



Substance Use Fact Sheet

PEER EDUCATION & TRAINING

This Fact Sheet is a compilation of education & training opportunities to support Peer work.



PEER EDUCATION & TRAINING

Within Interior Health Substance Use Services, a “Peer” is as a person who has lived experience of substance use (past or present) and has a role that (a) draws on, and is directly related to, lived experience, and (b) happens in a health-promoting and/or harm-reducing context.

Although we use the term Peer here, it is not always preferred. Terminology is constantly evolving.

Always ask people what term works best for them. PWLLE = people with lived or living experience or PWUS = people who use substances.

These links are best viewed using Google Chrome.

Topic	Training Resource	Description
Social-Emotional Peer Support/ Peer Support Worker	"Where we are at": Provincial Peer Support Worker Training Curriculum	Provincially approved curriculum made up of 16 free online modules that focus on the peer support worker role.
Social-Emotional Peer Support	Peer Mentor Training	Facilitation and participant training guides written for PWLLE of HIV and/or Hepatitis C, but applicable for PWLLE of substance use. Modules include understanding Peer Support, basics of Peer mentoring, communication skills, boundaries, crisis situations, facilitation skills, etc.
BC Peer Worker Training	BCCDC Peer Worker Leadership Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognizing Mental Health Disorders • Effective Communication • Peer-to-Peer Counselling Skills • Conflict Resolution • Organizational Etiquette
Specialized areas of Peer Support Work	Various Peer-designed training tools for specialized Peer work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer health advocate training program (PWLLE with sex work) • Parent to parent peer support – the history & growth of parent peer support fro child & youth • A brief history of prohibition in BC • Mental Health peer support group leadership • Acute care/emergency department peer support training • Re-energizing wellness: a resource for peer-led wellness programs in Indigenous communities • Education for forming and sustaining associations of people who use drugs
Foundations of peer support work for employers, supervisors and colleagues of Peers.	Employers Guide to Supporting & Engaging Peer Workers	Online module focused on peer support worker roles and needs, scope of work, value, challenges and ways to empower
Education for street-involved individuals	ANKORS: Street College	Modules include navigating health care, party safe, overdose prevention, safer injection & inhalation, first aid, stigma, living outside, drug checking, etc.
Education to empower peers working in Vancouver’s DTES	VAN CCAPO: Street Degree	Curriculum to support Peers working in overdose prevention, safe supply, housing, food security and outreach. 24 courses.



Substance Use Services | Mental Health & Substance Use Network

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Topic	Training Resource	Description
Harm Reduction	Interior Health: Harm Reduction 101	<i>Self-led, self-paced, online learning for understanding Harm Reduction principles and practice. Includes considerations for special populations, trauma-informed practice, cultural safety, harm reduction supplies and overdose prevention.</i>
Harm Reduction Trauma-informed Practice Concurrent Disorders Substance Use	UPHNS Hub Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harm Reduction 101 • Trauma-informed Practice • Concurrent Disorders • Substance Use 101 	<i>Access/download the free presentation slides and/or register for Online training sessions. Intended to build capacity for delivering harm reduction services. Includes expertise of PWLLE of substance use.</i>
Substance Use Harm Reduction Substance Use Care for 2SLGBTQ+ People	UBC CPD: Addiction Care and Treatment Online Course	<i>Please note: this training has a medical/clinical focus as it is intended for healthcare professionals. Modules that may support some Peer roles include: 1 overview, 2 screening & care planning, 14 harm reduction, 16 psychosocial treatments & recovery and 17 substance use care for 2SLGBTQ+ people.</i>
Substance Use	Interior Health: Substance Use Foundations	<i>Self-led, self-paced, online learning modules include substance use treatment theories, overview of psychoactive drugs, neurobiology, etc. Follow the PHSA Learning Hub User Guide to access modules.</i>
Naloxone	BCCDC: Online Naloxone Training	<i>Learn how to respond when someone is overdosing. Also see Video Naloxone saves lives features Peers and describes take-home naloxone program and how to use naloxone.</i>
Overdose Response	Toward the Heart: Peer Engagement	<i>Videos made by the Peer2Peer project include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harm Reduction and Overdose Response during COVID-19 • How to respond to an overdose during COVID-19 • How to place someone in recovery position • How to use and dispose of PPE
Stigma	Compassionate Engagement Modules	<i>Facilitator Guide with scenarios highlighting contexts where PWUD experience stigma. Includes videos, discussion prompts and reflection questions. Intended to bring together PWUS and services providers to encourage mutual respect .</i>