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To: [Mather, Maddison](#); [Logel, John](#); [Ostrander, Brian](#); [Olena Hankivsky](#)
Subject: Social services submission for agenda
Date: Saturday, April 12, 2025 4:05:25 PM
Attachments: [2025-toxic-drug-supply-ps-cover-e.png](#)

CAUTION: External E-Mail

Hello,

I hope you are well. Please share this on the agenda of the next Social Services committee. Thank you.

Dear Social Services Committee,

I am a resident of Cobourg and an active volunteer in Cobourg supporting folks experiencing homelessness and addiction. I work in Peterborough as a street outreach worker, supporting folks experiencing homelessness and addiction.

Locally, I am very worried about Transition House no longer handing out harm reduction supplies. Dead people don't recover and can't go to treatment - we must reduce harms and do everything we can to support folks until they are ready and can receive the treatment and support they need and want. Please consider bringing back handing out harm reduction at 310 Division, which previously was the only location folks could get supplies 24/7. There is a shortage of harm reduction supplies now and I'm worried that the spread of infectious diseases and deaths from toxic drug poisoning will be on the rise. Please see below a statement from Canadian Public Health Association: Public Health Approaches to the Toxic Drug Crisis. It is imperative that we use evidence based facts and the guidance of public health to make decisions during this opioid crisis- not political opinions. Thank you for your time.

Jenni Frenke

"In May 2014, the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) published "[A New Approach to Managing Illegal Psychoactive Substances in Canada](#)" in which it supported the development of public health approaches for addressing the needs of people who use illegal psychoactive substances. That paper emphasized that prohibition and criminalization were not achieving the goal of reducing drug use or its harms, and proposed a path forward for a public health approach that would improve outcomes.

A decade later, amid Canada's ongoing toxic drug crisis, it is imperative that governments and stakeholders come together, setting aside ideological differences to take immediate, evidence-based action. Preventable deaths due to toxic drugs continue to claim lives across all walks of society. This position statement calls for unified efforts, focusing on pragmatic solutions that prioritize saving lives over political divides. By embracing the entire continuum of interventions—from primary prevention to harm reduction to treatment—we can build a more compassionate, effective response that reduces deaths and fosters the dignity and well-being of all."



Public Health Approaches to the
Toxic Drug Crisis | Canadian Public
Health Association
cpha.ca

<https://www.cpha.ca/toxic-drug-crisis>

Jenni Frenke

Personal privacy (MP/PPA s. 14)