

# ANKORS Community Drug Checking Project

British Columbia , Canada during  
A Public Health Emergency  
Chloe Sage

**ANKORS**

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# ANKORS at Shambhala Music Festival



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# ANKORS Drug Checking in Community

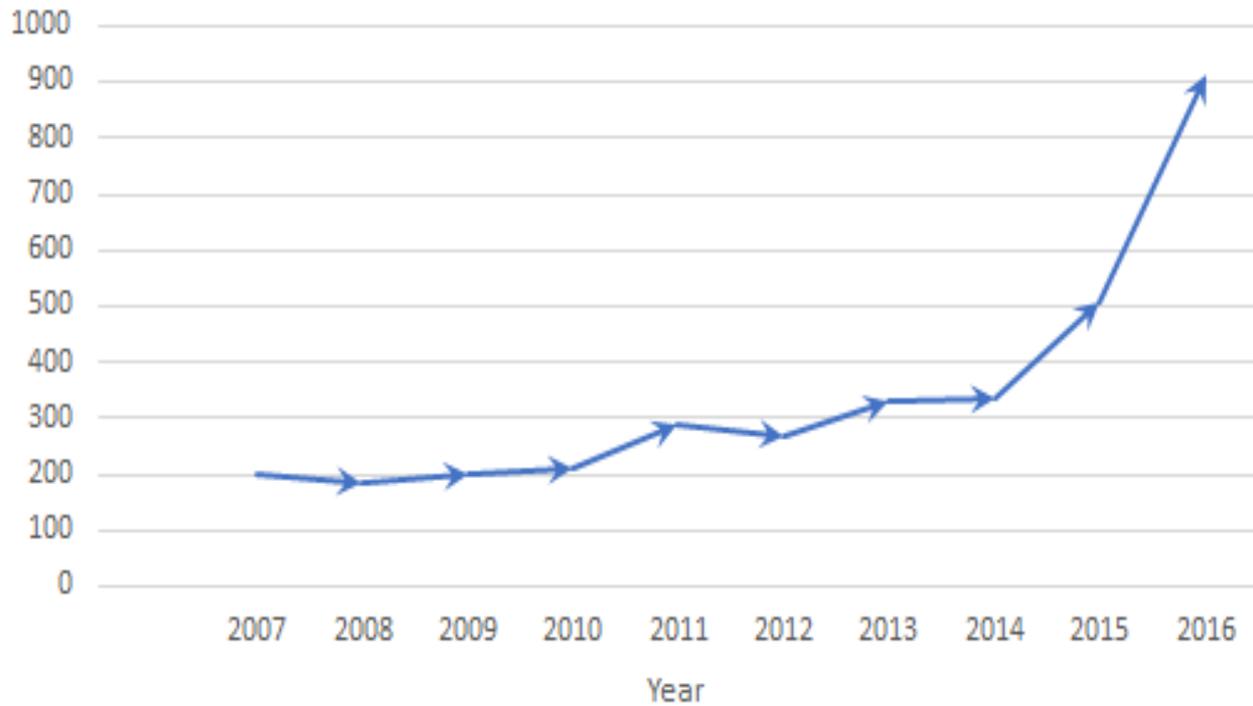


# Public Health Emergency Declared in British Columbia April 2016



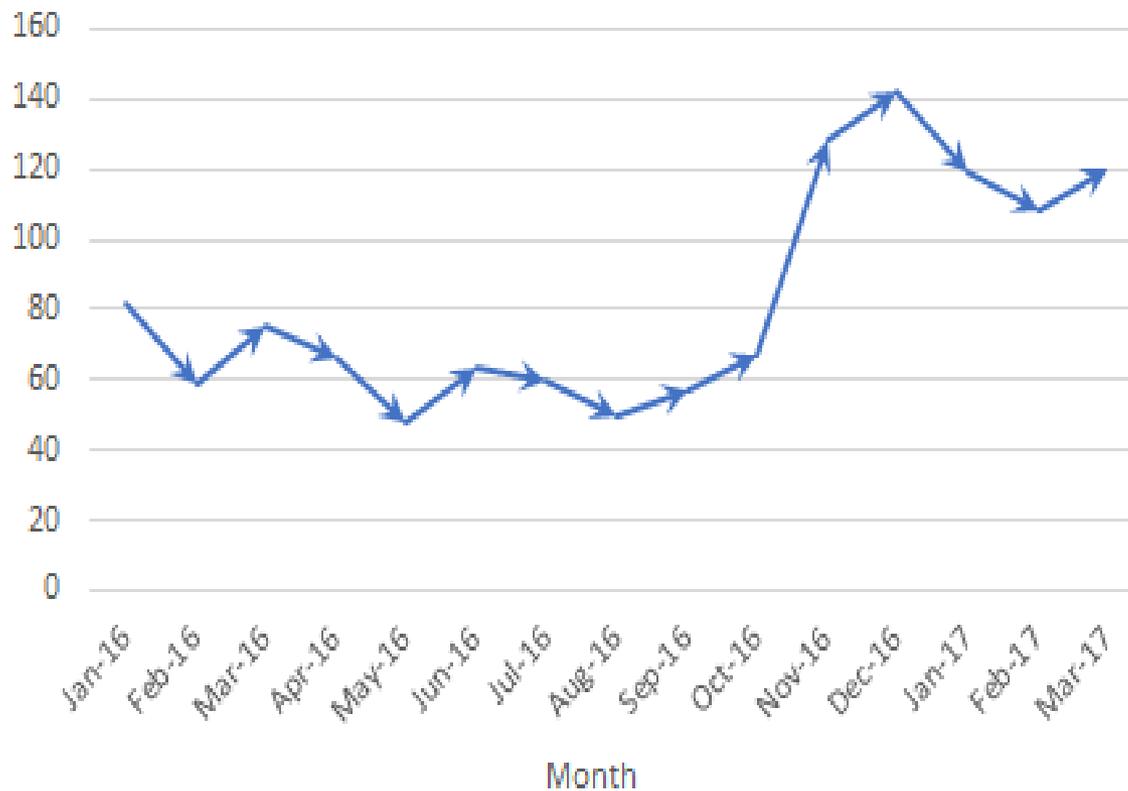
Globe and Mail

## Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths in BC 2007-2016



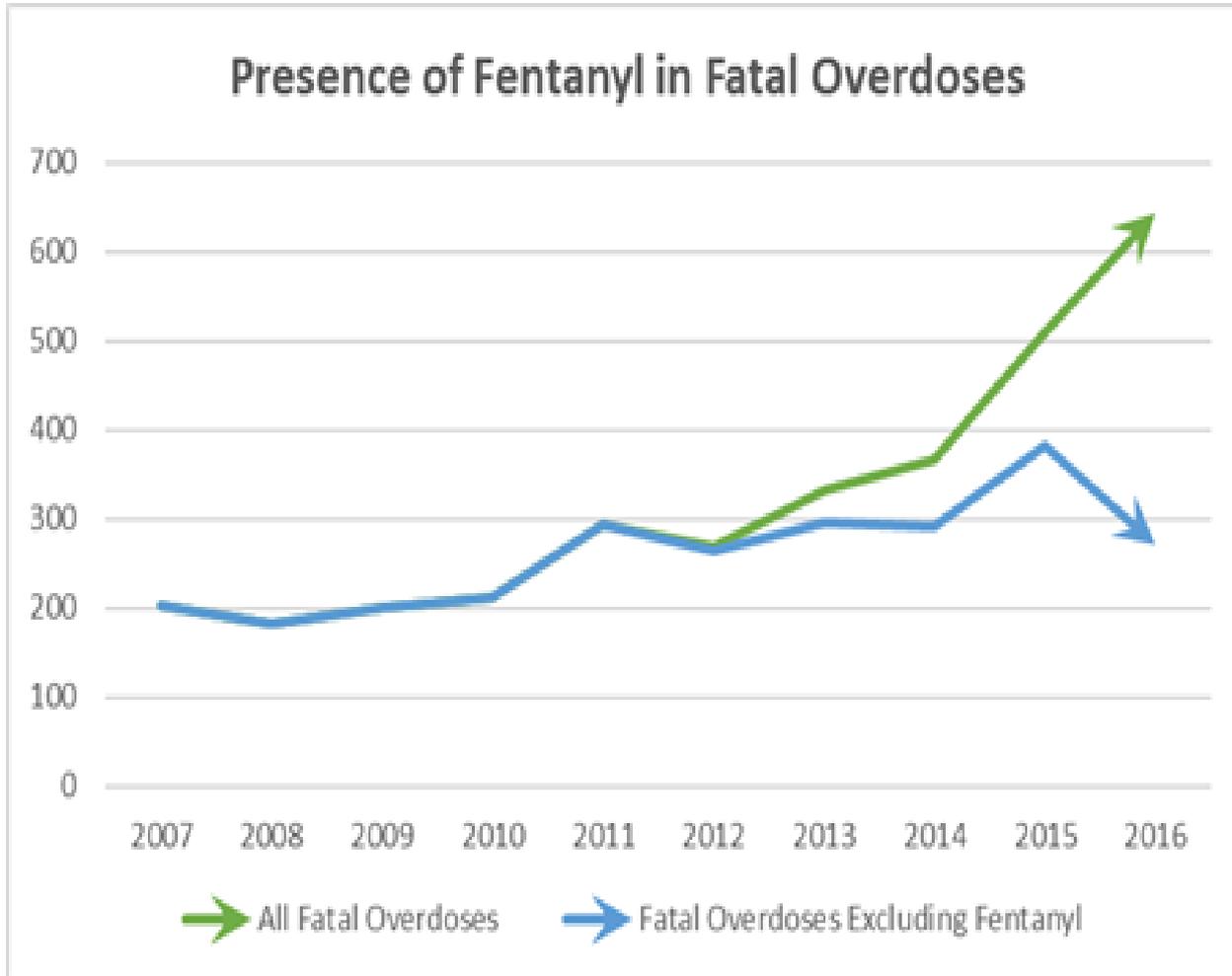
BC Coroners Service

## Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths in BC 2016-2017



BC Coroners Service

## Presence of Fentanyl in Fatal Overdoses



BC Corners Service

# Amount it takes to kill you





Picture Huffington Post

# INSITE Safe Consumption Site introduces drug checking for Fentanyl to Vancouver

86% of all drugs tested  
contained Fentanyl  
40% of Cocaine  
81% of Crystal Meth  
90% of Heroin





# Insite fentanyl test reduces overdoses, study

About 80 per cent of drugs test positive for fentanyl, says health authority

By Matt Meuse, CBC News Posted: May 15, 2017 10:28 AM PT | Last Updated: May 18, 2017 2:56 PM PT



Vancouver Coastal Health says Insite users who test their drugs with free testing strips before consumption are 25 times less likely to overdose. (Jonathan Hayward/Canadian Press)

Stay C



Mobile



# Overview of ANKORS Project

- Overdose Prevention information and Naloxone trainings
- Offer drug checking services to diverse groups of people using drugs.
- Research on what services people want and how to deliver services to People Who Use Drugs (PWUD)s in rural areas and small urban areas.
- Seek out appropriate technologies for testing opioids and new analogues.

# Naloxone



## DON'T LET THIS PARTY BE YOUR LAST

You can't know if the drug you use is safe. Any drug—cocaine, crack, ecstasy, meth, heroin—can contain fentanyl.

- *Never use alone*
- *Go slow*
- *Carry naloxone*

Learn more at [gov.bc.ca/overdose](https://gov.bc.ca/overdose)



 CARRY A NALOXONE KIT  CALL 911  #STOPOVERDOSE

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# Drug Checking and Fentanyl Urine testing study





# Research preliminary results

- Overdose is a common reality for people who use drugs.
- People are not calling emergency services
- People need more treatment options
- 2/3 used multiple substances simultaneously
- People need to be able to trust the service provider
- People are integrating harm reduction strategies

Not using alone, doing testers, reducing dose, warning each other, checking on their friends, getting Naloxone kits and training.

- People want to learn more about the substances they are putting in their bodies

# Technologies need to be able to:

- Detect and identify New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)
- Identify multiple ingredients in a given substance
- Pick up trace amounts of a substance in other substances
- Be mobile
- Affordable
- Fast results

# choices

- Reagents
- Test strips
- TLC
- HPLC-UV
- Raman Spectrometer
- ION scanner
- Mass Spectrometer



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\$13,503 of \$30k goal



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Envisioning a future where people who use drugs no longer need to hide in the shadows. Only then will the crisis end.



Darryl Dyck/Canadian Press

THEY TALK WE DIE  
NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION ON THE OVERDOSE CRISIS  
FEBRUARY 21 2017

By Chloe Sage  
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## Special thanks

ANKORS and Interior Health

Selkirk College students Geannine Gerrow and Shari Starling

All those in the front line of this crisis saving lives every day.

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