



MINUTES

Community Drug Strategy for the City of Greater Sudbury
 Steering Committee Meeting
 Tuesday, June 11, 2019
 10:30 AM—12:00 PM
 Withdrawal Management Services – 336 Pine Street

- Co-chairs:** Shana Calixte, Public Health Sudbury & Districts
 Daniel Despatie, Greater Sudbury Police Service
- Recorder:** Laurie Willett Daoust, Public Health Sudbury & Districts
- Present:** Chantal Belanger, Renée Lefebvre, Public Health Sudbury & Districts
 Roxanne Zuck, Monarch Recovery Services
 Nicole MacMillan, City of Greater Sudbury
 Rick Waugh, Greater Sudbury Police Service
 Amber Fritz, Réseau ACCESS Network
 Melissa Roney, Rebecca Poulin, Greater Sudbury Emergency Medical Services
 Adam Day, North East Local Health Integration Network
 Daniel Watson, Rainbow District School Board
 Cindy Rose, Canadian Mental Health Association – Sudbury/Manitoulin
 Michelle Cotnoir, Conseil scolaire catholique du Nouvel-Ontario
- Regrets:** Dr. Ariella Zbar, Sandra Laclé, Public Health Sudbury & Districts
 Robert Parsons, Crown Attorney’s Office
 Denys Bradley, Federal Crown Attorney’s Office
 Jennifer Connelly, Sudbury Catholic District School Board
 Dianne Zannier, Conseil scolaire public du Grand Nord de l’Ontario
 Paola Nickodem, Health Sciences North
 Michelle Warth, Ontario Provincial Police
 Stephanie Kehoe, Métis Nation
 Todd Marassato, Greater Sudbury Police Service

	Item	Follow-up
1.0	ROLL CALL	The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m.
2.0	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	Introductions were made around the table.
3.0	REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA	The agenda was approved with the following change: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addition 10.4–Drug warning issued on May 31, 2019.
4.0	REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 19, 2019	The minutes from the previous meeting were approved without changes.

	Item	Follow-up
		<p>Items requiring follow-up from the previous meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alex Boulet will represent Social Planning Council. 2. Page 3 – the opioid poisoning response plan has been moved forward. 3. Page 4 – The group believes that representation by the Regional Coroner would be beneficial. The Opioid Surveillance Working Group may be the best fit. (Note: a local coroner is currently a member of the Surveillance Working Group) 4. C. Belanger has received permission from most agencies to be tagged in harm reduction social media messaging.
5.0	DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST	None to declare.
6.0	PRESENTATIONS	
6.1	Peer Engagement Recruiter and Trainer	Deferred.
7.0	BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING	
7.1	<p>Early Warning Surveillance System Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact Names & Information from Agencies after hours • Early warning system protocol • Emergency Response Plan: Opioid poisoning 	<p>Contact Names & Information from Agencies after hours</p> <p>Community agencies who are members of the Drug Strategy Steering Committee were reminded to report any surges or increases in harms related to opioids when made aware to Public Health Sudbury & Districts (PHSD). This information will assist the PHSD and GSPS Executive Committee co-chairs (Dr. Sutcliffe and Chief Pedersen) in deciding if a warning or alert should be issued.</p> <p>Agencies were also asked to provide their after-hours (weeknights and weekends) contact number to include the framework. Should the manager at PHSD require more intel from your agency to assist Dr. Sutcliffe and Chief Pederson in determining if a drug alerts/warnings will be released, they will call your agency at this number to request information. Please ensure that your agency is aware that these calls for information may be received after hours or on the weekend from PHSD.</p> <p>ACTION: Agencies are to report back to Public Health Sudbury & Districts (S. Calixte or C. Belanger) with the name and contact information for their agency after hours. This number may be used if more information is needed to determine if a drug alert or warning should be issued.</p> <p>Early Warning System Protocol</p>

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	<p>A special meeting was called on June 7th, 2019 with various senior community partners (Health Sciences North(HSN), Greater Sudbury Police Services(GSPS), Public Health Sudbury & Districts(PHSD), Emergency Medical Services(EMOS) to discuss and establish consistency regarding data associated with opioid related incidents. Due to discrepancies being reported in the local media regarding suspected opioid deaths and overdoses, the group decided to have a summary of the most recent local data available on the Community Drug Strategy's (CDS) website. Everyone, including community members would have access to accurate and consistent data on opioid-related incidents.</p> <p>Having the information public will ensure the community is aware if there is an increase of suspected overdoses or deaths. This will allow the public to have quick access to the data and individuals can make their own informed decision to consume drugs.</p> <p>Agencies have reviewed the framework and will continue to work collaboratively with PHSD to share data publicly on the drug strategy website.</p> <p>ACTION: The group will construct a dashboard similar to Hamilton's Opioid Information System in order to share opioid-related data with the public.</p> <p>Emergency Response Plan: Opioid poisoning</p> <p>Each agency of the CDS is asked to review the Opioid Poisoning Response Plan. The co-chairs of the Steering Committee will be sharing the plan with many of the agencies who participated at the Opioid Workshop in March 2018 to receive feedback. The plan will be shared in the coming weeks.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>It was noted that some believe the community may have reached a saturation point with drug warnings. For instance, is the information contained in the drug warning making a difference - are People who inject drugs (PWID already aware of this messaging (e.g. don't use alone, carry naloxone, start slow, etc.)? Discussion ensued on ways to keep information relevant. Hamilton CDS only issues a drug alert if a new substance presents itself and does not issue alerts for increased numbers of overdoses.</p> <p>Discussion was held on ensuring that consistent language is used when speaking of opioid deaths. Referring to a confirmed opioid death can only occur once a toxicology report from the coroner has confirmed the</p>

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		<p>actual cause of death to be related to opioids. Therefore, using the language of “suspected death related to opioids” is the recommended phrasing.</p> <p>There are several sources of data available from the agencies of the CDS. Having a common area for all data to be displayed and shared collectively has been supported by the Executive Committee. Work on the dashboard will begin shortly.</p>
7.2	Needle Disposal Bin Update	<p>Three (3) additional bins have been purchased by the CGS but are on backorder for 3 weeks. Attempts to order from another source will be explored to expedite the delivery. Otherwise, the bins will hopefully be installed by the end of June at: Pine Street across from SACY; St. Catherine’s Street near the Elgin Street tunnel; and Paris Street near Brady Square. SACY has identified these areas as high needs. They will also be moving the bin from the shelter at Christ the King to the Lloyd Street path and relocating the bin at Energy Court further into the property to address the need.</p> <p>CDS members also identified Lively, Bruce St. and the park by Cambrian Arena as other potential areas that could require the use of a bin.</p> <p>Réseau had requested at the last meeting more of the smaller sharps containers that have been given to SACY by the city. Unfortunately, this request cannot be fulfilled due to budget constraints of the city</p>
7.3	Naloxone Distribution Update	<p>Public Health Sudbury & Districts have signed MOUs with 27 organizations across all districts, 44 training sessions have taken place with 40 agencies and they have trained 309 people to distribute naloxone or administer naloxone. Of the 309 people, 55 are PHSD. Since January 2019, 966 kits and 388 refills have been distributed in the community through the naloxone program and partner agencies. Comparatively in 2018, 998 kits and 222 refills were distributed through the Public Health Sudbury & Districts naloxone program.</p> <p>SACY is also seeing a rise in their numbers of naloxone kits distributed. Staff are now bringing kits in their bags during outreach visits and some individuals are reporting they need to use 6-7 doses to help revive some people.</p> <p>EMS is finding that after overdose treatment people do not want to go to the hospital. They would like to leave them with some naloxone, however, they are not an identified distribution partner by the Ministry of Health. They are looking for a source of Naloxone, however, the cost is prohibitive.</p>

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		<p>Schools and Nurse Practitioners (NPs) are also requesting naloxone, however, like EMS, they do not qualify to receive kits. PHSD however can provide training when they secure kits.</p> <p>ACTION: S. Calixte will look into availability of naloxone through our distribution program for EMS. C. Belanger will reach out to the provincial Municipal Drug Strategy Network to explore options.</p> <p>Information was also shared regarding the Naloxone distribution report from The Ontario Drug Policy Research Network (ODPRN).</p>
7.4	<p>Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study (NAFS)</p>	<p>The Researcher position for the NAFS should soon be filled. The contract is being finalized.</p> <p>The launch of the persons who inject drugs survey and the online community survey is pending and they are both set to be released this month.</p> <p>A communications strategy has been sent out to Supervised Consumption Services – Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study Community Advisory Committee and the CDS Communications Working Group.</p> <p>Media requests are ongoing.</p>
8.0	NEW BUSINESS	
8.1	<p>CDS 2019-2020 Workplan Session</p>	<p>Reporting to the GSPS and PHSD executive committee co-chairs and their boards is the responsibility of the CDS Steering Committee. The 2017-2018 work plan has been provided for each pillar to review and evaluate/assess the status of their identified priorities from the previous plan. An update on how the priority was met or not met should be sent to C. Belanger, in order to report back to CDS Executive.</p> <p>The CDS steering group will plan a meeting for August to identify the new priorities for the 2019-2020 work plan. Top priorities discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stigma: the biggest hurdle is helping people understand addiction. More work needs to be done. • Inviting people with lived-experience/current drug users to the table; work towards solutions and goals and being able to pay attendees for their time (with money). • Offer refreshers to staff who may potentially have compassion fatigue when dealing with clients. • M. Rooney would like to see EMS sit on the Harm Reduction Pillar.

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		<p>The CDS is also exploring the possibility of conducting a partnership evaluation. This will help identify strengths and weakness as well as feedback to improve the CDS and its partnerships. The group was supportive. R. Waugh spoke to the need to address limited resources and capacity. The group agreed it would be ideal to capture this in the evaluation in order to advocate for future funding.</p>
8.2	<p>CDS Public Information sessions</p>	<p>A presentation was provided to all City of Greater Sudbury library supervisors. The presentation focused on the CDS and its role in the community. CGS staff were receptive to the information and not aware of all the programs and strategies offered in the city. Public information sessions will be booked to inform the general public of the work CDS is conducting. Public information sessions will also be explored to educate the public on SCS.</p> <p>ACTION: Some have put their names forward to help Chantal with presentations. Anyone else interested in offering presentations with Chantal should submit their names.</p>
8.3	<p>First Responder harm reduction awareness cards</p>	<p>EMS is providing cards with their information on it before leaving incidents they attend.</p>
8.4	<p>Mass Spectrometer</p>	<p>PHSD, GSPS and Sudbury Action Center for Youth(SACY) met with Dr. James Watterson to explore if a potential partnership could occur to assist with the early identification of substances. Dr. Watterson provided a detailed presentation of the 3 mass spectrometers the university holds. GSPS, SACY and Laurentian will have further conversations to determine if a partnership is possible due to the regulations and laws around the transport of illicit substances. This partnership could allow the identification of drugs found in the community in a timely fashion. This information could then be posted on the CDS website and shared with community members.</p>
8.5	<p>Expanding CDS portfolio</p>	<p>The Executive Committee wanted to ensure the CDS was not simply focusing on providing strategies and program related to opioids but to also include alcohol, tobacco and cannabis. Disposal of cannabis messaging is currently being developed, however consultation with the city waste management needs to be re-visited to ensure the recommendations align with city regulation.</p> <p><i>*keep this in mind when working on the work plan this summer.</i></p> <p>Edibles will become legal in October, therefore, we may need to do some work around this.</p>
8.6	<p>Presentation from Supervising Coroner, Dr. Emily Groot</p>	<p>Dr. Emily Groot presented to the CDS Executive Committee. Dr. Rob LePage and P. Nikodem were invited to attend this portion of the meeting. Information related to a verdict of a coroner's jury to an</p>

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		<p>inquest on opioid overdose was presented. It was recommended the CDS review the 55 recommendations made by the verdict of coroner's jury of the inquest into the death of Bradley John Chapman issued December 20, 2018.</p> <p>C. Belanger will send the report to the group for review.</p>
8.7	<p>S.T.O.P society (Sudbury Temporary Overdose Prevention)</p>	<p>There has been a group of individuals who are operating an unsanctioned overdose prevention site in our city. The CDS is exploring its position on these services. In general, CDS advocates for safe and sanctioned harm reduction strategies, however, we don't currently have permanent SCS in our area. CDS continues to support harm reductions strategies within the community by education, and naloxone distribution.</p> <p>CDS Members understand that some residents of Louis Street have voiced concerns with the pop-up overdose prevention site. The City has issued a statement informing any organized group that they must have the necessary permits to conduct organized activities in a park. At this time the pop up sites have not been closed but the city is in conversation to identify an alternative location.</p> <p>Discussion ensued about the effectiveness of pop-up overdose prevention sites. Paramedic services reported they have been doing research around this. Suggestions were offered to look into the data that Toronto (Moss Park) has around pop-up overdose prevention sites.</p> <p>It would be important to prepare key messages and a communications plan for SCS. This could easily include information to the public about the NAFS and why the study is necessary in order to receive the federal exemption. This information is all available on the CDS website.</p> <p>It would also be important to know each other's positions on the pop-up sites at an organizational level and determining our position as a collective.</p> <p>ACTION: The Steering Committee co-chairs will ask for direction from the CDS Executive Committee and messaging will be shared once a position is provided.</p>
9.0	<p>FOUNDATION WORKING GROUPS' REPORTS</p>	
9.1	<p>Health Promotion and Prevention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe needle disposal radio script played the week of June 3–21 on various radio channels. • Harm reduction messaging for community is being developed. Looking at exploring having the message displayed on city buses.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awaiting the quotes for the anti-stigma campaign video. • Seeking additional membership for the HP pillar • Maintaining the CDS website (Insite video, SCS information) • Issued the drug alert/warning sign up weblink. Over 200 people have registered. • Presented to CGS supervisor, Cambrian academic advisors and Ontario Media Relations Officers Network (OMRON). • Issued a Drug warning on May 31 and March 8, 2019.
9.2	Treatment	Nothing reported.
9.3	Harm Reduction	<p>R. Lefebvre prepared and shared a briefing note requesting permission to begin the application process for SCS to help move things along quicker.</p> <p>ACTION: S. Calixte will for the briefing note to Dr. Zbar, co-chair of the SCS Working Group and Dr. Sutcliffe, Executive Committee co-chair.</p>
9.4	Enforcement and Justice	Nothing to report.
9.5	Communications Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group has developed and reviewed social media harm reduction messaging, SCS PowerPoint and strategy for dissemination of the SCS survey. • Each organisation has a lead from their agency that will ensure the survey is well disseminated in their establishment.
10.0	ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES	
10.1	Government of Canada-Established Opioid Pain Task Force	Link shared.
10.2	Public Health Agency of Canada- suspected Opioid overdose death data January 2018 to September 2018	Link shared.
10.3	Cannabis: Let's start a conversation Workplace Newsletter	Hard copy and electronic file provided.

	Item	Follow-up
10.4	Drug warning issued May 31, 2019	A drug warning was issued on May 31, 2019. The PDF version was previously shared with the CDS Steering Committee and is available on the CDS website.
11.0	Next meeting	Date: July 16, 2019 Time: 10:30 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m. All meetings will be held at Withdrawal Management Services, 336 Pine Street.
12.0	Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.