

[View this email in your browser](#)



**PARKDALE  
QUEEN WEST**  
Community  
Health Centre

## Dear Parkdale Community,

**Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre (PQWCHC) regretfully informs you of the closure of its Consumption Treatment Service/Supervised Consumption Service (CTS/SCS) at our Parkdale site, 1229 Queen Street West, effective 6:00pm on November 22, 2025.**

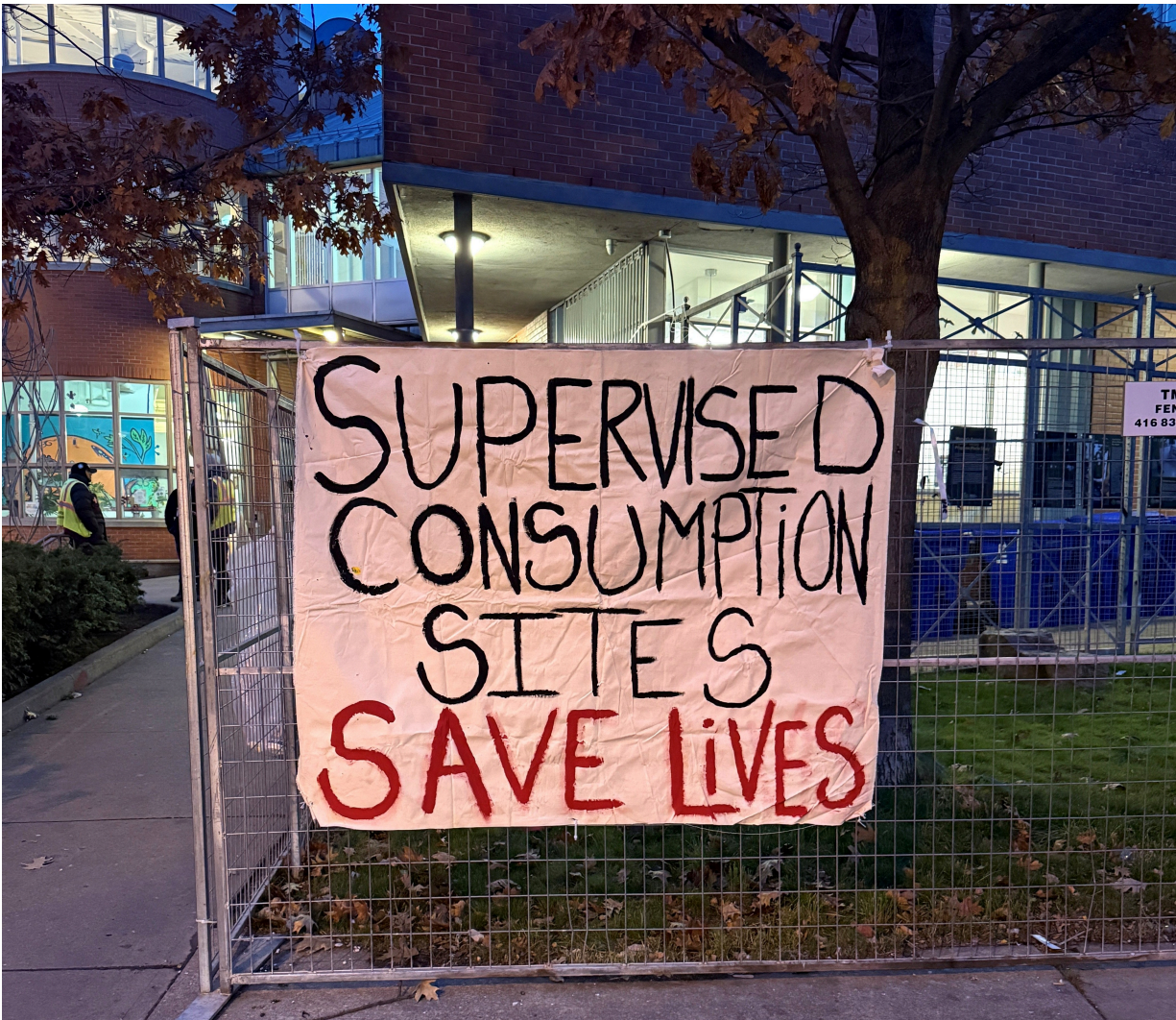
The closure is a result of the Government of Ontario's decision last month to terminate funding for the site. PQWCHC Board and Leadership took exhaustive efforts to preserve this life-saving service, including finding a donor willing to provide some financial support. However, the provincial funding cut combined with the risks in going against the direction of the provincial government and federal government and insufficient time to meet the Health Canada requirements, made it impossible to establish a viable pathway forward.

"We are grief stricken to close a service that saves lives every single day. We fought so hard to keep it open" said Dana Fisher, Chair of the Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre Board. "Closing puts people at risk and is a devastating outcome for the community we serve."

Our work to provide life-saving care for the most vulnerable is long-standing. Like us, community agencies across the city are increasingly facing opposition to the delivery of essential services for unsheltered community members, and people who are struggling with substance use even as need grows. There is a growing pushback against harm reduction services, shelters and supportive housing, and the organizations that provide these services. Yet sadly there isn't the same push for governments to take systemic actions to solve these crises, or to hold governments accountable for their actions that exacerbate or create the conditions which give rise to community safety concerns.

Community safety is also part of a commitment held collectively by government policy-makers with local law enforcement, businesses, organizations, neighbours and community members. It can be built by identifying and addressing root causes, together. PQWCHC is participating in the [City-led Parkdale Safety Network](#), open to all Parkdale community members. We also want to highlight the [METRAC Community Safety Audit](#) currently underway in Parkdale. We urge all community members to participate in these initiatives, if possible. Information on both city-led initiatives is listed below.

Our commitment to community safety, health and well-being is evident. Parkdale's SCS played a vital role in saving lives. This past summer alone, staff reversed 45 overdoses near the site, conducted four daily clean-ups, and worked closely with City outreach and housing workers, and community-safety partners. Following the province's closure of other SCSs in April 2025, the Parkdale site had experienced an over 60% increase in service utilization. In just a few months, 360 new clients sought safety and support at the site and total visits to the service doubled. Since the SCS opened in 2019, we have reversed 962 overdoses that could have cost someone's life.



### Our Commitment to a Dignified Transition

Our responsibility is to secure the safety and well-being for our clients and the Parkdale community during this difficult transition. Our closure plan includes:

- Working directly with clients and community partners to support the transition of hundreds of SCS clients to other services and complementary support
- Expanding our mobile overdose prevention supports for the community
- Establishing a mobile and drop-in substance use care team to provide clinical care and overdose prevention throughout the South Parkdale community.
- Continue to maintain hourly and daily sweeps for needles and sharps as well as expand our routes to include daily visits to Melbourne Parkette.
  - We remain committed to community responsiveness and are also still responding to community requests for needle and sharps removal and disposal. If you'd like to make a request for sharps removal please email us at [communityengagement@pwqchc.ca](mailto:communityengagement@pwqchc.ca) or call [416-537-2455](tel:416-537-2455).

Ultimately, the closure of this site will put lives and the community of Parkdale at risk. Ontario is still losing about 200 people every month to the toxic drug crisis. The government's decision to defund the site deepens that vulnerability.

To address the anticipated increase in overdoses in the community, we have begun **weekly overdose response trainings** at our Parkdale site that are **open to all** community partners, community members and businesses.

Please join us **Thursdays (Dec 4, 11 and 18) at 6pm** for community-focused training on the basics of overdose response, recognizing early symptoms and responding with naloxone.





# OVERDOSE RESPONSE

## FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND BUSINESSES

**Every Thursday**  
**Nov 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**Dec 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**Dec 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**Dec 18<sup>th</sup>**



**1229 Queen St W**  
**Parkdale Site**  
**Board Room**  
**6pm-730pm**



- **LEARN THE SYMPTOMS OF AN OVERDOSE**
- **LEARN TO ADMINISTER NALOXONE**
- **FREE TAKE HOME KITS**



**PARKDALE  
QUEEN WEST**  
Community  
Health Centre

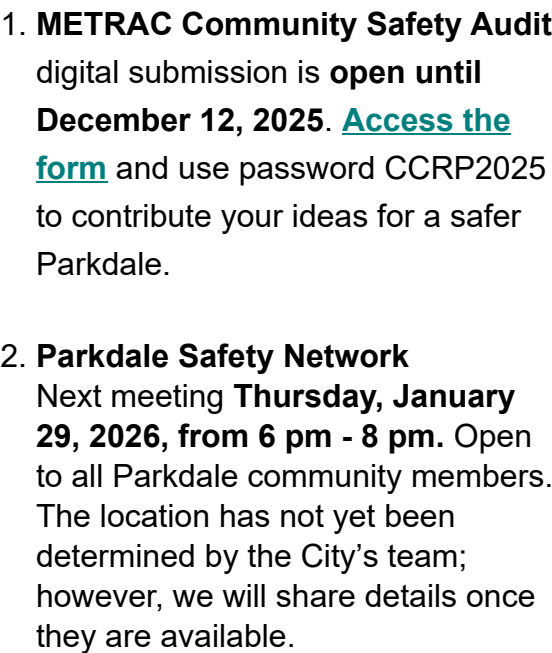
For additional inquiries on how you can participate please contact [communityengagement@pqwchc.ca](mailto:communityengagement@pqwchc.ca)

PQWCHC extends its deepest gratitude to its staff, volunteers, community partners and advocates who supported our SCS. We mourn this loss with our community and are beyond distraught at the lives that will be forever harmed in the wake of this closure. We remain steadfast in our broader mission to promote and defend harm reduction services, and ask you to do the same, because people who use drugs deserve evidence informed care without judgement.

Unending thanks,



Angela Robertson - Executive Director



Copyright (C) 2025 Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

