

The Peer Engagement & Evaluation Project (PEEP)

Peer Engagement
involving people
who use drugs in
designing service

We spoke with:
83 people
in **13** focus groups
in **12** BC cities

Participant Quotes



"They run out of pipes, they run out of pipes" (Northern Health participant)

"The Methadone doctor here...was so compassionate, so awesome, like I was clean, like he was great and then the [new doctor]...here now...he makes you feel...you walk out of that office and you wanna go get high" (Interior Health participant)

"When you have groups like these guys are talking about, that's when you unite and you go to city council and you go to these places and you ask and then you ask again and again, and maybe one day something becomes of it" (Island Health participant)

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|---------------|--|-------------|--|
| Victoria | | Nelson | |
| Vancouver | | Quesnel | |
| Courtenay | | Nanaimo | |
| Abbotsford | | Langley | |
| Smithers | | Maple Ridge | |
| Prince George | | Grand Forks | |

WE'RE TRYING TO:

Develop best practices for health authorities on how to engage with peers

Empower and inspire peer leadership

Practice peer engagement in our research project

What we learned from listening to people who use drugs

Access to Harm Reduction



People who use drugs take it on themselves to hand out clean supplies

People can't always get the supplies they need, when they need them

Stigma and Trust



Stigma and discrimination make it harder to get supplies and services

People who use drugs often experience stigma. They are labeled and judged.

Trust makes it easier to get services, but it takes time to build trust

Peer Community



People look out for each other

Building peer-run organizations empowers people who use drugs

Readiness for Engagement



Government and leadership need to provide resources and support for peer engagement