

# Municipal Government Representatives Community of Practice - Notes

Monday, September 10, 2018

## Attendees

1. Adam Vasey, Vibrant Communities Canada (Chair)
2. Justin Williams, Vibrant Communities Canada
3. Inga Pedra, Region of Peel (Public Health)
4. Jacquie Dover, Region of Peel (Public Health Nurse)
5. Jen Arntfield, Federation of Canadian Municipalities
6. Natasha Pei, Vibrant Communities Canada

## Regrets:

### Sharing Municipal Responses to the Opioid Crisis

- **Region of Peel Public Health Unit:**
  - Public Health taking a leadership / coordinator role
  - Four Pillar approach (Prevent, Harm Reduction, Treatment and recovery, community safety / justice)
    - Proven collaborative approach to addressing substance abuse issues
  - The intent is to have a multi-sectoral table to address the four pillars with action teams for each pillar to advance the work
  - Ontario – currently limited information from the government about what is happening related to supervised sites on hold.
  - Lived Experience – it has been really important to integrate lived experience. Peel is looking for examples and would like to hear about any examples.
  - Examples in British Columbia with action teams and peer-based models
  - Harm reduction – looking at which populations and subgroups should be prioritized for their work
- **Federation of Canadian Municipalities:**
  - 2017 Big Cities Mayor's caucus identified as a priority and developed a task force to push a coordinated response on the opioid crisis
    - Created 9 recommendations now supported by national board of directors
    - Seeing progress on each of their recommendations
    - Commitments (\$150 million in treatment funding)
      - Fed's working on bilateral agreements
    - FCM Priorities: Continuing to push forward in areas where we have seen gaps – connecting municipalities to treatment pathways and options, more transparency and targets around Fed action, tracking outcomes to commitments, and working with municipalities on the ground around stigma.
  - Innovative Approaches from Cities

- Vancouver has been leading the charge on addressing the opioid crisis, pushed for first supervised injection site in Canada, pushing for supervised sites inside of supportive housing, piloting new and innovative ways to get a clean supply of drugs for users.
- Surrey looking at demographic data around overdose tracking for individuals (pilot project with StatsCanada)
  - Trying to identify when there is a bad supply of drugs to warn people in advance
- Edmonton – Integrate supervised injection sites into the hospital setting
- Southwestern Ontario – mobile consumption and overdose sites that can move around
- Message from FCM is that there are countless of examples where cities are leading the charge on the ground and are well positions to be talking about and rolling out solutions to the crisis
- Federal / Provincial advisory committee with a number of subgroups. One subgroup is looking at the data. Has done a lot of great work standardizing the data across the country and improved frequency of data being released.
  - FCM did a survey to get a data to determine what was happening at the local level and it was difficult to collect the local data through Provincial reporting (quality and frequency varies)

## Closing Announcements

**Save the date: our Next Municipal Government Representative Convenor Call is scheduled for Nov 12.**