

## Inhalation Working Group

### Why was the working group formed?

The working group was formed to identify and address the gaps and barriers along the path of implementing and sustaining inhalation and services at OPS/SCS, as well as the advancing the safer and secure supply of drugs and supplies for people who inhale their drugs.

### Who is involved in the working group?

The working group includes the leadership and participation from people with living and lived experience of drug use, OPS/SCS service providers, legal and academic researchers, and drug policy advocates across Canada, with administrative support and facilitation by the Dr. Peter Centre's KTE team.

### Why is this work important?

Though inhalation methods are generally seen as a safer way to use drugs within harm reduction, there has been an increase in overdose deaths related to the smoking of drugs compared to injection. Working towards implementing and sustaining inhalation supplies and services will provide improved access to safer spaces and practices for those who choose to inhale their drugs.

### What has the working group accomplished so far?

- Exploratory Analysis: This document explores the existing barriers and facilitators to advancing inhalation services across the country. It is a working document that will serve as the starting point that the future work of the group will be based upon.
- Presentations from Organizations: The working group has hosted presentations from OPS/SCS service providers who have had experience starting inhalation services to share best practices and how they overcame barriers.

### What's next for the working group?

- Best Practices Document: This document will serve as an outline of the various regulations and bylaws around smoking for each province and document best practices for what inhalation sites could look like in each.

### Interested in learning more? Check out the links below!

- [People dying of an overdose after smoking opioids is on the rise in Toronto](#)
- [CBC News: New inhalation overdose prevention site announced for Victoria](#)
- [Safer Crack Cocaine Smoking Equipment Distribution: Comprehensive Best Practice](#)
- [Public crack cocaine smoking and willingness to use a supervised inhalation facility: implications for street disorder](#)