

To view an archived recording of this presentation please click the following link:

<https://youtu.be/4-Nk0bdb9Gk>

Please scroll down this file to view a copy of the slides from the session.

# Lunch & Learn

## Implementing Smoking Rooms in Supervised Consumption Sites: Key Lessons

January 30, 2023 (12:00 – 1:00 pm)

Hosted by Community Opioid/Overdose Capacity Building (COM-CAP) Team



WELCOME

# Agenda

- Welcome and opening (5 minutes)
- Presentations (30 min)
  - Opening presentation
  - Speaker panel
- Discussion (15 min)
  - Q&A
- Wrap up (10 minutes)
  - Reflection
  - Closing



**Moderator:** Mark Gaspar, Toronto Public Health

## Today's Speakers

- **Nat Kaminski**, President, Ontario Network of People who Use Drugs
- **Casey Schapel**, Harm Reduction Coordinator, Casey House
- **Jil Aalhus**, Program Manager, Bloodties
- **Kayla DeMong**, Executive Director, Prairie Harm Reduction (PHR)
- **Ashley Smoke**, Secretary, Ontario Network of People who Use Drugs

# Ontario Network of People who Use Drugs

Nat Kaminski

# Panelists



# Discussion



# Wrap up

- Reflections: Ashley Smoke
- Coming up-

## “At a Glance: Safer Smoking: Harm Reduction Practices for People who Use Drugs by Smoking/Inhalation”



### AT A GLANCE

## Safer Smoking: Harm Reduction Practices for People who use Drugs by Smoking/Inhalation

### Introduction

To date, harm reduction research and practice has focused on injection drug use to a greater extent than non-injection modes of consumption. As a result, people who use drugs by smoking/inhalation face gaps in care. In Ontario, coroner's data suggests an increase in the number of opioid-related deaths with evidence of a pipe/foil for inhalation only from 22.5% in 2019 to 33.7% in 2020.<sup>1</sup> There was a simultaneous decrease in the number of deaths with evidence of injection only, from 17.6% to 14.1%.<sup>1,2,4</sup> This is in line with data from the BC Coroners Service Investigations, which reported that smoking has become the most common mode of consumption for illicit drug toxicity deaths from 2017 onwards.<sup>2</sup> Understanding the risks associated with smoking/inhalation and supporting people who smoke drugs is particularly important as people may use non-injection modes of consumption as an approach to reduce their risk of overdose and opioid toxicity.

The aim of this At A Glance is to provide an overview of harm reduction services that address the needs of people who use drugs by smoking/inhalation. We summarize the interventions that have been implemented for this community, any relevant practice or technical guidance and available evidence on impact. Moreover, this document includes the key messages and highlights that emerged from a Community Opioid/Overdose Capacity Building (COM-CAP) project webinar on safer smoking/inhalation. This component was completed in collaboration with event speakers, with the goal of reflecting on community-led efforts that may not have been included in other documents.

### Methods

We conducted a rapid review to determine how harm reduction services are meeting the needs of people who use drugs by smoking/inhalation. With the help of a Public Health Ontario librarian, we searched four databases (MEDLINE, Embase, CINAHL, and PsychInfo) in August 2022. We also searched for non-academic (grey) literature using four custom Google search engines (Ontario's public health units, Canadian Health Departments and Agencies, US State government websites, international public health resources) and Google Canada. We reviewed up to 100 records from each search engine. To be included, articles must: (i) include people who use drugs by smoking/inhalation, and (ii) describe community harm reduction services with an explicit aim of meeting the needs of people who use drugs by smoking/inhalation. Harm reduction services may include providing safe drug use equipment, harm reduction education, supervised consumption services, or other interventions. The terminology for supervised consumption services for people who use drugs by smoking/inhalation varies, and includes both supervised smoking facilities and supervised inhalation rooms. For the remainder of this document, supervised consumption services for people who use drugs by smoking/inhalation will be referred to as supervised smoking facilities (SSFs) as this terminology was encountered the most commonly. We limited our search to resources that were published from 2011 onwards to ensure the information is up-to-date and relevant to the current context, in English.

# About Community Opioid/Overdose Capacity Building

Community Opioid/Overdose Capacity Building (COM-CAP), started in 2019, is a four-year project funded by Health Canada's Substance Use and Addiction Program. The goal of COM-CAP is to support community-led responses to opioid/overdose-related harms in communities across Ontario. The supports focus on strengthening the knowledge, skills, and capacity of the key stakeholders involved:

- Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention
- Chatham-Kent Public Health
- NorWest Community Health Centres
- The Municipal Drug Strategy Coordinators Network of Ontario
- The Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health (COMOH) Drug/Opioid Poisoning Crisis Work Group.

For more information about COM-CAP contact [substanceuse@oahpp.ca](mailto:substanceuse@oahpp.ca).

## For More Information About This Presentation, Please Contact:

[substanceuse@oahpp.ca](mailto:substanceuse@oahpp.ca)

Public Health Ontario keeps Ontarians safe and healthy. Find out more at [PublicHealthOntario.ca](https://www.ontario.ca/page/public-health-ontario)