



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

May 29, 2017

Health Canada Authorizes Two New Lookout Society Supervised Consumption Sites

NEW WESTMINSTER, BC – Lookout Society (Lookout) is pleased to announce that Health Canada has approved the operation of four new supervised consumption sites across Canada, two of which will be operated by Lookout. The two sites, located in **Vancouver at the Powell Street Getaway** (528 Powell Street) and in **Surrey at SafePoint on 135 A Street**, currently offer overdose prevention services. With Health Canada’s announcement, Lookout will now be able to offer more comprehensive supervised consumption services as we combat the overdose crisis.

Lookout has increased services across the region in response to the overdose crisis, which has taken its toll across British Columbia. Lookout offers overdose prevention services in Vancouver, Surrey and Abbotsford and all front line staff are trained in naloxone reversals. Lookout has increased access to harm reduction supplies and education, and peer-lead substance use programs. All of these services have been implemented with support from Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health Authority.

“The overdose epidemic has placed a tremendous strain on some of the most vulnerable people in our communities, as well as on front-line staff,” says Shayne Williams, Executive Director for Lookout Society. “We are pleased to move forward with supervised consumption services at SafePoint and the Powell Street Getaway, and know that these services will go a long way in making a difference to the lives of those on 135A Street and in the Downtown Eastside,” said Shayne Williams, Executive Director for Lookout Emergency Aid Society. “Both SafePoint and the Getaway staff will not only reverse overdoses, but will help make meaningful connections with people seeking to access health care and other supports.”

“Supervised consumption services continue to play a vital part in the strategy for combatting this Opioid Epidemic. Both the Powell Street and SafePoint locations also operate in partnership with existing health authority services that will better enable individuals to access more treatment and other health options,” adds Keir Macdonald, Deputy Executive Director for Lookout Society.

For Health Canada’s official press release, click [here](#).

For Fraser Health’s official press release, click [here](#).

For Vancouver Coastal Health’s press release, click [here](#).



About Lookout Society

Founded in 1971, The Lookout Emergency Aid Society operates 32 buildings across nine Metro Vancouver communities; Vancouver, Surrey, New Westminister, the North Shore, Burnaby, Maple Ridge, Mission, Langley and Abbotsford.

Lookout cares for vulnerable people 24 hours a day - 365 days a year, assisting with housing and health solutions. Lookout reaches nearly 2,500 people every day through its 74 programs and houses over 1,200 people each night in shelters, transitional, supportive and affordable housing.

For more information:

Web: www.lookoutsociety.ca

Twitter: @lookoutsociety

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LookoutSociety>

Contact:

Wes Everaars, Director of Development

Lookout Society

Email: devdirector@lookoutsociety.ca

Cell: (778) 828-6991