



Campbell River  
Community Action Team



# AVI CAMPBELL RIVER OVERDOSE OUTREACH TEAM REPORT

Campbell River Community Action Team

**2018-2019**

# AVI Campbell River OD Outreach Team Report: October 2018-July 2019

## Outreach team services included:

- Providing 'house calls' for witnessed consumption.
- Supported people during evening hours when many other services are closed.
- Delivering harm reduction supplies to people who aren't able to access supplies and support due to a lack of mobility, proximity or stigma.
- Collecting discarded harm reduction supplies in community and residences.
- Visiting clients in hospital to provide support and liaise with hospital staff regarding meeting the needs of PWUD (person/or people who use drugs) in an acute care setting which facilitated increased retention in hospital, completion of treatment and facilitated follow-up between hospital staff, primary care providers and clients.
- Transportation to clients to appointments for OAT, particularly during initiation when extra support is required (and considered best/wise practice) and is critical for positive outcomes.
- Transporting clients to medical services including doctor's appointments and urgent care.
- Providing naloxone training for community organizations, businesses, people who use drugs, students, and other groups.
- Regularly attend meeting of inter-agency outreach workers hosted by John Howard Society so all outreach staff can coordinate to best meet clients' needs.

**Community partners included:** Discovery Community College, KDC Health, Campbell River Library, Campbell River Hospital, BC Ferries, Grassroots Kind Heart Society/Radiant Life Church, John Howard Society, ICMT, Head Injury Society, NIC Aboriginal Student Association, Salvation Army Soup Kitchen, St John's Ambulance, City of Campbell River services including bylaw officers and parks staff, Timberline Secondary School, library security personnel, Campbell River Family Services, Laichwiltach, community physicians and paramedics, Quinsam Medical Group, Rose Harbour, Campbell River Fire Department

## Accomplishments:

- Outreach workers were in regular communication with various Opiate Agonist Treatment (O.A.T.) physician-prescribers to support clients who: have missed days, stopped attending the pharmacy, required restarts for clients' prescriptions/treatment and support adherence.
- Provided education at a local medical clinic on overdose response, naloxone use, and stigma to primary care staff.
- Assisted with supplying and training the community paramedics of Denman, Hornby, Cortes, and Gold River with naloxone, harm reduction info, and drug education. Outreach workers facilitated connection to Griffin Russell at IH so paramedics can access ongoing supplies and supports as needed.
- Cortes Island Station chief/community paramedic did a shadow shift with outreach team. This was an opportunity to develop relationships, share resources and build trust between emergency service providers and PWUD (People Who Use Drugs) in a non-emergency setting.

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- Supported Kwakiutl District Council (KDC) peers in establishing harm reduction supply distribution network.
- Provided multiple two hour training sessions at Discovery College for 100+ future health care workers, including HCAs, LPNs, RNs, and CSWs. Topics included overdose response and harm reduction philosophy, with a strong anti-stigma theme included in each presentation.
- Ongoing monthly naloxone training at Washington Apartments, including co-facilitation from a peer who lives in the building.
- 'Meeting people where they are at' which is the foundation of harm reduction practice and philosophy and going to where they are helped the team connect with many clients in the community who were not connected to other services.
- Staff attended CR General Practitioners Health Fair and made contact with doctors, specialists and community members to discuss Harm Reduction, HIV/HCV prevention and treatments/resources, along with overdose prevention approaches including Naloxone training.
- Attended the City of Campbell River Downtown Safety Committee meeting; participated in engaged and robust discussions regarding safety, stigma reduction and community inclusion.

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### Contacts:

Contacts								
Month	Outreach to other community services/partners	Housing outreach	Naloxone training	Street outreach	Witnessed consumption	System navigation	Harm reduction on supply distro and recovery	Total contacts
Oct-18	17	1	3	85				<b>106</b>
Nov-18	65	26	116	86	19			<b>312</b>
Dec-18	56	22	3	36	8	16		<b>141</b>
Jan-19	65	16	38	50	11	7		<b>187</b>
Feb-19	32	10	4	110	16	34		<b>206</b>
Mar-19	62	25	17	133	19	32		<b>288</b>
Apr-19	42	24	31	83	35	47	30	<b>292</b>
May-19	21	17	14	116	28	32	55	<b>283</b>
Jun-19	24	22	15	131	24	50	112	<b>378</b>
Jul-19	39	12	7	79	25	53	50	<b>265</b>
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>2458</b>

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### Referrals:

Month	OAT	Detox	Community based outpatient	Primary care	Income assistance	Total referrals
Oct-18						
Nov-18						
Dec-18						
Jan-19						
Feb-19	6	2	2	19	1	<b>30</b>
Mar-19	10		3	16	4	<b>33</b>
Apr-19	15	1	5	18	1	<b>40</b>
May-19	8			13	3	<b>24</b>
Jun-19	13		2	17	1	<b>33</b>
Jul-19	11		3	23	6	<b>43</b>
<b>TOTAL S:</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>203</b>

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### Harm Reduction Supply Distribution:

Harm reduction supply distribution							
Month	Naloxone kits	Sharps recovered	Syringes out	Crack kits	Meth pipes	Condoms	Tin foil
Oct-18	20	1048					
Nov-18	106	85					
Dec-18	107	38					
Jan-19	47	19					
Feb-19	10						
Mar-19	17						
Apr-19	42	1	178	20	15		66
May-19	25	15	1630	40	29	450	60
Jun-19	39	975	1530	63	54	650	55
Jul-19	13	447	2220	56	28	150	65
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>2628</b>	<b>5558</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>1250</b>	<b>246</b>

## AVI Campbell River OD Outreach Team Report: October 2018-July 2019

### Media Coverage:



Photo credit: David Gordon Koch/Campbell River Mirror

- Campbell River Mirror article, November 24 2018:  
<https://www.campbellrivermirror.com/news/video-mobile-harm-reduction-team-on-the-road-to-fight-overdose-crisis-in-campbell-river/>
- My Comox Valley Now article, November 28 2018:  
<https://www.mycomoxvalleynow.com/46002/mobile-harm-reduction-team-fighting-overdoses-in-campbell-river-courtenay/>