

For Immediate Release | June 6, 2017

Mobile overdose prevention unit for Kamloops

Effective today Interior Health will be offering overdose prevention services in Kamloops using a mobile unit. The mobile unit enhances the current overdose prevention sites and will be situated at both a downtown and north shore location in Kamloops.

North Shore: 433 Tranquille Rd., Kamloops- parking lot behind ASK Wellness next to Spirit Square
Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Downtown: 569 Seymour Street, Kamloops- parking lot of Crossroads Inn
Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 3:30p.m. -7:30p.m.

The mobile overdose prevention unit will offer a place where people who use substances can be safely monitored and treated in the event of an overdose. The unit will also provide enhanced harm reduction services including the distribution of naloxone, other harm reduction supplies and some primary health care services (wound care/ foot care etc.). In addition, individuals will be provided with direct access to clinical staff who can support with referrals and connections to other substance use services and treatments.

A mobile overdose prevention unit differs from a supervised consumption site. Staff will not be supervising substance use in the mobile units until an exemption for a supervised consumption site is approved by Health Canada.

The initial locations have been selected as a starting point for this service that is anticipated to evolve over time based on community need, stakeholder input and evaluation outcomes. Interior Health will work with community stakeholders to respond to concerns raised by businesses and the community. Community members with questions or feedback on the service are encouraged to visit the overdose prevention site page on the Interior Health [website](#).

Overdose prevention sites are one of several strategies Interior Health has employed to respond to the overdose crisis. More information on Interior Health's broader overdose response can be found on the Interior Health [website](#).