

Mission Community Opioid Dialogue

Question 1:

Survey finding: 93% of respondents indicated that people who use opioids are more likely to be earning an income of less than \$39,999 per year, followed by \$40,000-\$79,999 (66%), \$80,000-\$119,000 (52%), and more than \$120,000 (45%).

Question: What views do people hold about those who are more likely to use opioids?

(Discussion points: income, employment, perception, public safety, biases, males vs females)

Question 2:

Survey finding: 80% of people indicated that it was likely to very likely that a person using opioids did so to get high and/or was experiencing a mental illness such as anxiety or stress.

Question: What are the reasons as to why people use opioids?

(Discussion points: pain, get high, mental illness, normal ups and downs of life)

Question 3:

Survey finding: 70% of people support needle distribution programs, while 13% oppose and 17% are undecided.

Question: What is your opinion on needle distribution programs?

Needle Distribution: a form of syringe distribution where individuals are given new sterile needles whenever they need them, regardless of whether or not used needles are returned at the same time.

(Discussion points: public safety, safety for users, disease transmission, bandaid/temporary solution, cost-benefit i.e. medical care, impact on community)

Question 4:

Survey finding: 65% of people support safe consumption sites, while 10% oppose and 25% are undecided.

Question: What is your opinion on safe consumption sites?

Safe Consumption Sites: provide a safe, clean place to consume illegal substances, emergency medical care in case of overdose, drug checking to detect adulterants, access to sterile drug use equipment and a place to safely dispose of it after use. In addition, they offer education and referrals or information on health and social services, including drug treatment. They do not provide drugs or substances or assist with consumption.

(Discussion points: prevent overdose deaths, facilitate entry into drug treatment services, connect people who use drugs with basic health and social services, reduce impact on Emergency Medical Services attending to drug overdoses, reduce the risk of disease transmission)

Question 5:

Survey finding: Access to services, where to find services, and support of current initiatives (i.e. education, naloxone kits, low-barrier housing, counselling services, etc) were core themes.

Question: What could Mission be doing more of in response to opioid use?

(Discussion points: education, naloxone kits, low-barrier housing, counselling services)

Event details:

- Thursday 31st January, 2019
- Mission Leisure Centre
- 10 tables of 10 with 2 x facilitators at each (1 peer partnered with 1 service provider)
- 5 questions total doubled up at 2 tables (these will be colour coded and guests can choose 2 questions to discuss on the night)
- A live graphic illustration will take place, incorporating the main themes that arise from the night
- There will be 3 x resource tables with information
- Light refreshments will be provided

Event schedule:

6:30 pm	Doors Open
7:00 pm	Introduction
7:20 - 7:45 pm	Dialogue Period #1
7:45 - 8:05	Report Back #1 (led by "A" tables) - Graphic Recording
8:05 - 8:30	Dialogue Period #2
8:30 - 8:50	Report Back #2 (led by "B" tables) - Graphic Recording
8:50 - 9:00	Closing Statements