



A SUPERVISED CONSUMPTION SITE FOR BARRIE

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
Gilbert Centre
Canadian Mental Health Association Simcoe County

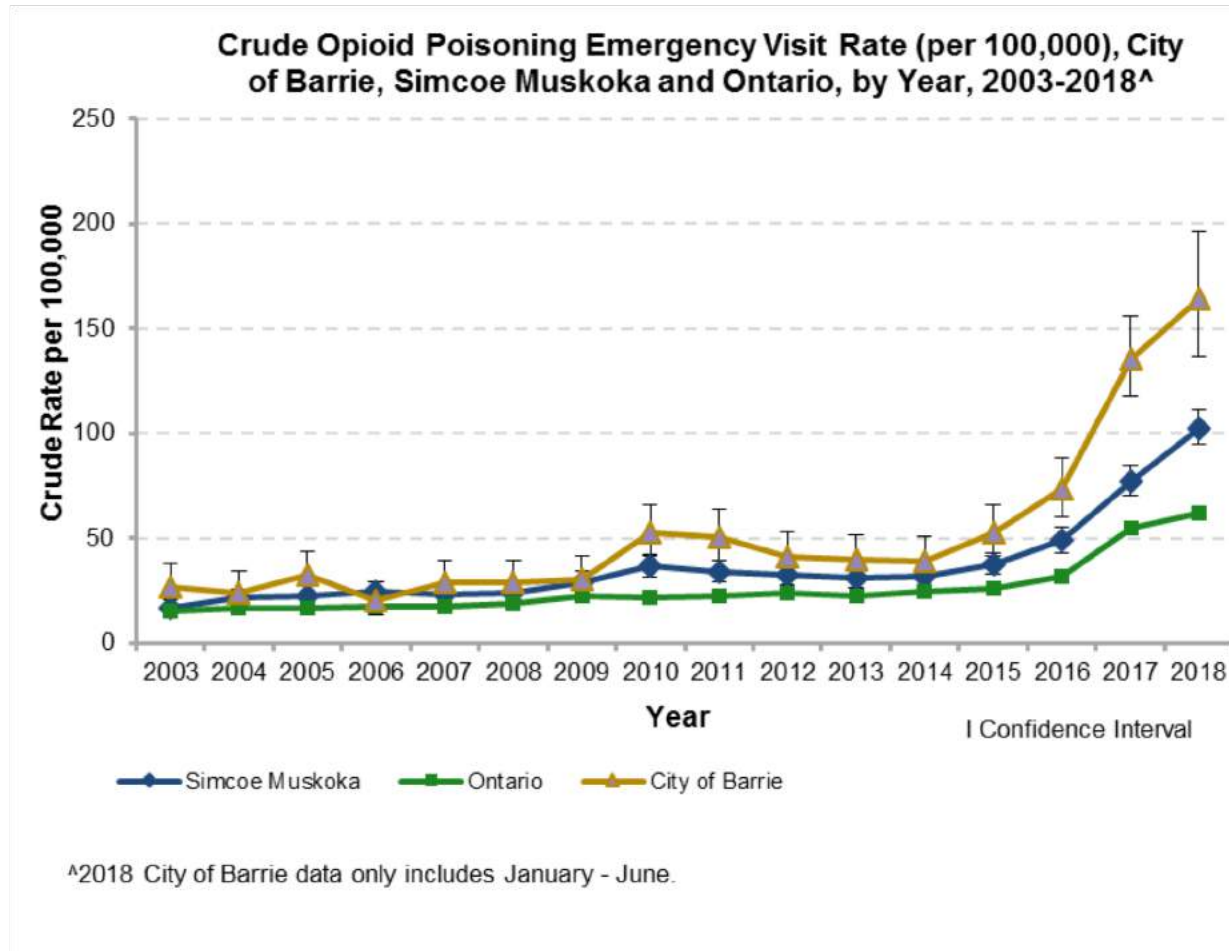
Downtown Barrie BIA Board Meeting
February 26, 2019

BACKGROUND

Opioids - a public health crisis in Barrie



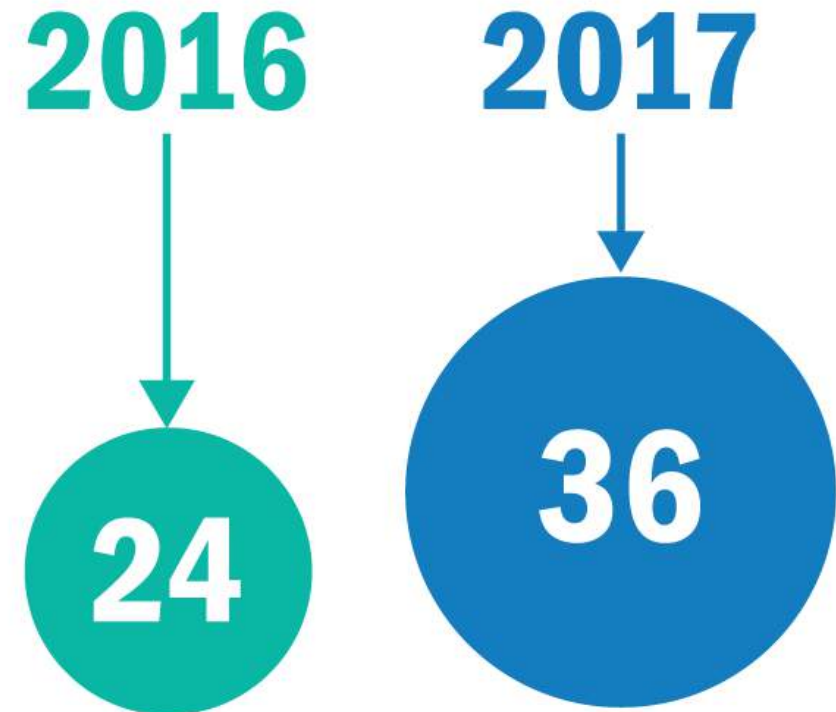
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS



DEATHS DUE TO OPIOIDS – BARRIE



- 50% increase



DEMOGRAPHICS MOST IMPACTED



- Males
- Age 25-44
- Low income, and those experiencing homelessness in particular

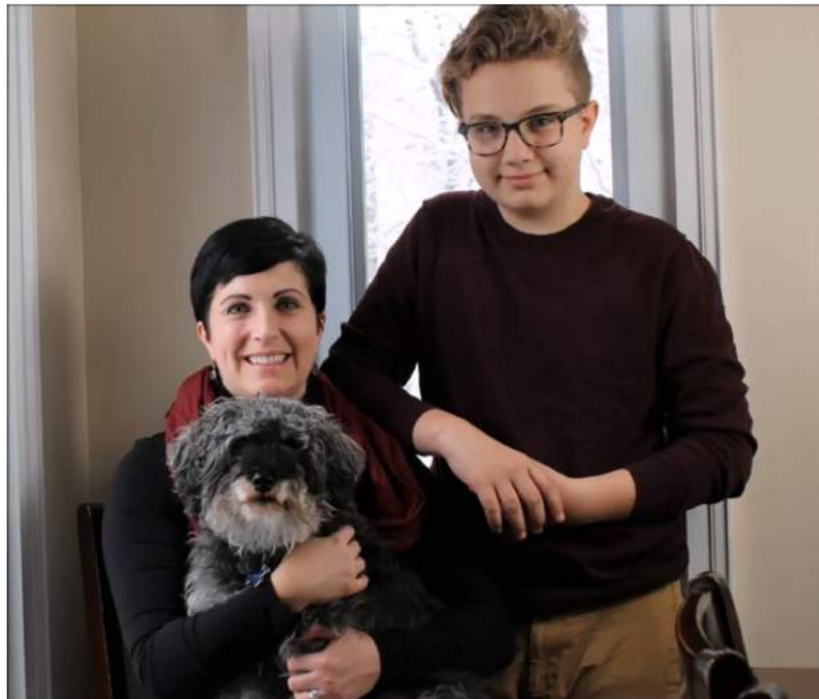
SMOS LIVED EXPERIENCE SURVEY (2018)



Key problems most commonly identified by respondents as leading to opioid misuse, addiction, and overdose in the community (n=89):

- mental health/illness (67.4%)
- past and/or current trauma (67.4%)
- easy access to opioids (62.9%)
- medical prescribing of opioids (59.6%)
- knowing other people who do drugs (53.9%)
- lack of treatment for addictions (52.8%) and pain (aside from opioids; 52.8%)

PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS ARE REAL PEOPLE



Lived Experience Video Series

*I Was Filled
With Stigma*



LIVED EXPERIENCE VIDEO SERIES

SHE WAS SPECIAL

<http://www.smdhu.org/realpeople>

A CRISIS ACROSS CANADA



- In 2016, accidental poisoning became the leading external cause of death for adults 25-44 years
 - Exceeding intentional self-harm and transport accidents

(Statistics Canada, <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/180628/dq180628b-eng.htm>)

- For the first time in recent decades, life expectancy in British Columbia is decreasing, due to opioid-related deaths
 - National life expectancy of Canadians is also expected to decrease

(The Chief Public Health Officer's Report on the State of Public Health in Canada 2018)

COORDINATED LOCAL RESPONSE



Action Pillars



Foundational Pillars



HARM REDUCTION



Focuses on the prevention of harm in people who continue to use drugs, rather than on the prevention of drug use itself.

SUPERVISED CONSUMPTION SITES: Key Facts



Parkdale Queen West CHC Supervised
Consumption Services- Injection Booths

1. SCS DECREASE DEATHS & HOSPITAL VISITS



Ontario experience:

- Substantial number of overdoses reversed across Ontario
- Declines in calls to Paramedic Services? – study ongoing

2. SCS REDUCE UNSAFE INJECTION PRACTICES



Supply station at London, Ontario's SCS

Ontario experience:

London: new cases of HIV decreased 52% (2016 to 2018), using HIV outreach, an OPS and other harm reduction for safer injection practices, and other initiatives

3. SCS INCREASE ACCESS TO TREATMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES



"I have never felt like I can talk with health professionals so openly about my drug use. I am able to talk about other issues in my life. E.g. the other day they helped me by connecting me with mental health support. All around they've been very helpful."

Client from Ottawa Public Health Supervised Consumption Site

Ontario experience:

- Ottawa PH SCS: 3% of clients referred to addiction treatment
- London OPS: 12% of clients referred to addiction treatment
- Ottawa Inner City Health SIS: ~30 of 240 clients *start* treatment per month (12.5%)

4. SCS DECREASE DRUG INJECTION IN PUBLIC



Ontario experience:

- Ottawa PH SCS: 87% of clients surveyed reported they are injecting in public less often

5. SCS DECREASE NEEDLES DISCARDED IN PUBLIC



Ontario experience:

- Ottawa PH SCS: slight decrease in discarded needles found by Needle Hunters program, and increase in needles recovered through drop boxes

6. SCS DO NOT...

A

Cause people to begin substance use
or lead to riskier substance use

B

Discourage people who use drugs
from seeking addiction treatment

C

Lead to an increase in thefts, drug
dealing, or drug-related crimes

7. SCS ARE COST-EFFECTIVE



- Based on prevention of overdose deaths and new cases of HIV and Hepatitis C

BARRIE SCS APPLICATION PROCESS



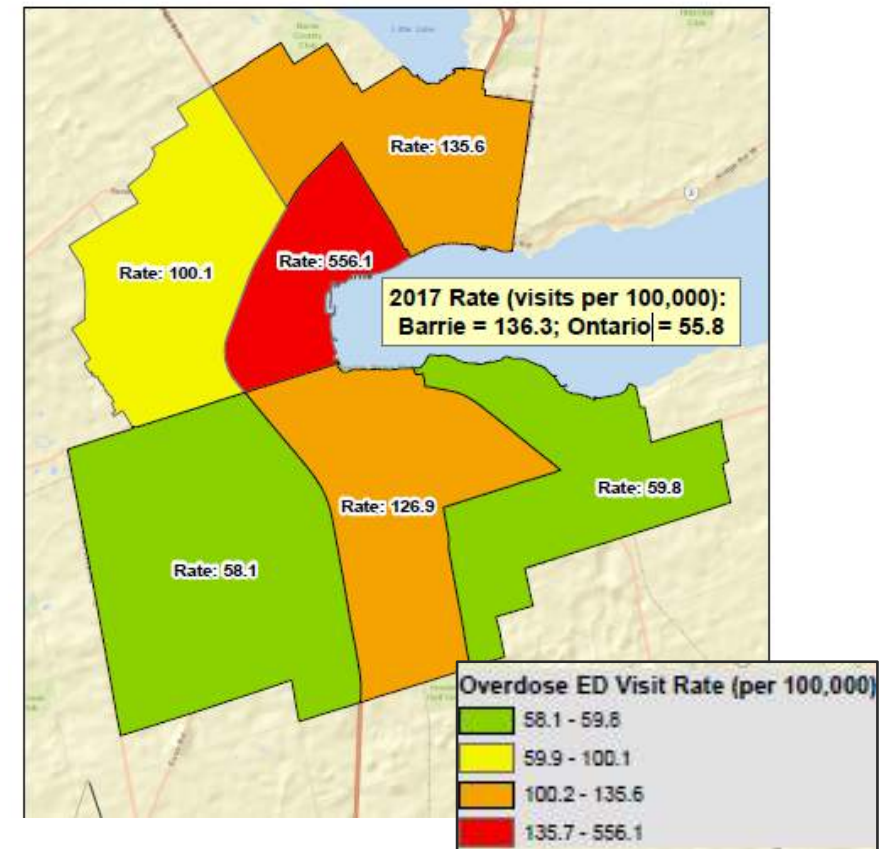
- Led by SMDHU, Gilbert Centre, & CMHA Simcoe County, on behalf of Harm Reduction Pillar of SMOS
- Jan – Mar 2019: Consultations
 - People with lived experience of drug use, community stakeholders, and general public
- April - June 2019: Report and Application
 - Consultation report, finalize service delivery model and site selection, and seek endorsement of application by City of Barrie council
 - Will include plan for addressing community concerns

SITE CONSIDERATIONS

Physical site criteria:

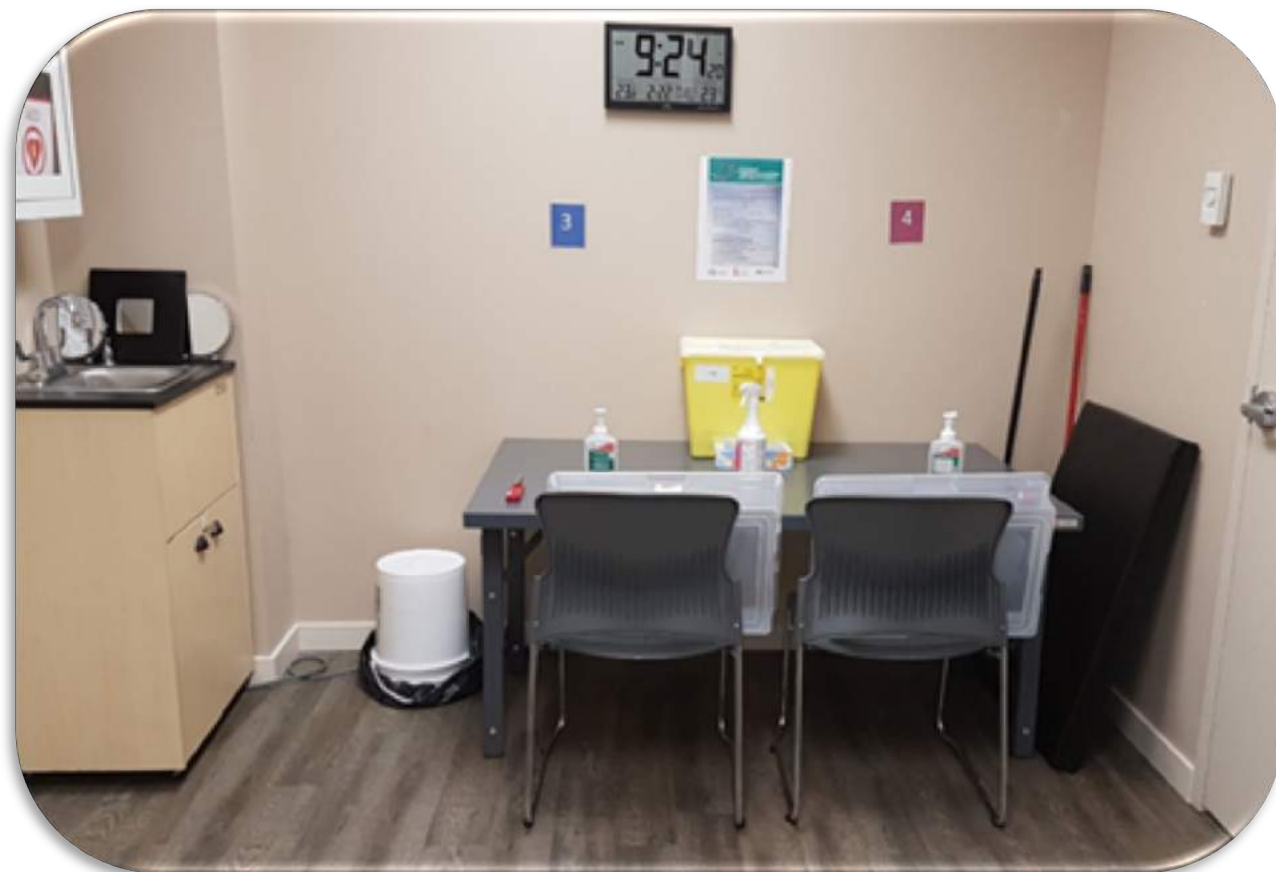
- Adequate space for SCS services and meets ministry design standards
- Meets municipal bylaws and provincial regulations for accessibility
- Meets physical safety and security measures for client, staff and community safety
- Inviting physical space

Opioid Overdose Emergency Department Visits
Barrie Aggregated Census Tracts, 2017



COMMUNITY EXAMPLE: London, Ontario

Improving the Health of Clients



London Ontario Overdose Prevention Site

From mid-Feb to mid-Dec 2018:

- Nearly 11,000 visits by ~2,000 unique clients
- 65 overdose reversals
- 237 referrals to addiction treatment
- 159 referrals to medical supports

Wrap-around services:

- Addiction counselling and referral, HIV testing, healthcare system navigation, Indigenous counselling, and housing supports.

COMMUNITY EXAMPLE: London, Ontario

Seeking a positive impact on neighbourhood safety and business environment



Key facility and service design elements include:

- Waiting room and aftercare room to help avoid loitering
- Security staff and cameras
- Strong client code of conduct

London Ontario Overdose Prevention Site, waiting room

DOWNTOWN BARRIE BIA: Opportunities to collaborate?



Community Building as a Goal of BIAs

Source: OBIAA's Return on Investment of BIAs Report, 2017

- Consultations
 - Overall, and site-specific
- Long-term engagement
 - Participation in ongoing community engagement mechanisms, to keep SCS working for the whole community
- Responding to needs
 - SCS as a community resource