



Ministry of
Mental Health
and Addictions

Community Overdose Response

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OERC**

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Territorial Acknowledgement



Stock photo. Posed by model.

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SOMEONE'S
BUDDY

31 AUG
—
INTERNATI
OVERDOSE
AWARENESS

International Overdose Awareness Day

Overdose Emergency Response Center (OERC)

- The OERC was launched on December 1, 2017, to combat the drug toxicity crisis and spearhead urgent action to save lives.
- Brings together experts and provincial, health authority, municipal, Indigenous, and community resources to tackle the toxic drug crisis.
- Supports community-based response through engagement, funding, coordination, policy, research, and guidance.
- The community sector, including CATs, are an invaluable partner in the Provincial response, and have grown significantly.

Community-Led Initiatives

LOUD in the ED

Tailgate Toolkits

Moms Stop the Harm

Provincial Peer Network

Local Leadership United

Community Action Teams

The Provincial Peer Network

The purpose of the PPN is to ensure that the provincial overdose emergency response is responsive to the needs of people who use substances, through:

Involving people who use drugs in health promotion in BC

Engaging their expertise to inform the provincial response

Ensuring equitable representation in the response, from people who use drugs across BC

Local Leadership United

Project

- A suite of harm reduction and overdose prevention workshops.
- Convenings and trainings of municipal, health, and social partners to build capacity and partnerships to support harm reduction.


Purpose

- To improve the quality, quantity, and equitable delivery of harm reduction efforts in municipalities

Project Leads

- Community Action Initiative and the BC Centre for Disease Control, together with health and municipal partners

CATs – Priority Areas

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- Expanding community-based harm reduction services, including OPS, naloxone availability, and drug checking.
 - Supporting people to navigate the substance use system of care, including bridging to OAT and prescribed safer supply.
 - Providing paid peer employment and training opportunities.
 - Enabling community conversation across diverse sectors to reduce stigma and support connection.
 - Addressing stigma, discrimination, and human rights by creating community action plans to address barriers in access to services for people who use drugs.

**Nelson
Castlegar
CAT: OPS
and e-OPS**





South Surrey/White Rock: Men In Trades Videos

Discussion

- A recent evaluation of the provincial response noted that one key enabling factor of the Provincial response is its regional and community partners.
- The CATs are a valued element of the overdose response.
- How can the OERC further support your CATs to lead community-based, multi-sectoral collaboration throughout BC?
- Some examples:
 - Information on policy direction
 - Direct consultation on specific issues
 - Written resources
 - Connections with other organizations



Thank you.