

Nanaimo Overdose Response, Overdose Prevention Sites, Supervised Consumption Sites

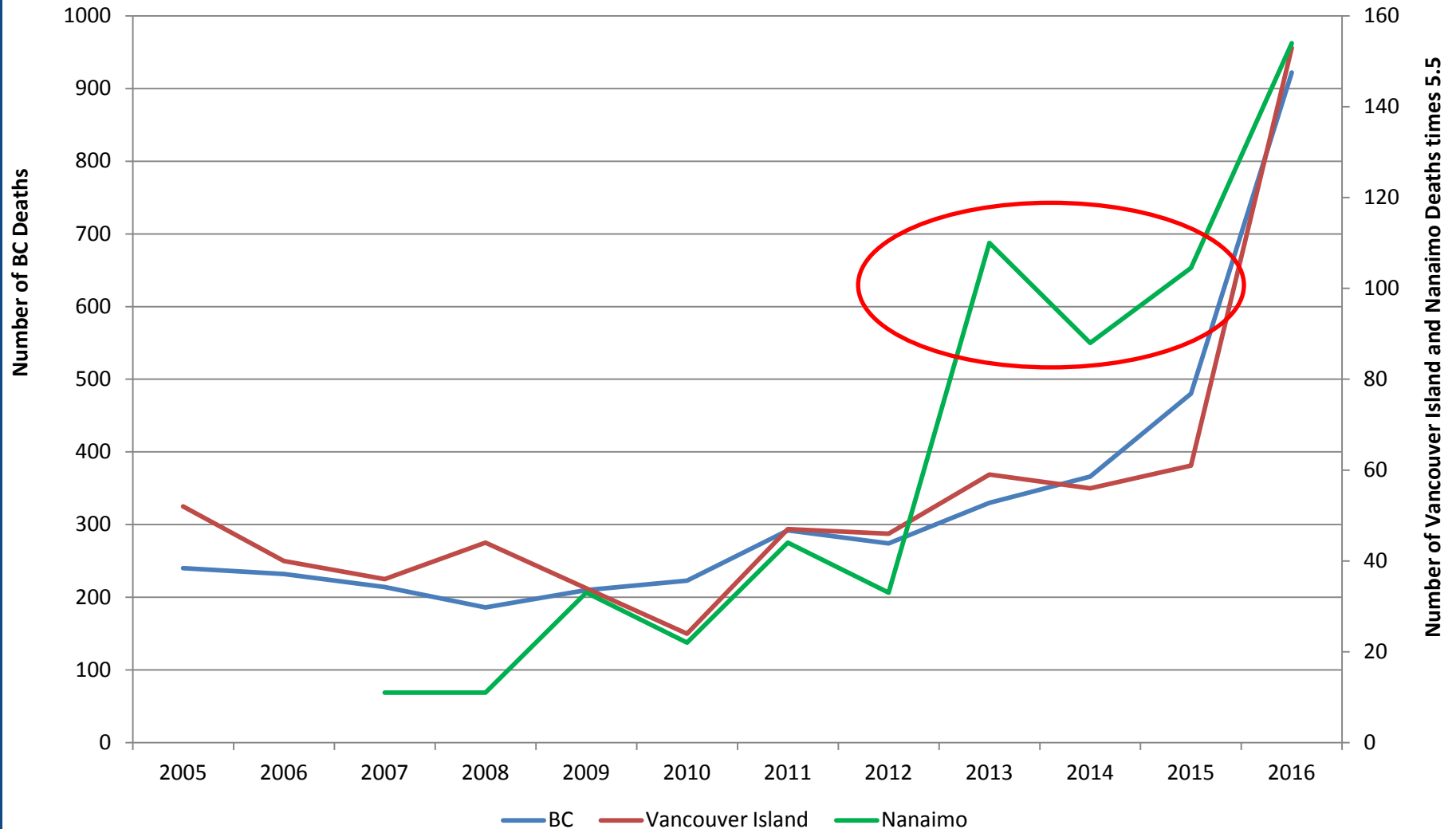
City of Nanaimo Public Safety Committee

April 6, 2017

Outline

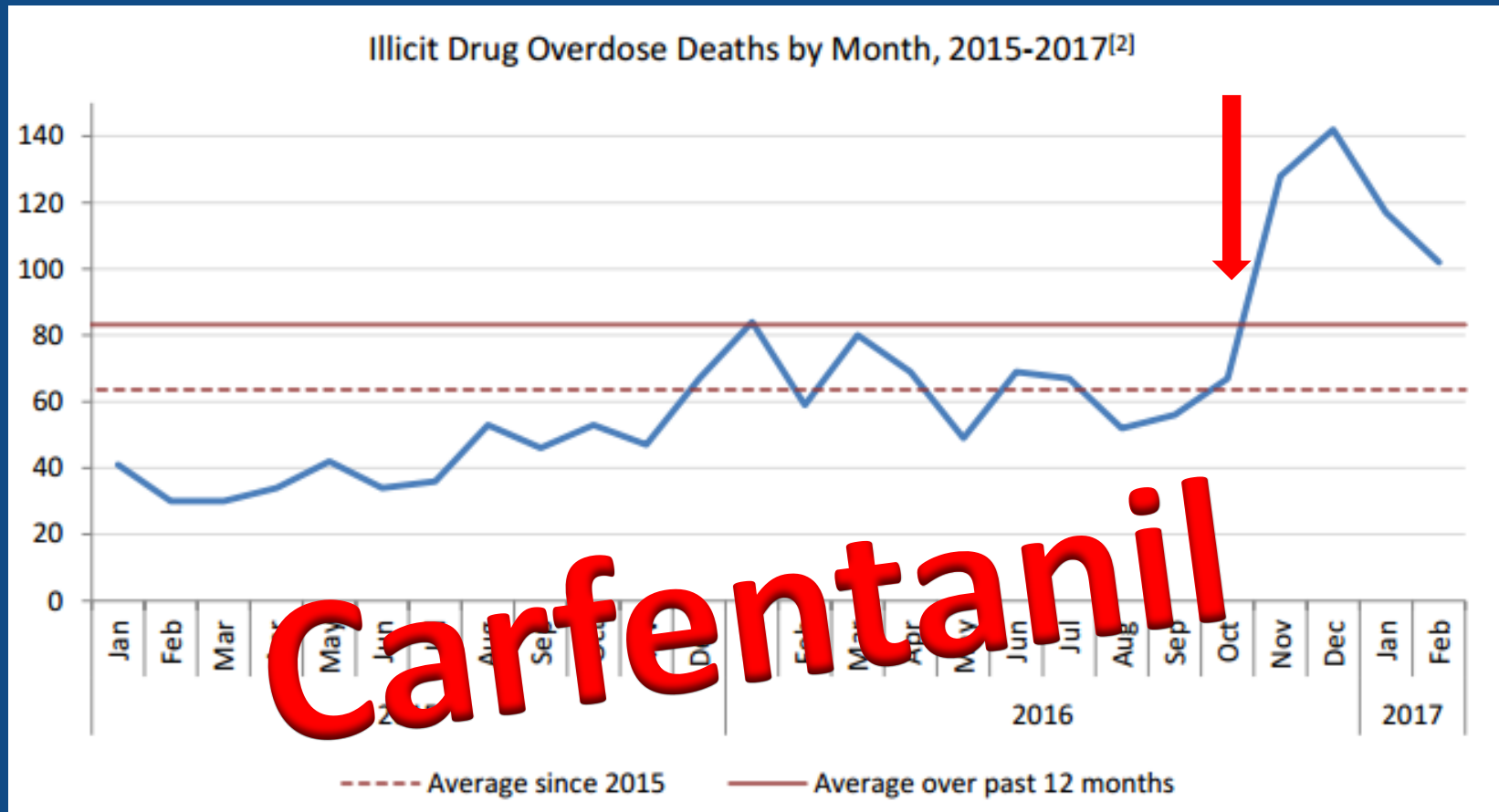
- Update
- Overdose prevention site experience
- SCS decision process
- Consultation process

Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths in BC and Vancouver Island, 2005-2016*



Over ten years - Nanaimo rate has averaged 50% higher than Island Health

Just when you thought it was bad...



February Update

	February month	2017 to date	2016
Victoria (and South Island)	9	16	75
Central island	8	16	55
Nanaimo	4	8	28
non-Nanaimo	4	8	27
North Island	4	7	23

Data is subject to change as additional information becomes available during investigations
March - “not going to demonstrate good news”

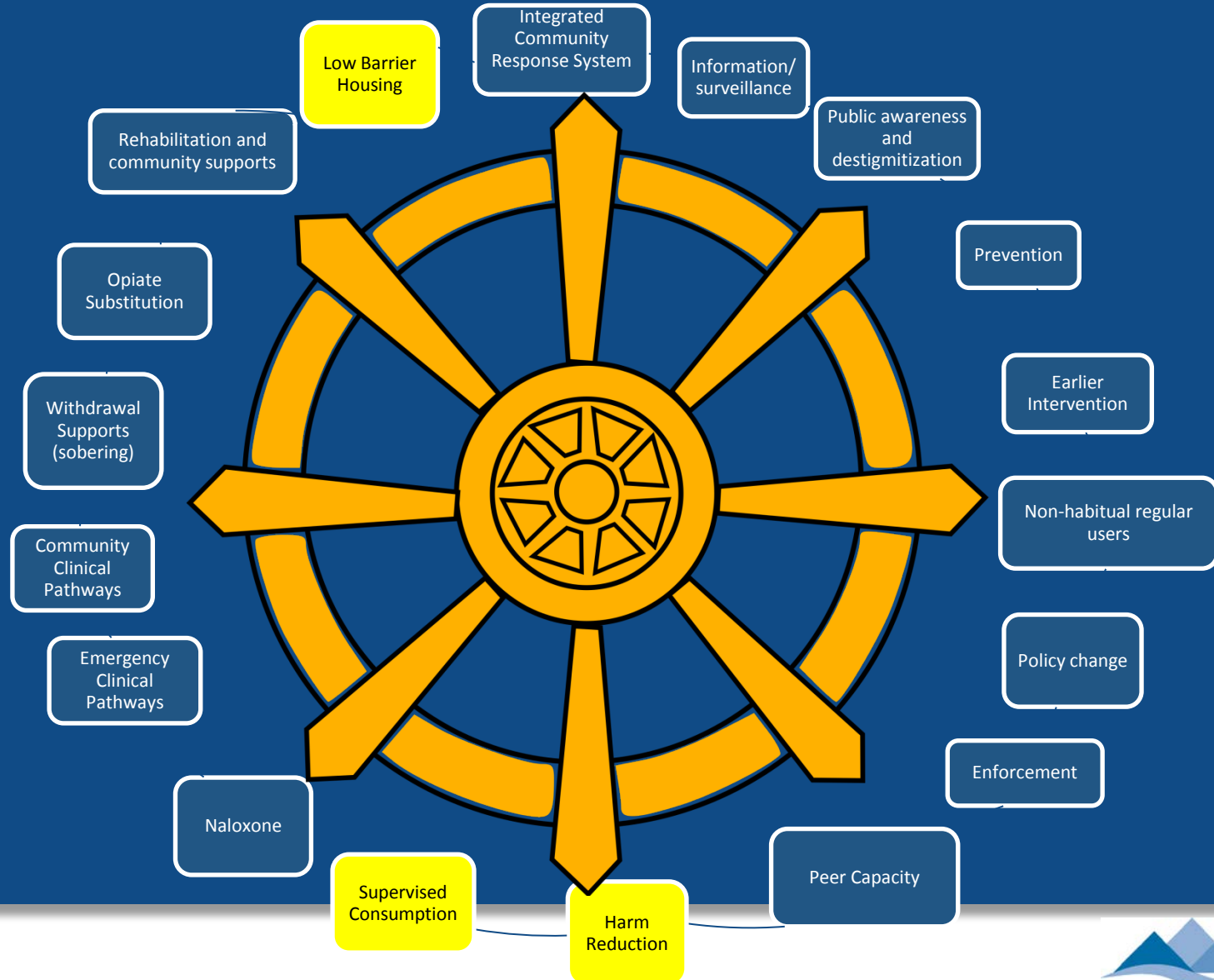
Current Use Estimates – Nanaimo LHA

- 460 regular injection users.
- 345 occasional injection users.
- 886 regular users non-injection.
- 10000 cannabis users in past year.

The Changing 'Street' Environment

- Fentanyl has become more available in last 3 years.
- Effect comparable to heroin - may be longer lasting.
- Most product 'imported' - not medical diversion.
- Higher concentration allows for smaller weights to be smuggled.
- Cheaper.
- Newer analogues being seen that are more potent per weight. Carfentanil one of these analogues.
- Poly pharmacy with many street supplies including narcotics and stimulants.

Intervention Continuum



Supervised Consumption in Context

- One of several doors to treatment of opiate dependency disorder.
- Needs to be part of continuum of services that integrate housing/accommodation, clinical supports, social supports, social networks, employment opportunities.

Temporary Overdose Prevention Service at 437 Wesley Street

- Provincial Health order establishing framework for provision of Overdose Prevention Services (OPS) in communities across BC.
- In Nanaimo 437 Wesley identified as best site for the temporary OPS.
- 437 Wesley – City owned site leased to BC Housing who have an Operating Agreement with CMHA – Mid Island.
- Staffing of OPS = paramedics, harm reduction workers.
- Includes provision of take home Naloxone kits and other harm reduction supplies, medical intervention when needed (Naloxone).
- 437 Wesley identified by Island Health as preferred site for a permanent Supervised Consumption Site.

Overdose Prevention Stats

Date – March 25	Nanaimo	Whole Island (5 sites)
Total visits	444 OPS, 722 interactions	9873
Initial visits	69	453 +
Number of overdoses at site among visitors to site	3	81
Number of overdoses treated at site where use prior to site	3	34
Overdoses needing further ED support	3	24 +

Nanaimo – 40% of visits non-OPS service

Overdose rate is approximately 1% amongst combined sites

+ some data incomplete

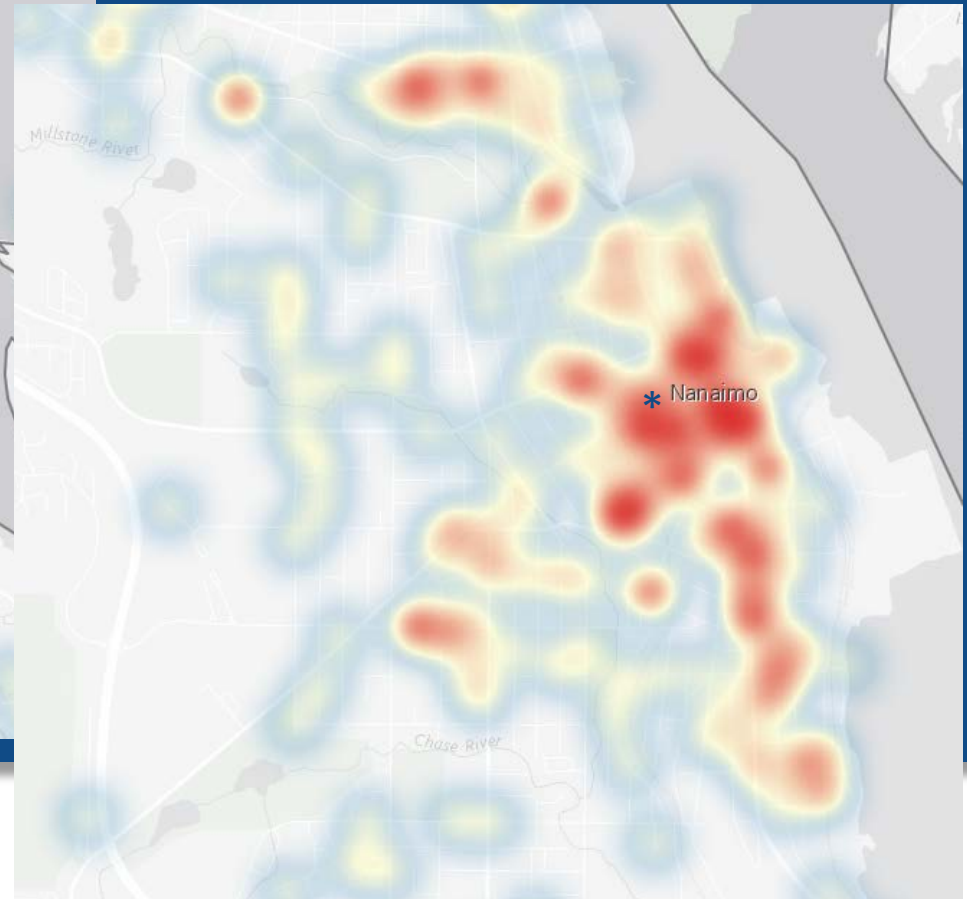
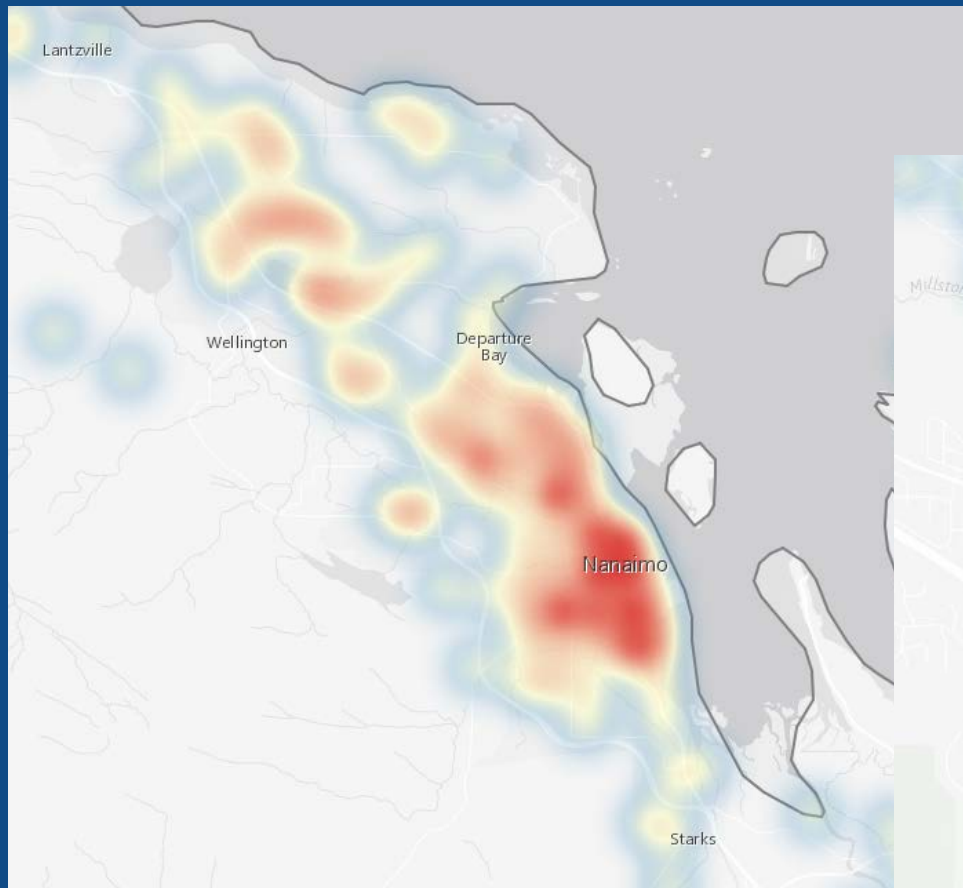
Supervised Consumption

- Demonstrated effective in:
 - Reducing overdose deaths
 - Users more likely to participate in treatment
 - Reducing HIV/HCV transmission
 - Reduced public consumption of drugs
 - Improved health and social services
- No impact – on drug use in the community.
- Risks:
 - not the only required support
 - Compliance with legal requirements
 - Possible apparent increase in users as previously unknown persons use service
- No deaths in Vancouver facility.

Supervised Consumption – Legal Requirements

- *Controlled Substance Act S 52 exemption*
 - *Rights for Communities Act*
 - *20+ requirements and*
 - *Bill C-37 implications.*
- (2) An application for an exemption under subsection (1) shall include information, submitted in the form and manner determined by the Minister, regarding the intended public health benefits of the site and information, if any, related to
 - (a) the impact of the site on crime rates;
 - (b) the local conditions indicating a need for the site;
 - (c) the administrative structure in place to support the site;
 - (d) the resources available to support the maintenance of the site; and
 - (e) expressions of community support or opposition.

BC Ambulance Overdose/Poisoning 911 calls January 1, 2016 to January 7, 2017



Nanaimo region

viha.ca

Island Health

Consultation Process

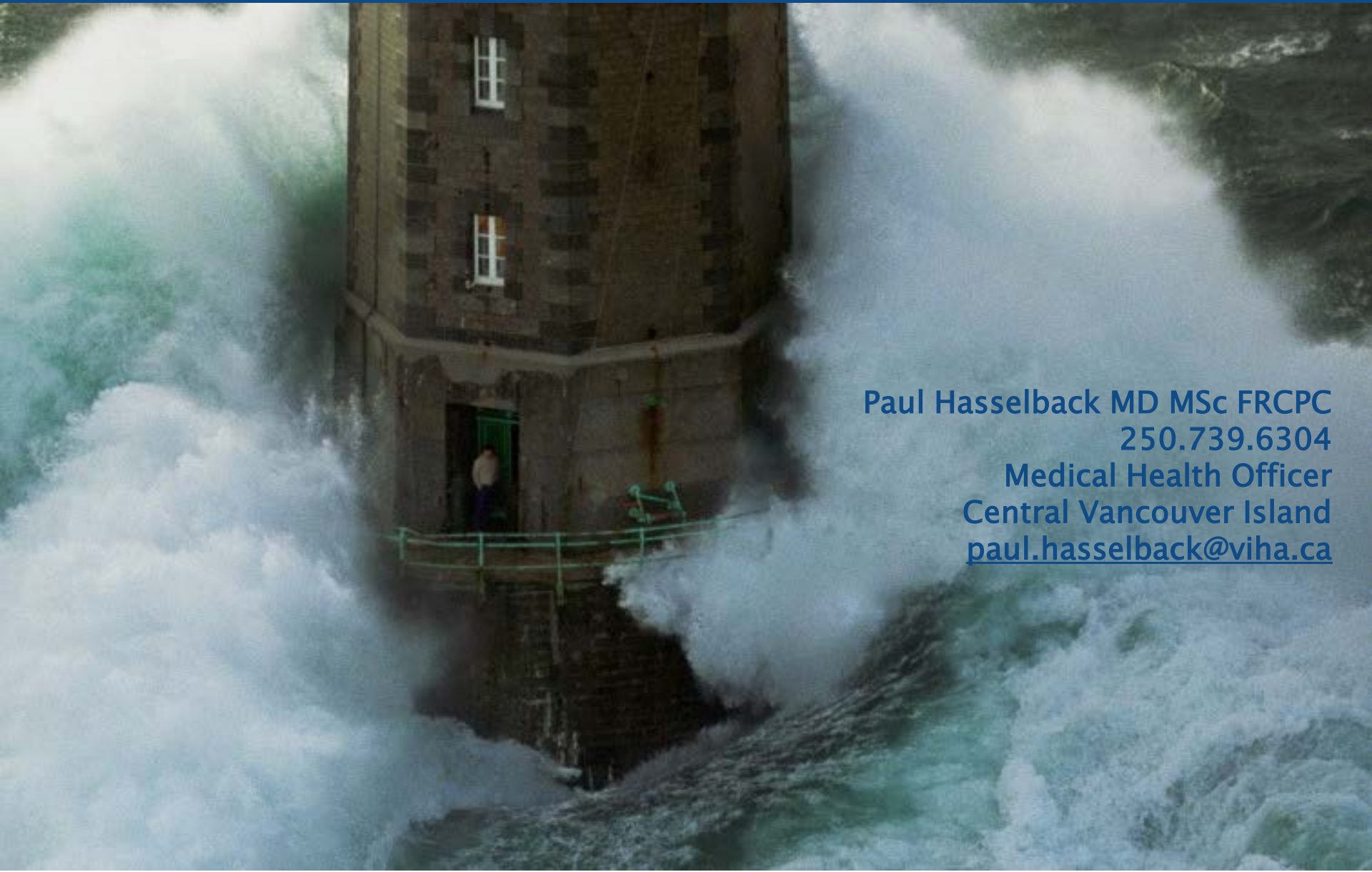
- 2 purposes – working together and informing in parallel:
 - Community consultation process for S52 exemption.
 - City zoning bylaw amendment process.

S 52 Exemption Process

Draft Engagement Strategy

1. Overdose Prevention Services (OPS) Forum - November 2016.
2. City of Nanaimo Safety Committee Meeting - OPS (November 3, 2016).
3. Overdose Prevention Services (OPS) Public Meeting (January 2017).
4. City of Nanaimo Safety Committee Meeting - Supervised Consumption Services (April 6, 2017).
5. Supervised Consumption Service Community Information Meeting (April 25, 2017).
6. News Release (joint City/Island Health): "Community Feedback sought on supervised consumptions services in Nanaimo."
7. Island Health Social Media (Twitter, Facebook).
8. Island Health Website.

Questions



Paul Hasselback MD MSc FRCPC
250.739.6304
Medical Health Officer
Central Vancouver Island
paul.hasselback@viha.ca