

Substance Use Health Emergency (SUHE) Strategy Situational Report

Form Prepared:		Drug Toxicity Deaths Coroner's Service:	Non-Fatal Drug/Alcohol Toxicity Events:	
Date:	February 14, 2024		Drug Poisoning ED Visits (WGH)	Alcohol ED Visits (WGH)
Time:	5:21 pm	Year-to-Date Total: 3	98	283
		Previous Year Total: 23	140	677
	Services:		EMS:	
	Visits to Supervised Consumption Site:	Take Home Naloxone (# distributed):	Suspected Drug Poisoning	Alcohol Poisoning:
	Year-to-Date Total: 1,391	1,206	23	74
Previous Year Total:	6,492	10,642	327	825

General Strategy Updates:

Prioritized Actions – Project List			
Project Description	Project Lead	Current Status	Status Update
Prevention			
Implement Planet Youth (Icelandic Prevention Model) in Yukon communities	Laura Hillier	In progress	Developing call for proposals and assessment criteria
Support Yukon communities in creating and implementing community wellness plans	Emma Eaton	In progress	- First communities: Mayo and Old Crow - Process is defined, hiring in progress
Continue to launch communication and educational campaigns addressing substance use and mental wellness issues	Thibaut Rondel	Ongoing	- Oct 2023 Support is here for you initiative, \$9,269.96 - Dec 2023-Feb 2024 campaign for OTS, RAC, AUD, and 988 complete \$69,274.97. - TPA to CYFN for Anti-Stigma campaign \$50,000
Harm Reduction			
Implement a managed alcohol program	Cameron Grandy Andrea Abrahamson	In progress	- Management Board Submission approved. - Timelines to be determined, likely rolling out Spring 2024. - Publically announced MAP 01/31/2024
Expand the operating hours of Whitehorse's Supervised Consumption Site	Cameron Grandy Jill Aalhouse	Completed Jan 07/2024	Hours expanded from 12-9, to 10:30 to 9:30, 7 days per week including statutory holidays.
Expand access to Opioid Treatment Services, including safer supply and Opioid Agonist Therapy	Cameron Grandy Andrea Abrahamson	In progress	- Currently offer OTS at RCC, 405 Alexander, Housing First and Cornerstone. - Working on rural/remote options.

Treatment and Recovery Support			
Ensure the availability of Opioid Agonist Therapy where Yukoners seek assistance	Cameron Grandy Andrea Abrahamson	Ongoing	- Supply chain and procurement delaying acquisition of a Mobile Clinic. - MWSU working with community nursing to roll out to communities.
Increase support for Yukon First Nations governments to develop and implement land-based mental health and substance use treatment options	Shadelle Chambers Kristeen Mctavish	Ongoing	- CYFN is staffing two positions to support Yukon First Nations in accessing funding and implementing projects. - CYFN hosted hosting a two-day land-based summit November 2023 to collaborate with stakeholders and develop strategic initiatives. - December 6, 2023: Letter of Intent signed between Government of Yukon, CYFN and federal government for YFN led treatment centre. https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/yukon-indigenous-detox-treatment-centre-1.7050175 - CYFN to distribute funding of \$9M over three years to March 31, 2026 to First Nations-led organizations for eligible land-based healing
Community Safety and Wellbeing			
Invest in preventing gender-based violence and improving services for victims of crime	Debra Komar	Ongoing	- Expansion of the existing Sexualized Assault Response Team (SART). Engagement on this expansion completed December 2023 and an implementation plan is anticipated for 2025. - Funding under the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence (NAP-GBV) includes a transportation fund (\$59K for 2023/24, then \$100,000/fiscal for 3 years), administered by Victims Services, which provides support for victims to travel to Whitehorse to access existing services. Work is ongoing to establish the infrastructure needed to support victims.
a) Increase frontline support staffing; & b) Create more safe and sober housing options for those with substance use issues when transitioning from the criminal justice system back into communities	Debra Komar	Ongoing	- Providing improved supports for those transitioning into the community through reform of the bail system. SUHES budget included two Support and Outreach positions. One of the positions has changed to a Clinical Counsellor position. The two positions will work closely to meet the needs of clients, travelling to all communities in the territory. - Recruitment for these positions is ongoing.
Continue to collaborate with Yukon First Nations governments to expand therapeutic courts and other restorative justice approaches in response to substance use-related treatment needs	Debra Komar	Ongoing	- Recruitment of a Senior Community Engagement Specialist is ongoing. Currently a Justice Wellness Centre staff members is acting in the position. - FNs currently in partnership discussions include Carcross Tagish, Tr'ondek Hwech'in and Vuntut Gwitchin. - Project development initiatives will be updated in Spring 2024. - Existing restorative justice/therapeutic courts (such as Community Wellness and Domestic Violence Treatment Court) have initiatives including impaired driving, substance use treatment, trauma recovery, intimate partner violence prevention programs for men, healing camps at Jackson Lake and other programming in partnership with First Nations.

Support effective and accountable policing and enforcement responsive to community needs and considering the Yukon's modern treaty environment	Debra Komar	Ongoing	- Recruitment is underway. Where there is an interest, discussions regarding enforcement are occurring with First Nations at Administration of Justice Agreement tables, and a joint Cabinet and Management Board submission is under development. - Community policing in First Nation communities is supported through Community Tripartite Agreements between First Nations, Government of Yukon and Government of Canada. Funding was secured for two new positions (a Senior Negotiator and a Strategic Policy Advisor) to support YG engagement with First Nations regarding FN jurisdiction and authority for enforcement of FN laws and related interests. Recruitment is ongoing for both positions (Senior Negotiator position is currently posted). A draft engagement plan and submission are in progress.
Expand the capacity of the Mobile Crisis Response Team (Car 867)	Cameron Grandy Andrea Abrahamson RCMP Debra Komar	Ongoing	D. Justice funding 2x RCMP officers - MWSU staffing the 2x nursing positions (1 done, 1 competition to be completed). - Car 867 initially provided coverage in Whitehorse M to F from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, covering only 47% of incoming calls. SUHES provides for two additional regular members (RCMP) to be added to the team.
Increase the Government of Yukon's capacity to investigate and for civil remedies to disrupt the distribution of toxic illicit drugs and organized crime in Yukon communities	Debra Komar	In progress	- In 2022, the Justice Minister committed to a full review of the SCAN Act, which is ongoing. - The action is fulfilled through the existing Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Unit (SCAN). SCAN currently has agreements with 10 FNs to provide investigative services in their communities and anticipates signing an 11th protocol soon. SUHES funding includes one additional investigator for the SCAN Unit. SCAN has been connecting with communities and is working to update their protocols.

Substance Use Health Emergency (SUHE) Strategy Situational Report

Form Prepared:		Drug Toxicity Deaths Coroner's Service:	Non-Fatal Drug/Alcohol Toxicity Events:		
Date:	June 30, 2024			Drug Poisoning ED Visits (WGH)	Alcohol ED Visits (WGH)
Time:	4:21 pm	Year-to-Date Total: 5	Year-to-Date Total:	68	274
		2023 Year-to-Date: 11	2023 Year-to- Date Total*:	101	299
		Services:		EMS:	
		Visits to Supervised Consumption Site:	Take Home Naloxone (# distributed)	Suspected Drug Poisoning	Alcohol-Related Calls
Year-to-Date Total:		1,391	4861	135	554
2023 Year-to- Date Total*:		6,492	4830	183	392

* Indicates data collected during the same period of the previous year.

General Strategy Updates:

Prioritized Actions – Project List			
Project Description	Project Lead	Current Status	Status Update
Prevention			
Implement Planet Youth (Icelandic Prevention Model) in Yukon communities	Laura Hillier	In progress	- PPHEE presented to Health and Social Development Commission (HSDC) and department of Education leadership as a first step in finding 2 pilot communities. - Consultations continue. PPHEE plans to meet with youth justice and Communities Building Youth Futures (CBYF), among others. - We have, after discussion with our advisory committee, developed a short info sheet and are now working with finance to understand how we can put out an EOI or similar to, gather interest. Hope to be able to go live mid month. We are also planning a few info sessions to get interest and answer any questions.
Support Yukon communities in creating and implementing community wellness plans	Emma Eaton Community Coordinators (1) CYFN Community analysts (2)	In progress	- Hired 1x community wellness coordinator - CYFN has posted for 2x community wellness analysts and has completed a competition – we have not yet heard if they have hired. - Working on engagement plan and strategy for presentation to Cabinet Committee on Planning and Priorities (C2P2)

Continue to launch communication and educational campaigns addressing substance use and mental wellness issues	Thibaut Rondel	Ongoing	- Several awareness and educational campaigns active/upcoming. Priorities include opioid treatment services awareness, alcohol medications, 9-8-8 outreach support, rapid access counselling, and public awareness of SUHE and implementation of initial actions in strategy. - August SUHE Strategy printing \$9,500-\$10,000 (final total to be confirmed). - October campaign printing materials: \$9269.96 - December to February campaign for OTS, RAC, AUD, 988, and SUHES by HSS, \$69,274.97. - CYFN Anti-Stigma campaign January/February, \$50k TPA. - HSS to lead on new information campaign targeted specifically to those using drugs, consulting with BT4D - HSS+EDU committed to working together on educational campaign for young people
Harm Reduction			
Implement a managed alcohol program	Cameron Grandy Andrea Abrahamson	In progress	- Management Board Submission approved, program development underway. - Timelines to be determined, likely rolling out April 2024, with first resident possibly June 2024. - Publically announced MAP 01/31/2024
Expand the operating hours of Whitehorse's Supervised Consumption Site	Cameron Grandy Jill Aalhus	Complete as of January 07, 2024.	Hours have been expanded from 12-9, to 10:30 to 9:30, 7 days per week including statutory holidays.
Expand access to Opioid Treatment Services, including safer supply and Opioid Agonist Therapy	Cameron Grandy Andrea Abrahamson	Ongoing	- Currently offer OTS at RCC, 405 Alexander, Housing First and Cornerstone. - Working on rural/remote options – policy review and clinical guideline development underway by Community Nursing.
Treatment and Recovery Support			
Ensure the availability of Opioid Agonist Therapy where Yukoners seek assistance	Cameron Grandy Andrea Abrahamson	Ongoing	- Partially addressed through the deployment of the Mobile Opioid Treatment Services clinic. - Supply chain and procurement delaying acquisition of a Mobile Clinic.
Increase support for Yukon First Nations governments to develop and implement land-based mental health and substance use treatment options	Shadelle Chambers Kristeen Mctavish	Ongoing	- CYFN is staffing one position to support Yukon First Nations in successfully accessing funding and implementing projects. - CYFN hosted a two-day land-based summit at the end of November to collaborate with stakeholders and develop strategic initiatives. Funding will be available to Yukon First Nations and Yukon First Nation-led organizations in early December. - December 6, 2023: Letter of Intent signed between Government of Yukon, CYFN and federal government for YFN led treatment centre. CBC News release - CYFN received \$7.26m for disbursement from April 01, 2024 through March 31, 2026. Fund includes to support First Nation's Governments, organizations, and individuals offering land based healing activities.

			- Funding call has gone out this year already and closed, but will be available several times per year. For the Land-Based Healing Fund: - We received 4 million from YG for this fiscal. We have received 7.26 million in requests through our first call for applications. This demonstrated the need for this type of funding. - CYFN are completing review and starting to provide responses to applicants. We will be able to update soon about how much CYFN gave out for this round, and how many applicants we were able to support. - CYFN may look at having a second intake of applications this fiscal, depending on available funds. For the YFN Healing Centre: - CYFN have started to explore land options through site visits. More investigation needs to be done, and we are still looking for potential options that meet the site criteria. As CYFN does not have funding to purchase land, we are hoping that a partner will donate land for the centre.
Community Safety and Wellbeing			
Invest in preventing gender-based violence and improving services for victims of crime	Debra Komar	Ongoing	- Expansion of the existing Sexualized Assault Response Team (SART). Engagement on this expansion completed December 2023 and an implementation plan is anticipated for 2025. - Funding under the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence (NAP-GBV) includes a transportation fund (\$59K for 2023/24, then \$100,000/fiscal for 3 years), administered by Victims Services, which provides support for victims to travel to Whitehorse to access existing services. Work is ongoing to establish the infrastructure needed to support victims.
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			treatment, trauma recovery, intimate partner violence prevention programs for men, healing camps at Jackson Lake and other programming in partnership with First Nations.
Support effective and accountable policing and enforcement responsive to community needs and considering the Yukon's modern treaty environment	Debra Komar	Ongoing	- Recruitment is underway. Where there is an interest, discussions regarding enforcement are occurring with First Nations at Administration of Justice Agreement tables, and a joint Cabinet and Management Board submission is under development. - Community policing in First Nation communities is supported through Community Tripartite Agreements between First Nations, Government of Yukon and Government of Canada. Funding was secured for two new positions (a Senior Negotiator and a Strategic Policy Advisor) to support YG engagement with First Nations regarding FN jurisdiction and authority for enforcement of FN laws and related interests. Recruitment is ongoing for both positions (Senior Negotiator position is currently posted). A draft engagement plan and submission are in progress.
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Increase the Government of Yukon's capacity to investigate and for civil remedies to disrupt the distribution of toxic illicit drugs and organized crime in Yukon communities	Debra Komar	In progress	- In 2022, the Justice Minister committed to a full review of the SCAN Act, which is ongoing. - The action is fulfilled through the existing Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Unit (SCAN). SCAN currently has agreements with 10 FNs to provide investigative services in their communities and anticipates signing an 11th protocol soon. SUHES funding includes one additional investigator for the SCAN Unit. SCAN has been connecting with communities and is working to update their protocols.