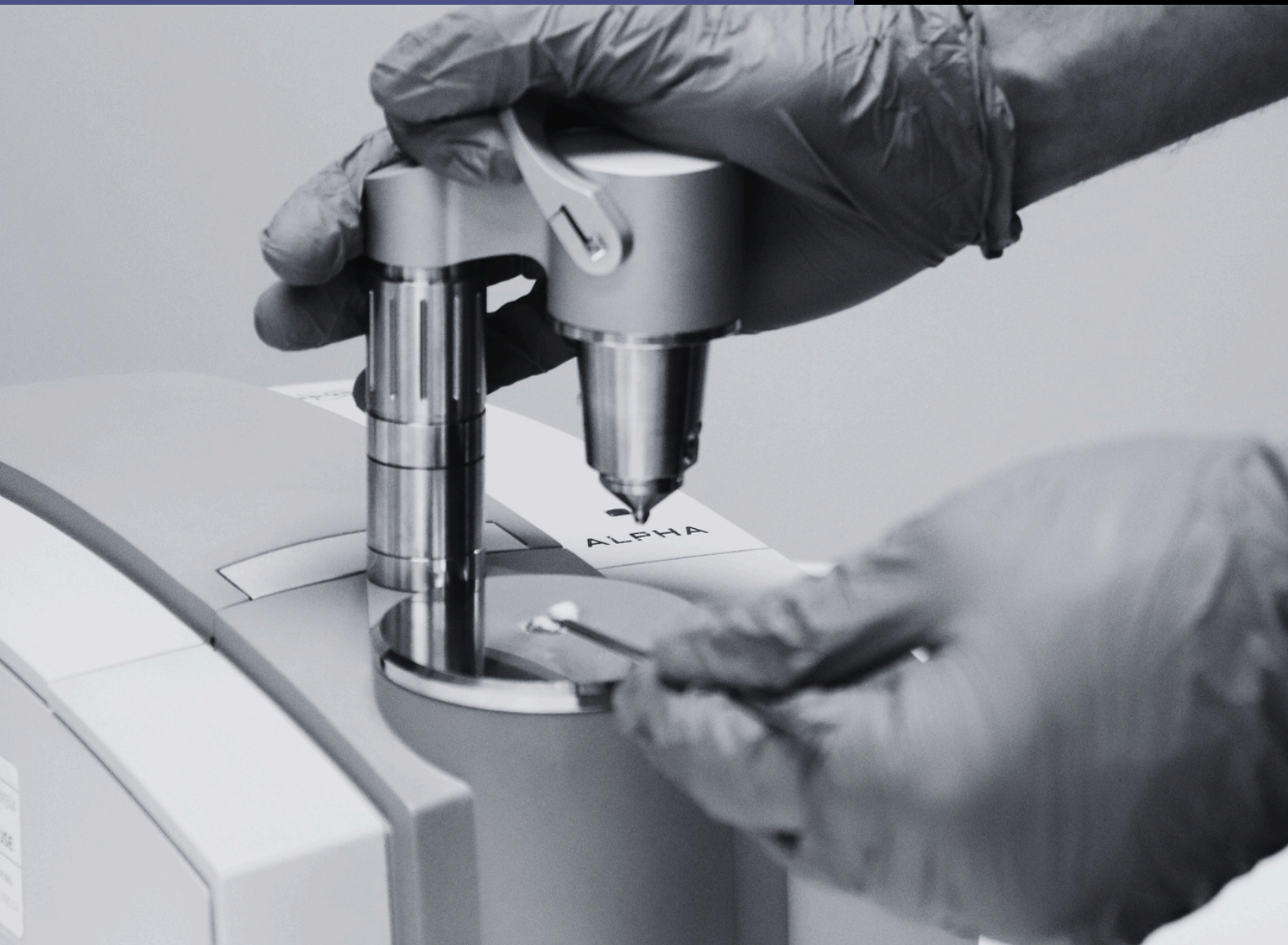


B.C. DRUG CHECKING SYMPOSIUM

FEBRUARY 27-28

20 25



BRITISH COLUMBIA
CENTRE ON
SUBSTANCE USE

Networking researchers, educators & care providers



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WELCOME

2025 B.C. DRUG CHECKING SYMPOSIUM

We are thrilled to have you join us either in person in New Westminster, or online from across BC and Canada. Over two days, we will delve into drug checking, and explore the latest advances in the field. With support and participation from those who use drug checking services, those who deliver drug checking services, and those who plan, fund, study and otherwise assist drug checking services, we are set for an exciting and inspirational gathering. Plenary speakers, breakout sessions and hands-on workshops are interspersed with networking opportunities and an evening gathering just around the corner.

Welcome to the 2025 B.C. Drug Checking Symposium!

-BC Centre on Substance Use and Fraser Health Authority



2023 Symposium Participants - Photo taken by Kevin Hollett

AGENDA

2025 B.C. DRUG CHECKING SYMPOSIUM

February 27, 2025

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>8:30am Registration (Beverages and snacks will be provided) Location: Foyer</p> | |
| <p>9:00am Welcome Remarks (Fraser Health and BCCSU) Location: Ballroom East <i>Available to online participants</i></p> | |
| <p>9:10am Elder Xem-tu-mus Blessing Location: Ballroom East</p> | |
| <p>9:20am-9:55am Plenary 1 Adults and Drug Checking: VCH and FH Service User Panel Moderators: Brandon Hamvai and Mandy Adams Location: Ballroom East <i>Available to online participants</i></p> | |
| <p>Breakout 1 - 10:00am Developing Satellite Services for the central/eastern Fraser Valley Presenter: Tanis Oldenburger Moderator: Shannon Witham Location: Ballroom East <i>Available to online participants</i></p> | <p>Breakout 2 - 10:00am Mixture Analysis Workshop for Technicians Presenters: David Byres and Jen Angelucci Location: Breakout Room A</p> |
| <p>11:00am Break/Refreshments Location: Foyer</p> | |

AGENDA

2025 B.C. DRUG CHECKING SYMPOSIUM

February 27, 2025

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|---|---|---|
| <p>Breakout 3 - 11:15am Providing Drug Checking in Rural & Remote Communities Presenters: Kerensa Medhurst & Kiara McLean Moderator: Silvina Mema Location: Ballroom East <i>Available to online participants</i></p> | <p>Breakout 4 - 11:15am Deep Dive into Specific Substances for Technicians Medetomidine - Aeris Finch Xylazine - Jen Angelucci Benzodiazepines - Jana Baller 2C-B - Antoine Marcheterre Location: Breakout Room A</p> | |
| <p>12:15 Lunch Location: Foyer</p> | | |
| <p>1:15-2:10pm Plenary 2 Youth & Drug Checking: Nanaimo Students School Drug Checking Project Moderator: Griffin Russell Panelists: Breigh Higgins, Dannika Gilbert & Alexa Meekison Location: Ballroom East <i>Available to online participants</i></p> | | |
| <p>Breakout 5 - 2:15pm Expanding Provincial Technician Training Capacity: Train the Trainer Model Presenter: David Byres Moderator: Heather Forbes Location: Ballroom East <i>Available to online participants</i></p> | <p>Breakout 6 - 2:15pm Breaking Barriers: Integrating Harm Reduction and Drug Checking into Music Festivals Presenters: Jana Baller and Chris Kling Moderator: Julie-Soleil Meeson Location: Breakout Room A</p> | <p>Breakout 7 - 2:15pm Drug Checking Research Presenters: Joshua Bird and Pablo Nieto Moderator: Margot Kuo Location: Breakout Room B</p> |
| <p>3:15pm Break Location: Anywhere</p> | | |

AGENDA

2025 B.C. DRUG CHECKING SYMPOSIUM

February 27, 2025

3:30-4:15pm

Plenary 3

Drug Checking Open Mic

Moderators: Brittany MacLaughlan and Mia Pohl

Location: Ballroom East

Available to online participants

4:15-4:30pm

Wind Up for the Day

Location: Ballroom East

Available to online participants

5:00-7:00pm

Social Gathering

Location: Georgie's Local Kitchen + Bar, 250 Columbia Street

AGENDA

2025 B.C. DRUG CHECKING SYMPOSIUM

February 28, 2025

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|--|--|--|
| <p>8:30am Registration for new participants (Beverages and snacks will be provided) Location: Foyer</p> | | |
| <p>9:00am-9:55am Plenary 4 Drug Checking and Public Health Response to the toxic drug crisis Presenter: Silvina Mema Trends in BC's Drug Supply Presenter: Jen Angelucci Moderator: Jennifer Matthews Location: Ballroom East <i>Available to online participants</i></p> | | |
| <p>Breakout 8 - 10:00am Supporting Drug Checking System Development in BC: Health Canada's Drug Analysis Service Presenter: Lilly Luu Moderator: Margot Kuo Location: Ballroom East <i>Available to online participants</i></p> | <p>Breakout 9 - 10:00am Third Party Drug Checking Without Consent Presenter: Jennifer Matthews Moderator: Kerensa Medhurst Location: Breakout Room A</p> | <p>Breakout 10 - 10:00am Harm Reduction Messaging Workshop Presenter: Julie-Soleil Meeson Moderator: Sarah Whidden Location: Breakout Room B</p> |
| <p>11:00am Break/Refreshments Location: Foyer</p> | | |

AGENDA

2025 B.C. DRUG CHECKING SYMPOSIUM

February 28, 2025

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|---|---|---|
| <p>Breakout 11 - 11:15am Building capacity for using confirmatory testing results: assessing pilot impact for point-of-care services Presenters: Irene Shkolnikov and Ava Margoese Moderator: Jennifer Matthews Location: Ballroom East <i>Available to online participants</i></p> | <p>Breakout 12 - 11:15am Sample Collection and Managing Personal Information Workshop Presenter: Mia Pohl Moderator: Emilee Wells Location: Breakout Room A</p> | <p>Breakout 13 - 11:15am Okanagan Indian Band (OKIB) New Drug Checking Service Presenters: Nicole Sullivan and Lane Brewer Moderator: Courtney Harrop Location: Breakout Room B</p> |
| <p>12:15 Lunch Location: Foyer</p> | | |
| <p>Breakout 14 - 1:15-2:10pm Building Indigenous Led Harm Reduction Services Presenter: Courtney Harrop Moderator: Sarah Whidden Location: Ballroom East <i>Available to online participants</i></p> | <p>Breakout 15 - 1:15-2:10pm FTIR Care and Maintenance Workshop Presenter: Mia Pohl Moderator: Heather Forbes Location: Breakout Room A</p> | <p>Breakout 16: 1:15-2:10pm Planning a provincial client results portal—presenting a work in progress Presenters: TBC Moderator: Brandon Hamvai Location: Breakout Room B</p> |
| <p>2:15-3:00pm Plenary 5 Mental Health, Self-Care and Harm Reduction Presenters: Tara Taylor and Kevin Parker Moderator: Tanis Oldenburger Location: Ballroom East <i>Available to online participants</i></p> | | |

AGENDA

2025 B.C. DRUG CHECKING SYMPOSIUM

February 28, 2025

3:00pm

Break

Location: Anywhere

3:15pm

Plenary 6

Rapporteurs: Highlights from the Symposium

Recognizing our Champions

Location: Ballroom East

Available to online participants

3:45pm

Elder Xem-tu-mus Blessing

Location: Ballroom East

4:00-4:15pm

Closing Remarks by Fraser Health and BCCSU

Location: Ballroom East

Available to online participants

SYMPOSIUM DETAILS

2025 B.C. DRUG CHECKING SYMPOSIUM

Information about the venue

The 2025 B.C. Drug Checking Symposium will take place at the Anvil Centre in New Westminster.

The Anvil Centre (777 Columbia Street) is about a 2-minute walk from New Westminster SkyTrain station. Parking is also available onsite and in other areas near the venue.

Parking

Underground Parking

Anvil Centre features three levels of underground parking with 270 stalls. Parkade access is on Eighth Street.

Hourly Rates:

1 hour: \$3.25

5 hours: \$9.00

10 hours: \$15.00

Other Parking

Parking is also available at two large nearby parkades. Adjacent to Anvil Centre is the Shops at New West multi-level parkade, located at the corner of Eighth Street and Columbia St. The Front Street Parkade, accessed from Fourth and Sixth Streets and just south of Columbia, offers reasonably priced hourly and daily parking rates.

On-street Parking

Hourly pay meter parking can be found on the streets in and around Anvil Centre. Please note most meters have time limits.

SYMPOSIUM DETAILS

2025 B.C. DRUG CHECKING SYMPOSIUM

Evening Social Event

The evening gathering will take place from 5-7pm on February 27, 2025 at Georgie's Local Kitchen + Bar located at 250 Columbia Street - about an 8 minute walk from the Anvil Centre. Some small snacks will be provided.

Information About Harm Reduction Services

Located at 40 Begbie Street (right around the corner from the Anvil Centre), the Lower Mainland Purpose Society will be offering harm reduction supplies and services for symposium participants. Services include a safe consumption site for people who use IV drugs which is open from 8:00am-10:30pm both days of the symposium.

Drug Checking support will be offered on site.

If you have questions about these harm reduction services, please see event organizers.

APPRECIATION

2025 B.C. DRUG CHECKING SYMPOSIUM

The symposium planning committee would like to thank all those who have dedicated their time to present, moderate, host, volunteer and actively participate in the symposium.

Symposium Planning Committee:

- Jana Baller, Fraser Health Authority
- Heather Forbes, Ministry of Health
- Brandon Hamvai, Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health Authority
- Courtney Harrop, Tla'amin Nation
- Kay Angliss McDowell, BCCSU
- Kerensa Medhurst, Northern Health Authority
- Julie-Soleil Meeson, DRED and AIDQ
- Warren O'Briain, BCCSU
- Tanis Oldernburger, Mountainside Harm Reduction Society
- Doris Payer, Canadian Centre for Substance Use and Addiction
- Reanne Sanford, Northern Health Authority
- Ken Tupper, Ministry of Health
- Sarah Whidden, Vancouver Coastal Health
- Shannon Witham, Island Health Authority

We would also like to thank the Ministry of Health for their support in making this event possible.

We could not have done this without you all!