

Greater Sudbury
**Summit on
Toxic Drugs**



**Sommet sur les
drogues toxiques**
du Grand Sudbury

Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs
Sommet sur les drogues toxiques du Grand Sudbury
N'Swakamok Kweshkodaadiwin Mji-mshkiki

Program December 7 and 8, 2023



Public Health
Santé publique
SUDBURY & DISTRICTS

” Summit greetings



Mayor Paul Lefebvre, Greater Sudbury

On behalf of City Council, welcome to the Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs. We are here because the toxic drug crisis is growing in scope and complexity in our community. I am proud of the work of staff and Council in support of our updated Strategic Plan priority focused on “Advancing Caring Services Post-Pandemic” in areas of municipal focus. We are committed to expanding the number of transitional housing units and the successful Assertive Community Treatment Teams partnership with Health Sciences North. We are also fortunate to have so many community organizations in Greater Sudbury that provide supportive social services to this vulnerable population. Whether the primary aim is providing clinical addiction support, trauma-informed mental health care, harm reductions services, or a warm meal and a gesture of kindness, the participants of this Summit cover a spectrum of support for, with, and by people with lived experience. Over the next two days, we need to examine what we are doing, what we can do better, and how we can collaborate. It is my hope that this Summit will spur greater coordination amongst organizations in Greater Sudbury working to address the toxic drug crisis.



Ed Archer, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Greater Sudbury

It is my privilege to welcome you to the Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs. As the opioid-related death rate in our community continues to be well above that of the province, we come together to share knowledge and experience, and bring forth practices and strategies to address this crisis. The City of Greater Sudbury is pleased to support Public Health Sudbury & Districts as they work with community partners to reduce opioid-related incidents in our community. This Summit is an opportunity to inspire hope and build a better future for people living with substance use issues, and their families, and we are proud to be a part of that journey. I extend my thanks to all participants and wish you a thought-provoking two days. Thank you, merci, Miigwetch.



René Lapierre, Greater Sudbury City Councillor and Board of Health Chair

As the Chair of the Board of Health for Sudbury and districts, I extend a warm welcome to each of you to the Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs. The need for this event was made clear in the spring, following many calls to action from the Board of Health and a compelling presentation by Ontario's Chief Coroner to Greater Sudbury City Council highlighting the severity of the toxic drug crisis in Northern Ontario. I am grateful for the work that has been achieved to bring us together to focus on reversing the serious trend of individuals dying from toxic drugs. It is with great honour that I stand alongside you, to amplify our coordinated leadership and deliver new ideas. We, in positions of influence and leadership, must put our best foot forward to navigate this challenging terrain and collectively find solutions. We must recognize the profound tragedy of this crisis and stand together. Let this Summit be a testament to our shared dedication to reversing the alarming trend of losing individuals to toxic drugs and leveraging opportunities for improving health for all in our community.



Dr. Penny Sutcliffe, Medical Officer of Health, Public Health Sudbury & Districts

Greetings and welcome to the Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs. As we face the stark reality that people in Sudbury and districts are dying from opioid toxicity at three times the rate of those from the rest of the province, we recognize the urgency of our mission. Even this eye-opening statistic cannot fully capture the harsh reality our community faces from toxic drugs. This crisis is a complex problem. One that requires unity. Each of you are here because you are a vital piece of the puzzle in a time when we need hope. This Summit is not just a meeting; it's a process. It is a shared journey of connection, not perfection. We must learn from the diverse expertise and experience in the room, listen to one another, and acknowledge that our combined strengths—even in their imperfections—can create something extraordinary. By working together, we will make an impact on this crisis and move beyond our expectations. Thank you for being here, for contributing your wisdom, and for believing in the power of collaboration to save lives. Miigwetch, merci, and heartfelt thanks for your essential participation.



Chief Paul Pedersen, Greater Sudbury Police Service

As a co-chair of the Community Drug Strategy with Public Health Sudbury & Districts, the Greater Sudbury Police Service continues to work collaboratively with over 40 social services providers to improve community health and address drug-related issues by increasing public awareness of drug use and misuse as a health issue, by providing a range of services including treatment and harm reduction and by encouraging a developmental asset building approach to prevention and community development. There is no question that addictions, homelessness, and mental illness have created a vulnerable population that law enforcement and the criminal justice system are ill equipped to deal with. Addressing social issues upstream by providing vulnerable community members with wraparound social services has proven to be effective where enforcement alone has proven to be ineffective as it further criminalizes already marginalized individuals and does little to deter crime. In partnership with Health Sciences North, we worked with additional community partners from the Canadian Mental Health Association Sudbury/Manitoulin (CMHA) and individuals with lived experiences, as well as provincial partners to help guide the development of our local model including the introduction of the Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Teams (MCRRT), Enhanced MCRRT, and 9-1-1 MCRRT. Our overall goal is to better serve our community in responding to mental health and addictions calls for service and dealing with individuals in crisis. We remain committed to working collaboratively with community partners to address the root causes of social disorder including homelessness, addictions, and mental health in order to ensure the appropriate response prior to police intervention. Our focus continues to be on providing wraparound support services to those living with addictions and/or mental health issues while at the same time addressing community safety.



James Gough, Chair, People with Lived and Living Experience Advisory Committee

I'm filled with hope at the number of people that want to affect positive change for people who use drugs attending this Summit.



Norman McGraw, Anishinaabe Knowledge/ Language Keeper and Drug and Alcohol Program Worker, N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre

Boozhoo. Miigwetch kino go weyaa gii bizhaayek monpii nongwa N'Swakamok Kweshkodaadiwin Mji-mshkiki.

Greetings—Welcome. Thank you to everyone that came here to the Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs.

N'da miigwechwendam gii yaayaan monpii, mii dash naasaab pii n'gii nendam bimaadzijik zhaazhi gii nbod megwaa gii debnamanan mji-mshkiki.

I am grateful to be here as well, however I think of those ones who already died already from picking up the toxic drugs.

Zhaazhi gonaa g'chi-piitendaagwod n'gii anakiimi jina go.

Already we accomplished great important work in a short time.

Geyaabi go eshkam sa g'chi-anakiwin wii zhichigeyaang wii jibimoseyaang niigaaan giizhigadoon.

We still have more important work left to do in the future days ahead.

N'Swakamok. Naadmooshinaang pii sa gonaa g'wii maawnjidimi..."Gbezhigomi."
Sudbury. Help us when we gather as "One."

Maamwi, n'ga zhitoonmi Mino-Bimaadiziwin miinwaa Maatookiwin kina goji akiing.
Together, we'll definitely make Good Life and Share Good Life all across the land.

Emaamwizijik bezhigozjik, minawendan kina go gegoo nogwa.

Those who gather as One, enjoy everything today.

*Miinwaa nongo N'Swakamok...Aambe maadjaadaa oshki-bimaadiziwinaang...
Gbezhigomi!*

And now...Let's begin our New Life as...One!

Summit purpose

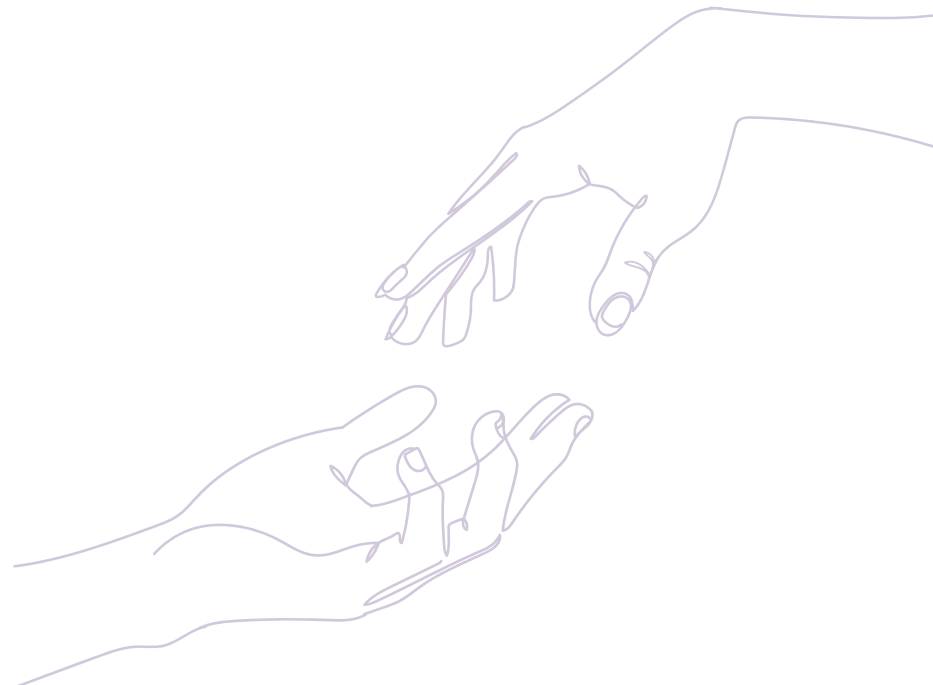
We acknowledge the profound impact that toxic drugs have had on countless lives in our community. In our pursuit of solutions, we centre those with lived and living experience at the heart of our discussions. Their insights, resilience, and voices are invaluable as we collectively strive to pave a path toward healing, support, and meaningful solutions.

According to the Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario, Northern Ontario has seen a rate of toxicity death almost **three times** higher than the rest of the province. These numbers signify a person, their loved ones, a story, and a community affected by this crisis. High mortality rates are worsening in Greater Sudbury despite numerous multi-sector substance-use prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and enforcement efforts. As a result, the Board of Health for Sudbury and districts and Greater Sudbury City Council endorsed the need for a local leadership summit.

The Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs is designed to be a forum for community leadership to examine the current magnitude of and response to the drug toxicity crisis in Greater Sudbury, with the goal of determining actionable next steps, processes, and structures to mitigate harms and ensure accountability.

The Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs aims to:

- address the escalating drug toxicity crisis in our region;
- explore innovative strategies to prevent drug-related harm by bringing together key stakeholders from various sectors; and
- develop a comprehensive and collaborative approach to tackle this complex issue.



Summit participants: Preparation and reading

Unlock the Summit's full potential to shape our community's future

Public Health Sudbury & Districts has prepared an [executive summary](#) of their report *The Drug Toxicity Crisis: An Environmental Scan to inform the Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs* to help you gain valuable insights into the landscape we are navigating. Your active engagement with this pre-Summit reading and understanding of the environmental scan will empower you to contribute meaningfully to our discussions.

Visit the [Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs Participant Resources SharePoint site](#) for additional resources. **Your preparation and participation will play a vital role in making this event a success.** Thank you for being a part of this important cause, and let's ensure our time together leads to the best outcomes for our community.

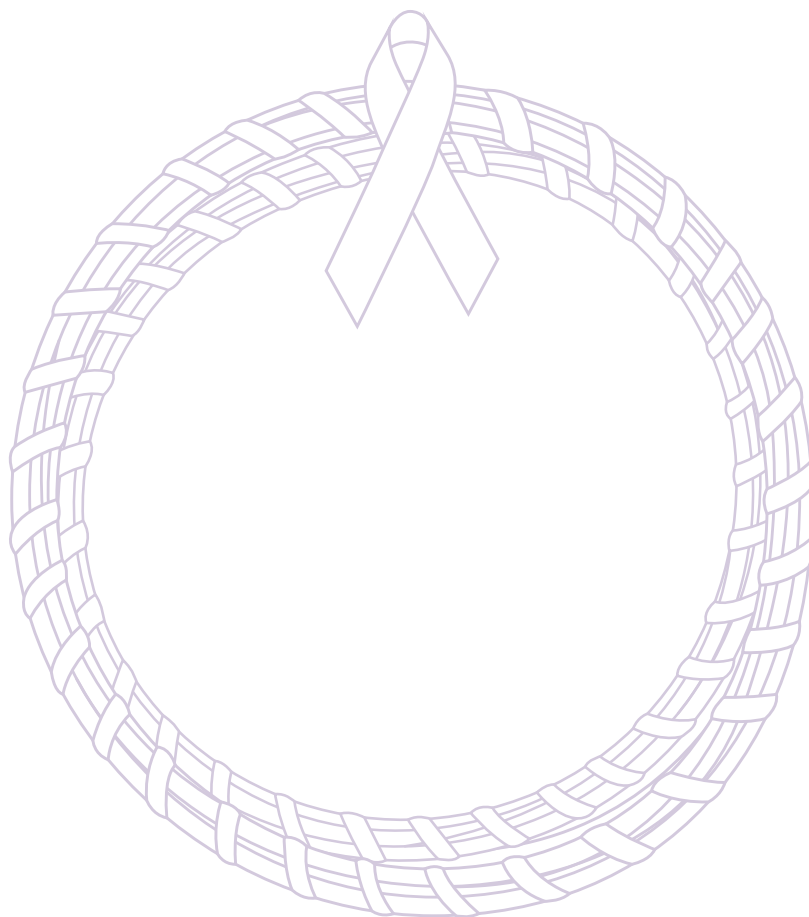


Agenda at a glance

Day 1: Thursday, December 7

Time	Event
8 a.m.	Registration and refreshments
8:30 a.m.	Welcome ▶ Dr. Penny Sutcliffe, Public Health Sudbury & Districts
8:35 a.m.	Territorial acknowledgement and moment of silence ▶ René Lapierre, Greater Sudbury City Council
8:40 a.m.	Opening remarks - Emaamwizijik Bezhigozijik - Those Who Gather As One ▶ Mayor Paul Lefebvre, Greater Sudbury ▶ Norman McGraw, N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre
9:15 a.m.	Connection before content ▶ Belinda Clemmensen and Claudia Valle, The Women's Leadership Intensive
9:30 a.m.	Summit process ▶ Belinda Clemmensen and Claudia Valle
9:40 a.m.	The crisis Recent local trends in drug-related overdose deaths ▶ Michael King, Public Health Sudbury & Districts Using evidence to inform action to address the opioid toxicity crisis ▶ Dr. Tara Gomes, Ontario Drug Policy Research Network
10:10 a.m.	Speaking from the heart ▶ James Gough, Mario D., Mark T., Anne D., Tammy Berger
10:40 a.m.	Break
10:55 a.m.	Don't waste your pain ▶ Denise Sandul, Crosses for Change
11:10 a.m.	Panel 1: Health promotion and stigma
11:50 a.m.	Table discussion (Panel 1)
12:10 p.m.	Lunch, networking, and naloxone training
1:10 p.m.	Panel 2: Wrap-around services

Time	Event
1:50 p.m.	Panel 3: Substance use care
2:35 p.m.	Break
2:50 p.m.	Table discussions (Panels 2 and 3) ▶ Belinda Clemmensen and Claudia Valle
3:30 p.m.	Sweetgrass teaching and purple ribbon ceremony ▶ Nookomis Julie Ozawagosh, N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre ▶ Evie Ali, The Go-Give Project
4:05 p.m.	Closing remarks - Emaamwizijik Bezhigozjik - Those Who Gather As One ▶ Nookomis Julie Ozawagosh, N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre ▶ Norman McGraw, N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre ▶ Dr. Penny Sutcliffe, Public Health Sudbury & Districts
4:15 p.m.	Day 1 concludes



Day 2: Friday, December 8

7:45 a.m.	Registration and refreshments
8:15 a.m.	Welcome, territorial acknowledgement, and moment of silence ▶ Ed Archer, City of Greater Sudbury
8:20 a.m.	Connection before content ▶ Belinda Clemmensen and Claudia Valle
8:35 a.m.	Opening remarks ▶ Ed Archer, City of Greater Sudbury ▶ Chief Paul Pedersen, Greater Sudbury Police Service ▶ The Honourable Ya'ara Saks, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions of Canada ▶ Tim Ominika, Anishinabek Nation
9 a.m.	Culture is treatment ▶ Tim Ominika, Anishinabek Nation ▶ Jonathan Michael Peltier, Wiikwemkoong Justice Program
9:30 a.m.	Industry perspectives on the toxic drug crisis Mental health and substance use in industry ▶ Felix Lopes Jr., Lopes Limited Opioids in the trades ▶ Emily Sheppard, Lopes Limited
9:40 a.m.	Heartbreak and hope in Canada's unregulated drug crisis ▶ Benjamin Perrin, University of British Columbia
10:25 a.m.	Public health approach: Evidence and best practices ▶ Dr. Pamela Leece, Public Health Ontario
10:45 a.m.	Break
11 a.m.	Table discussions: Report back of opportunities from day 1 ▶ Belinda Clemmensen and Claudia Valle
11:10 a.m.	Table discussions: Closing the gaps—idea generation ▶ Belinda Clemmensen and Claudia Valle
11:50 p.m.	Large group: Where are the biggest gains for us as a community? ▶ Belinda Clemmensen and Claudia Valle
12:35 p.m.	Next steps ▶ Ed Archer, City of Greater Sudbury
12:45 p.m.	Closing remarks ▶ Tim Ominika, Anishinabek Nation ▶ James Gough ▶ Mayor Paul Lefebvre, Greater Sudbury
1 p.m.	Evaluation and Summit closure ▶ Ed Archer, City of Greater Sudbury

Speakers

A heartfelt appreciation is extended to the speakers, facilitators, and panelists for their invaluable contributions to the Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs. Their expertise and dedication have enriched our discussions and seek to illuminate the path forward. To delve deeper into their impactful roles, we encourage participants to explore the following bios.

Norman McGraw



I am Anishinaabe. My Indigenous name and clan are my identity and I have lived on Manitoo Mnis—Manitoulin Island for most of my life. I am a survivor of intergenerational trauma from my late father who attended residential school and a former alcoholic and drug addict; however I am now thriving in my full Indigenous identity. I am 52 winters and for nearly 2 ½ decades have studied my Indigenous language, Ancestry, ceremonies, Songs, Dances and overall Sacred Identity. These have led me to my current job and committees I sit upon within the Greater City of Sudbury. Sharing good life teachings, Anishinaabe language, traditional advice, ceremonial practices, sacredness in unity of Oneness. My background in education came by means of studying the Anishinaabe language with 1-year immersion at Sault College, starting a 3-year immersion at Algoma University and moved away to attend a successful 4-year combined Anishinaabe language immersion program and Indigenous Teacher Education Program out of Ottawa University hosted by Walpole Island First Nation. I have taught the Anishinaabe language at 2 Public, 1 High School and been instructing Anishinaabemowin for 6 years at the N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre where I'm presently employed as the Drug and Alcohol Worker and Indigenous Languages Revitalization Coordinator. My experiences from "Bimaadiziwin"—"Life" has shared and led me to many sacred places and was able to meet many Medicine Men and Women around the territory and world, who have shared enlightenment from the beyond into the eternal now.



Michael King

Michael King is an epidemiologist at Public Health Sudbury & Districts, where he has worked since 2005. At Public Health, he plays a lead role in the ongoing analysis of local data on suspected drug-related overdoses and deaths. Since 2010, Michael has served as Chair of the Rapid Risk Factor Surveillance System (RRFSS), an ongoing survey collaboration between numerous health units in Ontario. RRFSS has been collecting data since 2001, making it the longest-running local risk factor surveillance system in the world. Michael is also a part-time professor in the post-graduate certificate program in Health Analytics at Cambrian College. He holds an Honours B.Sc. in biomedical biology from Laurentian University, and an M.Sc. in epidemiology from the University of Ottawa.



Dr. Tara Gomes

Tara Gomes is a scientist at St. Michael's Hospital, scientific director of Urban and Community Health at Unity Health Toronto, and program director of the Ontario Drug Policy Research Network. She is also an assistant professor at the University of Toronto and holds a Canada Research Chair in Drug Policy Research and Evaluation. Her research program focuses on drug safety and drug policy research, with a specific interest in developing evidence to inform policies that address the ongoing drug toxicity crisis across Canada and that integrate perspectives of impacted communities.



James Gough

James is a 60-year-old social justice advocate. His work is informed by 15 years involvement in community-based research, two decades of living with HIV, and attendance at hundreds of conferences and webinars.



Mario D.

Mario is 53 years old. His journey with substance use began at a young age when living in the United States. Throughout this journey, Mario has bravely navigated challenges related to substance use, including fentanyl addiction and incarceration. He is actively engaged in substance use programs. These experiences have been pivotal in shaping his path.



Mark T.

Mark is a 53-year-old father of four. His personal experiences, both as a person who uses drugs and as a parent supporting a child through similar challenges, have given him a deep understanding of the complexities and struggles surrounding the toxic drug crisis.



Anne D.

Anne is a 42-year-old peer support worker at Réseau ACCESS Network.



Tammy Berger

Tammy (she/her) is a 48-year-old harm reduction and outreach worker. As a former sex worker, she is affiliated with the Sex Workers Advisory Network of Sudbury and Project ArmHer. She has three beautiful children and is a grandmother of two grandchildren.



Denise Sandul

Denise Sandul and her mother, Aline Pitcher, are the founders and force behind two local initiatives, “Crosses for Change” and “Sudbury Outreach Support”. After losing her son, Myles Keaney, to an overdose of toxic drugs, Denise mined the depths of her own unimaginable grief and bereavement and initiated a makeshift streetcorner memorial that inspired national acknowledgement and recognition. “Crosses for Change” continues to shine light on Myles’ life purpose, sharing awareness of the hundreds of lives that toxic drugs have stolen and destroyed. With a simple white cross that initially marked the ground where her precious son lost his life, Denise has inspired other communities to follow suit and establish their own memorials. Through the most devastating experience that a parent can endure, Denise remains committed to sharing Myles’ story, to helping grieving families navigate the darkness of heartbreaking loss, and to recognize the need for change. In her efforts to connect with the street community that welcomed her son, Denise saw first-hand the dangers of daily life experienced by the underhoused and the scarcity of resources available to those who have fallen through the cracks in the pavement. Denise continues to honour her son’s legacy by exemplifying Myles’ generosity and giving nature. Through her grassroots organization, comprised of a small group of dedicated volunteers, “Sudbury Outreach Support” provides clothing and necessities to hundreds of homeless and underprivileged individuals every week. A graduate of Laurentian University, Denise has worked for the Sudbury and District Children’s Aid Society for the better part of the past two decades. She is the proud mother of four children and grandmother of five more.



Nookomis Julie Ozawagosh

Nookomis Julie Ozawagosh resides at Atikameksheng Anishnawbek (Whitefish Lake First Nation). My work over 20 years plus with Anishnawbek organization in N’Swakamok Native Friendship Centre (Sudbury) has opened the path to healing and as a survivor of the St. Joseph Residential School, Spanish, Ontario. I understand the multi-generational trauma of residential school and Sixty Scoop eras. Currently active with non-profit organizations and the different levels of education bodies in the Sudbury and First Nations in surrounding areas that support Native interests and issues by providing cultural perspectives, teachings and supports. My path focuses on culture revitalization and Indigenous health and spirituality. Through my work as Nookomis Julie, I’ve gained a deep understanding and compassion for the spiritual and educational needs of Anishnawbe people. With my husband Frank, we humbly walk together with traditional knowledge and ceremonies. As we journey on the Sweetgrass Road and many gifts that have been shown to us.



Evie Ali

Evie Ali is the co-founder and executive director of The Go-Give Project, Sudbury's sole overnight mobile outreach program, addressing the challenges of addiction and homelessness. Evie is in her 12th year of recovery from various substances. As an immigrant, Evie experienced the foster care system in Sudbury due to familial abuse and hereditary addiction issues, eventually navigating the judicial system to secure emancipation. Actively engaged in frontline and behind-the-scenes efforts to combat the opioid crisis, Evie's firsthand experience during her unhoused years inspired The Go-Give Project, now a federally funded wrap-around service, enhancing accessibility to addiction support. Eager to contribute to the Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs, Evie invites further discussion on the panel's specific criteria for speakers. Her unique perspective as an immigrant and ongoing connection with individuals in various stages of addiction and recovery make her a valuable voice in the community. Evie's compelling personal journey, coupled with her extensive community involvement, positions her as an empathetic and informed advocate. Through The Go-Give Project, she continues to make a significant impact, fostering positive change and advocating for increased access to vital services for those affected by substance abuse.



Tim Ominika

Aannii, my name is Tim Ominika, I am from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory, my Aanishnaabe name is Msko-Ngik (Red Otter) and Maiigan Doodem (the Wolf Clan). I practise our culture and traditions in which I carry a strong sense of self, family focus in which is reflected in my morals, values, and beliefs. I have been working in the area of mental health and wellness, opioid dependency, and harm reduction for the past 14 years. My previous work experience has allowed me to work at the community and national level supporting mental health and wellness for First Nation communities across Canada. I am excited with my new roles as the mental health addiction system specialist in the Health Department. I am looking forward to this new venture and supporting our First Nations communities within the Anishinabek Nation Territory. I believe that it does not take one organization to assist in one's health and wellness, but it takes a whole community. Miigwetch.



Jonathan Michael Peltier

My name is Jonathan Michael Peltier. I am a proud member of Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory on Manitoulin Island. Currently, I am a justice worker with the Wiikwemkoong Justice Program; my focus is reintegration, and my commitment is to the people of our community. My life experience of incarceration in all sectors of Canadian Justice System—youth, provincially, and federally—has assisted me in connecting with those I serve. My descension into the depths of the federal prison system was a result of addiction to opioids, and coinciding effects of intergenerational traumas. My healing journey included accessing opioid replacement therapy and harm reductions services in my community. More importantly, reconnecting with my culture and ancestral home has augmented my sense of belonging and sense of identity, as an Indigenous man.



Felix Lopes Jr.

Felix Lopes Jr. is recognized as one of Northern Ontario's industrial leaders in mining, chemical, oil, gas, pulp & paper, mills, smelters, power, battery recycling and agriculture. From humble immigrant origins, Felix Jr. started as a sheet metal trade worker in his father's garage at only 16 years old. Felix received his trade certification at the age of 21 and spent many days and nights working at "the shop" where several of his mentors took him under their wing to help develop his career. A couple of decades later, Felix Jr. rose to prominence as an eminent entrepreneur, social reformer, philanthropist, community leader, and conservationist. As entrepreneur, Felix Lopes Jr. is the owner and president of Lopes Group of Companies (LGC). LGC currently employs over 450 employees including a nurse practitioner-led occupational health clinic to support LGC employees and their families. Mr. Lopes has been recognized as a community leader most notably in 2023, he was the recipient of Cambrian College's highest award: The Dr. Fred Sheridan Award, which recognizes contributions to the advancement and betterment of society through extraordinary service to education. In 2020, he was the recipient of both the Northern Ontario Business Entrepreneur of the Year Award as well as the Rotary Club of Sudbury Sunrisers Paul Harris Award. The Paul Harris award acknowledges significant humanitarian efforts that embody the Rotary motto "Service above Self" and are bestowed on individuals who are outstanding contributors to improving community quality of life. He has personally spearheaded and completed several community grassroots projects, directly benefitting the residents of the community, young and old. Felix Jr. is a proud supporter of: Annual Scholarship Awards, Rotary Park Sudbury Charities Foundation, Science North, both public and catholic elementary Schools, Northern Ontario hockey teams, Cambrian College scholarships, Collège Boréal, Coniston Curling Rink, Coniston Food Bank, Coniston Splash Pad, Habitat for Humanity and Coniston Community Services—Greenhouses, and much more. Above all, Felix Jr. loves to spend time with his two amazing daughters.



Emily Sheppard

Emily Sheppard is a nurse practitioner with over 30 years of experience in health care. Her early years as a registered nurse included surgical, orthopedic, community and occupational health nursing. She decided to advance her career and obtained her nurse practitioner Certificate and Master's Degree in Nursing in 2014. After graduating as a nurse practitioner, she joined the Capreol Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic providing primary health care. In 2021, she joined forces with Felix Lopes Jr. who had a vision of supporting his employees by creating an industry-based medical service for Lopes and the Lopes Group of Companies. Felix experienced firsthand how the opioid crisis and mental health issues affected his employees and felt a desire to do something. These health services responded to the many challenges his businesses faced during the pandemic which included resumption of business activities and especially addressing the mental health needs of employees. During her time with this innovative project, Emily has had the privilege of working with the employees of the Lopes Group of Companies and has seen the benefits that early intervention and access to mental health services has on this work community.



Benjamin Perrin

Benjamin Perrin is a professor at the Peter A. Allard School of Law at the University of British Columbia. He has served in the Prime Minister's Office as in-house legal counsel and lead policy advisor on criminal justice and public safety. He was also a law clerk at the Supreme Court of Canada. He is the bestselling author of "Overdose: Heartbreak and Hope in Canada's Opioid Crisis" and "Indictment: The Criminal Justice System on Trial."



Dr. Pamela Leece

Dr. Pamela Leece is a public health physician with the Health Promotion, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention department at Public Health Ontario. She is an assistant professor cross-appointed with the Department of Family and Community Medicine and Dalla Lana School of Public Health at University of Toronto. She also practises part-time as a courtesy staff in the Substance Use Service at Women's College Hospital. Her current research focuses on public health approaches to substance use.

Facilitators



Claudia Valle

Claudia Valle brings over 20 years of expertise in the field of facilitation and training, with a focus on helping teams and leaders manage healthy tension. Throughout her career, she has honed her facilitation skills, specializing in designing and delivering impactful programs for Fortune 500 companies, not-for-profits, and charities on a global scale. Leveraging her extensive experience, she is dedicated to facilitating environments where individuals can overcome obstacles, reach their objectives, and create a meaningful impact. Claudia is committed to using her facilitation capabilities to empower individuals and groups in achieving their goals, to helping teams manage complexity and tension effectively, and to making a positive difference.



Belinda Clemmensen

Leadership development facilitator, coach and author, Belinda has been supporting teams and organizations to create more inclusive, human-centred cultures for over 25 years. In large part it is leaders who set the culture and structures for our communities, and Belinda's work supports these leaders to become more values-based, with a particular focus on issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Belinda helps stakeholders with diverging views come together in respectful dialogue and community building and does not shy away from complexity or difficult conversations. Belinda is the founder of The Women's Leadership Intensive and Co-Founder of the Leader Coach Intensive.



Graphic recorder



Erica Bota

Erica is a visual storyteller, a digital artist, and a graphic recorder. She has a Master's in Sustainability and Leadership, and specializes in drawing out community-based dialogue and facilitating visual thinking workshops. When she's not drawing, she's outside running, rock climbing, and mountain biking with her dog and partner in Squamish, British Columbia, the traditional and ancestral territory of the Squamish, Musqueam, and Tsleil Waututh people.

Panelists

Panel 1: Health promotion and stigma



Moderator

Stacey Gilbeau Director | Public Health Sudbury & Districts

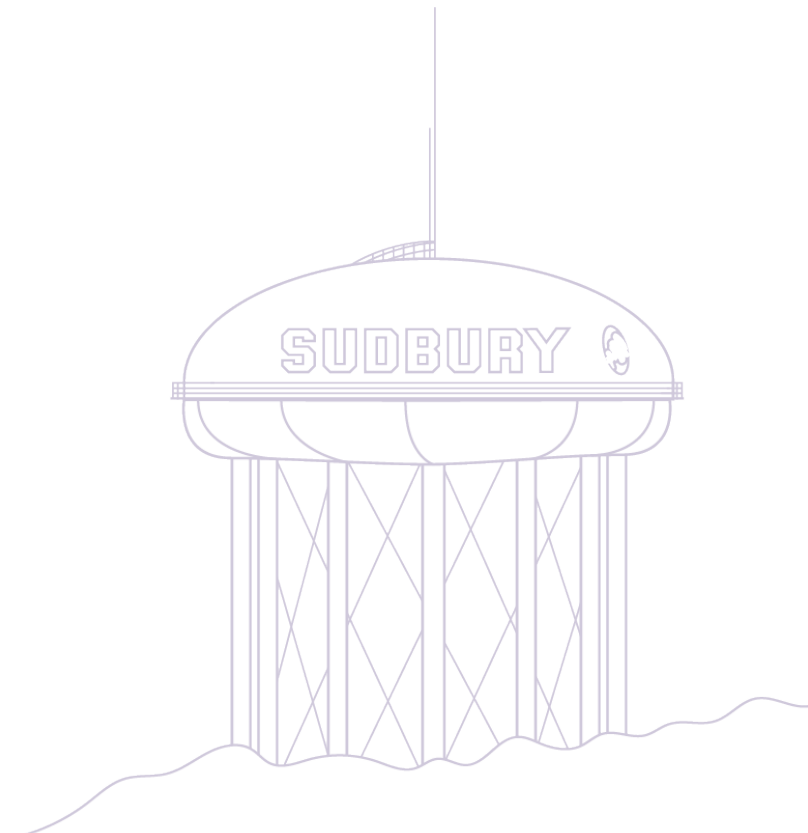
Stacey Gilbeau (R.N., BSc.N.) is a registered nurse and director of Health Promotion, Vaccine Preventable Diseases and the Chief Nursing Officer at Public Health Sudbury & Districts. With over two decades of expertise, Stacey has worked in the field of public health, promoting and protecting health and well-being at the population level. Her passion lies in social and environmental interventions that address the social determinants of health at the population level and the human rights of people who use substances.



Panelist

Miranda Mackie | Manager of Children Services | City of Greater Sudbury

Miranda Mackie has been actively working in the early learning field for 27 years. Her experience ranges from resource consultant, director, leadership development facilitator and now as the manager of Children Services in the role of consolidated municipal services manager with the City of Greater Sudbury. Miranda has immersed herself in the early learning and child care sector with a deep focus on inclusion and system integration for children and families. She has led local and provincial advisory teams as a leadership team member with a focus on advocacy for the quality provision of services for children with exceptionalities. She holds a particular passion for facilitation in the areas of leadership development and organization culture having trained over 350 educators, supervisors, and directors across the North. Miranda is a graduate of Cambrian College as a Child and Youth Worker and holds a BA in Psychology, and an MA in Leadership Development from the Graduate Degree Program at the University of Guelph. She has also completed coursework and hours through the Coaches Training Institute, a global in-person coach training school and is working towards the attainment of credentials as an International Executive Coach.





Panelist

Bruce Bourget | Director of Education | Rainbow District School Board

Bruce Bourget joined the Board in 1993. He has taught math, physical education, business studies and science. He served as a special education resource teacher and physical education program leader. Bruce Bourget was appointed vice-principal in 2001 and quickly promoted to the position of principal. He was principal of Lockerby Composite School from 2003 to 2008 and student success leader/principal of program for Grades 7 to 12 from 2008 to 2010, providing system-wide instructional leadership for Rainbow Schools. For the past 11 years, Bruce Bourget has served as superintendent of schools. In addition to overseeing a family of schools, he has been responsible for a number of portfolios including human resources, labour relations, student success, and health and safety, including the development and implementation of all protocols and procedures to keep everyone safe during the pandemic. He also played a lead role in the creation of Barrydowne College, a highly successful re-engagement school at Cambrian College. Since its inception, hundreds of students have returned to school to complete their diploma and pursue their studies or find employment. An Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Co-Curricular Program recipient, Bruce Bourget has coached basketball, volleyball, and track and field and has convened Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations basketball. He was the Northern Ontario Regional Team and Centre for Performance Coach for Basketball Ontario and also served as provincial chair. In 2010, Bruce Bourget was Chair of the Olympic Torch Relay Celebration in Greater Sudbury. He has coached club basketball since 2010. Prior to that, he coached Walden Minor Soccer. Bruce Bourget has a Masters of Education from Nipissing University, a Bachelor of Education from Queen's University, and a Bachelor of Physical and Health Education from Laurentian University. He is a graduate of Nickel District Secondary School in Sudbury.



Panelist

Caroline Folkman | Manager | Toward Common Ground

Caroline is a compassionate and caring leader, committed to addressing complex health and social challenges. She has 20 years of experience leading research and evaluation initiatives, promoting collaboration, and managing complex projects. Currently, Caroline is the manager of Toward Common Ground (TCG). TCG collaborates with community partners to take collective action to improve the lives of people in Guelph and Wellington. Caroline chairs the Community Resilience Coalition of Guelph and Wellington. Caroline has a Master of Science in Epidemiology from the University of British Columbia and a Graduate Diploma in Social Innovation from the University of Waterloo.



Panelist

Rosamund Dunkley Director of Mental Health Promotion and Well-being | Public Health Agency of Canada

Rosamund Dunkley, M.Sc., is the director of Mental Health Promotion and Well-being, which includes the Prevention of Substance Related Harms team at the Public Health Agency of Canada. Her team focuses on developing and promoting tools for preventing substance related harms among youth through equity, harm reduction, upstream prevention and stigma reduction and providing advice to decision makers on public health issues related to mental health and substance use.

Panelist

Scott Neufeld Lecturer | Brock University



Scott Neufeld (he/him) is a white cis-male settler and a lecturer in Community Psychology at Brock University. He did his graduate training in Social Psychology at Simon Fraser University and worked at the BC Centre on Substance Use as a research assistant. His work focuses on developing a critical, structural, and intersectional analysis of substance use stigma and how it can be undone. This has involved research and organizing to promote the meaningful inclusion of people who use drugs in research, service delivery and organizational governance and a large-scale critical review of 134 substance use focused anti-stigma campaigns from across Canada. He regularly shares his research and thinking on addressing substance use stigma with public health organizations across Ontario. He lives with his family on the ancestral territories of the Chonnonton, Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples under the terms of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement in St. Catharines, ON.

Panel 2: Wrap-around services

Moderator



Sue Tassé Manager of Clinical Services | Canadian Mental Health Association Sudbury/Manitoulin

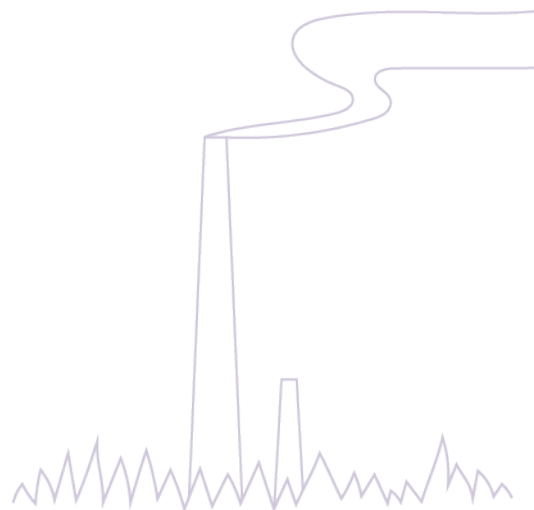
Sue Tassé is the manager of Clinical Services at the Canadian Mental Health Association Sudbury/Manitoulin (CMHA-S/M) and is also a bilingual Registered Psychotherapist. In this position, she provides management and clinical oversight to a broad range of CMHA-S/M programs and services. Over the course of 30 years in the social service and mental health sector, Sue has developed a strong understanding of the impact that mental health and substance misuse can have on an individual and their support systems. She is passionate about using her professional experience to foster strong relationships and collaborations to improve the access, quality, and availability of supports to those who need it most.

Panelist



Jackie Balleny Executive Director | Sudbury District Restorative Justice

Jackie Balleny is the executive director of Sudbury District Restorative Justice (SDRJ). She is a retired vice principal of the Rainbow District School Board and the current Chair of the Board of Northern Youth Services and a Board Member of Sudbury and Area Victim Services. With more than three decades' experience working with teenagers both as a teacher and as an administrator, and strong connections in the community, Jackie helps connect SDRJ to the Sudbury area. In her free time, she finds balance in her passions which include stained glass, home renovations, kindness rock painting, and sailing the beautiful waters of the North Channel of Lake Huron.





Panelist

Gail Spencer Manager of Housing Stability and Homelessness | City of Greater Sudbury

Gail Spencer is the manager of Housing Stability and Homelessness for the City of Greater Sudbury. She has led the homelessness section since 2008 and has held various roles within the City of Greater Sudbury Social Services Division for the past 30 years. At the City of Greater Sudbury Gail is responsible for leading the homelessness team and administering the homelessness funding that the City receives through the federal, provincial, and municipal levels of government. The City delivers client navigator and homelessness prevention services and partners with several community agencies to provide programs for people experiencing homelessness including street outreach, emergency shelters, homelessness prevention, and Housing First case management. Gail believes building collaborative partnerships is the key to successful programs aimed at ending chronic homelessness.



Panelist

Ali Farooq Programs Manager | The Go-Give Project

Ali Farooq is a dynamic professional with a unique blend of project management expertise and a background as a foreign-trained physician. As the Go-Give Project Manager for our organization, Ali brings a passion for making a positive impact on communities and lives. His commitment to giving back is evident in his approach to project management, where he not only meets goals but also ensures that each endeavor contributes to the greater good. With a medical degree from a prestigious international institution, Ali's journey into project management reflects his versatility and dedication to multifaceted problem solving. His experience as a physician equips him with a holistic perspective, allowing him to navigate complex projects with a comprehensive understanding of the human element involved. In his role, Ali Farooq seamlessly integrates his medical knowledge with project management principles, fostering a collaborative environment that values both efficiency and empathy. He is adept at leading diverse teams, recognizing the unique strengths each member brings to the table. His strategic vision and interpersonal skills create a harmonious work environment, driving projects forward while fostering a sense of community and purpose among team members. Ali Farooq's commitment to the Go-Give philosophy goes beyond his professional endeavors. He actively seeks opportunities to contribute to social causes and believes in leveraging his skills to create a positive and lasting impact on the world. His journey exemplifies the power of merging diverse skill sets to drive meaningful change, making him a valuable asset to our organization and a source of inspiration for those around him.

Panel 3: Substance use care



Moderator

Natalie Aubin Regional Vice-President, Cancer Care and Vice-President, Social Accountability | Health Sciences North

Dr. Natalie Aubin joined Health Science North's (HSN) leadership team in 2022 after 10 years as administrative director of the two largest departments in HSN's Social Accountability portfolio, the Northeast Cancer Centre and the Mental Health and Addictions program. In these roles, Dr. Aubin supported the implementation of many priority initiatives including the Systemic Treatment Quality Based Program, and the first Virtual Psychiatry Program for rural hospitals in the North. An adjunct professor in Rural and Northern Health at Laurentian University and previous student and researcher with the Institut franco-ontarien, Dr. Aubin has advanced knowledge on French-language health human resource planning, seniors healthy aging, and learning. She has also served in management roles at Collège Boréal, Public Health Sudbury & Districts, and the Children's Aid Society Nipissing & Parry Sound. Fluently bilingual, she completed a BA in Psychology, a MA in Human Development and a PhD in Human Studies at Laurentian University, and is an alumna from the Northern Leadership Development Program. She completed certificates in Health of Official Language Minority Communities, Healthcare Improvement and Mental Health Law, and training in Indigenous Cultural Safety. She has served on the boards of the North East Community Care Access Centre, Réseau du mieux-être francophone du Nord de l'Ontario, Maison McCullough Hospice, Addictions and Mental Health Ontario, and the Association of General Hospital Psychiatric Services.

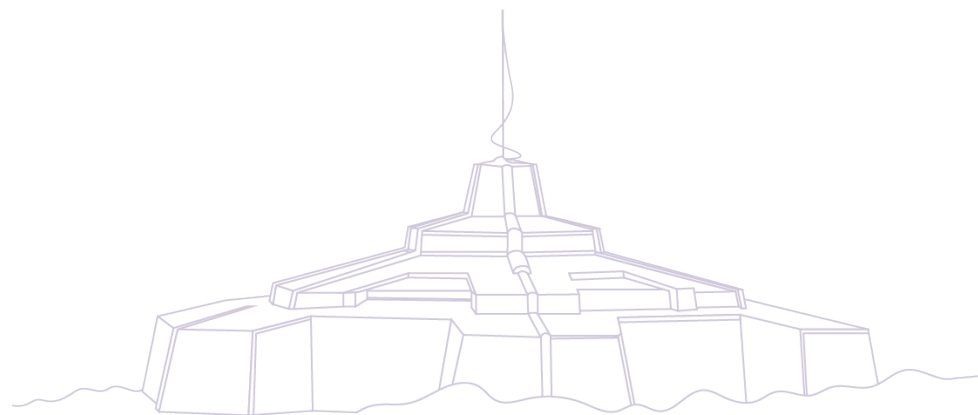




Moderator

Heidi Eisenhauer Executive Director | Réseau ACCESS Network

Heidi Eisenhauer (she/her) serves as the executive director of Réseau ACCESS Network, drawing upon over two decades of experience in harm reduction. Her journey began with grassroots harm reduction programs and drug testing initiatives in Toronto and San Francisco's dance communities. Committed to anti-oppression and anti-racism, Heidi centers her work on the needs and concerns of the community. In addition to pivotal roles in HIV mainstreaming, non-profit administration, volunteer coordination, and sexual abuse support, Heidi has seven years of expertise in event management, organizing impactful events, including those for 5000 people plus, to raise awareness and foster community connections. Heidi's leadership extends beyond harm reduction, encompassing urban agriculture and a community kitchen. Over two decades, she has cultivated a space where shared meals and sustainable practices empower the community. Her love for birds is evident in her commitment to propagating native plants, creating environments that support local ecosystems. In addition to her professional endeavors, Heidi is a vocal advocate for homelessness issues, working towards comprehensive solutions for marginalized communities. Her holistic approach, merging harm reduction with event management, non-profit leadership, community engagement, and environmental stewardship, reflects a genuine commitment to positive change. As the executive director, Heidi Eisenhauer stands as a compassionate leader dedicated to the well-being, empowerment, and environmental sustainability of the communities she serves.

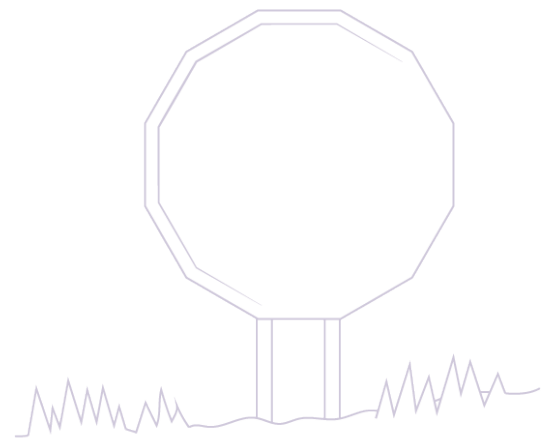




Panelist

Amber Fritz | Manager of The Spot | Réseau ACCESS Network

Amber Fritz is a dedicated harm reductionist who lives, works, and plays on the traditional lands of the Anishnaabe people. She currently works at Réseau ACCESS Network as the manager of the soon to be closed supervised consumption site. With over 20 years of living experience as an opioid-dependent person and a decade of work in harm reduction, Amber has a deep understanding of the impact of prohibition-based drug policies. Amber has witnessed how such policies have caused the introduction of unregulated fentanyl, benzodiazepines, and animal tranquilizers to the drug supply and the effect that it has had on people who use drugs, and the broader community. She strongly believes that the criminalization and stigmatization of drug use exacerbates these issues, leading to more harm and preventable deaths. Amber is an advocate for ending the racist and classist war on people who use drugs. She believes that the criminalization of drug use disproportionately affects systemically marginalized communities, which perpetuates further injustice. Her efforts focus on promoting a compassionate and evidence-based approach to drug policy which centres the experience of people who use drugs. Amber advocates for the legalization and regulation of all substances. By removing the stigma and criminal penalties associated with drug use, individuals can be empowered to seek help and access support services. She emphasizes that many people who use drugs do so non-problematically, and that what we often see are the effects of poverty, racism, colonialism, and prohibition. Amber is grateful to work alongside colleagues that share her passion for change and acknowledges the privilege of learning from the expertise of the drug using community.





Panelist

Jody Winn Women's Care Navigator | Monarch Recovery Services

Born and raised in Sudbury. I have acquired two diplomas within the health and wellness/addictions fields. I worked as a personal support worker for 10 years primarily working alongside those living with Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, Huntington's disease as well as end of life care. I currently work at Monarch Recovery Services for Women as the care navigator and have been a part of this team since 2012. Over the past 11 years I have had many different roles within our agency, starting as an addiction support worker to treatment coordinator to my present role as the women's care navigator. In this role, I connect with participants who are seeking treatment and assist in removing barriers to care. This is done by answering questions and offering support; the connection calls can last for months prior to arriving for treatment. My role does not end once treatment is completed, as I follow up with every participant once they leave Monarch to ensure support in their transition and recovery is readily accessible for minimum six months. When I am not at work, I am often volunteering through outreach work. Supporting our homeless population in our downtown core with necessities, information, and resources alongside other community members. I believe all people should be seen and heard.



Panelist

Sam Gilchrist Executive Director | Gwekwaadziwin Miikan

Sam Gilchrist was born in Sudbury and raised on Manitoulin Island and comes from a mixed Scottish Settler background. Being raised on Manitoulin allowed Sam to explore and learn from the land as he grew. Sam is a graduate of the Laurentian Indigenous Human Services program (BSW), and the Wilfrid Laurier Masters of Indigenous Social work (MSW), as well as being a registered social worker with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers. Mr. Gilchrist' career has afforded him to work with various First Nation communities and organizations across the helping field and post secondary education. Sam continues to reside on Manitoulin and explore and learn from the land with his wife and 3 children. Mr. Gilchrist is the executive director of Gwekwaadziwin Miikan; a youth mental health & addiction program. Sam started with the United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising as the project manager for Gwekwaadziwin Miikan in the development phase. During this time, he conducted research on programming across North America and played a role in development, advocacy for funding, and training and start-up of the organization. In his continued work as executive director of the Gwekwaadziwin program, Mr. Gilchrist continues to learn with staff and participants how to best evolve the program to meet the needs of the vibrant Gwekwaadziwin community.



Panelist

Dr. Tara Leary Physician Lead, Regional Addictions Services | Health Sciences North

Medical Director of CME and Assistant Professor | NOSM University

Dr. Tara Leary is the medical lead for addictions services at Health Sciences North (HSN). She has a community addictions practice and is an assistant professor at NOSM University where she also acts as Medical Director of Continuing Medical Education. Dr. Leary has been in practice in Sudbury for over 20 years, with a focus in mental health and addictions for more than a decade. Her work has supported various agencies ranging from Canadian Mental Health Association to Shkagamik-Kwe Health Centre and the Sudbury Jail, but ultimately she has found purpose in helping to build a more responsive addictions approach with HSN. She is a published author in several peer-reviewed journals; has helped develop accredited addictions learning simulations; presents at provincial and national addictions conferences; and sits on several advisory committees, including the Ontario Health Centre of Excellence in Mental Health and Addictions Task Group on Bed Based Services.



Panelist

Jada Carter Peer Consultant | Health Sciences North

Jada Carter is a passionate advocate for addictions in Sudbury, Ontario. She is currently working as a peer consultant for Health Sciences North (HSN) through Northern Initiative for Social Action (NISA), a peer researcher with Health Sciences North Research Institute (HSNRI) and was recently hired as a peer navigator in the emergency department. Behind the scenes, Jada plays a crucial role as a voice and advocate for patients through participation in policy and staff education development and attending various committees. Her unique experiences help bridge the knowledge gap between individuals who use substances and help change the perspectives of health care professionals. Jada's journey started as a patient on the Addictions Medicine Unit, where her personal experience fueled a passion to return to HSN and contribute to the well-being of others facing similar challenges on their journey. As someone with lived experience, Jada has firsthand knowledge of the challenge's individuals face in trying to access addictions services. Her personal journey has not only shaped her compassionate approach, but has also been instrumental in enhancing the effectiveness of the initiatives she is involved in. Through her diverse roles and dedication, Jada continues to be a driving force in addictions advocacy in Sudbury. Her ability to share her experience, strength, and hope with others has helped Jada stay strong in her recovery.



Panelist

Dr. Michael Franklyn Associate Professor of Family Medicine | NOSM University

Dr. Franklyn was a family physician practising in Sudbury for 25 years prior to his retirement in 2018 after suffering a massive stroke. He had been providing addiction care to patients in Northeastern and Northwestern Ontario for over 20 years with a special interest in substance use in pregnancy and youth as well as First Nations communities. He provides care for patients suffering with various substance use disorders in Sudbury as well as several communities throughout the North, and was involved in a novel program to provide mentoring addiction care to remote fly in First Nations communities in North West Ontario. He serves as medical director of the Harm Reduction Home, a CMHA-S/M sponsored managed alcohol program for the homeless as well as medical co-lead of the Sudbury Rapid Access Addiction Medicine (RAAM) Clinic and led the expansion of RAAM clinics throughout North East Ontario. Dr. Franklyn is an associate professor of Family Medicine at NOSM U and sits as a member of the Ontario Physicians and Surgeons Discipline Tribunal at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. Dr. Franklyn was a contributing author to the Centre for Addictions and Mental Health Buprenorphine Treatment Guidelines and sat on the Executive of PRIMA (Pregnancy Related Issues on the Management of Addictions). He is co-lead of the pan-northern Addiction Medicine Community of Practice and was a member of the Health Quality Ontario Opioid Use (and Alcohol Use) Disorder Quality Standard Advisory Committees. Dr. Franklyn obtained his BSc, HBS, MSc and M.D. from McMaster University and completed his residency in Family Medicine at NOSM in Sudbury. He remains active in community advocacy for mental health and addictions and marginalized populations and continues to teach at NOSM U. He is program director of NOSM U's unique Fellowship training program which is about to graduate its inaugural resident. He also works at the Sudbury Jail providing care in the areas of mental health and addictions. Dr. Franklyn also coordinates the care of women involved in human trafficking who become pregnant or who seek care for problematic substance use.

Agenda

Day 1: Thursday, December 7

8 a.m. Registration and refreshments

8:30 a.m. Welcome

▶ Dr. Penny Sutcliffe, Public Health Sudbury & Districts

8:35 a.m. Territorial acknowledgement and moment of silence

▶ René Lapierre, Greater Sudbury City Council

8:40 a.m. Opening Remarks | Emaamwizijik Bezhigozjik - Those Who Gather As One

▶ Mayor Paul Lefebvre, Greater Sudbury

▶ Norman McGraw, N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre

9:15 a.m. Connection before content

▶ Belinda Clemmensen and Claudia Valle

9:30 a.m. Summit process

▶ Belinda Clemmensen and Claudia Valle

9:40 a.m. The crisis



Michael King

Public Health Sudbury & Districts

[Read speaker bio](#)

Recent local trends in drug-related overdose deaths

This presentation will provide a summary of coroner's data on local drug-related deaths from recent years. It will highlight recent local trends and compare them to those seen in Northern Ontario and in Ontario overall.



Dr. Tara Gomes

St. Michael's Hospital

[Read speaker bio](#)

Using evidence to inform action to address the opioid toxicity crisis

Dr. Tara Gomes will summarize key shifts in the drug toxicity crisis across Ontario, discuss how these relate to trends observed in the Sudbury region, and will discuss how these data can be used to support evidence-informed responses at the local and provincial level.

10:10 a.m. Speaking from the heart



James Gough

[Read speaker bio](#)



Mario D.

[Read speaker bio](#)



Mark T.

[Read speaker bio](#)



Anne D.

[Read speaker bio](#)



Tammy Berger

[Read speaker bio](#)

People who use drugs, sharing their stories and experiences with addiction.

10:40 a.m. Break

10:55 a.m. Don't waste your pain



Denise Sandul
Crosses for Change
[Read speaker bio](#)

11:10 a.m. Panel 1: Health promotion and stigma



Stacey Gilbeau
Public Health
Sudbury & Districts
[Read moderator bio](#)



Miranda Mackie
City of Greater Sudbury
[Read panelist bio](#)



Bruce Bourget
Rainbow District
School Board
[Read panelist bio](#)



Caroline Folkman
Toward Common Ground
[Read panelist bio](#)



Rosamund Dunkley
Public Health Agency of Canada
[Read panelist bio](#)



Scott Neufeld
Brock University
[Read panelist bio](#)

The Health promotion and stigma panel will discuss the effects of trauma and stigma on people who use substances and will highlight community approaches that mitigate risk factors and strengthen protective factors to prevent and reduce harms associated with substance use. We will learn of the current situation in our child care settings and schools. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), a measure of trauma, along with interventions designed to mitigate these risk factors and strengthen protective factors to build resilience in children and youth will be discussed. The Icelandic Prevention Model, a collaborative community-based upstream model designed to influence risk and protective factors related to substance use within community, school, peer, and family contexts will be presented as a way forward. This panel will also discuss structural stigma and the resulting unfair treatment of people who use drugs, necessitating the need for revision to policies and practices.

11:50 a.m. Table discussion (Panel 1)

12:10 p.m. Lunch

1:10 p.m. Panel 2: Wrap-around services



Sue Tassé

Canadian Mental Health
Association Sudbury/
Manitoulin

[Read moderator bio](#)



Jackie Balleny

Sudbury District
Restorative Justice

[Read panelist bio](#)



Gail Spencer

City of Greater Sudbury

[Read panelist bio](#)



Ali Farooq

The Go-Give Project

[Read panelist bio](#)

Non-clinical wrap-around service support refers to services other than point-in-time medical, diagnostic, or therapeutic interventions. From a frontline perspective of care, wrap-around services are integral to serving and supporting individuals in our community. Our service interactions have a powerful and lasting influence on how individuals perceive their entire care experience. Wrap-around supports and a continuity of care model refers to a bundle of care and discipline options that provide front-line, person-centred, trauma informed services through time and are adaptable to a person's changing needs.

Wrap-around services, delivers services and care in response to the communities complex toxic drug crisis. Although highly sophisticated but sometimes fragmented, the collection of service providers aim to provide a continuum of care that is appropriate to address the person's needs in an organized and integrated method. Concentrating on a continuity of care and integration approach, we are focused on connecting people to supports, providing timely and effective substance misuse services, referrals to other agency supports, flexible and fiscally responsible client-centred services.

Wrap-around and non-clinical community services and people with lived and living experience were queried through the use of a survey on how agency/organization or groups view and contribute to wrap-around services, what can get in the way of providing effective person-centred supports and what improvements/solutions are suggested to address this community's toxic drug crisis.

1:50 p.m. Panel 3: Substance use care



Natalie Aubin

Health Sciences North
[Read moderator bio](#)



Heidi Eisenhauer

Réseau ACCESS Network
[Read moderator bio](#)



Amber Fritz

Réseau ACCESS Network
[Read panelist bio](#)



Jody Winn

Monarch Recovery Services
[Read panelist bio](#)



Sam Gilchrist

Gwekwaadziwin Miikan
[Read panelist bio](#)



Dr. Tara Leary

Health Sciences North
[Read panelist bio](#)



Jada Carter

Health Sciences North
[Read panelist bio](#)



Dr. Michael Franklyn

NOSM University
[Read panelist bio](#)

Grounded in a harm reduction philosophy, this panel will discuss substance use care innovations and best practices in hospital and community and will highlight experiences in delivering addiction services in our community and improving health outcomes for people who use or have used substances.

2:35 p.m. Break

2:50 p.m. Table discussions (Panels 2 and 3)

3:30 p.m. Sweetgrass teaching and purple ribbon ceremony

Nookomis Julie Ozawagosh will lead the sweetgrass teaching. Evie will speak to the significance of the purple ribbon as it relates to overdose awareness. Together, the sweetgrass and the purple ribbon can serve as an important reminder of the commitments made at the Summit, and our collective and personal responsibility to see them through.



Nookomis Julie Ozawagosh

N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre

[Read speaker bio](#)



Evie Ali

The Go-Give Project

[Read speaker bio](#)

4:05 p.m. Closing remarks | Emaamwizijik Bezhigozjik - Those Who Gather As One

- ▶ Nookomis Julie Ozawagosh, N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre
- ▶ Norman McGraw, N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre
- ▶ Dr. Penny Sutcliffe, Public Health Sudbury & Districts

4:15 p.m. End of day 1



Day 2: Friday, December 8

7:45 a.m. Registration and refreshments

8:15 a.m. Welcome, territorial acknowledgement, and moment of silence

▶ Ed Archer, City of Greater Sudbury

8:20 a.m. Connection before content

▶ Belinda Clemmensen and Claudia Valle

8:35 a.m. Opening remarks

- ▶ Ed Archer, City of Greater Sudbury
- ▶ Chief Paul Pedersen, Greater Sudbury Police Service
- ▶ The Honourable Ya'ara Saks, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions of Canada
- ▶ Tim Ominika, Anishinabek Nation

9 a.m. Culture is treatment



Jonathan Michael Peltier
Wiikwemkoong Justice Program

A contributing factor to my addiction cycle(s) was my disconnect from culture and community. I associated Wiikwemkoong with the traumas I experienced in my childhood, and by choice, I did not return for many years. With little to no faith in traditional teachings and our way of life, my worldview was influenced by the colonial outlooks, attitudes, and practices associated with Indigenous people in Canada. As a result, I descended deeper into my addiction(s) and conceded to the status quo and stigmatized image of ethnic identity. However, while I was serving a three-year federal sentence in 2005, I received the Eagle Feather teaching, which I identified with. The teaching speaks to the gift of choice, the bigger picture, life's balances, and five nurturing components that can bring a ruffled feather back to its original shape. Today, I am a helper in my community, and I incorporate culture in all my work as a reintegration worker. I encourage the men and women who I serve to embrace culture and our way of life as a means to wellness, and to ultimately find wholeness in their lives.

9:30 a.m. Industry perspectives on the toxic drug crisis



Felix Lopes Jr.
Lopes Limited
[Read speaker bio](#)



Emily Sheppard
Lopes Limited
[Read speaker bio](#)

Mental health and substance use in industry

The challenges I have experienced and witnessed as both a worker and employer in the blue-collar industry and the importance of recognizing the current opioid crisis and how it deeply impacts our communities, businesses, employees, families, friends, health, and beyond.

Opioids in the trades

The statistics on the impacts of opioids in the trades especially related to men will be discussed. Mental health also plays an important role in this issue and we will discuss what Lopes and the Lopes Group of Companies have done to address this issue.

9:40 a.m. Heartbreak and hope in Canada's unregulated drug crisis



Benjamin Perrin
Peter A. Allard School of Law at the University of British Columbia
[Read speaker bio](#)

How can we better understand and build community support for compassionate, evidence-based responses to the unregulated drug crisis? University of British Columbia law professor and national best-selling author Benjamin Perrin will share about what the research is showing will save lives, and how we can help address the stigma and backlash against life-saving policy interventions.

10:25 a.m. Public health approach: Evidence and best practices



Dr. Pamela Leece
Public Health Ontario
[Read speaker bio](#)

This presentation will review evidence and best practices related to a comprehensive public health approach to substance use. Elements include prevention and education, substance use services and supports, and substance controls. This work is also supported by principles and skills in equity, collaboration, and compassionate care.

10:45 a.m. Break

11 a.m. Report back of opportunities from day 1



Belinda Clemmensen
The Women's Leadership Intensive
[Read speaker bio](#)



Claudia Valle
The Women's Leadership Intensive
[Read speaker bio](#)

11:10 a.m. Closing the gaps—idea generation

Ideas will be generated for previously identified opportunities, including what approaches should be accelerated, stopped, and initiated in the short and long term.

11:50 a.m. Large group: Where are the biggest gains for us as a community?

Large groups will be formed for a table discussion to prioritize ideas with consideration for need, resources, funding, and impact, etc.

12:35 p.m. Next steps

A structure to ensure continuity from the Summit will be discussed.

12:45 p.m. Closing remarks

- ▶ Tim Ominika, Anishinabek Nation
- ▶ James Gough
- ▶ Mayor Paul Lefebvre, Greater Sudbury

1 p.m. Evaluation and Summit closure

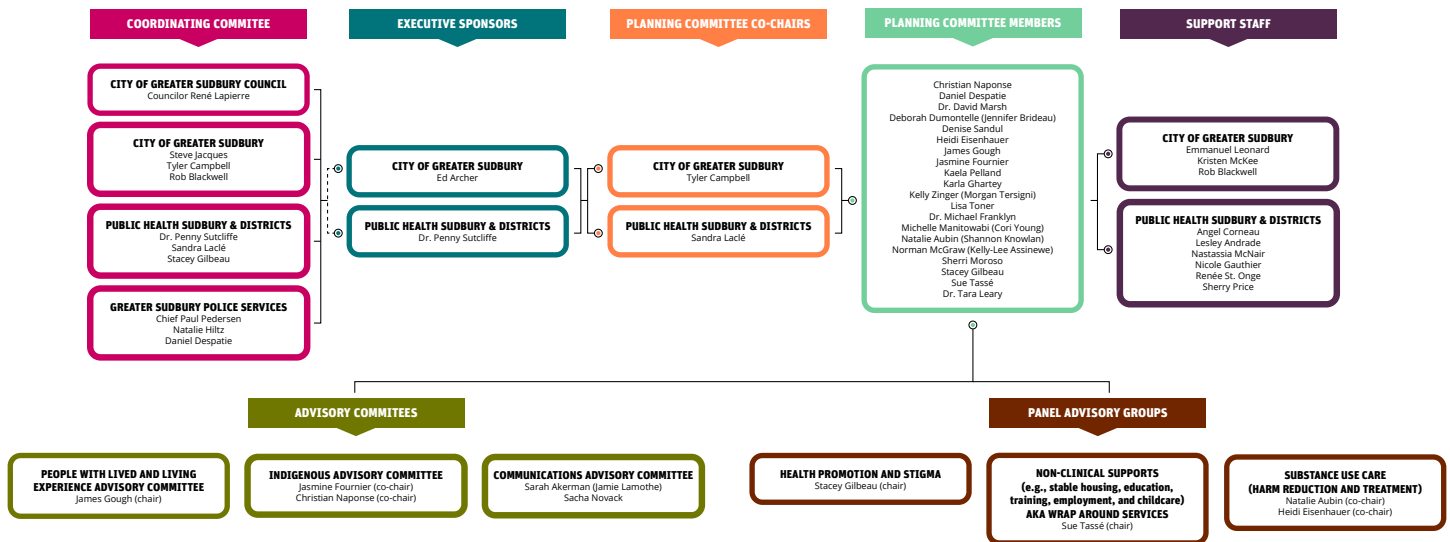
- ▶ Ed Archer, City of Greater Sudbury

Support services

Emotional support for participants will be available on-site during the Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs from the Canadian Mental Health Association Sudbury/Manitoulin. Nookomis Julie Ozawagosh has also generously agreed to provide support. There will be a Sacred Fire and traditional medicines in the teepee, supported by a Fire Keeper. Kizhaay Anishinaabe Niin Coordinator, Jason Nakogee and Cultural Resource Coordinator, Cheyenne King-Wakegijig from the N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre will be the Fire Keepers throughout the Summit.

Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs Planning Committee's dedication and commitment to helping our community. A special thank you to co-chairs Tyler Campbell, Director of Children & Social Services at the City of Greater Sudbury, and Sandra Laclé, Acting Director at Public Health Sudbury & Districts. Over the last few months, their leadership, vision, and coordination played a pivotal role in the organization and overall success of the Summit.



Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs Planning Committee members were responsible for overall Summit planning. They identified operational values, key issues, developed strategies and actionable next steps, and established partnerships to enhance community response in addressing the toxic drug crisis. We sincerely appreciate and are grateful for their enthusiastic, vital contributions to this important work. Thank you also to the People with Lived and Living Experience and the Indigenous Advisory Committee members, and the Panel Advisory Groups. This Summit would not have happened without their efforts. Thank you also to the many support staff from Public Health Sudbury & Districts and the City of Greater Sudbury for their time and energy invested to ensure every detail was executed seamlessly. Thank you to our speakers, facilitators, and panelists for their insights and valuable contributions to the Summit. A sincere expression of gratitude to all Summit participants for their involvement and participation in the Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs. Their expertise, insights, and active engagement at the Summit are invaluable in shaping the discussions and inspiring a clear path forward.