



**National Safer Supply Community of Practice**  
La communauté de pratique nationale sur  
**l'approvisionnement plus sécuritaire**

**Opening Doors to Care for People Who Use Drugs:**  
**Atlantic Safer Supply Regional Meeting**  
**Monday, June 27th, 2022**

The National Safer Supply Community of Practice welcomes you to *Opening Doors to Care for People Who Use Drugs*. Today's meeting is part of our effort to expand access to quality care for people who use drugs, including client-centred OAT and safer supply programs in the Atlantic Region. Today's event is being hosted by the NSS-CoP in collaboration with the Substance User Network of the Atlantic Region (SUNAR) and Direction 180. We will explore how to develop a "made for Atlantic Canada approach" to providing a continuum of care that meets the diverse needs of people in our communities through plenary and small-group sessions. Additionally, there will be opportunities for informal discussions and networking.

**Who we are:**

The National Safer Supply Community of Practice (NSS-CoP) is a knowledge exchange initiative led by London InterCommunity Health Centre, in partnership with the Canadian Association of People who Use Drugs and the Alliance for Healthier Communities. The goal of the NSS-CoP is to scale up safer supply programs across Canada.

**Who is here:**

Reflecting the breadth of our Community of Practice, we have a highly interdisciplinary group of speakers, moderators, facilitators, volunteers, and participants here today. We hope you enjoy this opportunity to interact with people with many different experiences of safer supply.

**What's on the schedule:**

8:30 - 10:00AM	Registration and Breakfast
9:15 - 9:30AM	<b>Opening with Elder Deb</b> - Elder Debbie Eisan, Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre
9:30 - 9:45AM	<b>Welcome Note</b> <b>Featuring:</b> - Rebecca Penn, Project Manager, National Safer Supply Community of Practice



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Paula Martin, Program Manager, Direction 180</li></ul>
9:45 - 10:45AM	<p><b>Roundtable Panel Discussion: Opening Doors to Care for People Who Use Drugs</b></p> <p><b>Featuring:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Katie Upham, Harm Reduction Educator, SUNAR</li><li>- Giulia di Giorgio, Founder of Cape Breton Association of People Empowering Drug Users (CAPED), Undoing the Harm Project Director, Project Manager of MySafe Cape Breton</li><li>- Emily Wadden, Program Manager, Safe Works Access Program (SWAP), AIDS Committee of Newfoundland and Labrador</li><li>- Carl Lyons, iOAT Participant, River Stone Recovery Centre</li></ul> <p><b>Moderator:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Emily Bodechon, Atlantic Director, Moms Stop the Harm (MSTH)</li></ul>
10:45 - 11:15AM	Break
11:15AM - 12:15PM	<p><b>Presentation and Q&amp;A Session: Evidence on Safer Supply</b></p> <p><b>Featuring:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Dr. Andrea Sereda, Safer Supply Prescriber, London InterCommunity Health Centre</li><li>- Dr. Gillian Kolla, Research Fellow, Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research, University of Victoria</li><li>- Dr. Sara Davidson, Medical Director, River Stone Recovery Centre</li><li>- Dr. Tommy Brothers, Resident Physician, Department of Medicine, Dalhousie University</li><li>- Dr. Michael Gniewek, Physician, Direction 180, Mobile Outreach Street Health (MOSH)</li><li>- Dr. Leah Genge, Physician, Mobile Outreach Street Health (MOSH)</li></ul> <p><b>Moderator:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Matthew Bonn, Program Manager, Canadian Association of People Who Use Drugs (CAPUD)</li></ul>
12:15PM - 1:30PM	Lunch



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1:30 - 2:30PM	<b>Facilitated Group Discussions</b>  Facilitated group discussions focusing on three key themes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Rural and Remote:</b> How can we facilitate and strengthen access to care and reduce barriers for PWUD in rural and remote areas?</li><li>2. <b>Barriers and Facilitators:</b> In Atlantic Canada, what facilitates or prevents safer supply and OAT prescribing for clinicians? What facilitates or prevents safer supply and OAT care for PWUD?</li><li>3. <b>Peer-Led Models:</b> What could mitigate some of the barriers to non-medicalized and peer-led models of safer supply?</li></ol>
2:30 - 3:00PM	Break
3:00 - 4:00PM	<b>Reporting Back &amp; Next Steps</b> <b>Featuring:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Natasha Touesnard, Executive Director, Canadian Association of People Who Use Drugs</li><li>- National Safer Supply Community of Practice Team</li></ul>

**Accessibility and Safety:**

We want this regional meeting to be accessible to all and as safe as possible. Please reach out to our conference team for information on harm reduction and other supports available. If you have questions about the facility, or if there is something we could do to make your attendance at this event more comfortable, safe, or productive, please let one of our team members know.

COVID-19 safety policy: We aim to make this experience as safe for everyone as possible. We ask that attendees wear masks except when eating or presenting.



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**Feedback:**

We welcome your feedback. Please fill out our survey linked here:

<https://forms.gle/ydSMfTr2a8gbHR6H9>

**Certificate of attendance:**

Anyone can receive a certificate of attendance for participating in the regional meeting. Please fill out your name and email linked here and you will receive an automatic certificate in your email. <https://forms.gle/FNRyGQR9FmK1fAKb6>

**Photo and video release statement:**

I recognize that parts of this event will be recorded on video and that photos will be taken throughout the day. While photos and videos will focus on presenters and will avoid including other participants' faces where possible, I acknowledge that I may appear in photos or videos.

I understand that if I am uncomfortable appearing in photos or on video, I can ask for a visible indicator on my nametag that will remind photographers and videographers to leave me out. I recognize that I may need to choose my seating carefully to avoid inclusion in photos and videos.

**Our thanks to:**

- Our organizing committee members: Caroline Ploem, Katie Upham, Paula Martin, Giulia di Giorgio, Emily Wadden, Anna Moulton, Laura Miller, Emily Bodechon, Michael Gniewek, Debby Brown-Warren, Tommy Brothers, Sharon MacKenzie, Sara Davidson, Duncan Webster, Angele DesRoches, Christine Porter, Tiffany O'Donnell, Leah Genge, Julie Dingwell
- Substance User Network of the Atlantic Region (SUNAR) and Direction 180 for their incredible collaboration and partnership throughout the planning of this event
- Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre for allowing us to host this event in their beautiful space



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- Elder Deb for opening the space and starting our day in a good way
- CAPUD, LIHC, and the Alliance for their organizational and logistical support
- Atlantic Livestream Media for audio-visual and technical support
- Rudy's Catering for catering the food, snacks, and drinks throughout the day
- Health Canada's Substance Use and Addictions Program
- Community Safety SHARPS Team:
  - Krista Miller
  - Tanya Lake
  - Cyril Hatfield
  - Todd George

***This conference was made possible through a financial contribution from Health Canada.  
The views expressed today do not necessarily represent the views of Health Canada.***