

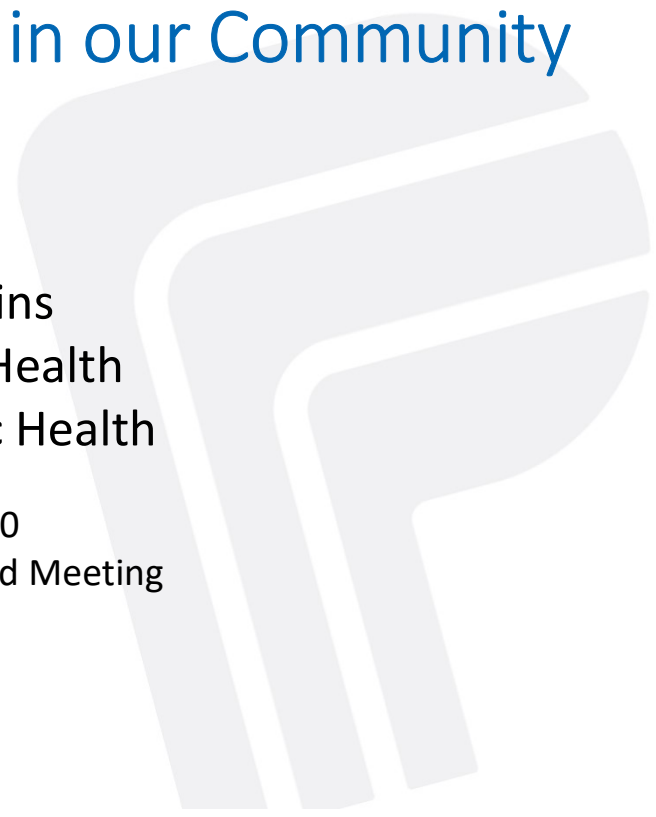


Peel Opioid Strategy

Responding to Opioid-Use in our Community

Dr. Jessica Hopkins
Medical Officer of Health
Region of Peel-Public Health

January 24, 2020
Peel Police Services Board Meeting

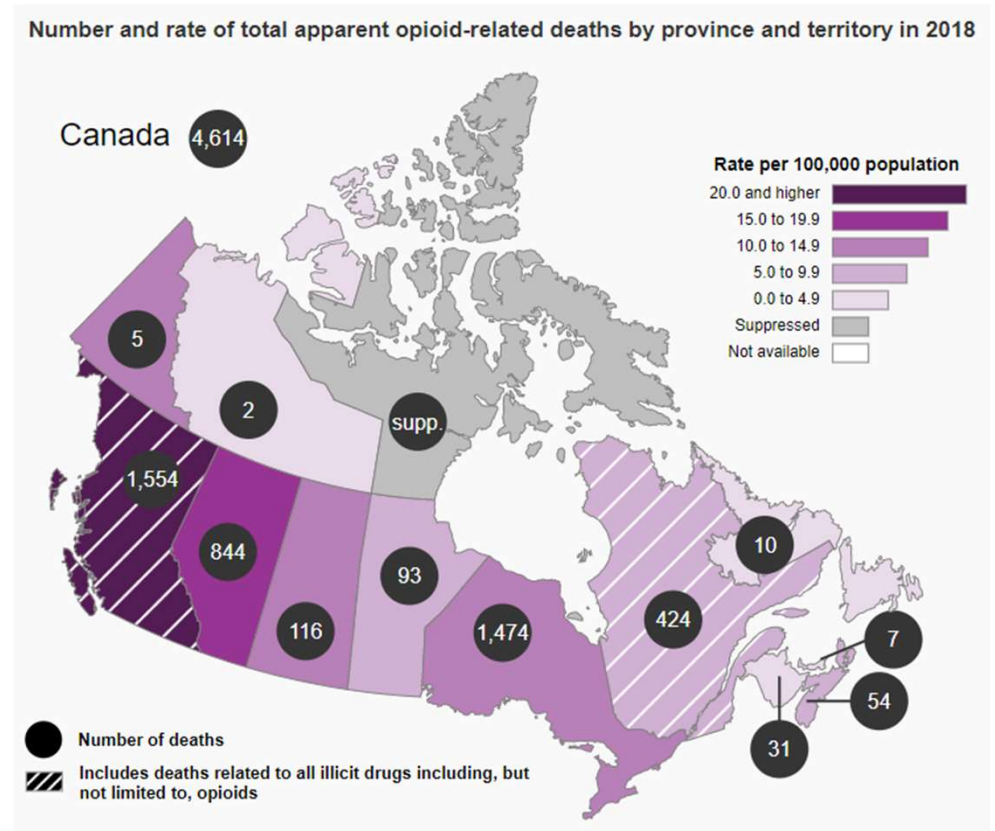


Outline

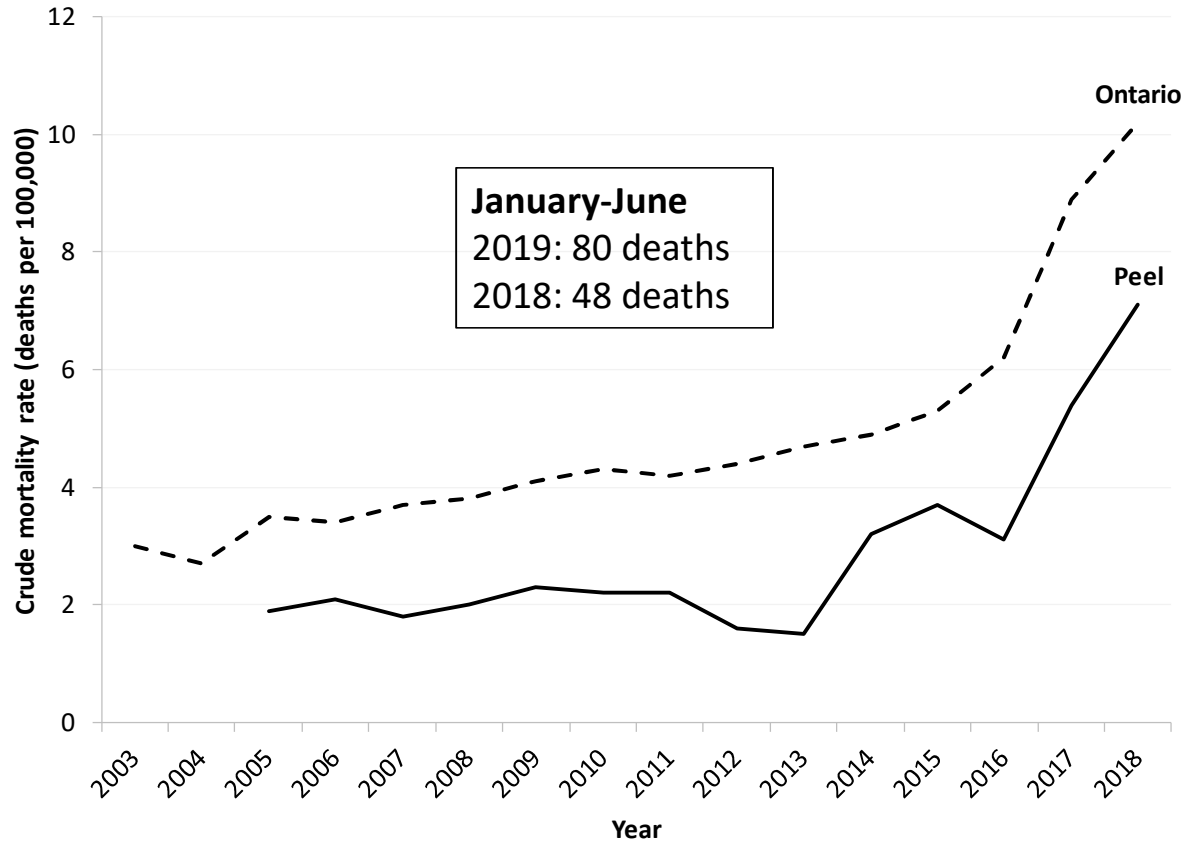
- Need for Action: Opioid-Related Harms
- Peel Opioid Strategy: A Local Response
- Peel Supervised Consumption Site Study Findings
- Next Steps

Opioid-related deaths

- 13,900 opioid related deaths in Canada from Jan. 2016 to Jun. 2019.
- In 2019, life expectancy in Canada stopped increasing for the first time in 40 years due to the opioid crisis.
- 94% of opioid-related deaths were unintentional.
- In Peel, there were 316 opioid related deaths from Jan. 2016 to Jun. 2019.



Opioid-related overdose deaths, Peel and Ontario, 2003-2019

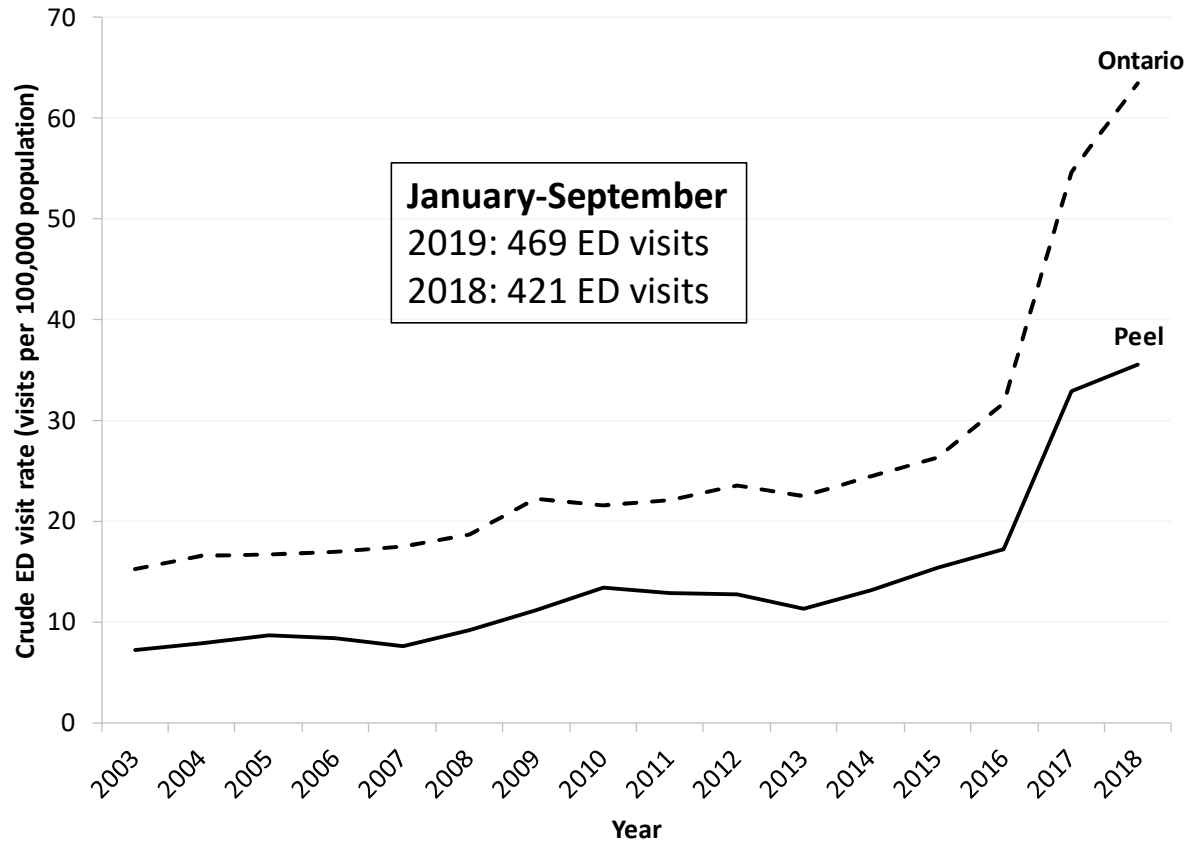


Note: Data for 2019 should be considered preliminary and is subject to change.

Source: Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Interactive Opioid Tool. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2018.

Available from: <http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/DataAndAnalytics/Pages/Opioid.aspx>

Opioid-related overdose emergency department visits, Peel and Ontario, 2003-2019

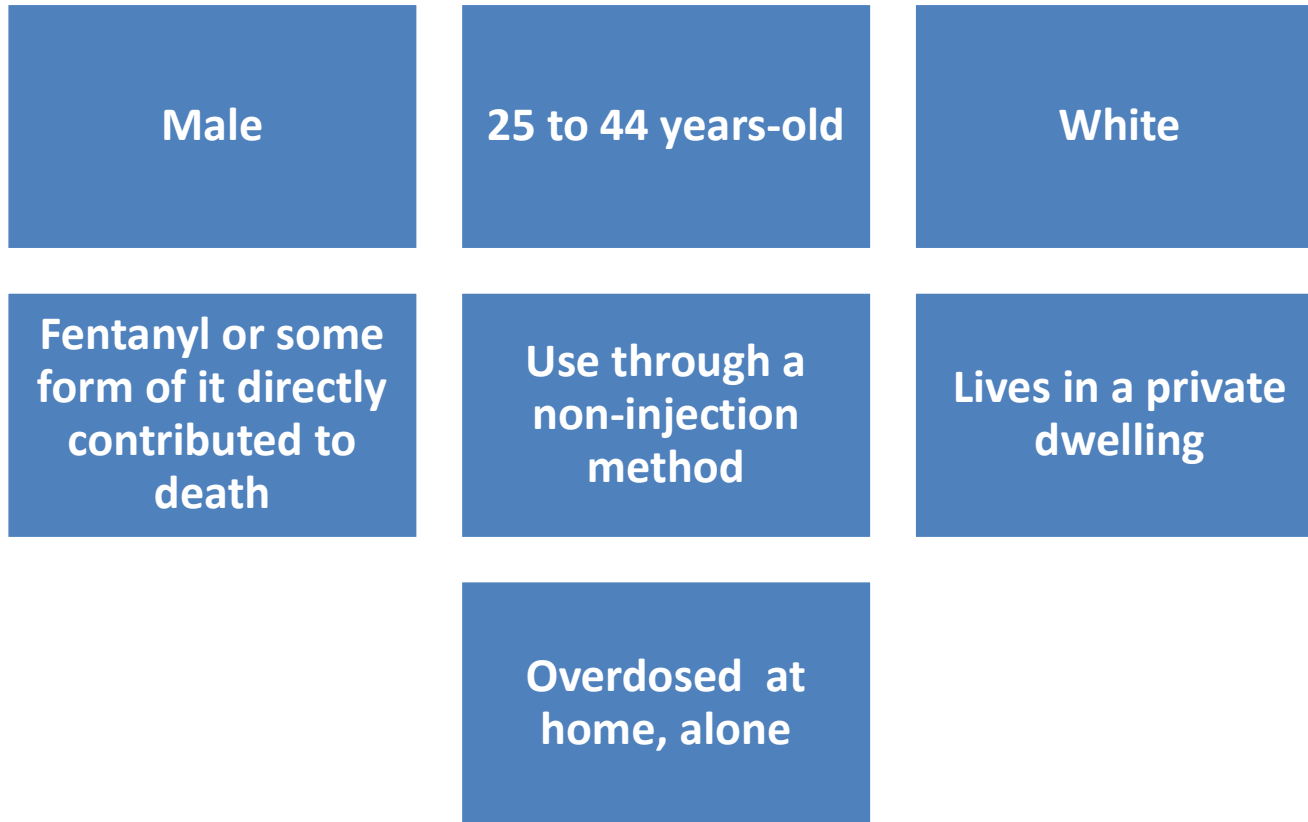


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Deaths from accidental opioid-related overdoses in Peel, 2017-2019



Peel Opioid Strategy: A Local Response

Opioid strategy for Peel: Preventing and reducing harms related to opioid use
In alignment with Federal, Provincial and related Regional strategies

Prevention
(Public Health)

Harm Reduction
(Public Health)

Treatment
(Healthcare Sector)

**Enforcement
and Justice**
(Law Enforcement
& Justice System)

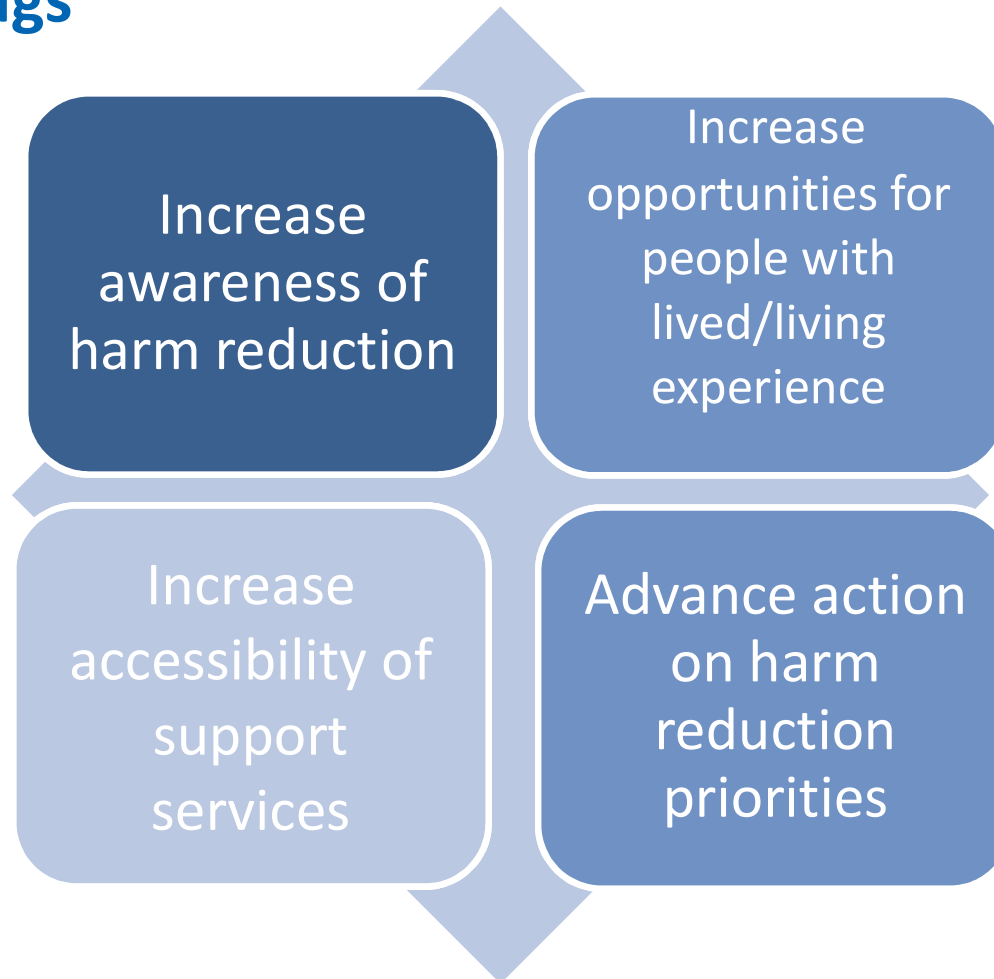
Supported by:

Surveillance and health status data

Urgent response planning and coordination

Policy and advocacy

Harm reduction – reducing negative consequences for people who use drugs





Peel Works Needle Exchange Program

Mobile vans and fixed sites providing various services such as:

- Naloxone kits and overdose prevention and response training
- New needles and drug use equipment
- Containers for safe disposal of used needles and equipment
- Safer drug use information
- Referral to community agencies for support and treatment



PEEL WORKS **NEP** > NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM



Peel Supervised Consumption Site Study Findings

What are Supervised Consumption Services (SCS)?



- Health facilities that help prevent overdose deaths
- Individuals bring pre-obtained drugs or substances
- Ability to use under hygienic conditions
- Supervision from trained personnel
- Provide linkages to health and social services

Evidence for Supervised Consumption Services

- SCS are life-saving interventions that:
 - Decrease the number of opioid-related deaths
 - Decrease the transmission of infectious diseases like HIV and Hepatitis C
 - Increase uptake of treatment for addiction
- SCS have also been shown to:
 - Decrease public drug use and drug litter
 - Be cost-effective by decreasing rates of infection, reducing the number of paramedic calls, ED visits and hospitalizations.
- SCS have not been shown to increase crime
- SCS do not increase drug loitering or lead to initiation of drug use

Findings

There is a Need for Supervised Consumption Services in Peel.

Opioid related harms and **deaths have increased markedly since 2013.**

109 people died in Peel in 2018 due to overdose



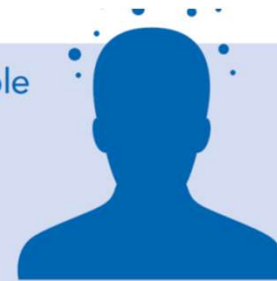
Findings from the Survey of people who use drugs showed:

97% of respondents reported **using alone**

64% of respondents had **overdosed** in their lifetime

85% of respondents reported **using drugs in public** at least once in the last 6 months

68% of people who died from opioid overdose in Peel in 2018 were **alone at the time of death**



Findings



Establishing a location(s) for SCS should be driven by local data and need, along with community consultation

Community consultation to increase acceptability should occur.

The **most common concerns** reported by respondents to the general community survey around having supervised consumption services in Peel were:

More people who use drugs in the area

52%

More drug trafficking in the area

47%

Decreased property values

46%

Impact on the neighbourhood

45%

Personal safety concerns

42%

The **most commonly reported benefits** of supervised consumption services by general community survey respondents were:

- Reduced risk of injury and/or death from overdose (**52%**);
- Connecting users and their families to health and social services (**49%**);
- Reducing the risk of HIV and Hepatitis C transmission (**48%**);
- Less public drug use (**45%**); and
- Less used needles in public (**43%**).



Next steps:

- **Build on** existing Peel Opioid Strategy work to advance additional **cross-sector interventions** to help address the opioid crisis.
 - Convene a **planning and implementation group** to facilitate community consultations and stakeholder discussions regarding next steps related to the operation of supervised consumption services in Peel.
- Obtain **commitment** from key stakeholders for a **broader drug strategy**.
- Continue **advocacy** to support **coordinated efforts** at **all levels of government** to address the opioid crisis.