1101 Seymour

Modification of Lease for SWAN and RainCity for Overdose Prevention Site





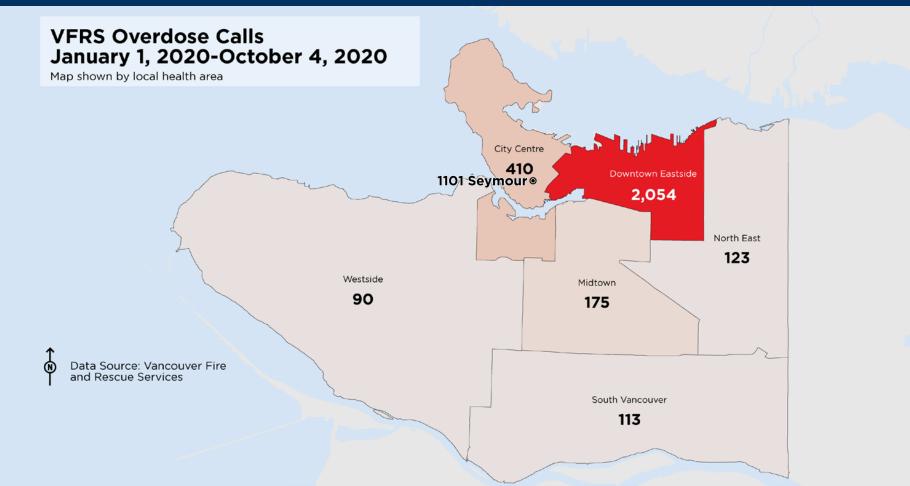
October 13, 2020



- A. Authorize Director of Real Estate Services to negotiate and execute the modification of SWAN's existing lease to enable a move from the 580 s.f. 1st floor of 1101 Seymour to a 3rd floor space within the building;
- B. Approve RainCity Housing and Support Society to occupy and operate an Overdose Prevention Site (OPS) in 590 s.f. of the 1st floor at 1101 Seymour (previous SWAN space);
- C. Authorize Director of Real Estate Services to negotiate and execute a lease agreement with RainCity based on:
 - i. Terms and Renewal Options: One year and 5 months commencing November 1, 2020, plus one renewal option for a further two (2) years; and
 - ii. Rent and Operating Costs: Total Rent of \$18,096 per annum, including a grant valued at approx. \$9,744 based on first year of term.
- D. No Legal rights or obligations created or arise by Council's adoption of Recommendation A, B, and C unless and until Modification and RainCity Lease executed and delivered.

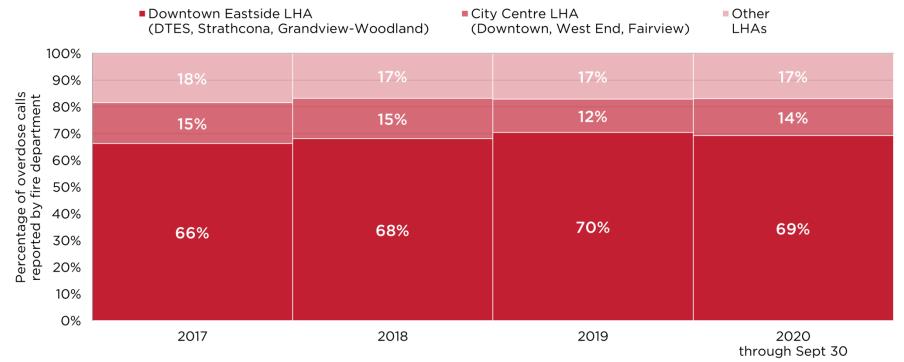
Overdose Crisis: 400+ overdose calls in City Centre LHA YTD







Distribution of VFRS Overdose Calls by Local Health Area



Data Source: Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services

Overdoses take place across the city, but more incidents downtown

1101 Seymour o



VFRS Overdose Call Locations January 1, 2017-October 4, 2020

This map is based on the relative number of fire-attended overdose incidents within a 400 metre buffer of each cell.

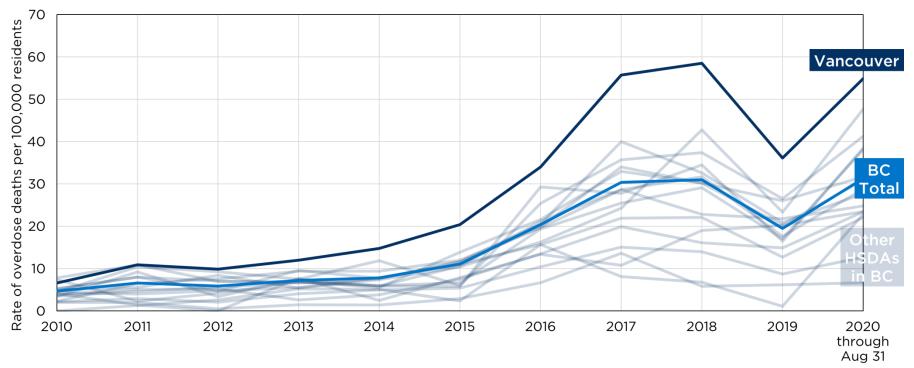
Map colours are based on a logarithmic scale. Each colour gradation indicates approximately 6 times as many incidents in the surrounding area as the previous one.

Not all overdoses can be precisely mapped, so this map should be used for general information only.

 Data Source: Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services



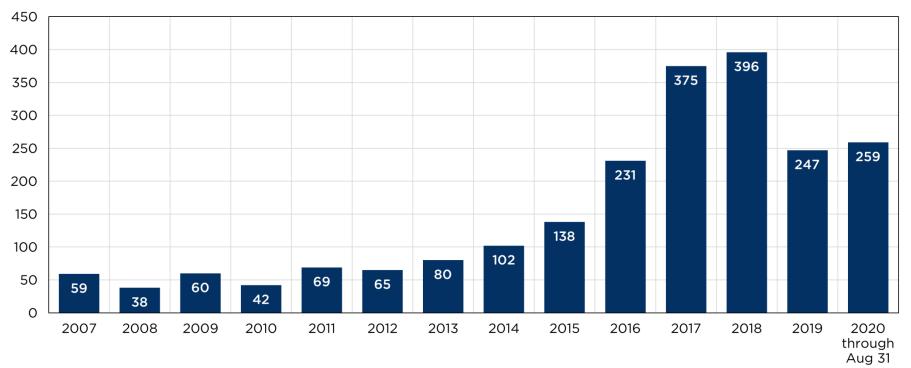
Rate of Overdose Deaths by Health Services Delivery Area



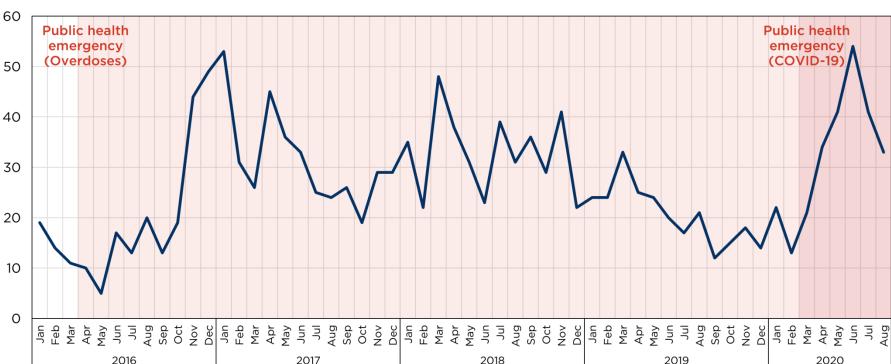
Data Source: BC Coroners Service, Overdose Deaths in British Columbia statistical reports



Annual Overdose Deaths in City of Vancouver



Data Source: BC Coroners Service, Overdose Deaths in British Columbia statistical reports



Monthly Overdose Deaths in City of Vancouver

Data Source: BC Coroners Service, Overdose Deaths in British Columbia statistical reports

Social Policy and Projects Overdose Prevention Sites (OPS) are funded by VCH and operated by non-profit or community health providers. The City partners with VCH to implement a 4 Pillars approach to drug policy – including securing safe spaces for drug users, advocating for overdose prevention and treatment (safe supply), and addressing stigma as a key barrier to service access.

VCH Criteria for Selection of OPS Site:

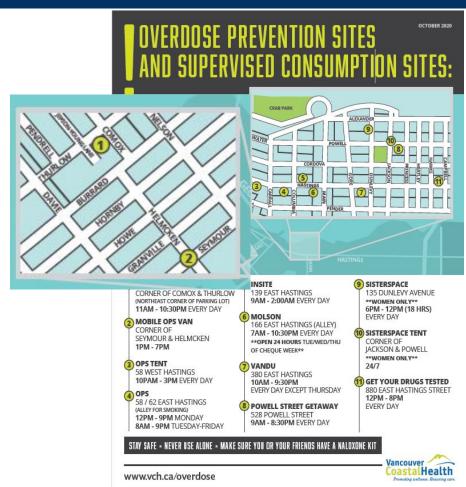
- 1) Service demand and gap for overdose prevention (i.e. VFRS, Ambulance calls, Coroner deaths)
- 2) Proximity to other social service agencies;
- 3) Site availability, affordability and appropriate:
 - 1) Vacant, non-clinical, community space at street level
 - 2) 500 and 1,000 square feet
 - 3) Affordable/within VCH's budget
 - 4) Available for a minimum of 15 months
 - 5) Included space to store harm reduction and naloxone supplies, staff office/space and washroom

Overdose Prevention Sites (OPS): An Emergency Health Service



An Overdose Prevention Site (OPS) is a community-based, temporary emergency health service that operates under a public health order that does not require community consultation.

- May 2018, first OPS located outside DTES in outdoor tent located at the Thurlow Street entrance outside St. Paul's, operated by RainCity;
- Since May 2020, PHS has operated a mobile OPS van outside 1101 Seymour from 1-7pm, seven days a week (see #2 on VCH OPS/SCS Map)



Next Steps



- If Council approves, Staff will work to negotiate the lease terms with SWAN and RainCity Housing and Support Society
 - The indoor OPS operated by RainCity would be a continuation of service for up to 3.5 years, (including a 2-year renewal) to:
 - Replace existing mobile OPS van currently operated by Portland Hotel Society (PHS) outside proposed 1101 Seymour site
 - Move existing RainCity OPS at St. Paul's indoors and an inpatient OPS will operate within St. Paul's Hospital for patients only.
 - RainCity has well-known expertise in cultural safety, gender inclusivity for 2SLGBTQ+ residents, with excellent reputations with youth. These practices and relationships make services accessible for people who experience many compounding barriers to accessing health services.
 - This approach and overdose prevention health service aligns with Council's commitments to 4 Pillars Approach and the Mayor's Overdose Emergency Task Force to providing services across Vancouver, including outside the DTES neighbourhood where people are at.
 - If Council does not approve:
 - VCH will continue to operate a mobile van service outside 1101 Seymour, impacting the quality and quantity of service for drug users
 - o VCH will continue look for an indoor space in this neighbourhood based on the need
 - There will not be an indoor location to which outdoor drug use can be relocated until a new indoor space can be found





- What other sites did VCH or the City look at for this service?
 - VCH looked at a number of sites, including:
 - the vacant lot beside The Howard Johnston
 - 3 Bridges Clinic is a clinical site (over-capacity + not appropriate for OPS)
 - Inside a public housing building (e.g., converting housing units or rooms) is not an appropriate location for an OPS; a storefront presence is required.
 - Did staff consider the proximity to the Park or other local services or community service providers?
 - No restrictions on locations. Staff work with VCH to identify potential locations.
 - City has limited available space in DT; service fits well with other services in building & area
 - VCH mobile OPS van has already been at this location since May; this means the service can now be provided indoors rather than out of mobile van parked on street.

Why was there no community consultation as to use of this location?

- There is no consultation on location of OPS sites as it is a temporary emergency health service in response to a public health crisis; fits health/social service zoning and so VCH can lease any site that meets its service needs
 - VCH typically informs neighbours close to the opening of an OPS site
 - We would expect VCH and the operator to opgage local neighbours if there are any impacts that