol the streets day and night? Maybe hiring more security guards to patrol and keep these repeat criminals out of the backyards of local residents and from doing illegal activity all around our great town?

Can we maybe get the by law officers to enforce the existing loitering by laws mostly in the downtown area, parking lots and the parks?

The other day at 8 am I saw 4-5 individuals huddling together in the bus stop on King st and burning something in aluminium foil which I can only imagine was not pot pourri or incense.

People are really afraid to go to the restaurants downtown, to go shopping downtown and to just walk around downtown IN COBOURG because of the potential of violence from so many people with mental health issues walking around and yelling at people for no apparent reason.

The attack on a local resident on Chapel st was just one of many and most of these are not being reported because of fear and making things worse for their families.

Yes there's a lot of issues just barely touched upon here with frustration which is building up with so many local residents.

Thank you for your time!

Johnny Percolides

