



Collaborative Action & the Overdose Crisis

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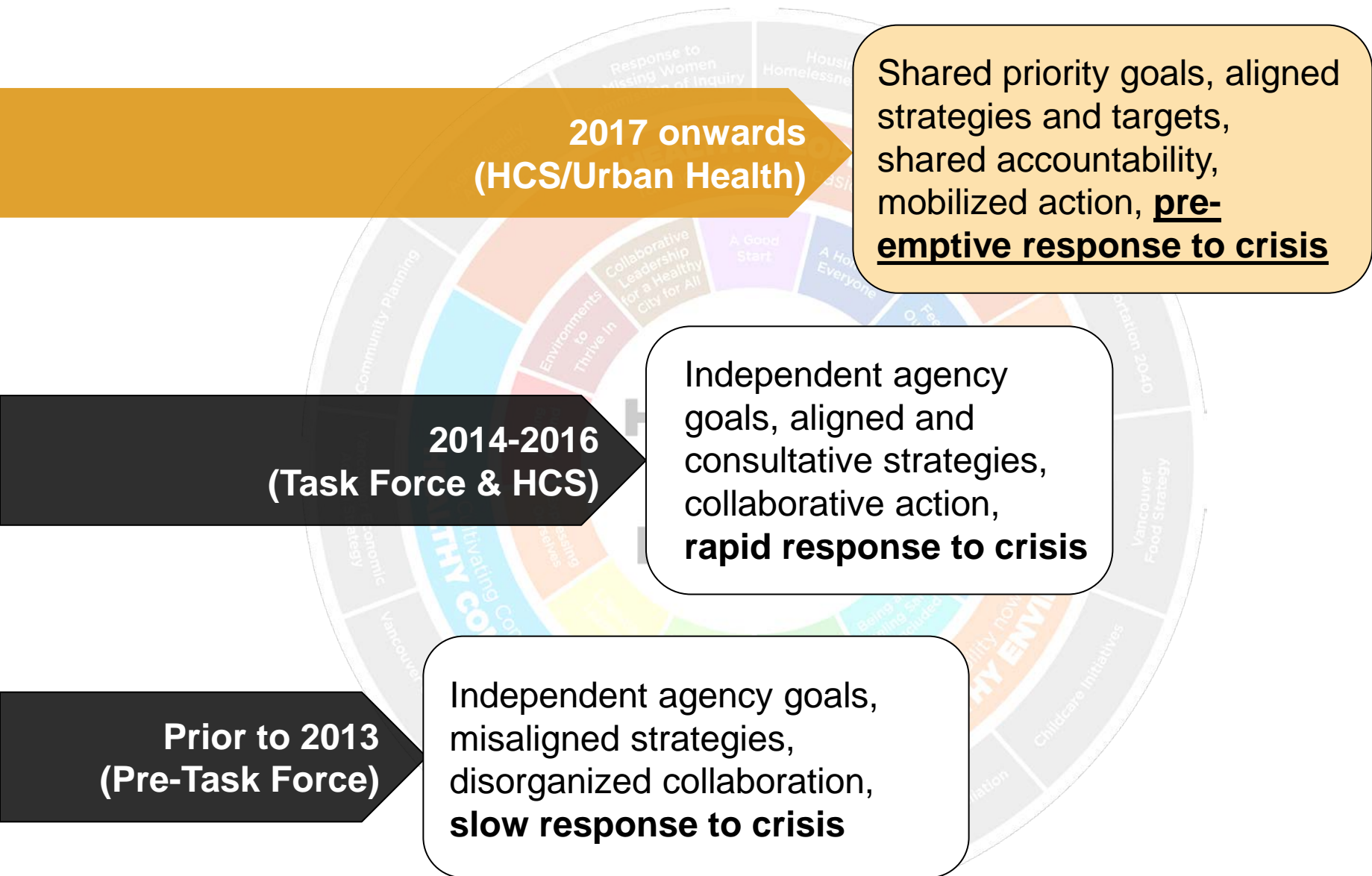
September 26, 2017



1. Behind the Crises: Background
2. City of Vancouver Response to Overdose Crisis
3. Aligning with Partner Projects and Advocacy
4. Next Steps

Background

Evolution of Collaborative Action



Increasing Crisis Levels

- 43% increase in mental health visits at St. Paul's ER (2009-2013)
- 18% increase in VPD Mental Health Act apprehensions (2012-2013)

Inadequate Treatment

- 2,000 SRO tenants without adequate supports; higher rate of mortality (The Hotel Study, 2013)
- Increasing homelessness, 2/3 requiring support for mental health and addiction
- Additional evidence from At Home/Chez Soi, Inner City Youth Mental Health, BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS

Estimated number of people with serious mental health issues and addictions, British Columbia and City of Vancouver

130,000

people in B.C.

34,000

people (25%)
in VCH

20,400

people (60%)
in Vancouver

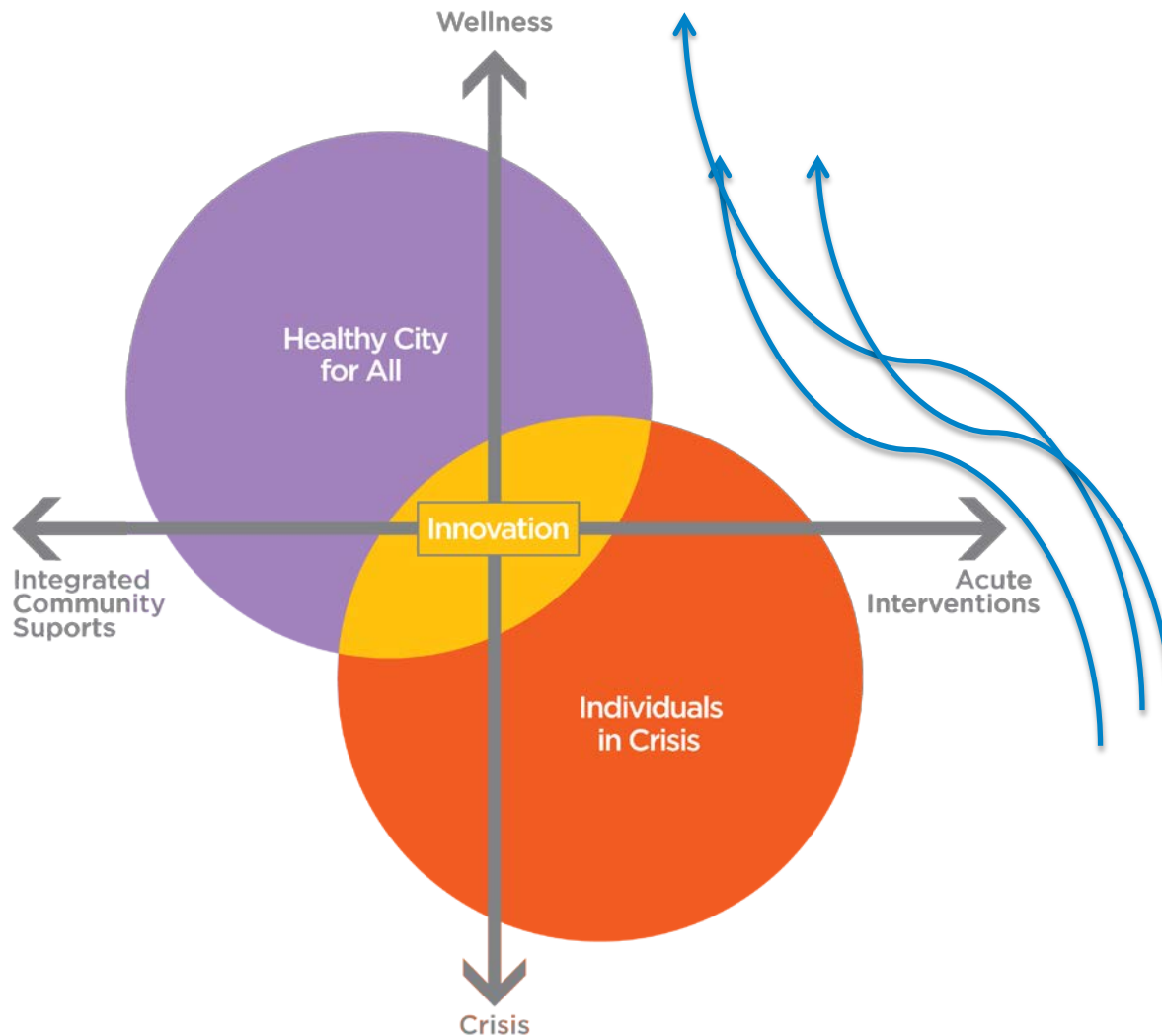
3,000 to 6,000

people at high risk

300

people (10%) in crisis

Moving Upstream toward a Healthy City for All

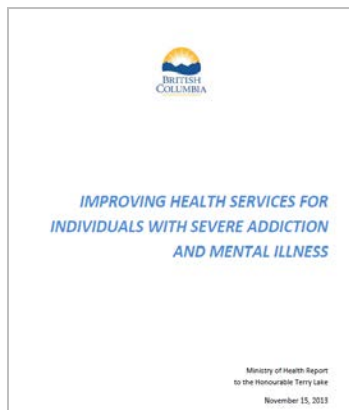


Partnerships, innovation and collective action are needed to move 'upstream' from crisis to wellness, from acute interventions to integrated community supports.

November 2013

Province responds 120-Day Plan.

Ministry of Health, VCH,
Providence Health Care
(PHC), BC Housing,
Correction Services,
and Vancouver Police
Department meet to
discuss priority actions.



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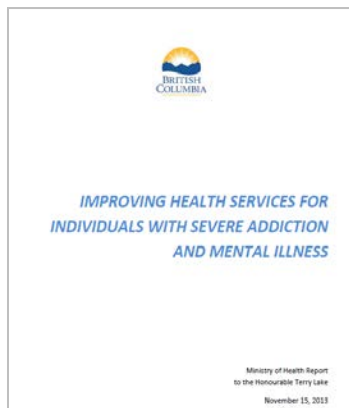
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(PHC), BC Housing,
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SUMMARY OF STATUS TO DATE

- ✓ Two new ACT teams in Vancouver
- ✓ Inner City Youth team expansion
- ✓ 9-bed stabilization unit at St. Paul's
- ✓ Psychiatric emergency care protocols to address intake surge
- ✓ Improved information sharing

PRIORITY GAPS

- 300 mental health treatment beds
- Sufficient, aligned ACT team support
- Adequate housing first options for people with mental health & addictions



December 10 – July 2013

- Task Force holds 11 meetings, including special workshops on stigma, addictions, Aboriginal people and youth

Phase 1 work has 2 components:

1

Actions identified through Task Force to improve system of care (including what City can do)

2

Supporting the Ministry of Health and Vancouver Coastal 120-Day Plan to address service gaps



Summary of Phase 1

Enhancing Access to Quality & Effectiveness of Service



01

Work Better Together and Address Service Gaps
The Game Changer

Expedite *Collective Impact* and work with provincial partners

02

A Peer-Informed System
Right Faces in the Right Places,
Low-Barrier Services

Convene peer leadership table to inform continuum of care

03

De-stigmatization
Feeling Safe and Included

Increase awareness, inclusion & accessibility

04

Focus on Youth
Better Transitions and Outcomes

Better support for youth transitioning out of care

05

Focus on Wellness for Aboriginal Peoples
A City of Reconciliation

Promote Aboriginal healing and wellness concepts across Vancouver

06

Enhance Addictions Knowledge
Training and Treatment Choices

Support training and integration of addictions specialists

- Provincial Health Officer declared public health emergency on April 14, 2016
- Unprecedented total of **978** overdose deaths in 2016 in BC
- **231** OD deaths in Vancouver
- **4,709** Vancouver Fire and Rescue Calls
- Dec 2016 – Mayor’s Forum Held - Traumatic impact on families, loved ones & communities

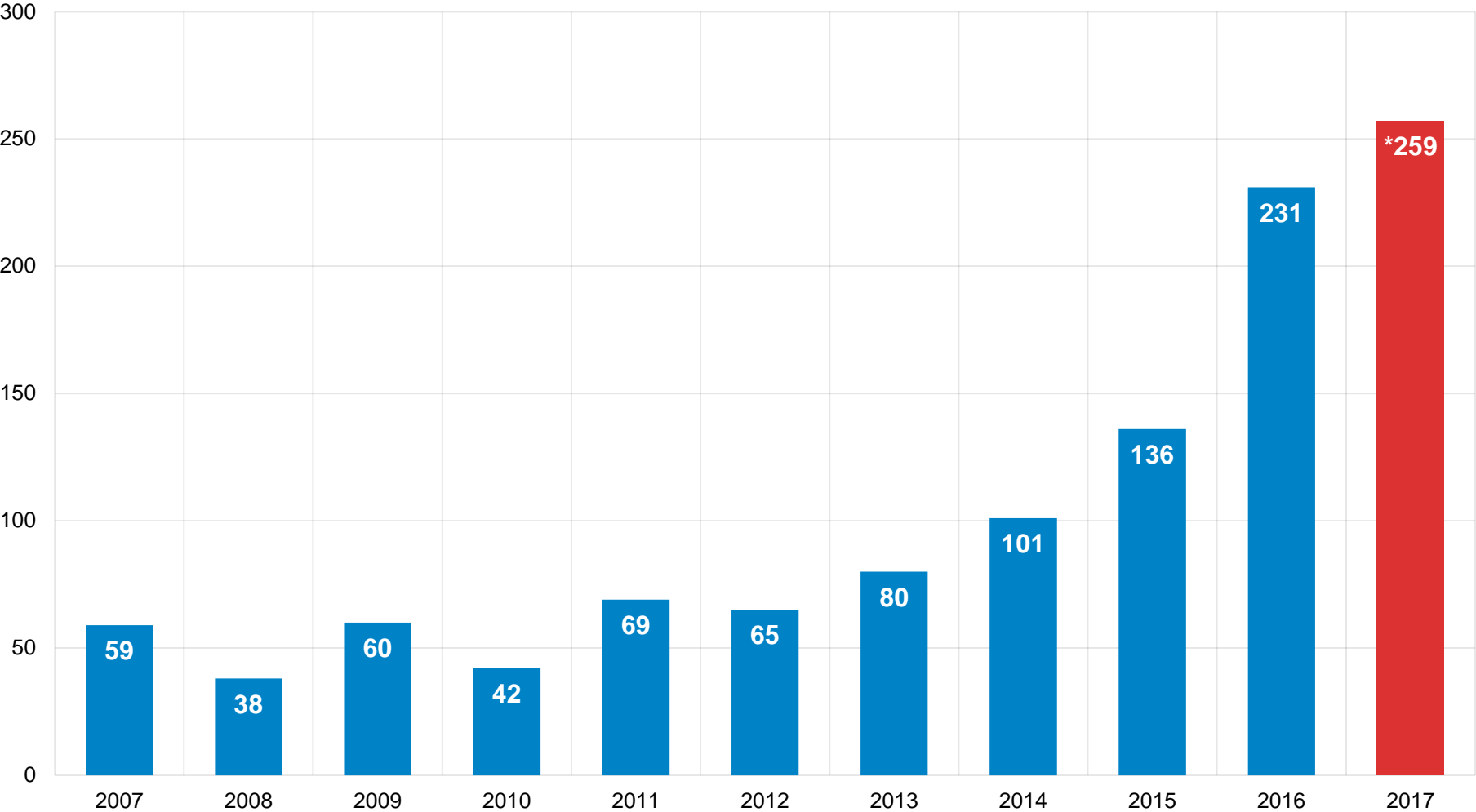
- **876** OD deaths in BC from Jan - July
- **259** OD deaths in Vancouver between January 1 and September 24, 2017 (est)*
 - 89% occurred inside
 - 82% male
- **5,062** VFRS OD calls so far this year, already surpassing 2016 total

*Awaiting confirmation from BC Coroner toxicology reporting

Overdose Deaths in Vancouver: 2007 – 2017 to date



Overdose Deaths in Vancouver Jan 1, 2007 - September 24, 2017

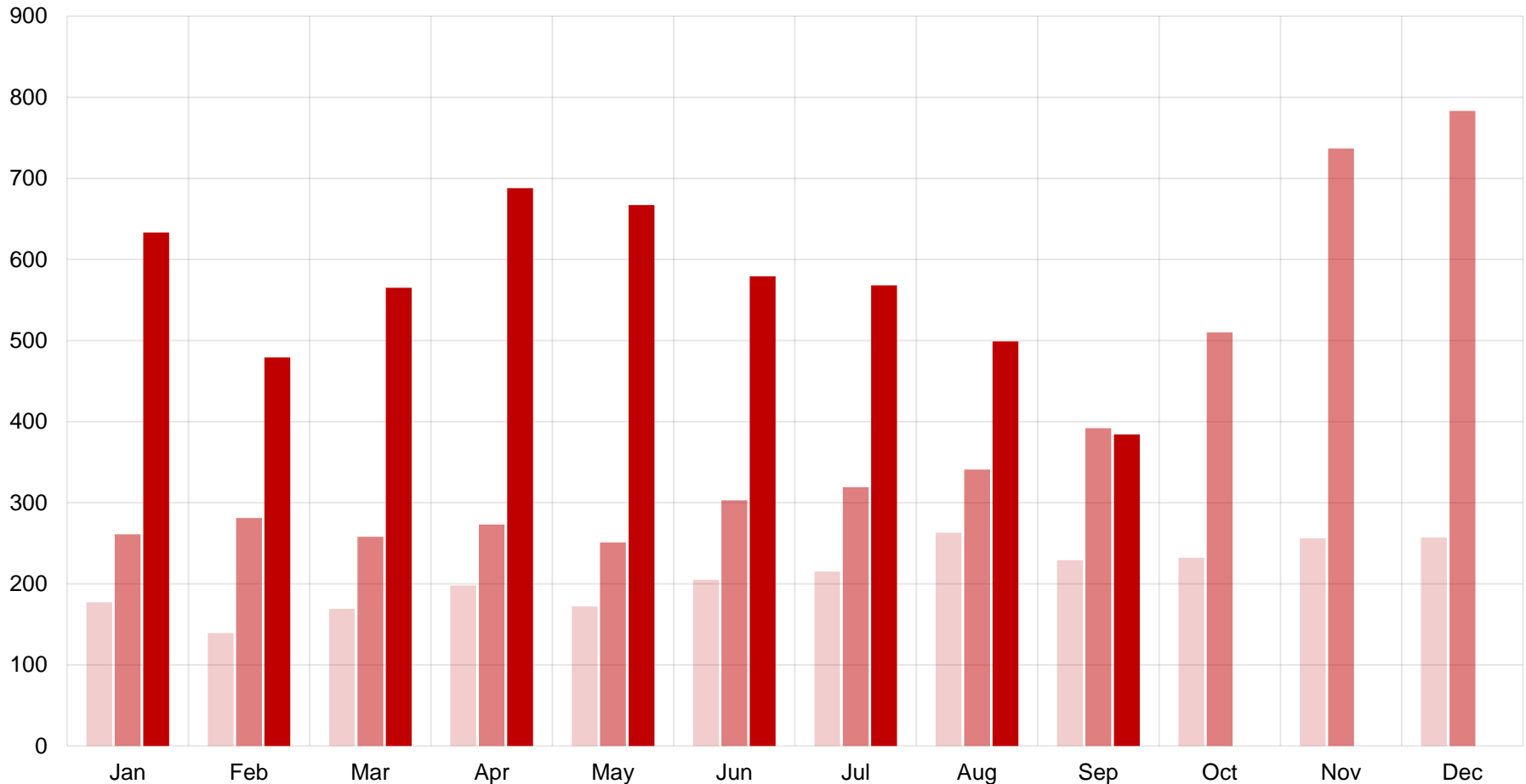


Source of Data: BC Coroner Service and VPD

***Deaths in 2017 have yet to be confirmed by BC Coroner Service

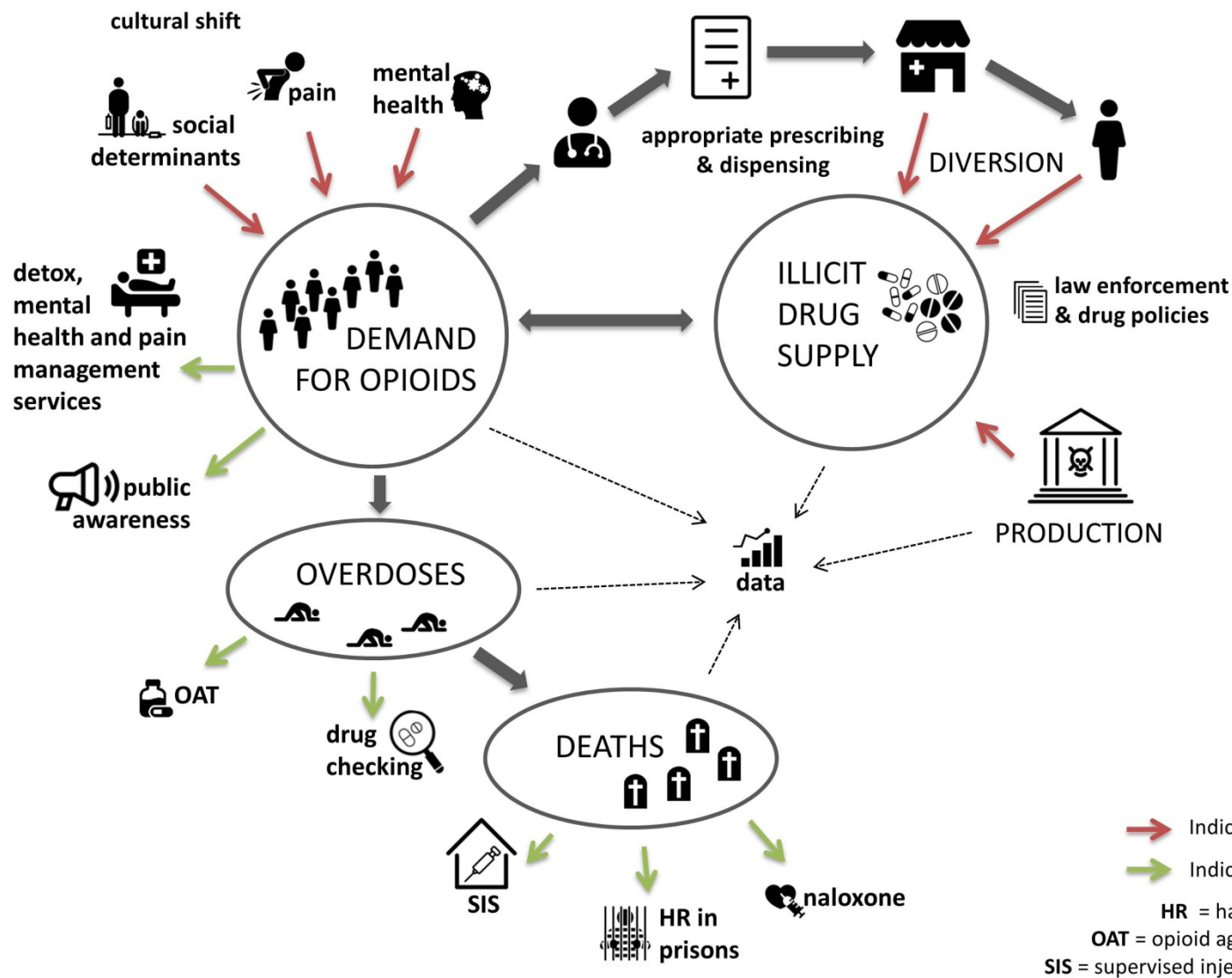
VFRS Monthly Overdose Calls Jan 1, 2015 - September 24, 2017

2015 2016 2017

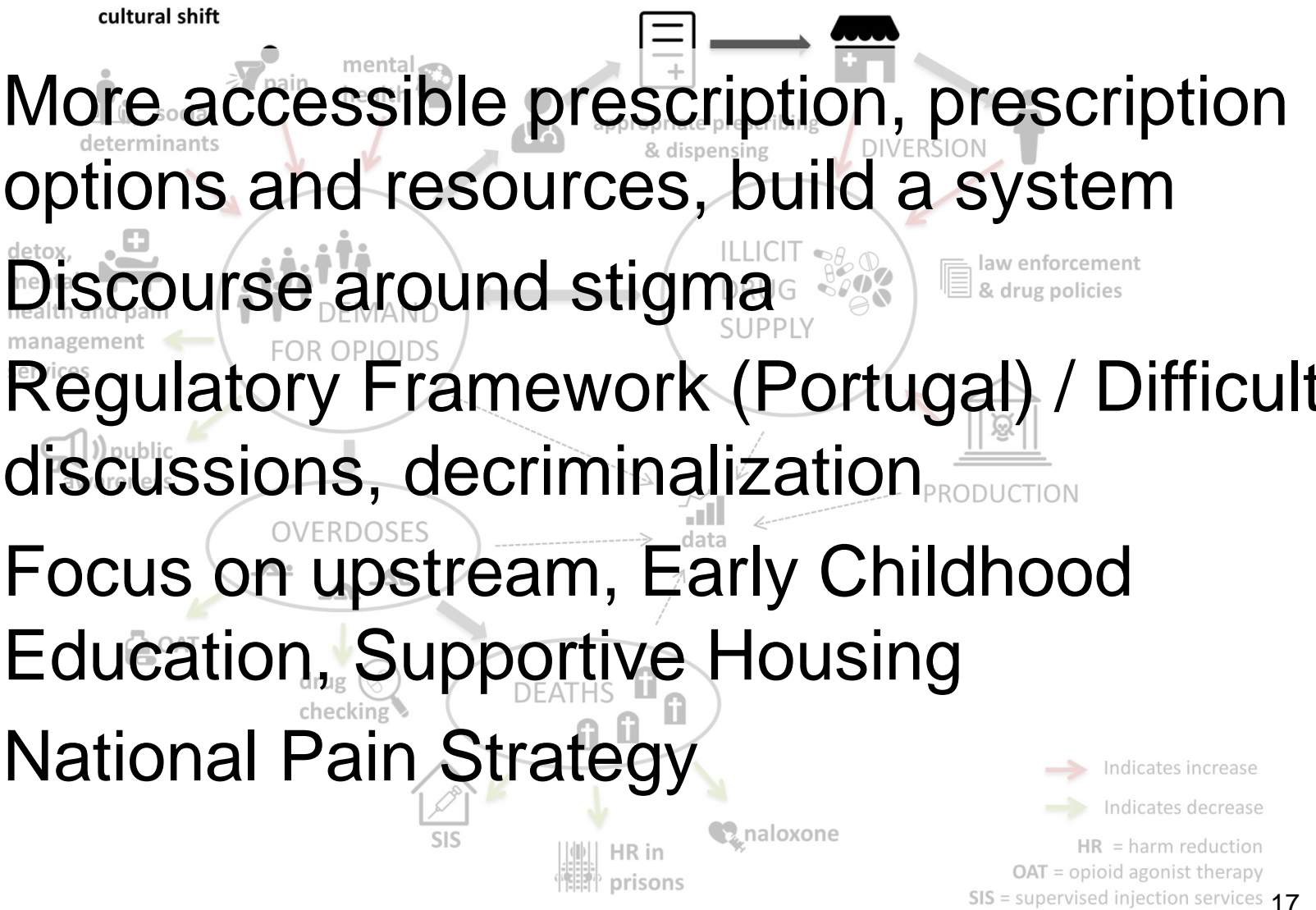


Source of Data: Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|--|
| 1. Update on City Response to the Overdose Crisis | Paul Mochrie | Deputy City Manger |
| 2. Overview of Opioid Public Health Emergency in BC | Dr. Perry Kendall | Provincial Health Officer for British Columbia |
| 3. Update on VCH response to Opioid Public Health Emergency | Dr. Patricia Daly | Chief Medical Health Officer and Vice President, Public Health at Vancouver Coastal Health |



1. More accessible prescription, prescription options and resources, build a system
2. Discourse around stigma
3. Regulatory Framework (Portugal) / Difficult discussions, decriminalization
4. Focus on upstream, Early Childhood Education, Supportive Housing
5. National Pain Strategy



1. Naloxone distribution
2. Mobile Medical Unit
3. Overdose Prevention Sites
4. New clinics (Connections, RAAC at St. Paul's)
5. Applications pending: New Supervised Consumption Sites



1. Supportive housing
 - *Train staff, naloxone available*
2. Expand opioid agonist therapy
 - *Oral and injectable*
3. Address stigma
4. Vulnerable youth
 - *Identify, engage, support*
5. Early childhood development

**BREAKING
THE STIGMA:
MYTHS OF ADDICTION**

City Response

- 3.9% property tax increase in Dec 2016
- 0.5% or **\$3.5M** allocated for crisis
- Roughly **\$2.5M** invested in building VFRS capacity and improving community safety



Common Goals & Strong Relationship - Allowed for rapid responses and resource alignment

- MOU with VCH enabled quick coordination
- Overdose prevention site implementation
- Leveraged funding with VCH to support non-profits in life-saving work
- Coordination with Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council

- In February 2017, Council approved funding for grants to community non-profits to address the crisis

Initiative	Funds
Peer-based initiatives into SROs	\$220,000
De-stigmatization programs	\$100,000
Ray-Cam “Circle of the Child” Prevention program	\$60,000
Peer capacity building and support	\$30,000
Total	\$410,000

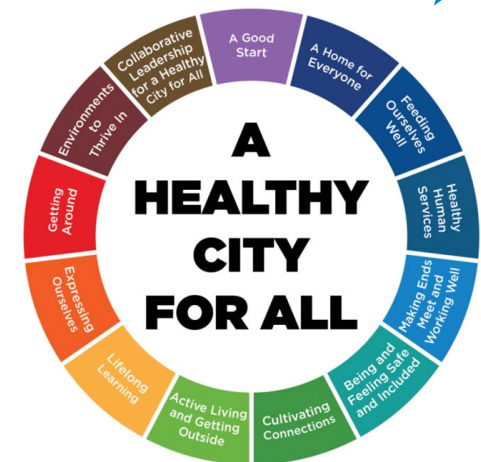
- Community consultation and data monitoring
 - Healthy City for All Leadership Table
 - People with Lived Experience Advisory
 - Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council
 - Partners in community and health
- Identified **Five Priority Needs:**
 1. Innovative anti-stigma programs
 2. Building capacity with Urban Aboriginal communities
 3. Addressing social isolation of drug users, especially men
 4. Expanding beyond the DTES
 5. Addressing the toxic drug supply

2017 Actions – Call for EOI and Overdose Grants

April	May	June	July	August	September - December
Developed Call for Expression of Interest (EOI)	Distributed Call for EOI to community stakeholders and non-profits	25 proposals received EOI evaluation Staff liaised 16 organizations for full proposals	Finalized proposals Council approved \$601,800 in grants on July 26	Grants paid out to community organizations	Early implementation and monitoring

Projects align with:

- Healthy City Strategy
- City of Reconciliation commitments
- Downtown Eastside Plan
- Community Economic Development Strategy



- In July 2017, Council approved funding for 16 grants to community non-profits

Initiative	Funds
Innovative Anti-Stigma Programs	\$117,000
Building capacity with Urban Aboriginal Communities	\$264,670
Addressing social isolation of drug users, especially men	\$68,200
Expanding interventions beyond the DTES	\$23,000
Addressing the illicit toxic drug supply	\$128,930
Total	\$601,800

- In total, **\$1.02M** invested in over **23 community projects**
- Over **\$600K** invested in employing and building capacity with peers
- Alignment with VCH core theme areas for grant funding
- Early implementation stages, preliminary outcome reports expected in December
- **Early 2018** - Report back to Council

Aligned Projects and Advocacy

- **1,445** discarded needle reports from Jan – Aug 2017
- Extra patrols in Andy Livingstone Park
- Collaborating with VCH to distribute needle disposal information
- Spikes on Bikes: **105,000** collected
- Micro-cleaning grants: **56,000** collected



- Difficult to pin-point OD locations in DTES, impacting response times
- Group of VPD, VFRS, BC EHS, and City Engineering installed 50 reference signs in the DTES
- Next step: Evaluate impacts of signage



- \$1M City investment
- State of the art, modular design
- Rapid access addictions clinic
- 8 mental health beds, 12 transitional beds
- Referrals to ongoing supports
- Construction underway



- City presented to Senate Committee on Bill C-37 (safe injection sites) in April 2017
- Big City Mayor's Task Force
 - Launched in Jan 2017
 - Chaired by Mayor Robertson
 - Issued recommendations to Federal government in May 2017



Collaborative Action, Collaborative Leadership – Next Steps

- Council approved transition of Mayor's Task Force on Mental Health and Addictions in Feb 2017
- Transitioning to **Urban Health Leaders Action Council**
- Focus on shared goals, targets, and resources to develop 5 year Action Plan
- Focus on alignment with Poverty Reduction Strategy, CED Strategy



Thank You & Questions?