



# Update on the Ongoing Opioid Crisis

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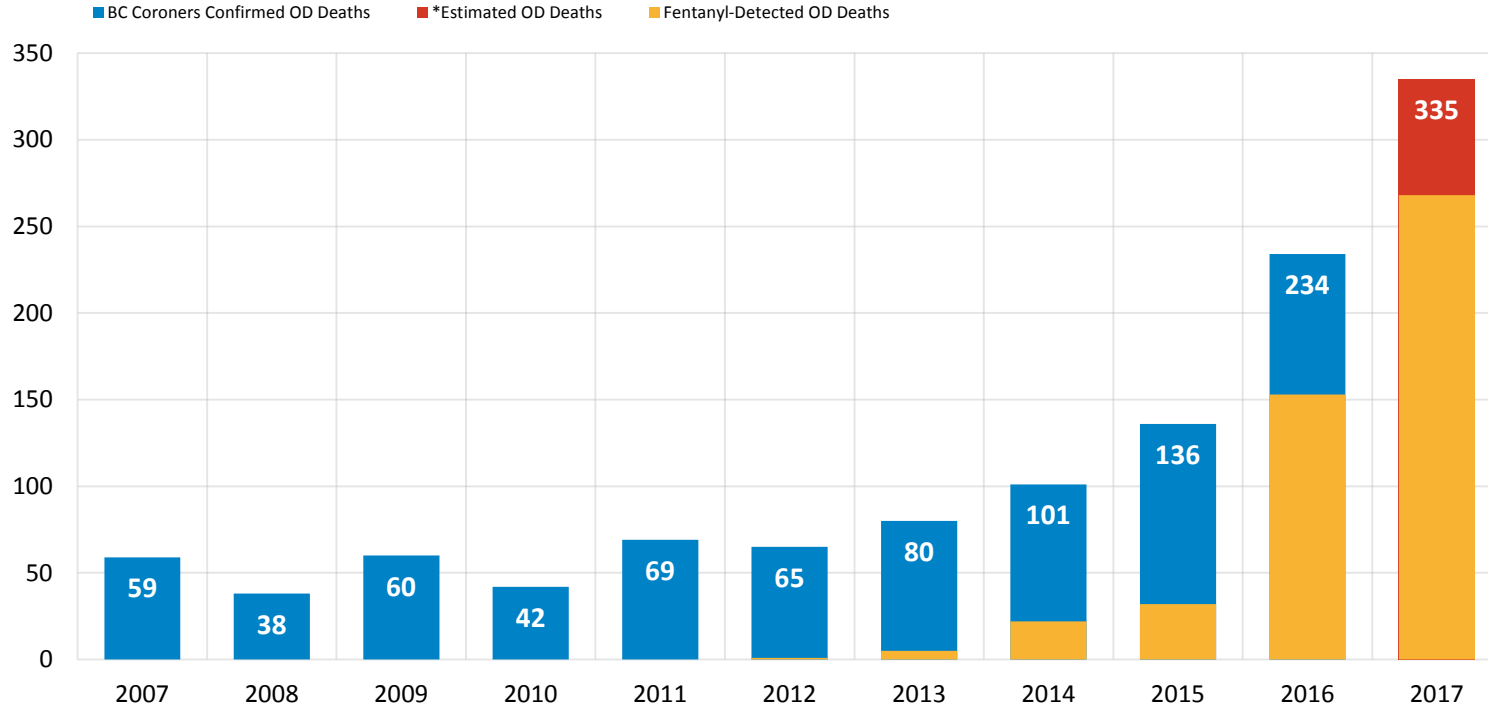
Executive Director – BC Centre for Disease Control



# Year End Data

# Overdose Deaths in Vancouver

## Annual Overdose Deaths in Vancouver Jan 1, 2007 - Dec 31, 2017



Source of Data: BC Coroners Service and VPD

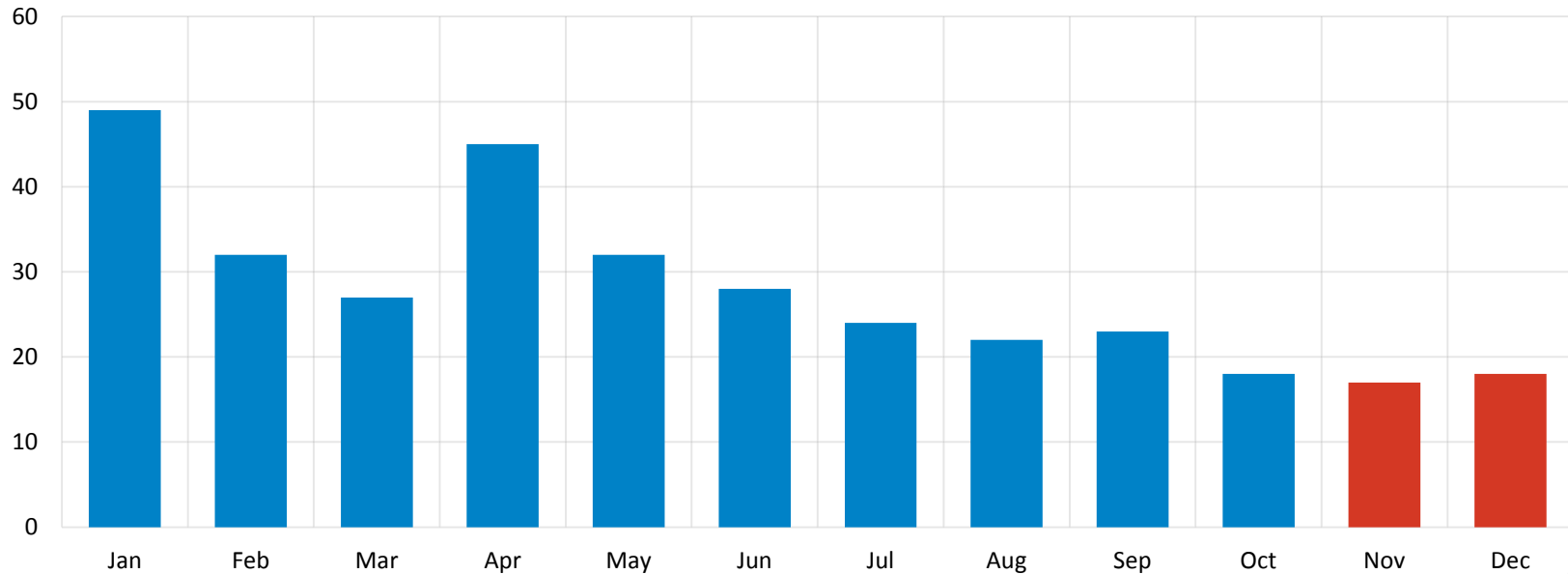
\*\*\*Deaths in 2017 have yet to be confirmed by BC Coroner Service

# Overdose Deaths in Vancouver

## Monthly Overdose Deaths in Vancouver Jan 2017 - Dec 2017

\*VPD deaths yet to be confirmed by BC Coroner Service

■ Confirmed OD Deaths   ■ VPD Suspected OD Deaths



Source of Data: BC Coroner Service and Vancouver Police Department

# Actions Are Making An Impact

## Estimated Ratio of Overdose Deaths to Calls, Jan 1-Dec 31

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

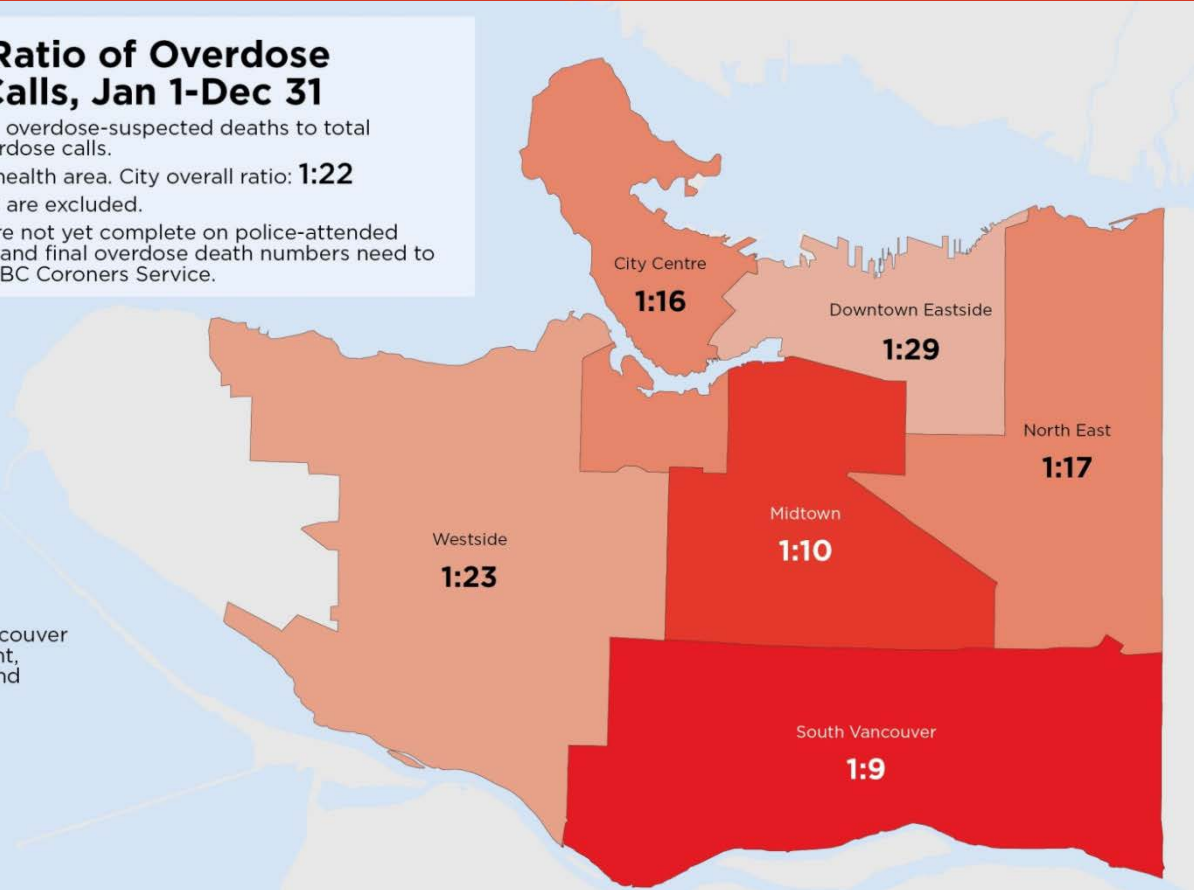
Map shown by local health area. City overall ratio: **1:22**

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.



Data Source: Vancouver Police Department, Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services.





# City Investments in 2017

# Summary of City Investments

**\$3.5M** to  
address the  
Opioid Crisis

\$2.05M

## Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services

- Additional DTES Medic Unit
- Health and wellness supports

\$430K

## Community Policing and Safety

- New Strathcona CPC
- Sustained budget increase for CPCs

\$1.02M

## Community Overdose Grants

- **23** high impact projects
- **\$600K** towards peer employment, capacity building
- Leveraged: **Over \$1.07m**

# Areas of Investment and Impact





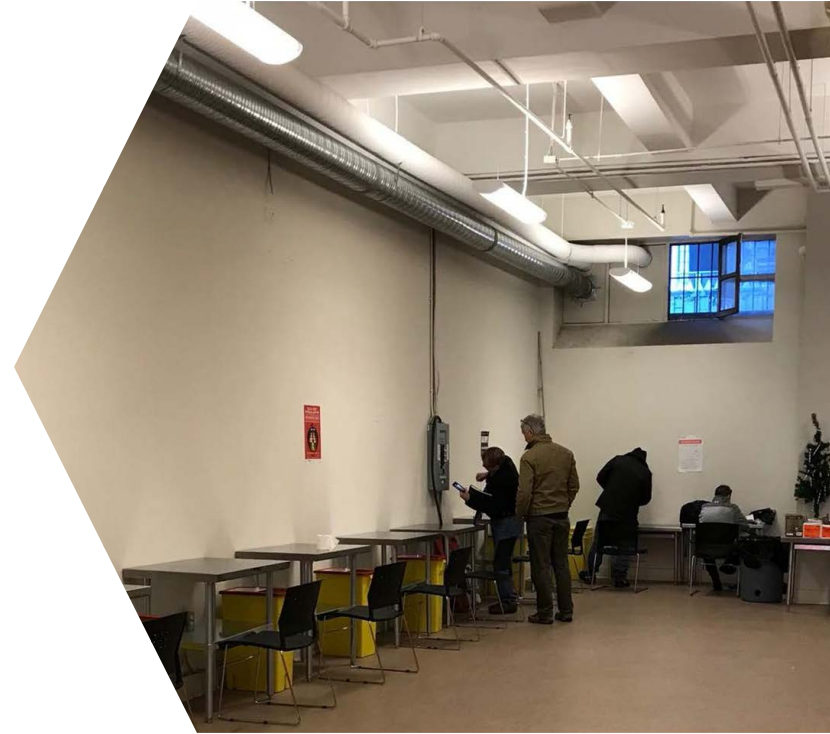
# Innovation in Data Monitoring



- Leading the Country in municipal data monitoring and coordination
- Staff continue to provide weekly updates to City managers on the crisis to strategize around response
- Staff are working with the FCM and the national Opioid Overdose Surveillance Task Group to better understand the scope of the problem at a national level

## Update on Harm Reduction: Overdose Prevention Site Moves Indoors

- First peer-engaged overdose prevention site in the country has moved indoors
- Staff coordinated with partners to move the OPS indoors to 58 East Hastings, an empty storefront owned by BC Housing.
- Part of the Community Impact Real Estate Society (CIRES) lease portfolio



# Update on Clean Drug Supply: Innovation

- For the first time, people know what is in their substances
- \$60K capital investment to the BC Centre on Substance Use to purchase equipment
- Currently deployed at Insite and the Powell Street Getaway
- Pilot currently underway, over 500 samples tested since Oct 2017



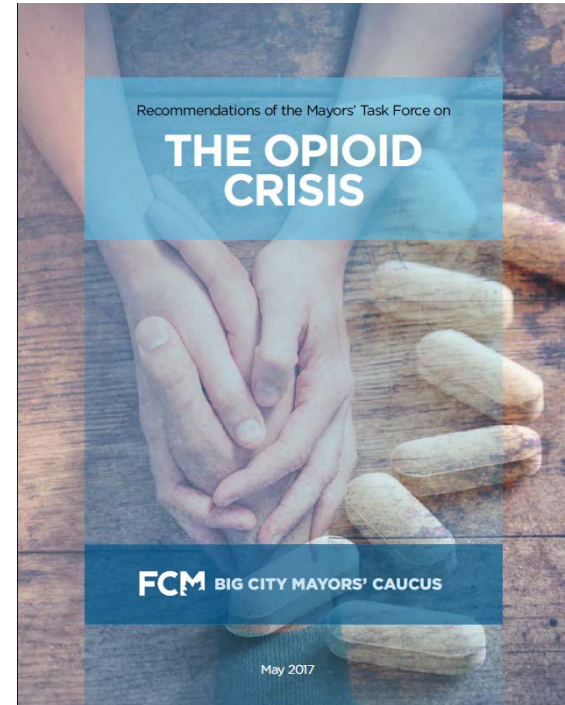
## Update: Initial Steps towards De-Stigmatization Successful



- While over 80% of BC residents are aware of the opioid issue, but stigma continues to isolate substance users
- 36% of Canadians would not want friends or family to know about non-prescription opioid use
- Consulting with People with Lived Experience Advisory to finalize and implement de-stigmatization programs
- Staff working with Megaphone Magazine to build on the successful “How to Save a Life” event series –
  - 6 events with 450 participants, 270 trained in naloxone

## Collaborative Leadership in 2017

- April 2017 – Senate Committee on Bill C-37: streamlining safe injection site applications
- May 2017 – Big City Mayor’s Task Force
  - Recommendations to Federal government: Pan-Canadian data coordination, treatment scale-up, and address root causes
- September 2017 – UBCM endorses resolutions for response to overdose crisis







# Moving Forward In 2018

# Provincial Overdose Emergency Response Centre and Community Action Teams

- The Province recently announced a new Overdose Emergency Response Centre
  - Locally-driven, community-based response
- Municipalities identified as key partners
- Staff will update Council on the throughout 2018



# Summary and Next Steps in 2018

1

## Monitoring Impacts

**Continue to monitor impacts:** Ensure that the City has regular updates on the impacts of the crisis on residents and coordinate across City departments.

2

## Addressing Stigma

**Work together with people with lived experience to find solutions:** Implement innovative approaches and support low-barrier, peer employment opportunities

3

## Collaborative Leadership

**Work with local community, Provincial and National Partners:** Participate on the Vancouver's Community Action Team, continue to work with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities towards a pan-Canadian response and include this work as part of a new Urban Health Leaders Council in 2018





**Thank You**