

CITY of CUT BANK

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To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Cut Bank faces several challenges with the impacts of addiction, mental illness and other behavioral health concerns. In rural Montana, resources for these issues are often limited. With Ideal Option in our city, we are better able to address these issues and provide services to those who face these challenges.

In 2017, Ideal Option opened an addiction medicine practice in downtown Cut Bank. Many in our community were concerned as Cut Bank had faced challenges with the abuse of suboxone and other illicit drug use in the past. At first, we shared in this apprehension of Ideal Option and were not fans of this business operating in downtown Cut Bank, Montana.

Our Chief of Police made contact with Ideal Option's executive team. We expressed our concerns with them, and they invited us to their headquarters for further discussions. They spent a day showing us their processes and answering our questions. They were open and receptive to our concerns.

Ideal Option has been willing to remedy and overcome our community apprehension. Members of their team met with our city council members and answered questions. Our community members were able to speak with them about their concerns. Ideal Option is now considered a partner in the community. Neighboring businesses have stated that they have seen a change. Some have even stated that that they would not know the business was even there anymore. In addition, our police force noticed a decline in illegal possession of Suboxone.

We appreciate the lines of communication that have been opened. We feel like we have had an opportunity to voice our opinions and work through concerns. If we have questions, comments, or concerns we have been able to reach out to one of their executive members without issue.

We have appreciated the services and partnership of Ideal Option and look forward to achieving greater outcomes as we work to limit the effects of opioids in our community.

Respectfully,



Dan Raemaeker, Mayor



Michael Schultz, Chief of Police