Update on the 2016/2017 Overdose Crisis

Presented by
Paul Mochrie
Deputy General Manager

Dr. Perry Kendall
Provincial Health Officer

Dr. Patricia Daly
Chief Medical Health Officer
Vancouver Coastal Health
• Provincial Health Officer declared public health emergency one year ago: April 14, 2016
• Unprecedented total of 922 overdose deaths in 2016 in BC
• Tragic impact on families, friends, loved ones & communities
• Context: 3 times more people died from overdoses than motor vehicle accidents (300) in 2016
• 215 overdose deaths in Vancouver
  – Highest number of overdose deaths in BC
• 4,709 Vancouver Fire and Rescue response calls to overdose
• High levels of collaboration with partners in health, housing, first responders, community and evidence based research
• City staff monitoring data with VPD and VFRS
2017 Impacts (year-to-date)

- 110 overdose deaths between January 1 and April 9, 2017 (est)*
  - More than half the number of deaths for 12 months of 2016
  - 89% occurred inside
  - 83% male

- VFRS overdose calls up 109% for Q1 2017 relative to Q1 2016

*Awaiting confirmation from BC Coroner toxicology reporting
Overdose Deaths in Vancouver: 2007 – 2017 to date

Overdose Deaths in Vancouver | 2007 - 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Overdose Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>60</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>42</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>69</td>
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<td>2012</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>80</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>99</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>134</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>215</td>
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<td>2017</td>
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Source of Data: BC Coroner and VPD
2017 Fire & Rescue Overdose Responses = 1,850 YTD

VFRS Overdose Calls Jan 1-Apr 9
Map shown by local health area. City total: 1,850

Data Source: Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services
Estimated Ratio of Overdose Deaths to Calls, Jan 1-Apr 9

Total number of VPD overdose-suspected deaths to total number of VFRS overdose calls.

Map shown by local health area. City overall ratio: **1:17**

VFRS calls from UBC are excluded.

Toxicology reports are not yet complete on police-attended sudden death cases, and final overdose death numbers need to be confirmed by the BC Coroners Service.
High Rates of Overdose Calls Across the Board

VFRS Weekly Overdose Calls
Jan 2-Apr 9, 2017

Data Source: Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services
St Paul’s Mental Health Hub Update

- $1M approved by Mayor and Council expended
- Estimated opening May 2017
- State of the art modular building
- Rapid access addictions clinic for patients

Photo: Westender
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>Allocated Funding</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Additional Medic Unit (3-person crew)</td>
<td>$1,900,000</td>
<td>Medic 23 operating out of Firehall #2 on DTES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health and wellness for VFRS staff</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>Enhanced mental health services in place</td>
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<td>Mental health coordinator role has been posted; appointment anticipated in near term</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,050,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Initiative</td>
<td>Allocated Funding</td>
<td>Status</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Inflationary funding adjustment for Community Policing Centres</td>
<td>$200,000 annual</td>
<td>Paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Community Policing Centre in Strathcona</td>
<td>$100,000 one-time $108,200 annual</td>
<td>Location has been identified Interim board currently applying for registration as society</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$428,200</strong></td>
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## 2017 Funding Allocation - Community Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>Allocated Funding</th>
<th>Update</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expanded training for City Staff</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Continuing roll-out of first aid and naloxone training with support from VCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer ‘in-reach’ activities</td>
<td>$220,000</td>
<td>PAID: $66,332 to DTES SRO Collaborative for outreach into high risk, private SROs</td>
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<td>$54,750 earmarked for ATIRA women’s supervised consumption site</td>
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<td>De-stigmatization programs</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>Focus of April 19 Healthy City Leadership Table meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Initiative</td>
<td>Allocated Funding</td>
<td>Update</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer capacity and support</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>Engaging Housing Providers to Determine Best Use of Funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ray-Cam youth services</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>Half of money is paid</td>
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<td>Dispensing remaining Funds in April</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-total</td>
<td>$420,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$2,908,200</td>
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• Urban Aboriginal community meetings convened in February and April, including MCFD and Ministry of Justice, focused on Aboriginal families

• Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Executive to coordinate urban Aboriginal response
Federal Commitments

- Federal government has provided:
  - $10M (one-time) for British Columbia (not yet allocated by Province)
  - $6M (one-time) for Alberta
  - $100M nationally over 5 years announced in federal budget for a drugs and substances strategy
$10M for BC has not been allocated

City recommending $8M for:
  - Scaling up injectable therapy
  - Increased psycho-social supports for patients in Vancouver

Remaining to address opioid crisis across the province

Invest in upstream measures to prevent the negative impacts of substance use

Invest in early care and learning, housing affordability, and a national strategy for poverty reduction
Federal Advocacy

- City presented to Standing Senate Committee on Bill C-37 on April 5, 2017 with Dr. Perry Kendall, BC Centre for Substance Use, and Canadian Nurses Association.

- City emphasized:
  - Approval to set up safe injection sites be delegated to the Province in cases of emergency
  - Streamlined application and approval process
  - Enhanced collaboration with municipalities as areas of ‘first response’
Big City Mayor’s Task Force

- Launched in Jan 2017
- Chaired by Mayor Robertson
- Includes the Mayors of Calgary, Edmonton, Hamilton, Kitchener, London, Montreal, Ottawa, Regina, Saskatoon, Surrey, Toronto, and Winnipeg
- Planning joint Federal, Provincial, and Mayors meeting in June 2017 to coordinate crisis response
- Developing recommendations to Federal Government in Spring 2017
WE ARE IN THE MIDDLE OF AN OVERDOSE CRISIS
Overview of Opioid Public Health Emergency in BC

April 12, 2017

Dr. Perry Kendall
BC Provincial Health Officer
Vancouver City Council
Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths by Month

Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths by Month, 2015-2017\[^2\]

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<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
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<td>2015</td>
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- **Average since 2015**
- **Average over past 12 months**
What Next?

1. More accessible prescription, more prescription options and more resources, build a system
2. Discourse around stigma
3. Regulatory Framework (Portugal) / Difficult discussions, decriminalization
4. Focus on upstream, Early Childhood Education, Supportive Housing
5. National Pain Strategy
Opioid Overdose Emergency
Vancouver Update

April 12, 2017

Patricia Daly
Chief Medical Health Officer
Illicit Overdose Deaths January 2016-January 2017

Source: BC Coroners Service
Number of ED visits related to overdose* by Type of Sites and epidemiological week.
Vancouver Coastal Health, 2016/2017 compared to historical average and 95% confidence limits†

*Overdose related visits are monitored through ICD-9/10 codes and keywords search where the substance-specific terms are indicated in presenting complaint, discharge diagnosis, nature of injury and mechanism of injury.
†Includes data since 2008.
Source: PHSU Emergency Department Visits Database from CareCast System (Richmond Hospital, UBC Hospital, Vancouver General Hospital), Eclipsys System (Mount Saint Joseph Hospital, St. Paul's Hospital) and McKesson System (Lions Gate Hospital, Pemberton Health Centre, Squamish General Hospital, Whistler Health Care Centre) and Mobile Medical Unit Visiting Dataset.
Prepared by: Vancouver Coastal Health, Public Health Surveillance Unit.
Number of overdose events at Insite and overdose prevention sites* by epidemiological week. Vancouver Coastal Health, 2016/2017 compared to historical average and 95% confidence limits†

Source: Insite, Vancouver Coastal Health, HIV/AIDS & Harm Reduction Programs and VCH OPS Program.
Prepared by: Vancouver Coastal Health, Public Health Surveillance Unit.
Vancouver Coastal Health Response

1. Naloxone distribution
2. Mobile Medical Unit
3. Overdose Prevention Sites
4. New clinics (Connections, RAAC at St. Paul’s)
5. Applications pending: New Supervised Consumption Sites
2017 Priorities

1. Supportive housing
   - Train staff, naloxone available

2. Expand opioid agonist therapy
   - Oral and injectable

3. Address stigma

4. Vulnerable youth
   - Identify, engage, support

5. Early childhood development