

# Addressing the Toxic Drug Crisis

Presentation to the Board of Health

Health Promotion Division

June 15, 2023

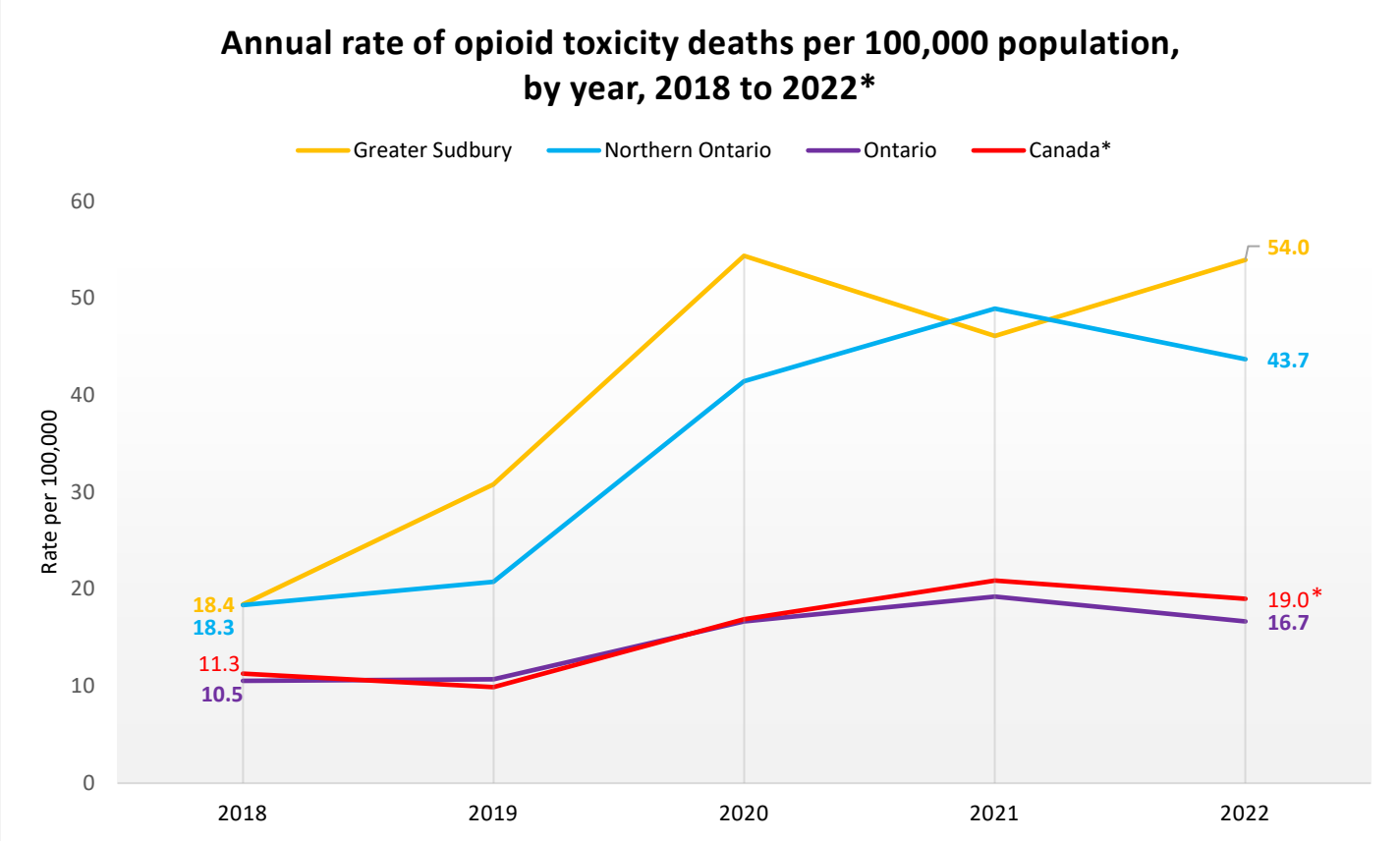


**Public Health**  
**Santé publique**  
SUDBURY & DISTRICTS

# Overview

- A pandemic of toxic drugs
- Population health approach to substance use
- Responsibilities of boards of health
  - Work *owned* by the Board of Health
  - Work *supported* by the Board of Health
- Cross-walk with evidence-informed practices
- Next steps to reverse trends

# A Pandemic of Toxic Drugs

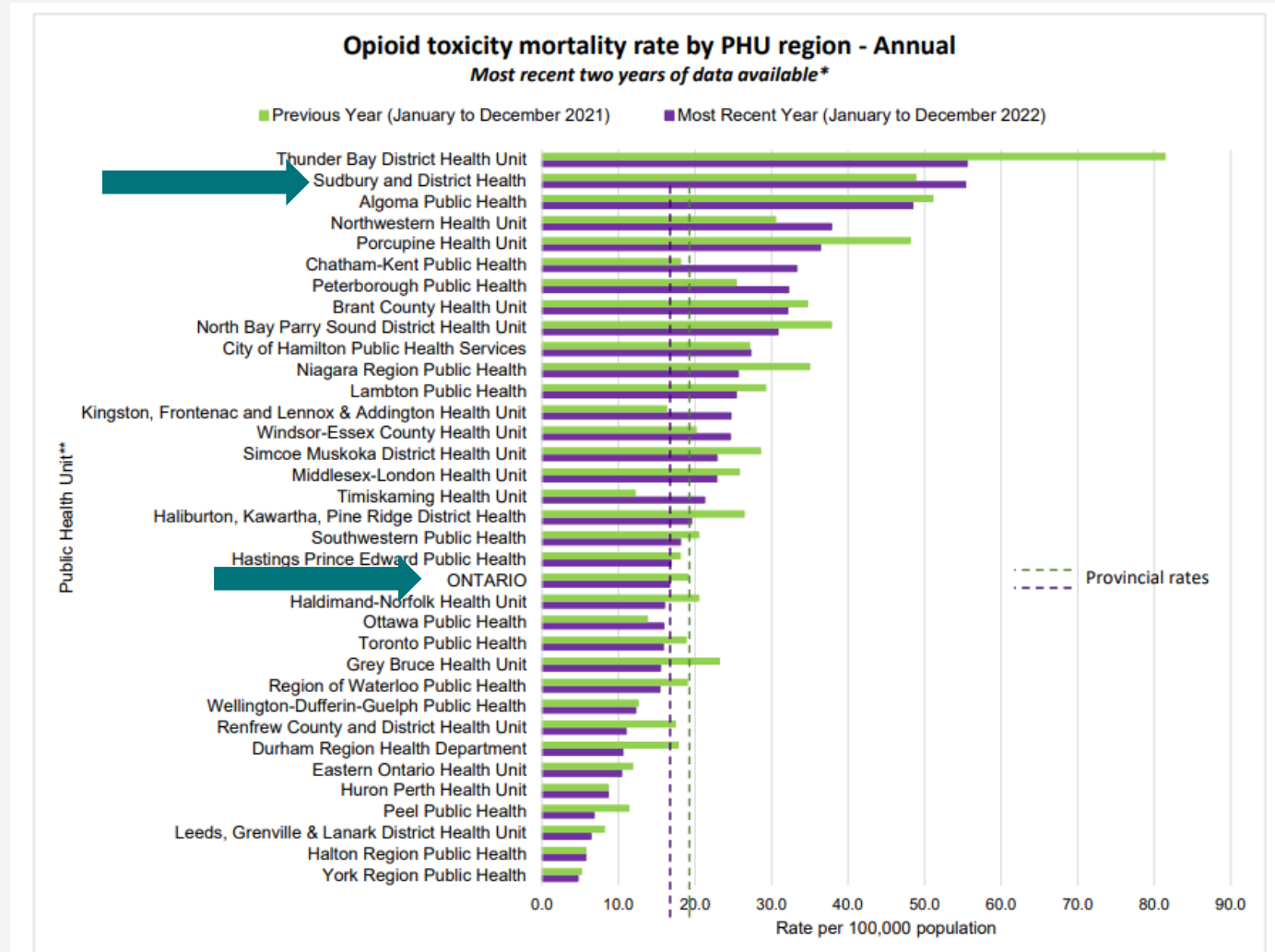


\*Data for Canada are only available up to September 2022

**From 2018 to 2022, the rate of opioid toxicity death in Ontario increased by almost 60%, while the rate in Canada increased by 68%. Over that same period, the rate in Northern Ontario increased by 139%, while the rate in Greater Sudbury increased by 193%.**

Source: Office of Chief Coroner and Public Health Agency of Canada, 2023

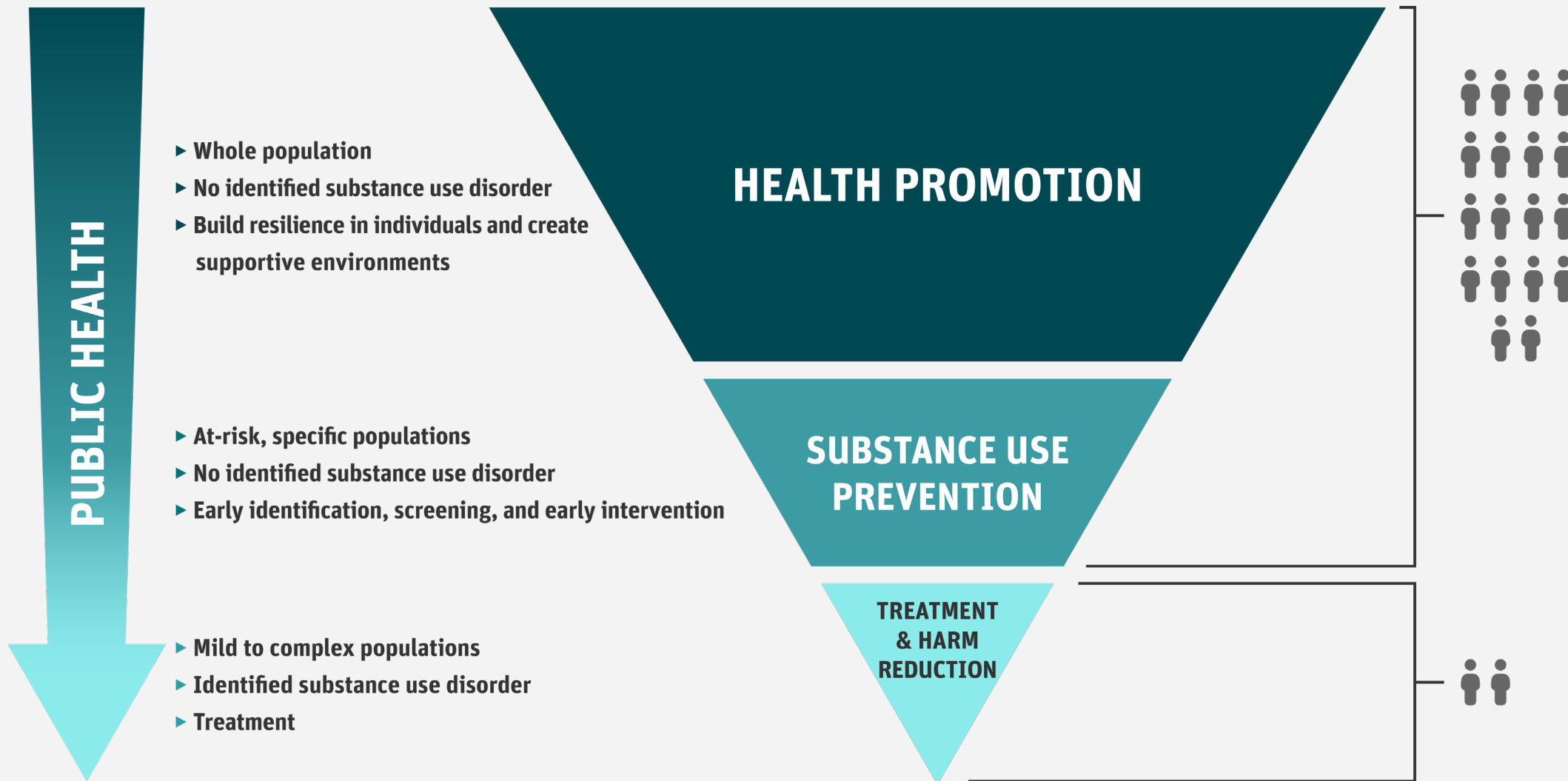
# All Ontarians Affected—Rates Higher in the North



Source: Office of Chief Coroner (OCC). Data effective May 4, 2023.

\*Includes both confirmed and probable opioid-related deaths; preliminary and subject to change.

# Population Health Approach to Substance Use



# Public Health Responsibilities

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion Act, 2007

S.O. 2007, CHAPTER 10  
Schedule K

**Consolidation Period:** From December 2, 2021 to the [e-Laws currency date](#)  
Last amendment: 2021, c. 34, Sched. 16.  
Legislative History: 2009, c. 33, Sched. 18, s. 20; 2010, c. 15, s. 235; 2011, c. 1, Sched. 6, s. 7; 2017, c. 34, Sched. 46, s. 30; 2019, c. 7, Sched. 17, s. 130; 2021, c. 34, Sched. 16.

**PART I  
INTERPRETATION**

**Purpose**  
1 The purpose of this Act is to enhance the protection and promotion of the health of Ontarians and to contribute to efforts to reduce health inequities through the establishment of an agency to provide scientific and technical advice and support to those working across sectors to protect and improve the health of Ontarians and to carry out and support activities such as population health assessment, public health research, surveillance, epidemiology, planning and evaluation. 2007, c. 10, Sched. K, s. 1.

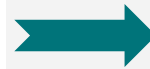
**Definitions**  
2 In this Act,  
"board of directors" means the board of directors of the Corporation; ("conseil d'administration")  
"Chief Medical Officer of Health" means the Chief Medical Officer of Health under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*; ("médecin-hygiéniste en chef")  
"Corporation" means the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion established under section 3; ("Agence")  
"fiscal year" means the period commencing on April 1 in each year and ending on March 31 of the following year; ("exercice")  
"Minister" means the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care or such other member of the Executive Council to whom the administration of this Act may be assigned under the *Executive Council Act*; ("ministre")  
"Ministry" means the Ministry of the Minister; ("ministère")  
"personal health information" has the same meaning as in the *Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004*; ("renseignements personnels sur la santé")  
"personal information" has the same meaning as in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; ("renseignements personnels")  
"prescribed" means prescribed by regulation made under this Act, and "prescribe" has a corresponding meaning; ("prescrib", "prescrire")  
"revenue" includes all money or money's worth received by the Corporation, whether by grant, gift, contribution, income, profit or otherwise. ("recettes") 2007, c. 10, Sched. K, s. 2.

**PART II  
CORPORATION**

**Corporation established**  
3 A corporation to be known in English as the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion and in French as: Agence ontarienne de protection et de promotion de la santé is established as a corporation without share capital. 2007, c. 10, Sched. K, s. 3.

**Crown agency and status**  
4 The Corporation is an agent of the Crown and may exercise its powers only as an agent of the Crown. 2007, c. 10, Sched. K, s. 4.

1



## Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability

Protecting and Promoting the Health of Ontarians  
Effective: June, 2021



Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

## Substance Use Prevention and Harm Reduction Guideline, 2018

Population and Public Health Division,  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
Effective: January 1, 2018

# Work Owned by Boards of Health



## CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION & WELL-BEING

Parenting Supports  
Healthy Growth & Development For Children  
Promote Physical Activity  
Address Food Security  
STBBI Treatment & Referrals



## INFECTIOUS & COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PREVENTION & CONTROL

Harm Reduction Supplies & Service  
STBBI Testing  
Sharps Disposal



## SCHOOL HEALTH

Resilience  
Supportive Environments  
Adult influencers  
Strengths-based



## SUBSTANCE USE & INJURY PREVENTION

Road Safety  
Drug Strategy  
Naloxone  
Harm Reduction



*“The board of health shall examine the complex interplay between individual, family, school, and community/societal factors to develop programs and services to reduce burdens associated with substance use.”*

Source: Substance Use Prevention and Harm Reduction Guideline, p.12, 2018

# Work Supported by Boards of Health



Community  
**Drug Strategy**

**Health  
Promotion**

**Enforcement  
and Justice**

**Harm  
Reduction**

**Treatment**

















## Four Pillars:

- Each led by a different sector
- Public Health coordination

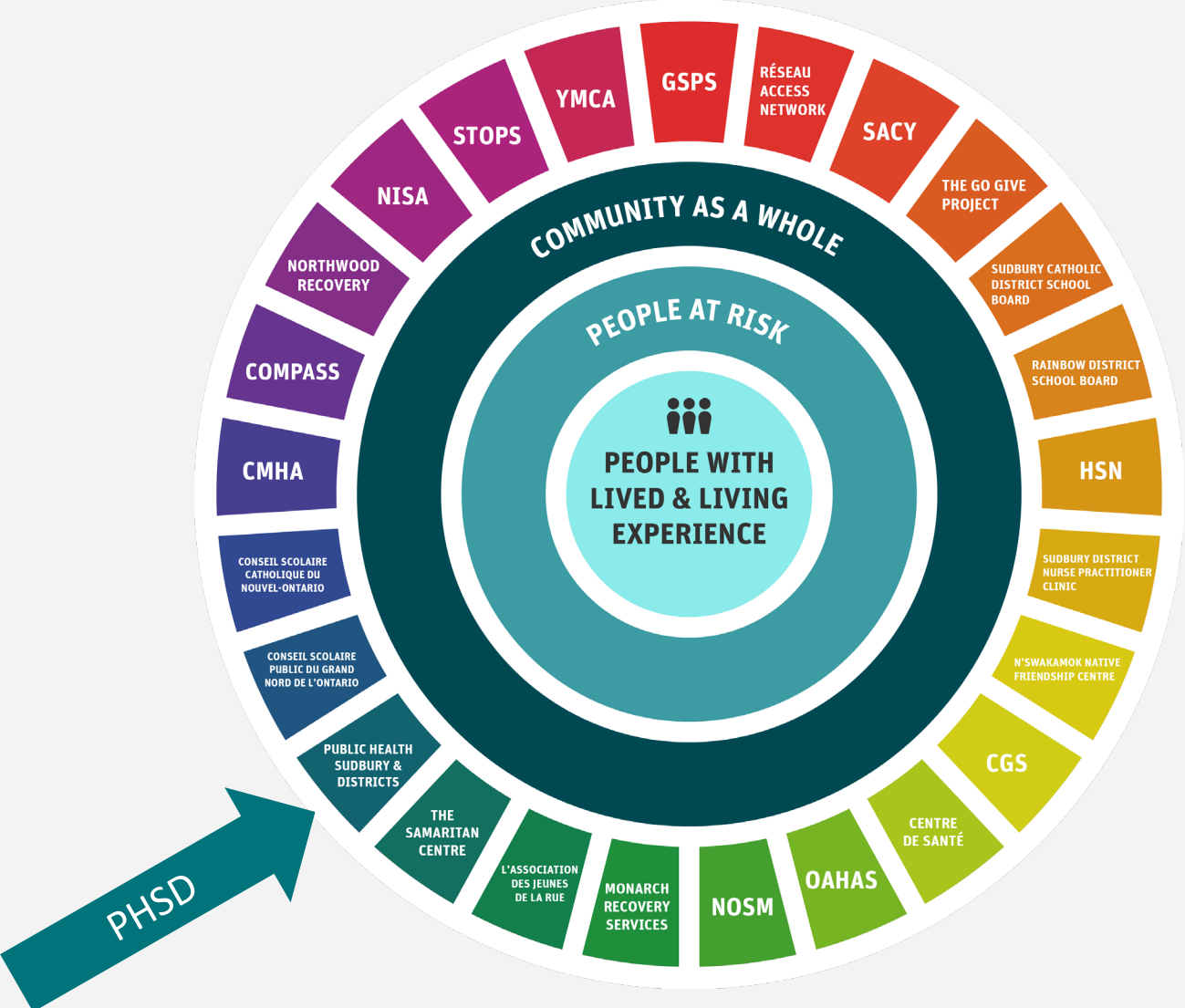


# Cross-walk with Evidence-informed Practices

Legend	
	Health promotion
	Enforcement and justice
	Harm reduction
	Treatment
<b>1</b>	Core Public Health
<b>2</b>	Public Health in collaboration with other partners
<b>3</b>	Public Health aware and / or supportive

Evidence-informed approaches in Ontario	Public Health Sudbury & Districts	Other local sectors
Positive parenting programs	1	
Adverse childhood experiences	1	
Public awareness and education	1	
Anti-stigma initiatives	1	
Emergency response protocols	2	
Decriminalization	3	
Ontario Harm Reduction Distribution Program	1	
Safer supply	2	
Drug checking services	2	
Safe inhalation services	2	
Consumption and treatment services	2	
Pharmacotherapies (i.e., suboxone, methadone, etc.)	3	
Inpatient and outpatient mental health and addictions services	3	
Inpatient and outpatient counselling services	3	
Withdrawal management	3	
Assertive Community Treatment Teams (ACTT)	3	

# A Path Forward: A Local Leadership Summit





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