

HARM REDUCTION NEWS

FALL/WINTER 2021



what is in it.

content - send us an email.

Naloxone Supply Update

The BCCDC Take Home Naloxone/Facility Overdose Response (THN/FORB) Box program is **not** experiencing supply shortages. Due to the recent weather and emergency events and increased weekly volumes the program is experiencing longer delivery periods. This means don't wait until the last minute to order and if your site is becoming critically low notify the BCCDC naloxone program as soon as possible at naloxone@bccdc.ca and reach out to your harm reduction coordinator. We have inventory available that can be re-deployed as needed.

New Features on our Drug Checking Website

If you have not visited our drug checking website <u>drugchecking.ca</u> lately you should pop over and have a look. We have added two new features to help us share more information about what our drug checking technicians are finding in the drug supply.

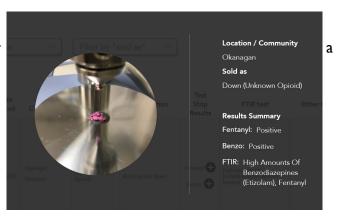
Results page – this page highlights key

findings from across the region. Our alerts will be posted here as well as other findings that are concerning, unusual or just really interesting. It's important to note that not all results are posted here and if you are wondering about a drug that you or client has, testing is that only way to know for sure

Blog page – so far we are using this space to post summaries and reports from our partners but we have plans to use it for drug checking events and other important harm reduction information.

If you have any feedback on the website or ideas for





Finding Harm Reduction Info on Interior Health's New Website.

Change can be hard even when that change is good. Interior Health has a swanky new <u>website</u> that looks great and is easier to navigate. But if you were used to finding harm reduction info on the old website, you may be feeling a little lost with the new one. Here are a few tips to help you find what you are looking for.

Information For

Harm Reduction Information for Community Partners

This is where you can find all the info that our external partner agencies need about naloxone, harm reduction supplies, overdose prevention and drug checking guides, peer engagement tools, courses like Harm Reduction 101 and the fentanyl test strip online course and more.

How to get there from the home page? Click the "Information For" button at the top and select community partners and look for the harm reduction button.

Health & Wellness

Overdose Prevention and Treatment

This page is for the general public. There is information here on how to identify and respond to an overdose, overdose response services, overdose and substance use related news and surveillance (Coroners reports and BCCDC dashboards). To get here from the home page click the Health & Wellness button then pick Substance Use and Addiction and click on the Overdose button.

Harm Reduction

This page is where you will find high level information for the general public on harm reduction as it applies to substance use - what is harm reduction and why is it important; a brief description of the key harm reduction services and all the sharps information is here too. To get here from the home page click the Health Wellness button then pick Substance Use and Addiction, and find the Harm Reduction button.

Sexual Health

Here you can find information on STIs, HIV, HCV, gender identity and sexual health resources, Aboriginal sexual health resources and more. To get here from the home page click the Health and Wellness button then pick Sexual Health.



Drug and Overdose Alerts The most current drug and overdose alerts are here. To see all the alerts in the region click on the little bell on the home screen then choose from COVID-19, Environmental or Toxic Drugs.

If you want alerts or other Interior Health news sent right to your email you can **sign up** and choose what you want to receive. If you pick alerts you will get all IH alerts, not just drug or overdose alerts.



Resources



BC Peer Worker Training: The <u>BC Peer Worker Training Curriculum</u> is designed to deliver evidence-based educational resources that are informed by the lived and living experiences of people who use substances. The training consists of five modules on:

Recognizing Mental Health Disorders Effective Communication Peer to Peer Counselling Skills Conflict Resolution Organizational Etiquette



Mobile Response Team (MRT)

This has been an exceptionally hard year. Please remember that the MRT is here for you and your teams. The MRT was created to support first responders, frontline workers and people with lived/living experience and their peers who are feeling the impact of the toxic drug crisis. Find out more about what they offer and how to connect.

Mobile Response Team - Province of British Columbia (gov.bc.ca)

Happy Holidays from the IH Harm Reduction Team

We are privileged and grateful to work with so many dedicated, passionate and caring people. We can not thank you enough for everything you do to take care of others and fight for justice and equity. May you find time this Holiday Season to rest, recharge, connect with the land and with loved ones.

