



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

August 31, 2024 – [International Overdose Awareness Day](#). An international day of collective mourning, remembrance, and action.

Today, and every day, we mourn thousands. Between 2016 and 2023, [44,592 people](#) have died from the unregulated drug supply, from criminalization and stigmatization. Today, and every day, we struggle with the knowledge that deaths and harms will continue - and likely increase. As politicians roll back support for critical, evidence-based harm reduction measures, we can only expect more deaths, more acquired brain injuries, more infections, more cases of HIV and Hepatitis C, and more trauma. Every death, every harm, is a policy failure.

Today, and every day, we stand in solidarity with those who make possible life-saving services like safer supply, safe consumption services, and sterile equipment distribution. We stand with those committed to expanding options on the continuum of substance use health care, to making sure that the autonomy, dignity, rights, and goals of individuals who use drugs are respected. This continuum must include a range of harm reduction services - including supervised consumption and safer supply - and traditional addictions medicine treatments.

Today, and every day, we encourage each other to engage in community care and to participate however we can to make this world a better place. There is a role for all of us. In that spirit, we offer the following examples of actions to honour the lives lost, the hope that we hold, and the work that we do:

- Sign these petitions calling for Supervised Consumption Services to remain open in Ontario: [Press Toronto](#) and [RNAO](#)
- Counter misinformation by getting the facts! Read the [evidence about safer supply](#). Listen to a [Crackdown podcast episode](#). Watch a video about [Indigenous Harm Reduction](#)
- [Donate](#) to support DULF's legal defense
- Visit Moms Stop the Harm to learn about the [Healing Hearts](#) and [Holding Hope](#) Groups
- Gather with people at an [IOAD event](#) in your community
- Join the 1700+ members of the [National Safer Supply Community of Practice](#)

Together, we can make a difference. Together, we can save lives. Together we can #endoverdose.

#TOGETHERWECAN

