

WHY DO WE NEED AN OPS?

Based on the data from EMS paramedics, the Regent Park and Moss Park areas have been identified as "hot spots" for overdose.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE OPS?

International and Canadian research shows benefits for people using the services and for the community, including:

- Reducing the number of drug overdoses
- Reducing the risk factors leading to infectious disease such as HIV and hepatitis
- Increasing the use of detox and drug treatment services
- Reducing the amount of publicly discarded needles and;
- Reducing cost of health care

OPS HOURS:

MONDAY

9:30 AM to 6:30 PM

TUESDAY

12 PM to 6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY

9:30 AM to 6:30 PM

THURSDAY

9:30 AM to 6:30 PM

*Only women identified and trans people may access the OPS on Thursdays

FRIDAY

9:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Regent Park Community Health Centre (RPCHC)
465 Dundas St. E,
Toronto, M5A 2B2
Tel: 416 203 4506



OVERDOSE PREVENTION SITE

Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS AN OPS?

- An OPS provides a clean, protected environment where people can use substances under the supervision of trained staff.
- Sites are approved by the Ontario Ministry of Health and follow the principles of harm reduction: to reduce the risk of disease and death for people who use substances.
- Other temporary sites are starting to open across Ontario and Toronto itself.

WHY ARE OPS SO IMPORTANT NOW?

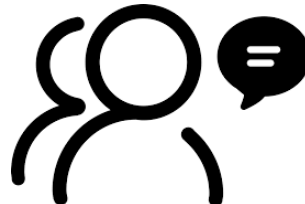
- The opioid crisis is prevalent across Ontario, but especially in Toronto.
- In 2017 there has been a:
 - 52% increase in opioid deaths in Ontario
 - Almost 100% increase in opioid deaths in Toronto
 - 72% increase in emergency room visits in Ontario due to suspected overdoses

HOW DOES AN OPS HELP?

- It saves lives by responding to overdoses.
- It provides an alternative to using substances on the streets, in lane ways and in local washrooms.
- People who use substances have the opportunity to connect to life saving support and services.

DATA FROM EXISTING OPS SHOWS:

- No increase in crime in the community
- Reduced health care costs
- Fewer overdose deaths
- Decreased public drug use
- Reduced discarded equipment in public spaces
- increased use of treatment services for people with issues of substance use



RPCHC's OPS:

1. RPCHC has added a small scale overdose prevention service to its existing harm reduction and health services for people who inject drugs.
2. The OPS will be located at 465 Dundas Street East. The service will be located on the ground floor within our existing space.
3. The space for the service will include a room for injection with two booths and a post injection room (chill out space).
4. The service will operate during our existing current health centre hours and will be staffed by a nurse, a harm reduction worker, a community health worker and a manager for oversight.