

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Drug Strategy

Council Meeting
October 23, 2018

Community Drug Strategy

for Strathcona County



FROM ADDICTION TO CONNECTION

The Opioid Crisis

On average in 2014–2015, there were

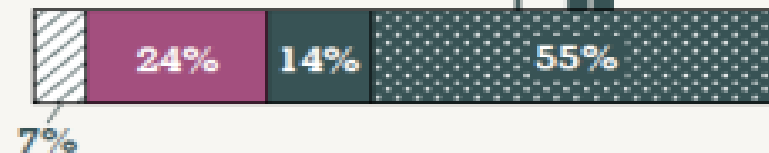
13 hospitalizations for opioid poisoning each day in Canada



Who is being hospitalized and why?

Seniors age 65+

Had the highest rate, reaching 20 per 100,000 population in 2014–2015.



Youth age 15–24

Had the fastest growing rate, increasing by 62% to 10 per 100,000 population between 2007–2008 and 2014–2015.

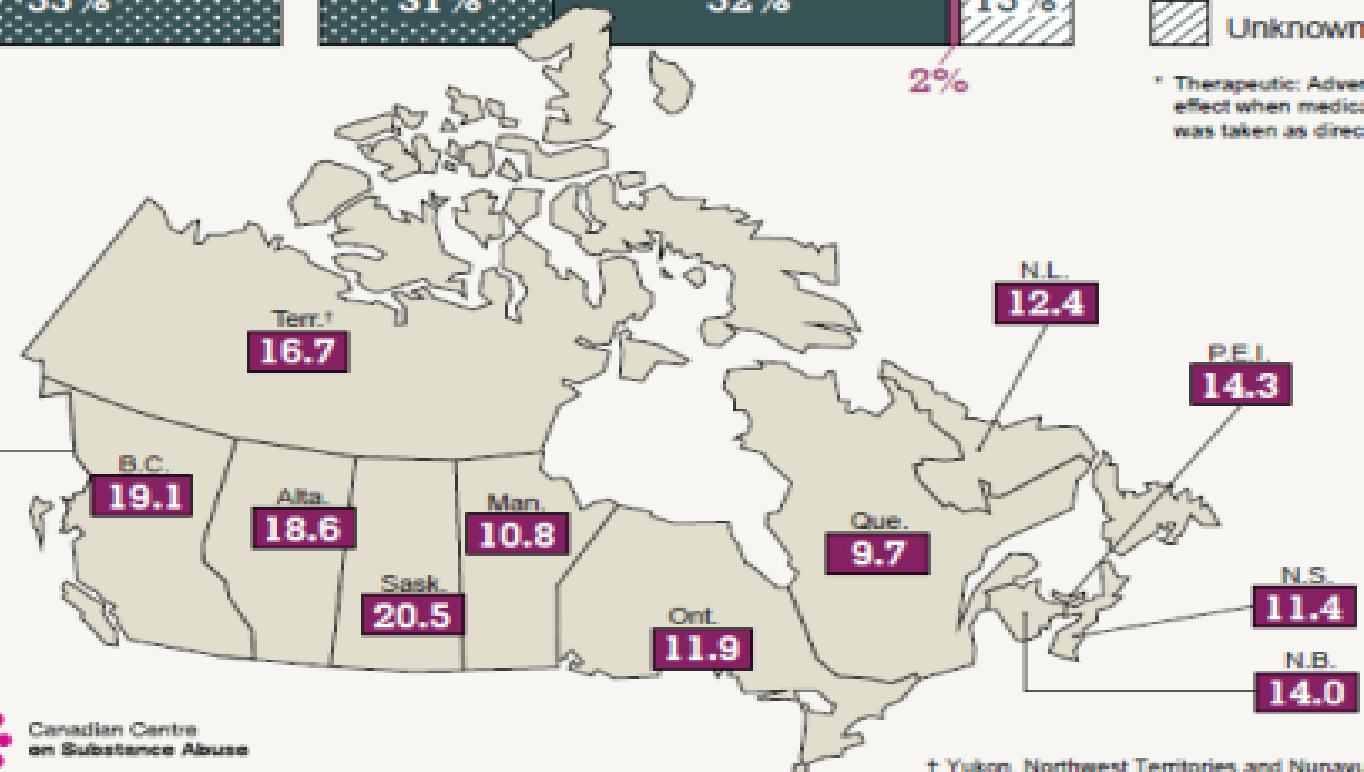


* Therapeutic: Adverse effect when medication was taken as directed.

How do rates differ across Canada?



Age-adjusted rate per 100,000 population, 2014–2015



CIHI

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Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse

† Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut data is grouped together and reported as "Territories" due to low volumes.

Opioid Crisis in Strathcona County



In the past 5 years,
573 emergency department visits were drug related.
80% were attributed to opioid use



3 out of 4
individuals visiting
emergency
department for opioid
usage are between
the **ages of 15 to 34**



Of the **30 deaths in Strathcona County**
due to drug overdose.
60%
were attributed to
opioid misuse



Since 2013 there was
166% increase
in the number of emergency department visits by Strathcona County residents for
opioid use



6 out of 10
emergency department visits for
opioid misuse were by
male residents

Crisis Response and Emerging Policies



A community response for Strathcona County based on principles of the Social Framework





Community Drug Strategy

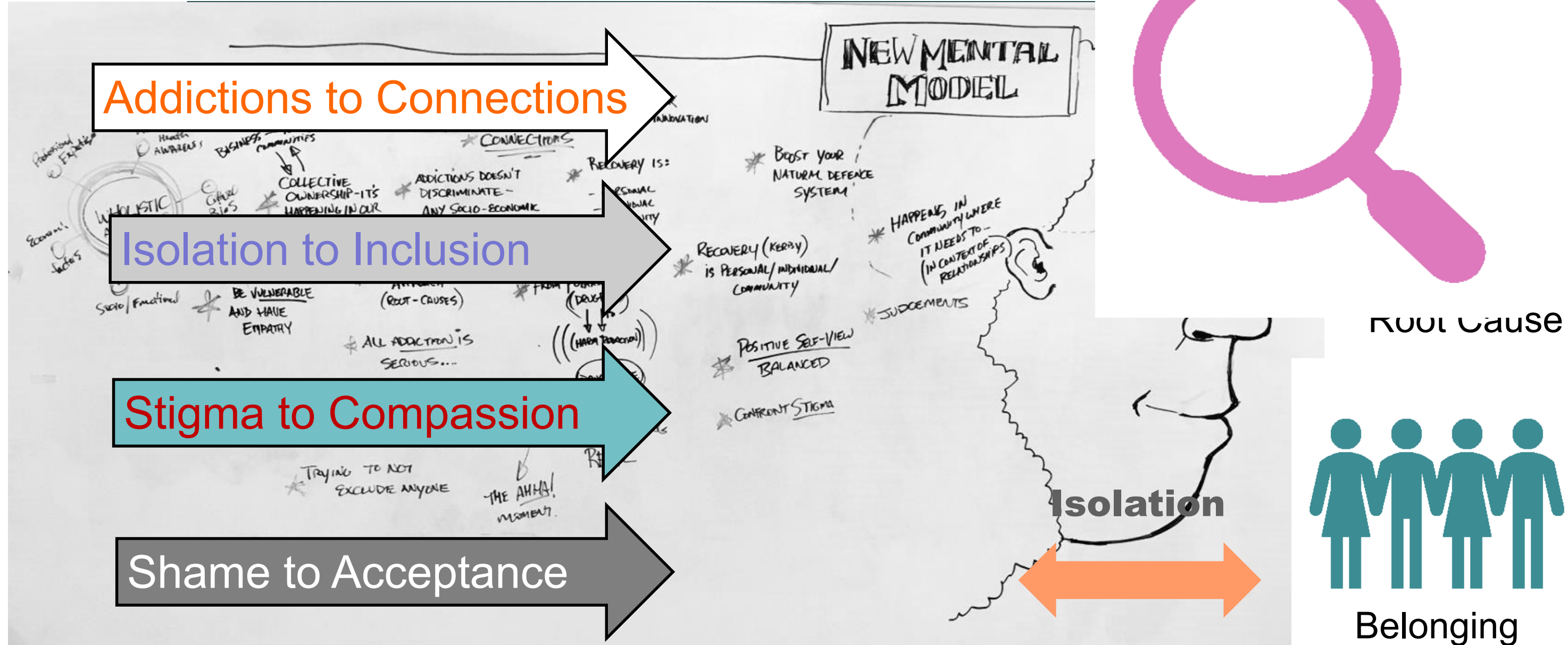
for Strathcona County



FROM ADDICTION TO CONNECTION

Community Drug Strategy for Strathcona County

Shift in Thinking



Community Drug Strategy for Strathcona County

4 Pillars of Support



Prevention

Prevention strategies aim to prevent the problems of substance use before they start. Recognizing experimentation with substances does occur, that if people choose to experiment, they understand how to do so as safely as possible.



Treatment

Treatment includes a broad range of community-based medical and counselling interventions, outreach support and other bio-psychosocial programs that work with individuals struggling with substance use. While treatment often brings to mind abstinence, treatment can also support developing the capacity to make healthy choices that do not demand total abstinence.



Harm Reduction

Harm reduction is an achievable, pragmatic approach to alcohol and drug issues that mitigates harm while understanding that total abstinence may not be an option for everyone. While harm reduction methods have attracted intense scrutiny over the years, they are part of a realistic solution that will help us save lives and greatly contribute to our overall success as a community.



Community Inclusion and Safety

Community inclusion and safety addresses the crime and social disorder related to drug and alcohol use. As an integral component of this strategy, human connection is at the core of community safety, in addition to the enforcement components of the broader criminal justice system.

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Prevention Objective

Increase community understanding of substance use, reducing the level of stigma and discrimination, and strive to prevent the harms of substance use.

ACTIONS	LEAD ORGANIZATION
Implement and evaluate broad-based community education campaigns on early brain development, root causes of addiction, stigma, etc.	Family and Community Services
Support resiliency for children and families by ensuring education, arts/recreation opportunities and supports are available through an interdisciplinary approach	Elk Island Catholic and Elk Island Public School Divisions
Increase evidence-based alcohol and drug prevention programming for youth in the Strathcona County school systems and broader community	Elk Island Catholic and Elk Island Public School Divisions
Increase workplace addiction-related health and safety education and improve addiction-related supports in the workplace	All
Simplify and increase access to addiction and mental health information, including the development of a resource guide and road map	Alberta Health Services
Enhance level of dialogue between sectors and institutions to access and share local substance use data	All

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Treatment Objective

Enhance community treatment resources that support individuals and families toward healthy and rewarding lives.

ACTIONS	LEAD ORGANIZATION
Deliver diverse treatment options along the continuum of treatment from outreach and community-based through to post recovery, not only for those who are addicted, but for those around them	Alberta Health Services
Monitor programs and services, identify gaps and work collaboratively to address gaps	All
Support access to evidence-based, affordable residential treatment services for youth and adults	Alberta Health Services
Improve the way opioids are prescribed for more effective chronic pain management and reduction in misuse or overdose from these drugs	Alberta Health Services

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Harm Reduction Objective

Work to reduce the harms of substance use in Strathcona County.

ACTIONS

Increase safety programming for people who inject, inhale or drink substances, and increase maintenance programs to help with withdrawal as people minimize their use

Increase overdose prevention and awareness programming

LEAD ORGANIZATION

Alberta Health Services

Primary Care Network
Sherwood Park, Strathcona County

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Community Inclusion and Safety Objective

Work to increase community inclusion and connection, reduce substance-use related incidences, and support appropriate diversion to treatment options.

ACTIONS	LEAD ORGANIZATION
Create welcoming and inclusive communities where citizens have the opportunity for meaningful connections and every individual is respected	All
Increase the coordinated approach between police and community stakeholders in addressing substance-use related crime	RCMP
Support connected and inclusive communities to address factors contributing to addiction and create a sense of place where all individuals are respected	Family and Community Services

Opioids Don't Discriminate

Awareness Campaign

What if it's about **more**
than just a pill?



Just a little to lose a lot.

strathcona.ca/opioids

A message from the Community Drug Strategy Committee
in Strathcona County, in partnership with



Opioids Don't Discriminate

Follow the journey of 3 characters



Meet Max.

He's smart and loves to draw.

He gets pills from friends to help with his anxiety.



Meet Natasha.

She works hard and loves her kids.

She finds pills in her teenage son's room.



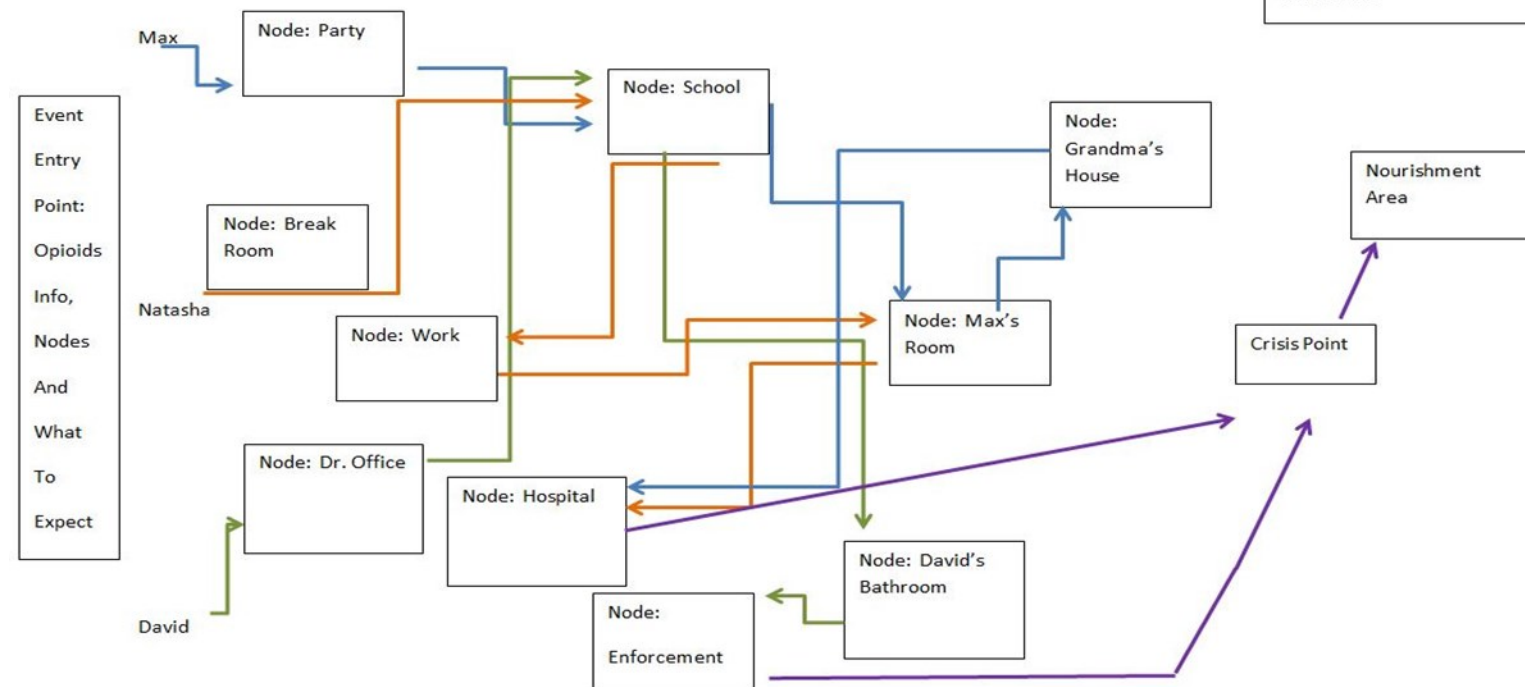
Meet David.

He's a fun dad and loves playing hockey.

He was injured and used up his prescription early.

Now he's trying to get more pills.

From Addiction to Connection: An Opioids Journey



Opioids Don't Discriminate

Interactive Journey Invitation

Opioids don't discriminate.



You're invited to an
interactive experience.

Challenge what you
think you know.

November 5 - 9

Strathcona County
Community Centre

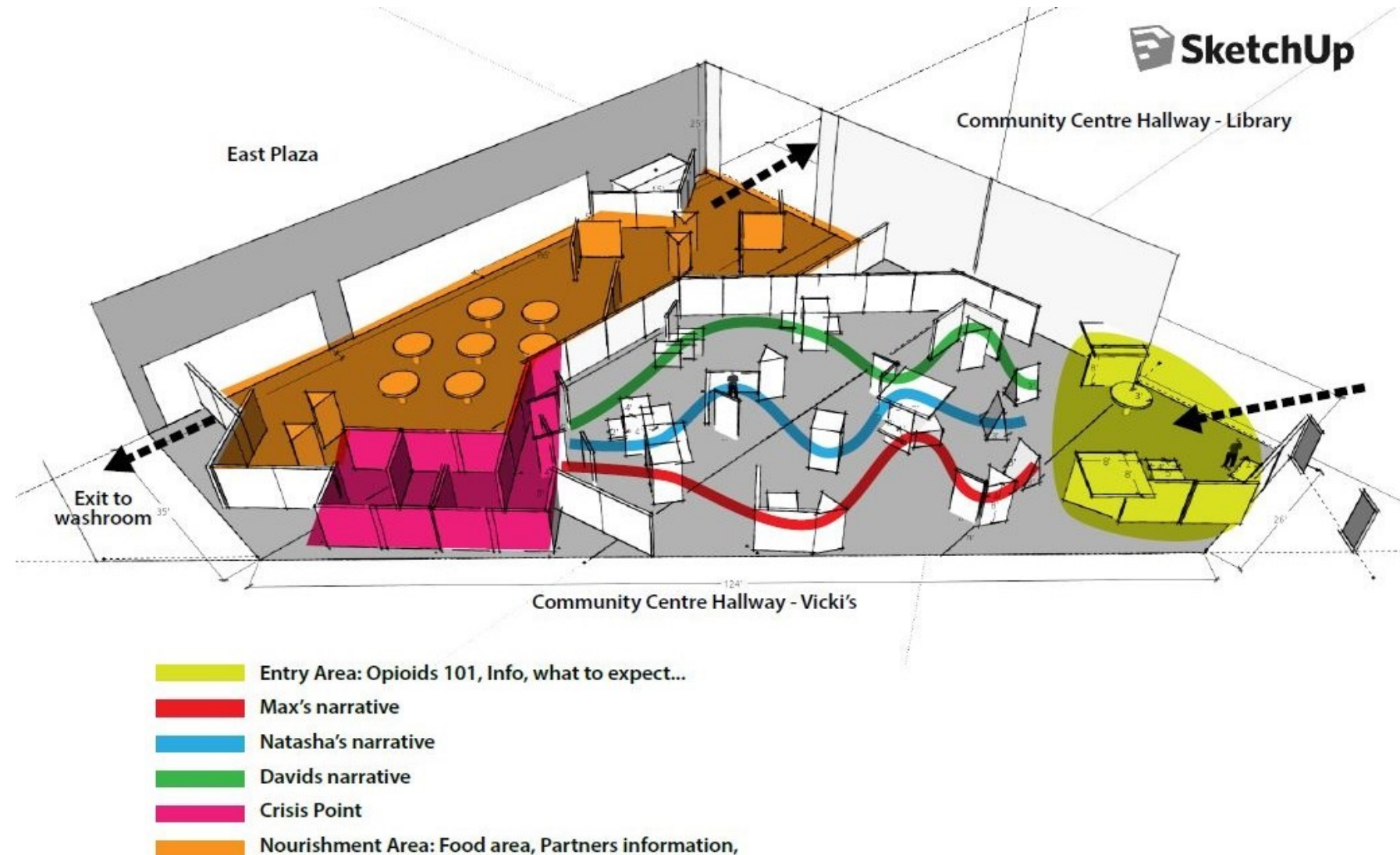
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Opioids Don't Discriminate

Interactive Journey



Request of Council

- **Review and share the Community Drug Strategy for Strathcona County**
- **Attend and promote the Interactive Event – Opioids Don't Discriminate**

Thank You

On behalf of the
Community Drug
Strategy Committee of
Strathcona County



MLA Annie McKittrick
Sherwood Park

Moms Stop the Harm



— Strathcona County —
Victim Services



Salvation Army

Sherwood Park Alliance Church

