



**Minutes**

Community Advisory Committee – SCS Study  
April 30, 2019 – 1:30 p.m. – Board Room

<b>Chairs:</b>	A. Zbar & S. Weber
<b>Recorder:</b>	L. Mitchell

<b>Present:</b>	T. Campbell	L. Lafontaine	C. Belanger
	R. St Onge	R. Rainville	S. Calixte
	J. Gough	L. Lafontaine	S. Laclé
	M. Kangeswarren	P. Nikodem	A. Boyer (for A. Day)
	P. MacDonald		
<b>Regrets:</b>	R. Zuck	M Luoma	A. Day
	B. Dubois	K. Savage	C. Brisebois
	B. McCullagh	J. MacIntyre	M. Quigley
	J. Gorman		

Item Number	Item Name/Description of Outcome	Action/ Individual Responsible
1.0	<b>Call to order/roll call</b> The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.m.	
2.0	<b>Review and approval of agenda</b> The agenda was approved as presented.	
3.0	<b>Review and approval of minutes</b> Minutes of the March 20, 2019 meeting were approved as circulated and will be posted to the website following approval at Community Drug Strategy Executive & Advisory Committees.	
4.0	<b>Invitations/Presentations</b> Cynthia Olsen, Coordinator, Thunder Bay Drug Strategy and Juanita Lawson, CEO – NorWest Community Health Centres provided the group a presentation entitled: <i>Road to Supervised Consumption Services</i> which provided an overview of the steps taken to obtain approval for a Consumption and Treatment Services site in Thunder Bay. The following information was shared: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thunder Bay’s drug strategy is based on five pillars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prevention</li> <li>○ Treatment</li> <li>○ Harm Reduction</li> <li>○ Enforcement</li> <li>○ Housing</li> </ul> </li> <li>• In 2016, the Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN) and Thunder Bay Drug Strategy and funded by the Canadian Institute for Health Research</li> </ul>	



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	<p>Centre for REACH in HIV/AIDS began assessing the feasibility of implementing a Supervised Injection Site (SIS) in Thunder Bay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SIS Advisory Committee and working group were established.</li><li>• Community stakeholders were identified.</li><li>• Extensive review of literature was conducted investigating the health and community impacts of Supervised Consumption Facilities (a total of 47 studies).</li><li>• Surveys were completed by 200 people who inject drugs (with information including: types of drugs used, frequency of injecting alone, what neighborhood they most often injected, overdose history, barriers to accessing a SIS etc.)</li><li>• Partners also undertook community consultations supported by an independent firm through open house sessions and online surveys. The public was encouraged to provide feedback to help enhance harm reduction services and to gather information about the benefits and how to address concerns about supervised consumption services. Community engagement (presentations, ward meetings, advocacy, meetings with businesses and media support) is crucial to building trust within the community.</li><li>• Focus groups with staff related to harm reduction were also held. N. Boyce held training sessions for staff.</li><li>• Results of the study suggested two SIS locations, one in the north core and one in the south core were feasible.</li><li>• The appropriate model was determined.</li><li>• Site visits in Toronto and Ottawa to determine potential set-up of a site if approved.</li><li>• In April 2018, the MOHLTC granted approval to NorWest Community Health Centres for their application to operate temporary overdose prevention sites in Ontario. In mid-August, before opening the program, the MOHLTC requested they not proceed so they could review the evidence to ensure that any continuation of supervised consumption services and overdose prevention sites would introduce people into rehabilitation and support services.</li><li>• Following engagement with health care professionals, community leaders, local business representatives, police etc., it was announced that the MOHLTC would move forward with a re-purposed program to be known as Consumption and Treatment Services. The new model would not only have a focus on reversing overdoses, but would enhance the focus on connection people who use drugs to primary care, treatment and rehabilitation, and other health and social services.</li><li>• The NorWest Community Health Centres Overdose Prevention Site officially opened for service on November 27, 2018 with exemption status until March 31, 2019. They are still awaiting a determination on the results of their exemption application and funding under the new</li></ul>	



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	<p>model. Continuing a month by month basis makes it very inconvenient to manage and for staff.</p> <p>Statistics show that overdose deaths are occurring in private homes. The use of strategically targeted media could engage those who inject drugs in their homes to provide information related to the Rapid Access to Addiction Medicine Clinic (RAAM). The clinic provides immediate access for individuals seeking treatment for any substance use disorder.</p> <p>Cynthia and Juanita were thanked for providing the committee with valuable information related to their application. Any questions can be sent to Cynthia Olsen.</p> <p>It was noted that Thunder Bay’s overdose prevention site community engagement process was very similar to the approach taken by CMHA when consultations were held related to renovations to 200 Larch Street Place.</p>	
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Business Arising</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	<p><b>Request for Quote</b></p> <p>As the contract for the research officer is awaiting one final signature, the research officer’s name cannot be shared at this time. Recruitment is underway for the PEER research associates. A communications campaign and news release will be sent out by the end of May to introduce the surveys. By fall, more information will be shared about the focus groups and communication to the committee will follow once everything is in place.</p>	
<b>5.2</b>	<p><b>Ethics Applications</b></p> <p>HSN will approve the ethics application once the final signoff is received for the hiring of the research officer. Public Health Sudbury &amp; Districts ethics application has been approved.</p>	
<b>5.3</b>	<p><b>Learning and action plan</b></p> <p>The Learning and Action Plan was previously circulated to committee members. Chantal Belanger (Public Health Sudbury &amp; Districts) was thanked for her assistance in recruiting partners to present to the committee. Nicholas Boyce, Ontario Harm Reduction Network will present in May on how to meaningfully engage peers. Nicholas also presented at The Ontario Public Health Conference. At the June meeting, pharmacist Hazem Sharaf, from Sudbury East will provide an overview of opioid addiction/dependency. Committee members are reminded that any ideas will be welcomed for presentations at meetings later in the year.</p>	



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6.0	<b>New Business</b>	
6.1	<p><b>Upcoming Data Collection</b></p> <p>Renée St Onge reported that there will be two key surveys conducted for the project using Survey Monkey. The research officer will be analyzing the data once completed. Following training, the peer research associates will conduct the survey for people who inject drugs at various locations including Réseau ACCESS Network and other partners. R. St. Onge will connect with Lorraine Lafontaine at N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre to determine if their location could be considered. Other suggested locations included Ontario Works, Detox Centre, SACY, Northern Initiative for Social Action, Memorial Park, local libraries, Pastor Brad at the Mission as well as chaplains/religious groups. It was noted that locations such as food courts in malls etc., should help make participants more comfortable. Renée will advise the research officer to connect to these potential sites.</p> <p>As there is no offline version of Survey Monkey, tablets will be used to complete the surveys and Public Health Sudbury &amp; District staff are working with IT to obtain SIM cards for the tablets. Paper versions of the survey will also be available in the event that wifi is not available.</p> <p>Discussion ensued related to options for conducting the surveys in outlying areas. Centre de santé communautaire du grand sudbury was suggested for Chelmsford. It was noted that if the community is small, people are reluctant to participate as they may be known. Home visits are not considered as safety is a concern. T. Campbell will check with EMS to see if information can be gathered on where overdose deaths occur more frequently.</p> <p>Public Health Sudbury &amp; Districts will be having all materials translated into French. The PWID survey is 37 pages long and will cost approximately \$2,600 to translate. Discussion ensued on other options for delivering the survey in French. It was decided that the survey should be translated into French. P. Nikodem (HSN) and A. Boyer (NELHIN) will check into the free translation service through the Translation Network at HSN. If additional funding for the translation is required, T. Campbell will look into options.</p> <p>The community survey will launch near the end of May. A media release will be distributed which will formally announce the name of the research officer, the launch of the study and both the</p>	



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	<p>community the PWID surveys and will promote <i>have your say</i> for community members. The survey will be open for 4-6 weeks depending on the response. Partners are asked to also promote the survey through their partners/contacts.</p> <p>Focus groups will be held the end of August or September for those involved with each pillar of the drug strategy (including family and friends if interested).</p>	
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Standing items</b>	
<b>7.1</b>	<b>Research/Technical Working Group</b> The working group has not met recently. The group will be reconvened as needed.	
<b>7.2</b>	<b>Communications Working Group update</b> The Communications Working Group has not met since the last CAC meeting. <p>An RFP has been issued to create 3 videos focusing on anti-stigmatism messaging.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the videos will be aired on CTV as well as Silver City Theatre.</p> <p>Chantal Belanger (PHSD) provided a presentation to library management regarding the Community Drug Strategy (CDS). If approved, the goal is to provide public information sessions on the CDS at various libraries throughout the region. CDS partners are welcome to join Chantal if interested in presenting with her. Requests can be sent to the CDS website or directly to Chantal at <a href="mailto:belangerc@phsd.ca">belangerc@phsd.ca</a></p>	
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Announcements/enquiries</b> In light of provincial budget announcement on April 11, Dr. Zbar confirmed that Public Health Sudbury & Districts is still committed to being part of the leadership for this committee. <p>Mental Health Week runs from May 7 – May 13, 2019.</p> <p>May 1 is Taste for Life day. 25% of sales in designated restaurants will go to help support Réseau ACCESS Network.</p>	
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Next steps</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learning and Action Plan - reminder to members there are dates still available for other agencies/individuals who may</li></ul>	



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	be willing to share their experiences/information related to harm reduction with committee members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• P. Nikodem and A. Boyer will follow up with HSN translation services regarding the translation of PWID survey.</li><li>• C. Belanger will contact today's presenters to inquire of their slides can be shared with the committee.</li><li>• Nick Boyce will be presenting at the next meeting.</li></ul>	
<b>10.0</b>	<b>Next meeting date/time 3:05</b> May 29, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. Public Health Sudbury & Districts Ramsey Room.	
<b>11.0</b>	<b>Adjournment</b> The meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.	