

The background of the slide is a blue-tinted photograph. It shows a close-up of a person's hand holding a white pill bottle. The bottle is tilted, and numerous colorful pills (red, white, yellow, and blue) are spilling out onto a light-colored surface. The image is slightly out of focus, emphasizing the text in the foreground.

Nanaimo

Opioid Overdose Update

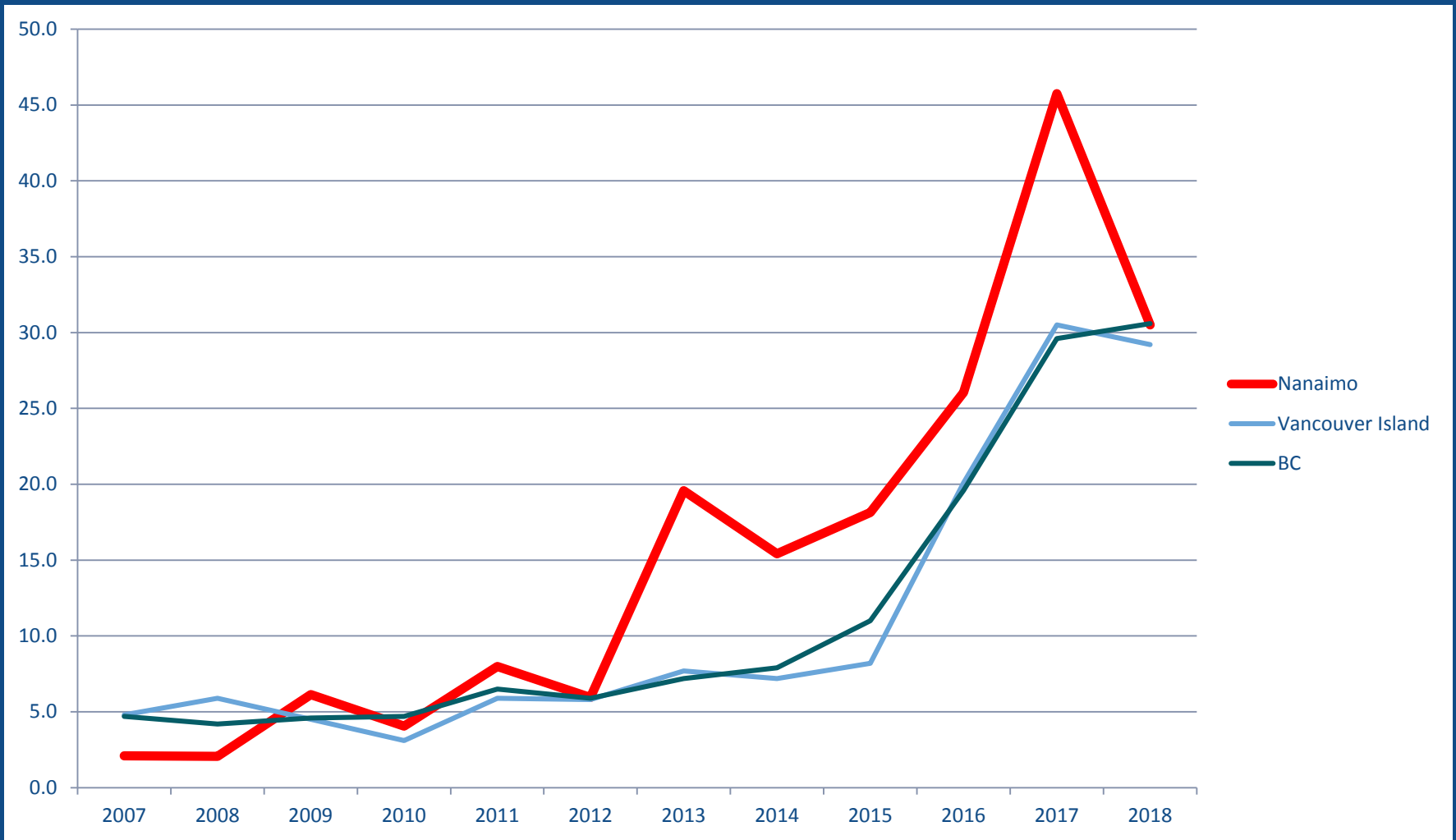
Nanaimo Committee of the Whole
March 4, 2019

Paul Hasselback MD MSc FRCPC
Medical Health Officer

Key timeline context

- **Pre-2013** – Unique wording in Nanaimo zoning bylaw 4500 inhibits establishment of “drug addiction treatment” clinics and services.
- **October 2013** – first Nanaimo fatalities related to fentanyl crisis
- **April 2016** – Provincial state of public health emergency regarding overdose crisis
- **January 2017** – establishment of Nanaimo overdose prevention site
- **May 2017** - recommended site specific zoning for a supervised consumption site was rejected by Nanaimo City Council
- **February 2018** – MHO report to Nanaimo City Council formally recommending Council address the obstacle to substance use treatment found in the definition of a Drug Addiction Treatment Facility of the City of Nanaimo zoning bylaw 4500.
- **July 2018** – Council received report on zoning bylaw changes to address supervised consumption services
- **Sept 2018** – Reports to Public Safety and Community Development and Planning committees.

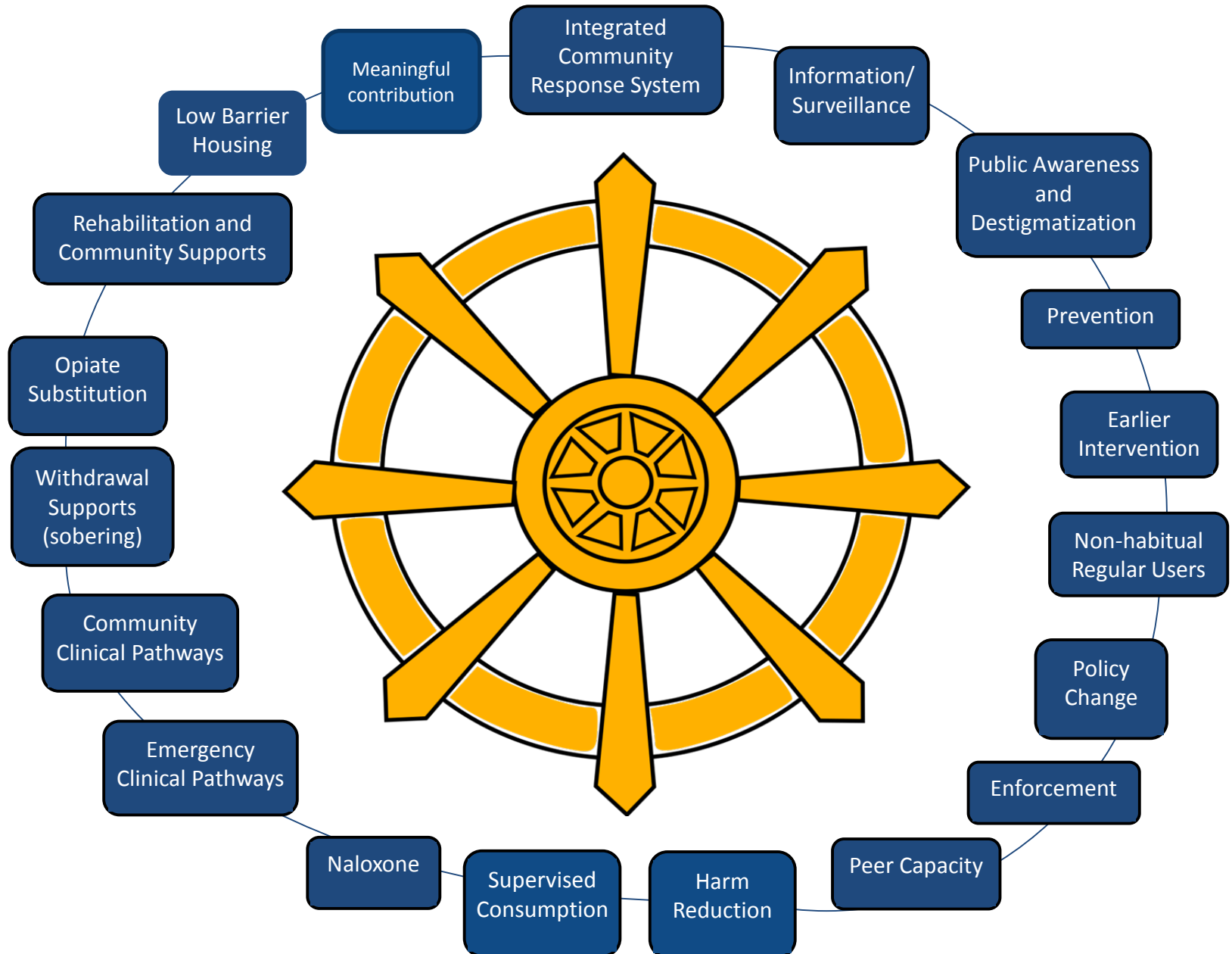
Overdose fatalities - Nanaimo



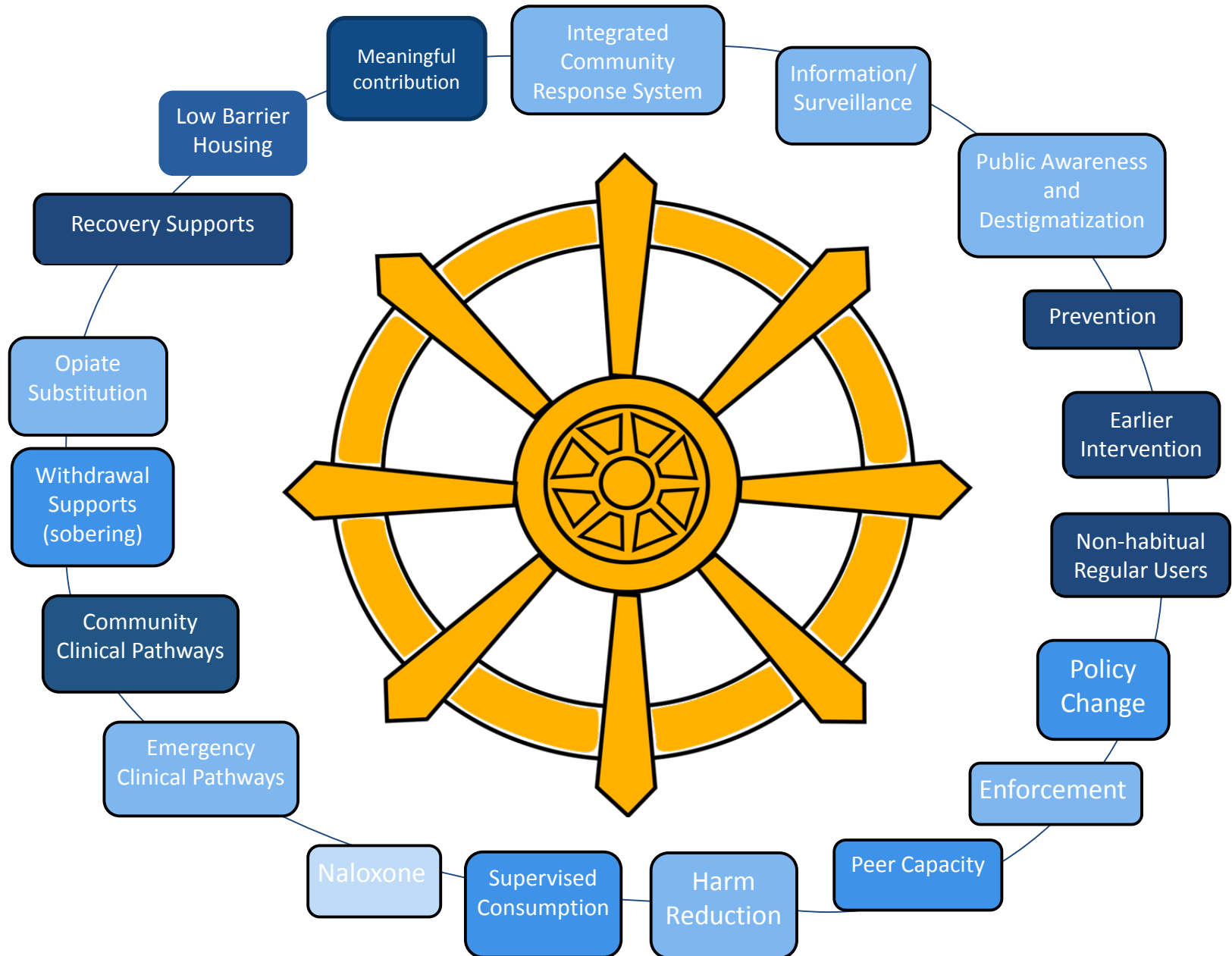
Substance use disorders

- **Persons with opioid use disorder** 2300 ~ 25/1000
(>15)
- **Injection users** 1150
- **Persons on recent OAT** 784
 - OAT prescribing rate 8.7/1000 (>15)
 - BC 5.5/1000 (>15)
- **Alcohol substance use disorder** 120-150/1000
- **Nicotine use** 110-140/1000

Overdose Response Continuum



Overdose Response Continuum



Comparison - operation

Current Supervised Consumption Service

- Professional supervision
- Peer support workers
- On site service supports
- Linkage to treatment and care services
- Longer hours of operation
- Increased booth capacity for concurrent users
- Post consumption area
- Regulated and monitored under *Controlled Substances Act*

Overdose Prevention site

- Paraprofessional supervision of consumption
- Peer support worker
- May have referral options available
- Harm reduction supply distribution
- Contingent on state of public health emergency and political shifts
- Minimal quality oversight, sanctioned and unsanctioned sites.

Comparisons - Impact

Supervised consumption sites

- No deaths
- Effective in supporting persons into care
- In-Site only - evaluated with longer term improvement in area.
- In-site only - Reduced neighbourhood drug use.

Overdose prevention sites

- No deaths in site, deaths in proximity
- Effectiveness in supporting persons into care not established
- Impact on neighbourhood in small communities – (not evaluated in Nanaimo)
- Reports of increased aggregation, public drug use out of site and out of hours

Siting considerations

Not limited to:

- Availability and site stability
- Proximity to needs
- Proximity to support services
- Separation distances
- Capital costs
- Operational costs
- Contracting requirements (purchasing)
- Legal requirements (eg zoning, leases, agreements)
- Community interaction

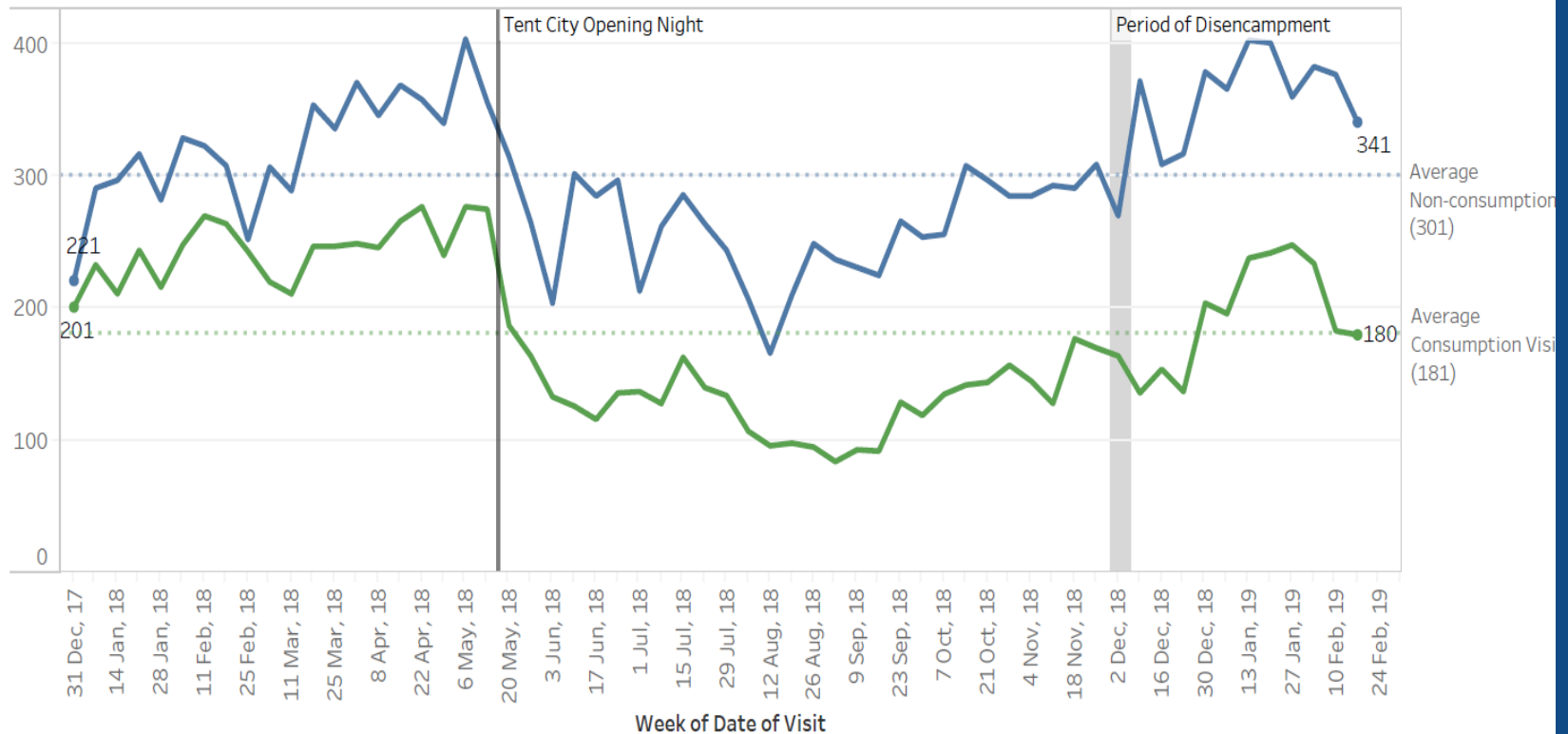
Nanaimo event locations

- **Ambulance calls for overdoses**
 - Captures most events
- **Fire department responses**
 - Change in responses beginning 2018
- **Fatalities**
 - Coroner's service by location of overdose event
- Half within walking distance of core
- Half widely dispersed throughout community

Nanaimo's Natural Experiment

What happened with encampment?

Wesley St, Nanaimo OPS Statistics
Week of December 31, 2017 to Week of February 23, 2019

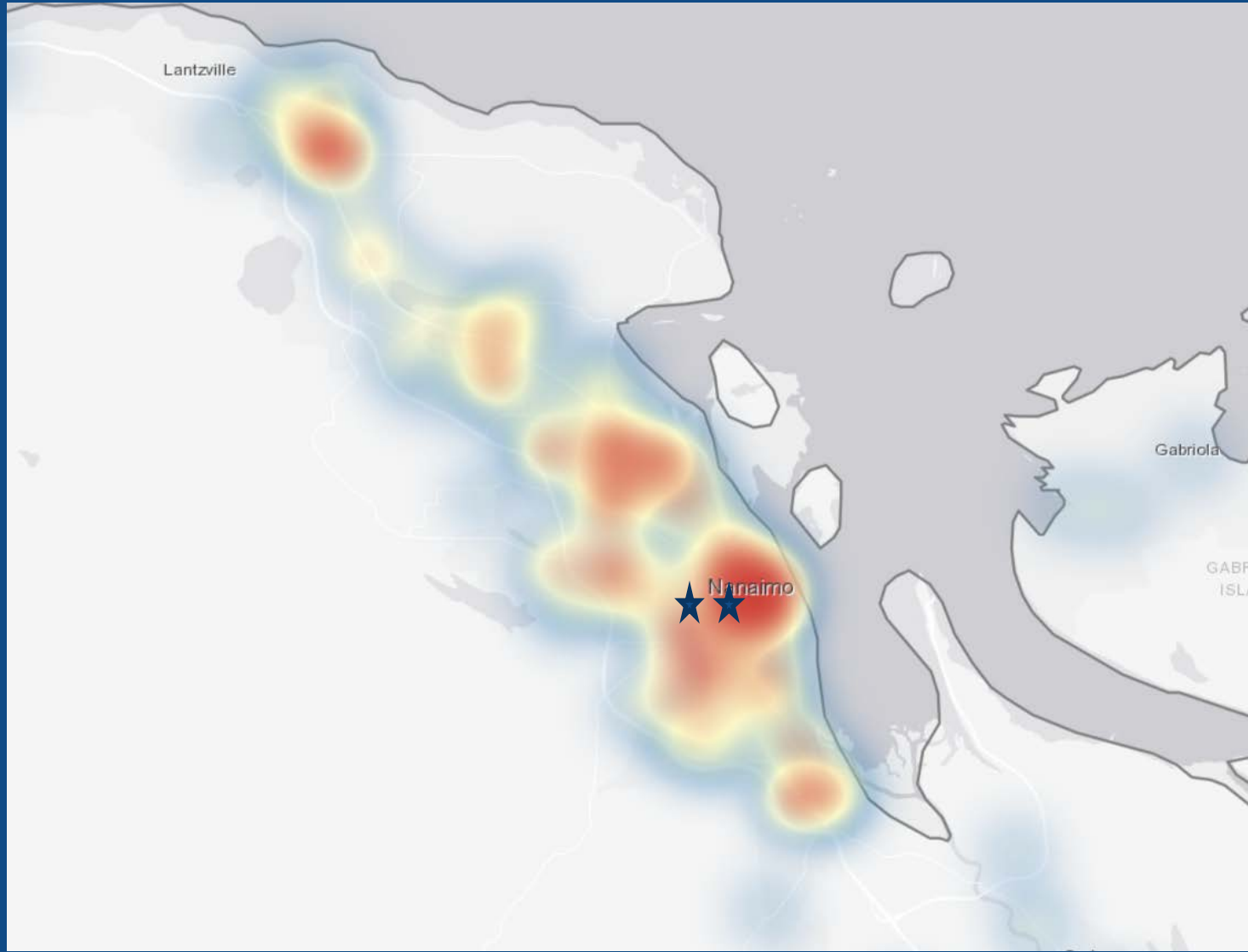


Stigma

- “Drug addiction” language is stigmatizing and not desirable
- “Drug addiction treatment facility” definition limits access to health services
- As written – the zoning bylaw
 - limits adoption of best practices in working with persons who use substances
 - Limits adoption of a dispersed model of care in a variety of health care settings
 - Limits adoption of newer approaches to substance use disorder management which are foreseeable in near future



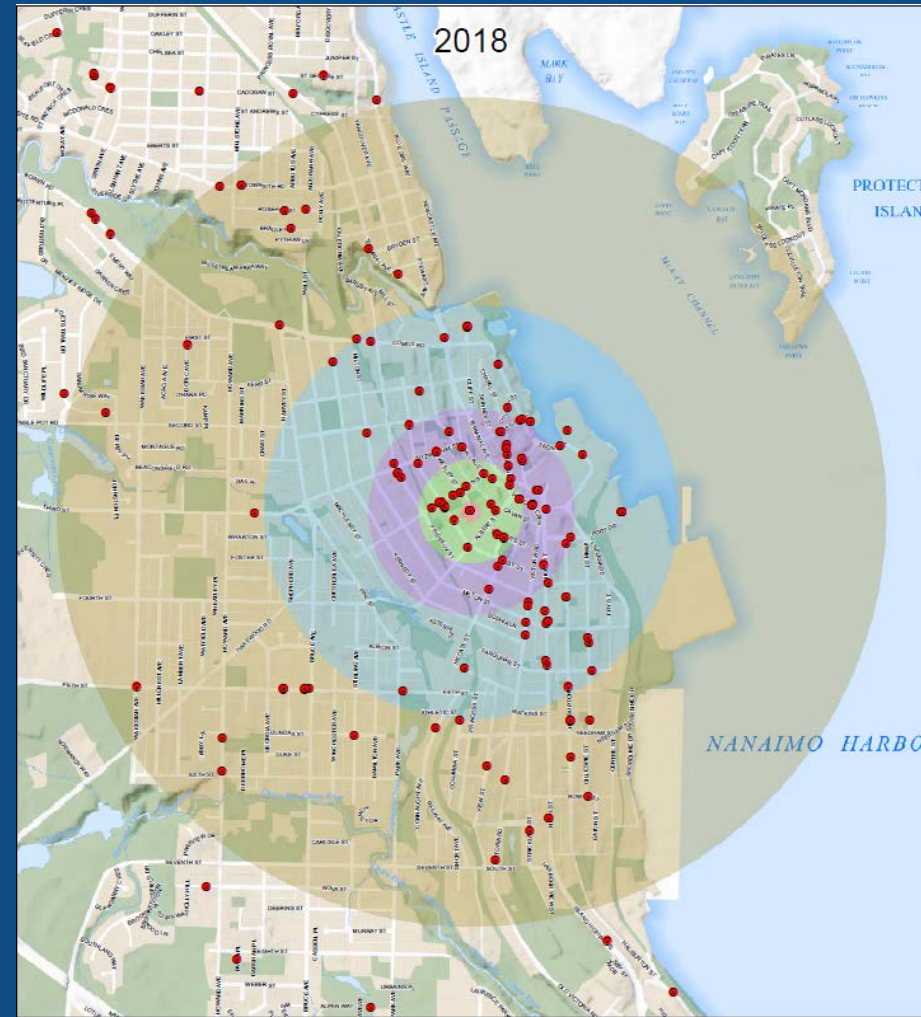
Ambulance (Dec 2017– Nov 2018)



Fire Department

Reduced OD responses since January 2018

- Half within 1 km zone
- Few differences in location or dispersion over 2016-2018



Coroner's data

- 12 months ending Nov 2018
- 50% within walking zone of core
- Remainder widely distributed throughout Nanaimo – mostly in proximity to Island highway corridor