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**STATEMENT FROM FDPS & PROSPER SUPPORTING FEDERAL
ACTION TO ADDRESS THE MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION CRISIS
AFFECTING BRITISH COLUMBIA**

(VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA) - Today, Dr. Kevin Sabet will join Vancouver Mayor Ken Sim, and First Nations leaders, public health experts, and law enforcement officials and mayors from across British Columbia to demand urgent action from the federal government to tackle the public safety and the mental health and addictions crisis affecting Vancouver and municipalities throughout the province.

[Foundation for Drug Policy Solutions \(FDPS\)](#) President Dr. Kevin Sabet, an international drug policy expert and former three-time U.S. White House presidential drug policy advisor and Co-Founder of PROSPER, a new B.C.-based organization, the [Policy Roundtable On Substance Prevention Education and Recovery \(PROSPER\)](#), released the following statement in response:

“Our city, province, and country are in the midst of the worst drug crisis in our history, and we need new solutions. Doing the same thing and hoping for a different result isn’t working. Mayor Sim should be applauded for taking initiative and pushing government to introduce a framework for mandatory care. As has been done in many progressive U.S. states, like California, Massachusetts, and Washington state, this can be done in a way that is compassionate and balanced. I am heartened by Premier Eby's announcement yesterday for more beds dedicated to mandatory care. It's a good first step, but we must do more.