LOCAL GOVERNMENTS’ RESPONSE TO THE OVERDOSE CRISIS:

LOCAL LEADERSHIP UNITED (LLU)

Metro Vancouver Mayors’ Council
June 15th, 2022
This meeting is taking place on the unceded, ancestral and occupied territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and sel̓íl̓witulh (Tsleil-Waututh) people.
Introductions
Next 20 minutes

- Provincial project
- Federal Minister’s announcement
- Upcoming activities
LLU Project Goals

1. Build local capacity, knowledge, and relationships

2. Create a network

3. Support a commitment to change
LLU Approach

1. Work with local stakeholders to plan events
2. Host regional dialogues with elected officials
3. Emphasize local mandates & linkages
4. Panel of local resources – relationship building
LLU Content

- Overdose Stats update
- Principles of Harm Reduction
- History of Prohibition
- Mandates
- Panel: Local Resources
6 People/Day for Way Too Long

Figure 1: Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths and Death Rate per 100,000 Population

BC Coroners Service
Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths in BC
January 1, 2012 to March 31, 2022
Principles of Harm Reduction

• Pragmatism
• Human rights
• Focus on reducing harms
• Quality of life for the individual and community well being

• Diverse options
• Meet people where they are at
• Nothing about us without us
HISTORY OF PROHIBITION

“The current models are not working”

- Lisa Lapointe
BC’s Chief Coroner
Provincial Mandates & Roles

Health
- BC Guiding Framework for Public Health
- 2020 Mandate Letter

Putting People First

Lasting & Meaningful Reconciliation

Equity & Anti-Racism

Mental Health & Addictions
- “A Pathway to Hope”
- 2020 Mandate Letter

Municipal Affairs
- Local Government Act
- Community Charter
- 2020 Mandate Letter
Municipal Mandates

Local Mandates & Priorities
• Official Community Plans
• Local strategic plans (ie. homelessness strategies)
• Council strategic priorities
• Community concerns

Vibrant downtown/Local economy
- Improved community cohesion
- Addressing homelessness
- Lasting & Meaningful Reconciliation
- Greater safety for families/residents who are housed
- Crime prevention
- Greater stability for individuals/communities

Harm Reduction
• Pragmatic & evidence based
• Already critical to national/provincial/local overdose response
• Meeting people where they are at
• Diverse solutions, for diverse needs
• Nothing about us without us
Panel

• Harm Reduction Coordinator
• Community Health Specialist/Facilitator
• Mental Health and Substance Use
• Community Based Organization
• Person With Lived/Living Experience (PWLLE)
Federal Minister’s Announcement

Decriminalization
- Small scale possession
- January 2023 to January 2026
- Opioids
- Cocaine
- Meth
- MDMA

Evaluation
SUCCESS STORIES

Mike Grandia,
Constable
Surrey Police Services
LLU ACTIVITIES:

UBCM AGM
UBCM
PIBC
Bylaw Officers
Regional Convenings
Questions?