

For municipalities committed to prevention related to alcohol and other drugs

Municipalities play a key role in creating safe and inclusive environments that address the realities of alcohol and other psychoactive substance use. By leveraging their expertise in urban planning, safety, public health, and community life, they can respond to the challenges related to substance use while promoting better social cohabitation and the well-being of their community.*



How to make a difference?

1. Adapt public spaces and events to substance use realities

- Provide concrete measures such as waste disposal points for consumption-related waste, as well as access to naloxone kits**.
- Include rest areas and designated spaces where consumption can take place safely to promote social cohabitation.

2. Create a municipal advisory committee on social cohabitation and substance use

- Establish a space for dialogue bringing together residents, both those who use substances and those who do not, community organizations, and public health stakeholders to adapt municipal actions to local realities.

3. Adopt a municipal or regional alcohol policy

- Regulate aspects related to consumption, sales, advertising, road safety, and the zoning of establishments.

4. Train municipal and community staff on harm reduction related to psychoactive substances

- Offer training on reducing risks associated with psychoactive substances, including the administration of naloxone, and ensure naloxone kits are available in strategic municipal locations.

* Please note that several links and resources in this document are only available in French.

**According to Health Canada, naloxone is a medication that works quickly to temporarily reverse the effects of an opioid overdose, also known as opioid poisoning.

Get inspired, take action!!

Adapting public spaces and events

- Several events, such as Montréal's *Piknic Électronik*, the *Festival d'été de Québec*, and *Le Festif!* in Baie-Saint-Paul, include intervention services to ensure the health and safety of festivalgoers. Teams such as **GRIP** and **La Brigade** provide a caring presence, distribute prevention materials, and intervene when needed.
- Online resources are available to locate **free naloxone kits** or obtain safe consumption supplies, such as through **Injection Equipment Access Centres (CAMIs)**, as well as **support for their retrieval (SIRSAU)**.
- The City of Kamloops has **installed disposal systems for used syringes** and needles in parks, public washrooms, and streets, and allows residents to request them to **reduce the risks associated with used waste**.

Municipal committee on social cohabitation and substance use

- A **good-neighbor committee** was created to oversee the implementation of the supervised consumption site **L'Interzone**. Prior to this, a **consultation** was held involving the City of Québec, the police service, residents, people who use drugs, community organizations, and public health authorities to discuss injection drug use in the city and the relevance of offering supervised consumption sites.

Alcohol policy

- The **consultation report**, developed by the ASPQ, highlights the concerns, needs, and action paths identified by Québec municipalities regarding alcohol consumption in their territories. A webinar (**English version**) presents the report's main findings.
- The **CoDeBar Initiative** is an example of a municipal partnership with bars and restaurants aimed at preventing drunk driving through coordinated actions.
- The **5 Foundations for Communicating About Alcohol** guide helps design messages that encourage informed choices without stigmatization.



Staff training on harm reduction

- The **Profan** program offers activities, tools, and innovative practices for overdose prevention and management to help reduce related deaths.
- The organization **Spectre de rue** offers several training sessions on recognizing the signs of overdose, administering naloxone, managing consumption equipment, and improving communication with marginalized individuals.

Want to learn more about these priorities and initiatives in substance use prevention?

Visit aspq.org | **Alcohol**, **Overdose Crisis**, and **Cannabis**.

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