

## **Policies and Procedures Working Group**

### **Why was the working group formed?**

The working group was formed to address the large number of requests from OPS/SCS for a set of policies and procedures, so that they can better understand how to write their own.

### **Who is involved in the working group?**

The working group includes the leadership and participation from people with living and lived experience of using drugs, 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?**

With the increasing number of OPS/SCS sites across Canada, many of these new and existing sites often look to other sites and organizations that have their own set of policies and procedures to incorporate into their own. It is also important for these policies and procedures to reflect harm reduction philosophies that are catered towards the community they serve, in addition to this work being inclusive of the various drug use behaviors.

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

- Policies, Procedures & Protocols Manual: Created as a toolkit to guide OPS/SCS sites to start planning policy and procedures for their own organizations. It outlines the principles, protocols, training, and related supplies required to enable service providers to provide low-barrier access for service users in OPS/SCS.

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

- Dissemination: The group plans to disseminate the manual on various platforms to share with other organizations to ensure accessibility and promote knowledge sharing

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

- [Urgent Public Health Need Site: Policies, Procedures & Protocols Manual](#)