

RE: HL7.1

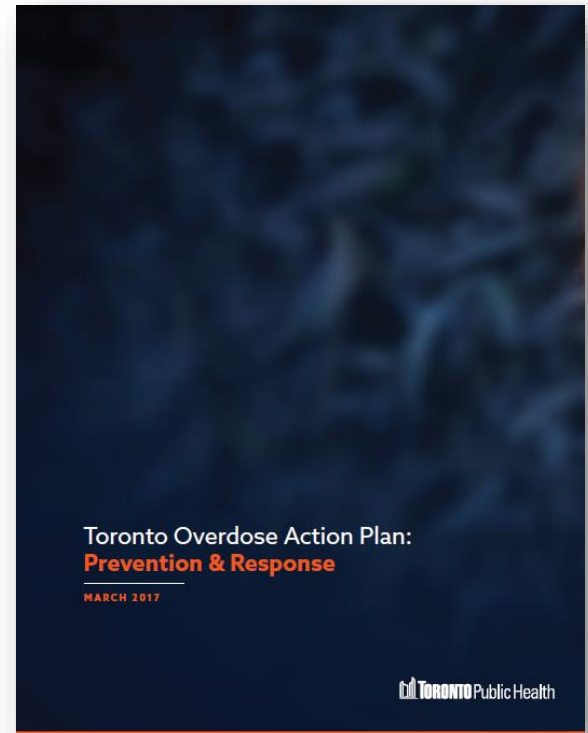
Toronto Overdose Action Plan: Status Report 2019

Board of Health

June 10, 2019

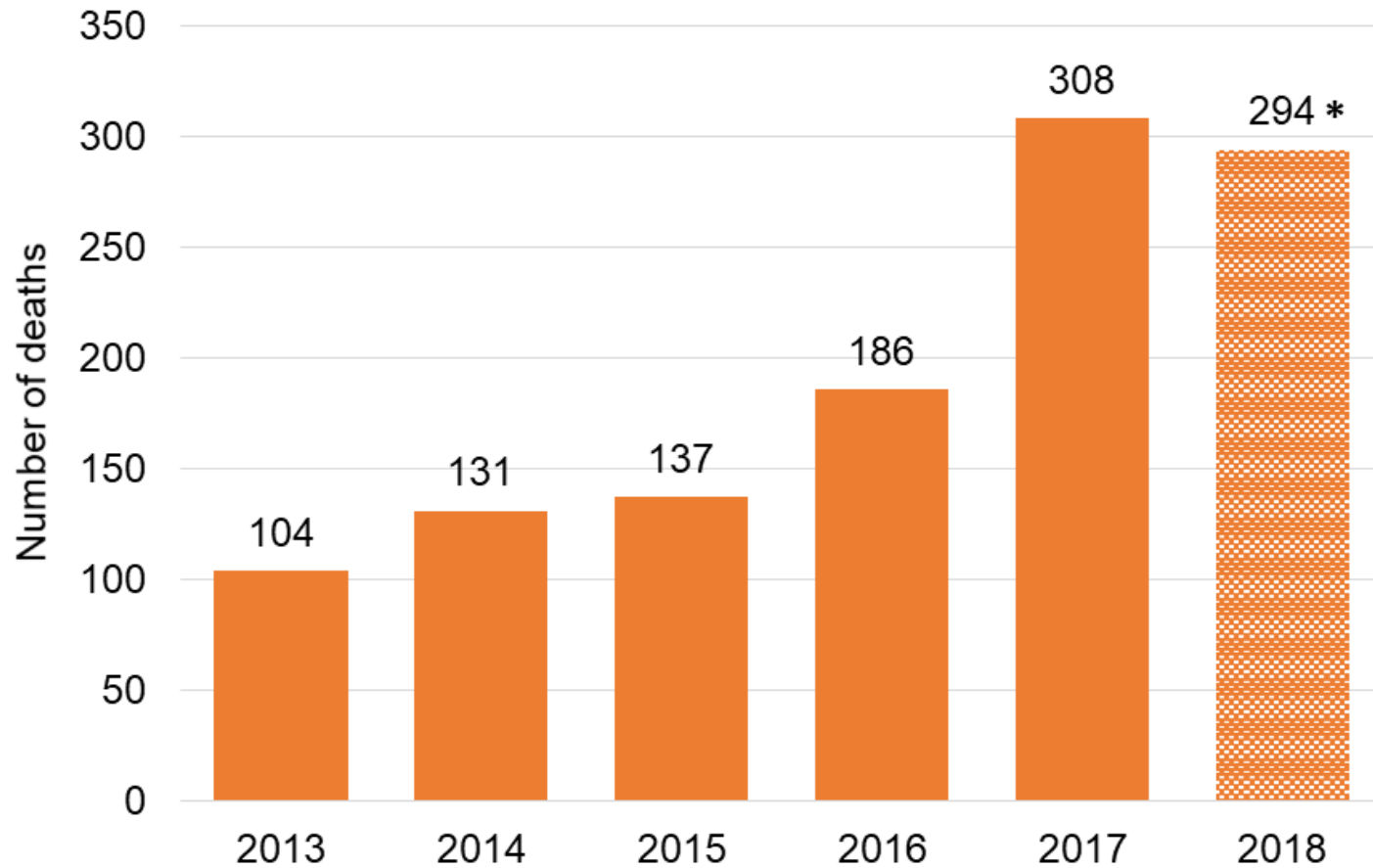
- Toronto Overdose Action Plan: Status Report 2019 (staff report)
- Toronto Overdose Action Plan: 2019 Update, Community Consultation Summary (attachment 1)

- BOH approved the *Toronto Overdose Action Plan* in March 2017
- Comprehensive plan: 10 broad strategies with targeted actions
- TPH continues to work with diverse partners on implementation



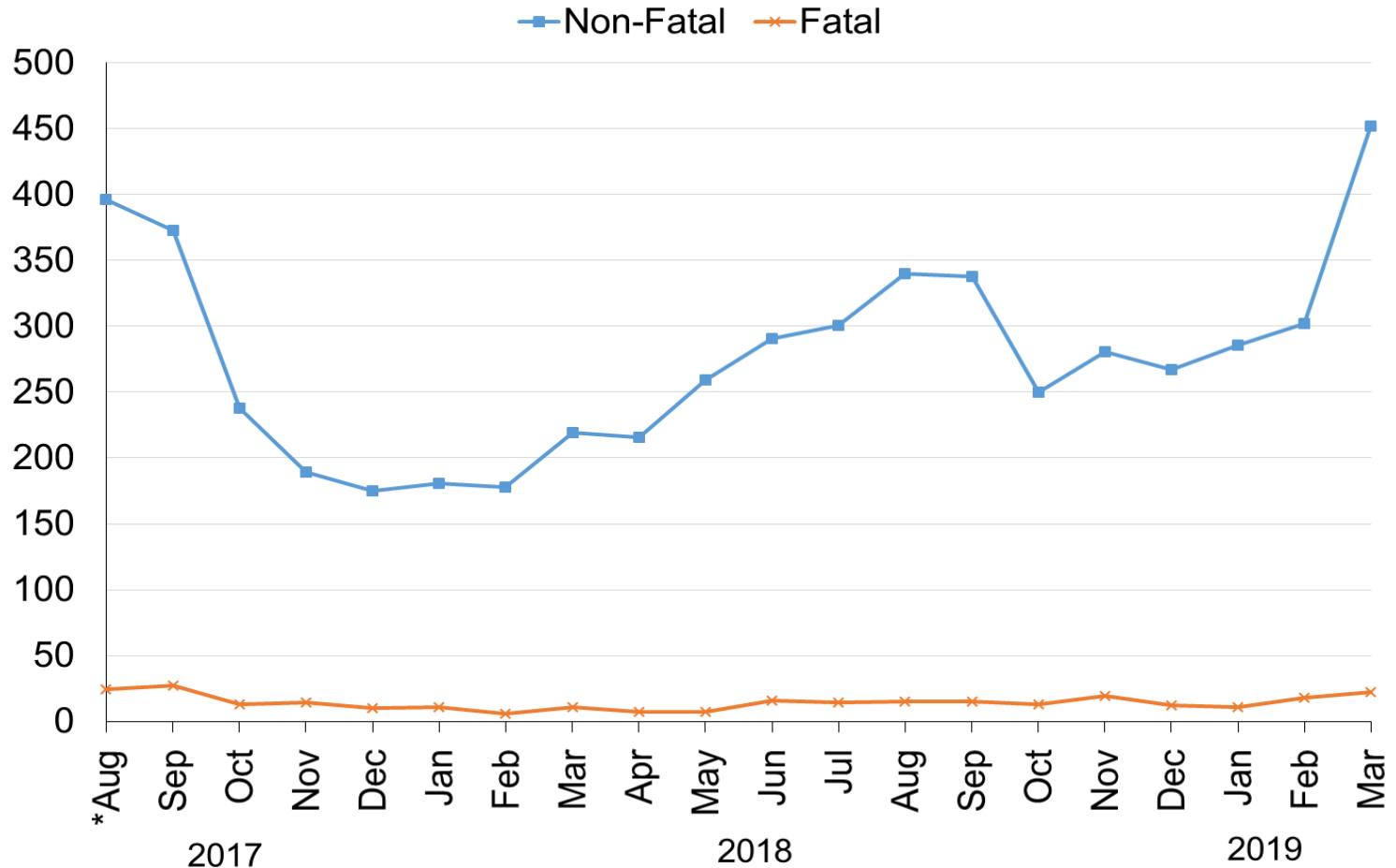
Opioid overdose deaths in Toronto

2013 to 2018



*Preliminary data. These numbers are expected to rise as Coroners complete investigations.

Suspected opioid overdoses and fatalities attended by paramedics

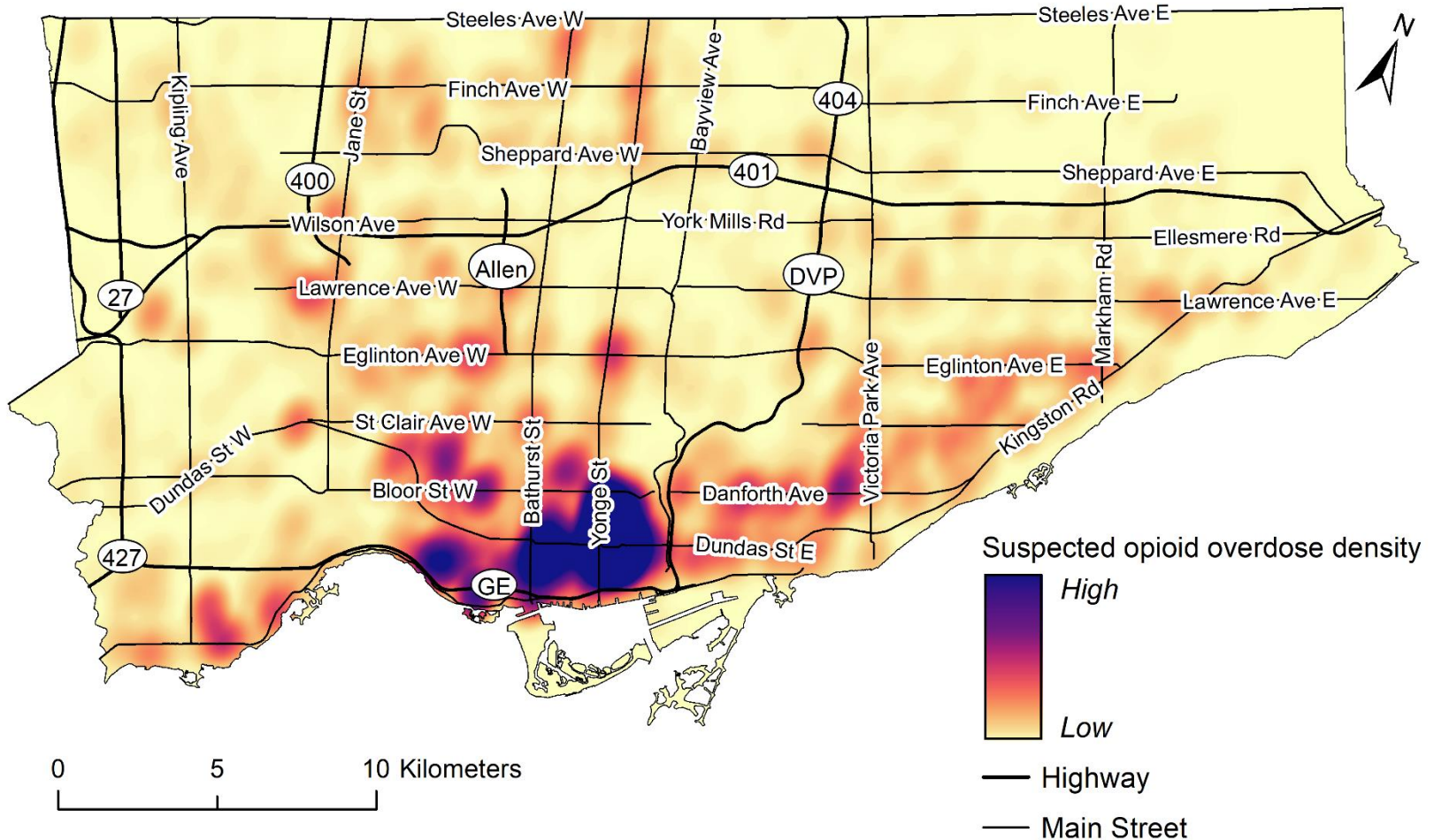


Source: Toronto Paramedic Services

Drug overdose in Toronto

Calls to Paramedic Services for Suspected Opioid Overdoses

January 1 to December 31, 2018



Monthly visits to TPH supervised injection service



Monthly visits to the supervised injection service, The Works, August 21, 2017 to April 30, 2019

*August 2017 is not a complete month worth of data. Data for August of 2017 starting on August 21, 2017.

High demand for services

(August 2017 to April 2019):

- 106,509 client visits
- 1,965 overdoses reversed
- First 4 months in 2019:
 - 40,021 visits
 - 835 overdoses reversed



- Province approved 15 Consumption & Treatment Services in Ontario; six in Toronto
- Two Toronto services not approved – Street Health and St. Stephens
- They continue to operate in short-term
- TPH's application is still under consideration, and continues to receive funding

Overdose prevention and response across City divisions/ agencies

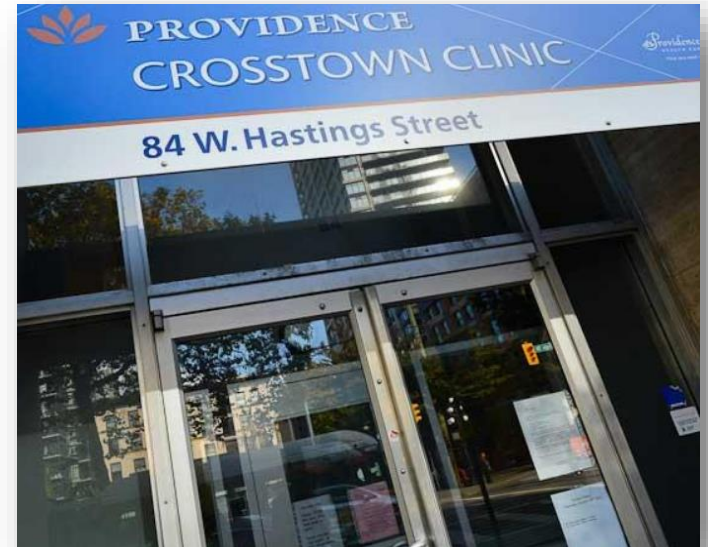
- Shelter, Support & Housing Administration
- Parks, Forestry & Recreation
- Toronto Public Library



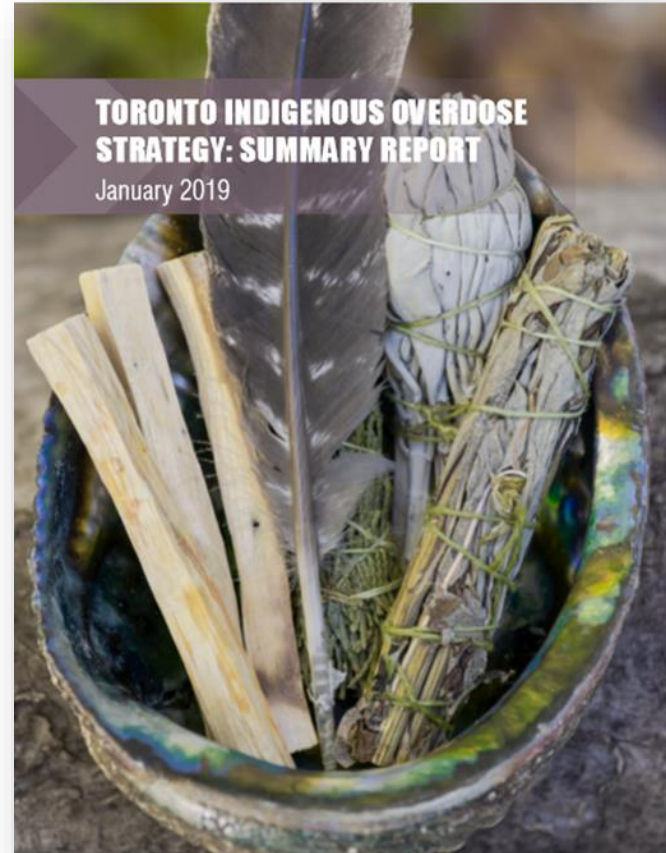
- Outreach at The Works:
 - Referrals
 - Supplies
 - Education
- Toronto Urban Health Fund:
 - 19 community-based overdose projects



- Province has committed more funding for treatment
- Now 11 RAAM clinics in Toronto
- Ongoing efforts to help implement managed opioid programs



“Culturally-safe supports and services that recognize Indigenous Peoples as unique must be a guiding principle for services established for Indigenous People who use substances.”



A Public Health Approach to Drug Policy

- Canada's current approach to drugs is broken
- Drug use is a public health and social issue, not a criminal issue
- Decriminalization is a step in the right direction



The 2019 update is based on:

- Input from 441 responses to an open, online survey
- Three consultation groups with a total of 24 people who use drugs



Key findings:

- The opioid poisoning crisis remains an urgent public health issue
- More action is needed urgently by all levels of government

Areas for action:

- Underserved groups of people
- Underserved areas of the city
- Managed opioid programs
- Women who use substances/family-centred treatment

Areas for action:

- Overdose measures in social housing
- Affordable, supportive, and harm reduction housing
- Public education and awareness
- Decriminalization