



Eastern Office:
113 - 154 Willowdale Drive
Dartmouth, NS
B2V 2W4

Head Office:
P.O. Box 2978
Fort Qu'Appelle, SK
S0G 1S0

Call for participation in a study on harm reduction services during the COVID-19 pandemic

Communities, Alliances & Networks (CAAN) has partnered with the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation, with the support of a CIHR grant, to explore how harm reduction programs and services have adapted over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are particularly interested in how the pandemic has impacted harm reduction programs, what adaptations were created in response, and what resources would be helpful in addressing the gaps in services because of the pandemic. We are conducting this real-time assessment to identify culturally responsive wise practices that community organizations can use to mitigate the health and social consequences of COVID-19 on Inuit, First Nation, and Métis peoples.

To do this, we are organizing regional sharing circles for harm reduction service providers, or Indigenous people who use them, to discuss harm reduction during the dual epidemics of COVID-19 and deaths due to the toxic drug supply.

Our conversation will be one hour, to an hour-and-a-half in length, during which we will discuss the changes to programs, how these changes have impacted you or those you serve, as well as visions for harm reduction programming during COVID-19 and beyond. The sharing circles will be held virtually over a videoconferencing platform with an anticipated group of 4-8 individuals. We will provide \$30 honoraria for those who want to participate to honour their time and expertise. We will distribute the informed consent form one week prior to the sharing circle, so people have time to review, ask questions, and decide on their level of participation. Please see the regional sharing circle dates and times:

Pacific: Monday May 9th - 1 pm PDT

Atlantic: Wednesday May 11th - 1pm ADT

Prairies: Tuesday May 24th - 1 pm CDT

Central: Thursday May 26th - 1pm EDT

Quebec (with French interpretation): Monday May 30th - 1pm EDT

If you work in harm reduction or are an Indigenous person who uses harm reduction services, we would love to hear from you. Please find the poster with details attached- we would appreciate you sharing with your colleagues and networks. To register for a sharing circle, or to ask for further information, please contact **Caterina** at caterinak@caan.ca or **Savannah** at sswann@drpeter.org.

Many thanks for your consideration!

