

Attachment 1

*Common or Integrated Program Agreement
between the City of New Westminster and
Fraser Health Authority*

Common or Integrated Program Agreement

BETWEEN:

Corporation of the City of New Westminster
511 Royal Avenue, New Westminster, BC V3L 1H9
(the “CITY”)

AND:

Fraser Health Authority
Suite 400 – 13450 102nd Avenue, Surrey, BC V3T 0H1
(“Fraser Health”)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Agreement is to document the terms and conditions of the common or integrated program known as the *Post-Opioid Overdose Outreach Program* (the “**Program**”) that will be delivered by the City’s Fire & Rescue Services (the “**FRS**”) and **Fraser Health’s** in compliance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, and other governing legislation.

FRS intends to share information with Fraser Health for the purposes of addressing the toxic drug poisoning crisis. The parties believe that the information the FRS intends to share with Fraser Health could mean the difference between life and death for people at high-risk of another overdose, especially those who cannot be identified by Fraser Health via other methods. Therefore, Fraser Health wants to collaborate with the City and provide outreach, harm reduction and support services to these individuals.

2. Expected Outcomes of the Program:

Through this Program the FRS and Fraser Health expect to connect individuals to appropriate community and health supports that they might not otherwise access, including harm reduction, addiction services. Additionally, the expected outcomes of the program include:

- Identifying harm reduction opportunities and any other substance use community based services;
- Advocate for client, family and caregiver needs within our health care system;
- Increase communication, integration, and collaboration with client’s families, and caregivers; and

- Fraser Health’s involvement will bring clinical expertise in substance use that could result in:
 - Reduction in the death rate from toxic drug poisoning;
 - Reduction in the rate of toxic drug poisoning events;
 - Reduction in FRS & BC Ambulance Service responses for toxic drug poisonings;
 - Reduction emergency room visits for toxic drug poisonings;
 - Reduction hospital admissions for toxic drug poisoning; and
 - Reduce chances of toxic drug poisoning.

3. Description of Services that will be provided by the Program to a client visit

This program would involve FRS identifying individuals that are at high-risk for a fatal toxic drug poisoning. When appropriate, and dependent on available resources, these individuals can be referred in compassionate and respectful connections with harm reduction, mental health supports, medical, addictions and other services. The individual will give their consent for FRS to follow up via phone call first. Upon consent for Fraser Health and FRS to visit in person, the visits will be discrete and respectful in-person contact with these individuals and seek their consent to introduce them to the appropriate support services by the Fraser Health team (the “Program”).

With the individual’s consent, the Program will provide coordinated and integrated responses to individuals with acutely elevated risk factors or their families through existing resources. The program response will include:

- Outreach Services Advocate within the health care system for client, family, and caregiver needs;
- Follow up post-overdose event between individuals, FRS and Fraser Health; and
- Harm reduction supplies, services and education.
- Commonly offered or referred services will include:
 - education to reduce the risk of poisoning or death from toxic drugs;
 - drug checking;
 - harm reduction services, supplies and education;
 - referrals to opioid agonist treatment (methadone, suboxone, sublocade);
 - Overdose Prevention Site awareness;
 - education and awareness on remote monitoring technology like the Lifeguard App; and
 - Referrals and connections to services designed to support people with substance use disorder

4. Elements of Information

As part of this agreement, FRS will share with Fraser Health:

- Written consent from the individual to engage Fraser Health's services;
- the demographics of the individual who experienced a recent toxic drug event;
- elapsed time since FRS emergency response for overdose to the client;
- event details (i.e., date/time/location of event and other relevant information);
- Date/time and location of the meeting with the individual who provided FRS with their consent to engage Fraser Health's services;

FRS will share with Fraser Health the following information for purposes of evaluating the Program:

- De-identified program information, which includes:
 - # of outreach contacts attempted;
 - # of outreach contacts successfully made; and
 - # of outreach contact that agreed to participate in the pilot (collectively the "Program Info").

For the purposes of evaluating the Program the FRS would like to receive from Fraser Health:

- De-identified program information which includes:
 - # of outreach contacts;
 - # of outreach contacts successfully made;
 - # of referrals to other services;
 - # of each OOT recommendation(s) and how many recommendations in total were given; (the "Overdose Outreach Team")
 - % of the # of client contacts that connected to a Fraser Health OOT Service; and
 - # of referrals made to other Fraser Health Services by OOT
% of the above number that connected to Fraser Health Service who followed up with that service.

5. Description of Roles and Responsibilities

FRS Responsibilities:

- Sets the direction and overall purpose of the Program;
- responsible for submitting this Agreement to OIPC;
- consider their safety, as well as the safety of the individuals, Fraser Health representatives and other members of the public at or near the scene of the post-toxic drug poisoning event follow-up location;
- collects the consent and information directly from the individual and

- provides a collection notice at the time of collection;
- informs Fraser Health of the location for follow-up meetings with individuals who have consented to the Program;
- upon arrival at a location to follow-up with an individual and upon entry by invitation into a dwelling, FRS member will clearly identify himself/herself as a fire fighter;
- completes regular documentation in accordance with FRS policy; and
- supervises follow-up with individuals to ensure consistency with the Program's overall purpose and intent.

Fraser Health Responsibilities:

- During a visit with an individual identified by FRS, Fraser Health staff will always remain with FRS member;
- provide outreach, harm reduction and support services to individuals who agree to participate in the program;
- if suited to individual and individual interested, make referrals to other FH programs and services;
- Upon arrival at a location to follow-up with an individual and upon entry by invitation into a dwelling, Fraser Health employee will clearly identify himself/herself as an Fraser Health employee;
- Fraser Health staff will wear clothing that makes it clear that they are not with FRS, and preferably with identifying label indicating them as Fraser Health staff; and
- complete regular documentation in accordance with Fraser Health procedures.

The City and Fraser Health Authority agree that:

- records related to a program activity of the other public body or other agency will not be shared;
- FRS will not have custody and/or control of those records outside of the Program other than the de-identified program information described in section 2;
- each party will immediately notify the other party if they are subject to a subpoena or other court order regarding the any aspect of the Program;
- each party will be responsible for its own costs incurred by the deployment of its personnel;
- where violence or threat of violence is assessed, a follow-up visit with an individual will be cancelled;
- each party will ensure that its representative is aware of all applicable, basic safety rules before embarking on a visit with an individual concerning the Program;
- all media releases related to the Program must be reviewed and approved by both parties prior to being made public;
- FRS will follow the City's established policy and procedure for privacy breaches and for privacy complaints that might be received related to this project;

- If a privacy breach is alleged or a complaint is made related to personal information of an individual in the Program, FRS will disclose this to Fraser Health, Fraser Health will work with the City to investigate the alleged breach; and
 - If personal information Fraser Health collects, uses and discloses is involved in an alleged privacy breach Fraser Health will follow Fraser Health's privacy breach procedures and will inform the City.
6. The information supplied to Fraser Health shall be collected, used, disclosed, retained, destroyed or disposed of in accordance with *FOIPPA* and related operating directives and guidelines covering the administrative, technical, and physical safeguarding of the personal information.
7. Each Party will make reasonable arrangements to maintain the physical and technical security of the personal information in its custody, by protecting it against such risks as unauthorized access, collection, use, disclosure or disposal.

8. Termination for Non-Compliance with Agreement

This Agreement may be terminated immediately at any time by either Party if the other Party fails to meet its obligations under this Agreement. This Agreement may be terminated by either Party by giving the other Party no less than 30 days' prior written notice.

9. Term of Agreement

This Agreement must be reviewed on or before April 30, 2025 and thereafter every five (5) calendar years unless earlier terminated.

Agreed to on behalf of FRASER HEALTH AUTHORITY

Signature: _____

Name: Sherif Amara

Title: Clinical Director, Toxic Drug
Response and Priority Populations

Date:

**Agreed to on behalf of CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER
AND ITS FIRE SERVICES**

Signature: _____

Name: Patrick Johnstone

Title: Mayor

Date: October ____ 2023

Signature: _____

Name: Peter DeJong

Title: Corporate Officer

Date: October ____ 2023