

10 ACTIONS FOR NL

GUARDIANS AT THE GATE

Stop the Drugs Coming Into Newfoundland & Labrador

A PROVINCIAL DRUG INTERDICTION & RECOVERY STRATEGY



PROTECT OUR BORDERS
RECLAIM OUR COMMUNITIES
SUPPORT RECOVERY

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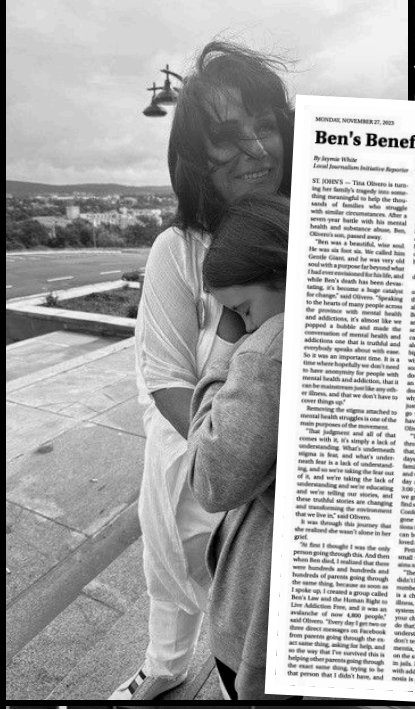
Registered Charity - 782967350 RR0001
CRA HST Number: 782967350 RT0001
Incorporation Number: 1544991-0

SOBER LIVING SOLUTIONS
SAVING LIVES











Ben's Benefit urges action for addiction care

By Jaymie White
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

ST JOHN'S — Tina Oliveros is turning her family's tragedy into something meaningful to help the thousands of families who struggle with similar circumstances. After a seven-year battle with his mental health and substance abuse, Ben, Oliveros's son, passed away.

"Ben was a beautiful, wise soul. He was six feet six, his called him Gentle Giant, and he was very old soul with a purpose far beyond what I had ever envisioned for his life, and while Ben's death has been devastating, it's become a huge catalyst for change," said Oliveros. "Speaking to the hearts of many people across the province with mental health and addictions, it's almost like we popped a bubble and made the conversation of mental health and addictions one that is truthful and everybody speaks about with ease. So it was an important time. It is a time where hopefully we don't need to have anonymity for people with mental health and addiction, that it can be mainstream just like any other illness, and that we don't have to cover things up."

Removing the stigma attached to mental health struggles is one of the main purposes of the movement.

"That judgment and all of that comes with it, it's simply a lack of understanding. What's underneath stigma is fear, and what's underneath fear is a lack of understanding, and so we're taking the fear out of it, and we're taking the lack of understanding and we're educating and we're telling our stories, and these truthful stories are changing and transforming the environment that we live in," said Oliveros.

It was through this journey that she realized she wasn't alone in her grief.

"At first I thought I was the only person going through this. And then when Ben died, I realized that there were hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of parents going through the same thing, because as soon as I spoke up, I created a group called Ben's Law and the Human Right to Live Addiction Free, and it was an avalanche of now 4,800 people," said Oliveros. "Every day I get two or three direct messages on Facebook from parents going through the exact same thing, asking for help, and so the way that I've survived this is helping other parents going through the exact same thing, trying to be that person that I didn't have, and that Ben didn't have, trying to make change for the loopholes in the system and trying to be there for other parents who are going through this tragedy. Because I don't think until you live through it, you have no idea what it's like to watch your child slowly die in front of your eyes and not be able to do anything about it. It was frustrating, infuriating, saddening, stressful, took a toll on my body. It was unbelievable. The story of what parents have to go through has still to be told."

Ben's struggles lasted for almost a decade.

"We have mental health issues in our family, bipolar. So the moment that he smoked weed, it unlocked almost like a bipolar [effect] in Ben's brain. And he had no cause and effect, and he had no ability to see that he was even sick, which is called anosognosia, and that's prevalent in 40 per cent of people with bipolar and 80 per cent of people with schizophrenia. It's a big reason why people are homeless. They don't realize they're sick. They have an illness that is so severe that they don't have cause and effect, and why would they seek support? It's just infuriating for us to tell them to go to recovery because they don't have that frame of reference," said Oliveros.

"There's so many people going through the same thing, and out of that, we built a program on Sundays, every Sunday, for parents and families with addicted loved ones, and we've been meeting every Sunday at the Lantern in St. John's at 3:00 p.m., and that's a place where we grieve, talk, support each other, find solutions. We rallied together at Confederation Building and we've gone to the house to submit petitions to change laws, so that parents can be in the circle of care of their loved ones."

Petitioning for such change is one small way in which this movement aims to help fix a broken system.

"There's a lot [of issues]. Ben didn't have to die. Ben died because, number one, people think addiction is a choice as opposed to a brain illness, and therefore the whole system is set up that way. 'Well, it's your choice to be able to do this or do that,' but we haven't come to an understanding of anosognosia. We don't test for it. If someone had dementia, we wouldn't put them out on the street. We wouldn't put them in jails. But we do that with people with addiction when in fact anosognosis is prevalent in addiction and also dementia," said Oliveros. "So we have mindlessness or no diagnosis when we should have diagnosis, early intervention and from there we should have a protocol of care. That is a society where we celebrate the journey of recovery and so that's what we're having tonight is a recovery revolution."

The benefit, 'Ben's Benefit' took place on Tuesday evening, Nov. 21, at 8:00 p.m., at Gower Street United Church in St. John's, and served as a call to action, urging society to recognize addiction as a public health crisis that demands attention, empathy, and a collaborative effort for lasting change, aiming to de-stigmatize addiction and provide an avenue for healing.

The event was described as not just a musical celebration, but a rallying cry for systemic change, and the evening showcased the resilience of the Newfoundland spirit through the healing power of music, while highlighting the importance of community support in the face of addiction.

"We have hundreds of people coming to the Gurnian Church who also are advocates for mental health and addictions change and awareness and wanting to de-stigmatize the whole process, because one in six people in Newfoundland and Labrador are affected by mental health and addictions right now, and will know some form of mental health or addiction issue in their lives," said Oliveros on the afternoon prior to the event.

"That's a staggering statistic. So when you think about that, our society right now is non-inclusive, and we shun people with addiction instead of building a society that includes them. So we need to re-architect our way of thinking and our whole societal system. So my dream is to build, with the profits of tonight, with our donations, it is to be

BEN'S BENEFIT
continued on Page 8







10 ACTIONS

GUARDIANS AT THE GATE · STOP THE DRUGS · BUILD THE ROAD HOME

THE REAL NUMBERS

The numbers no one is counting. This is how many of us are suffering.

100,000

people in Newfoundland & Labrador will face addiction in their lifetime. That's 1 in 5 of us aged 15 and older.



EACH FIGURE = 2% OF PEOPLE 15+ IN NL

19,000

people in NL may be living with a substance use disorder in any given year.

1 in 3

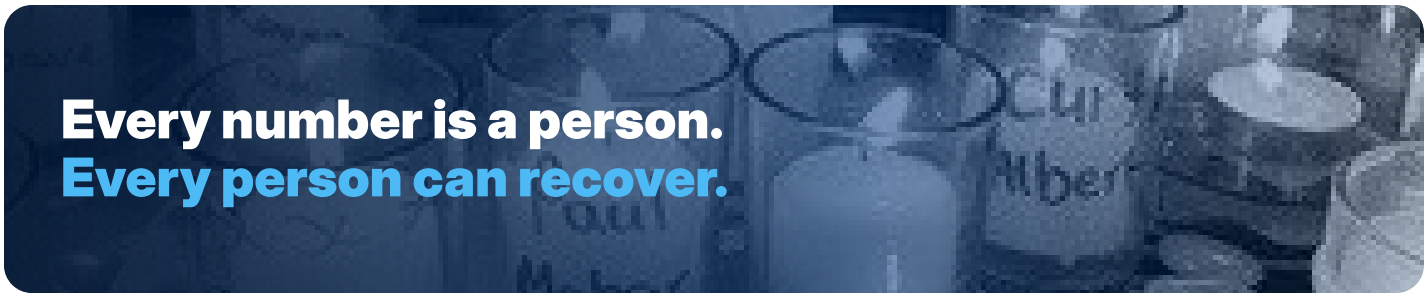
people with an addiction or mental health disorder say they don't get all the care they need.

$833M

the yearly cost of substance use to our province. That's $1,575 for every resident.

Behind every one is a family.

Mothers, fathers, children, partners, neighbours and employers carry this too. Add them in and almost no one in this province is untouched. Every number on this page is a person who needs a safe road to recovery, and a reason to stop the drugs coming in.



How we estimated: national rates from Statistics Canada applied to NL's population aged 15+ (473,900, Labour Force Survey, Apr. 2026). Lifetime: 21.6% met criteria for a substance use disorder (Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey – Mental Health, 2012). This year: 2.2% alcohol, 1.4% cannabis and 0.5% other drug use disorders (Statistics Canada, Mental Health and Access to Care Survey, 2022; some people have more than one). Unmet or partly met care needs: 36.6% (same survey). Cost: Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction, Canadian Substance Use Costs and Harms, 2023 (2020 data). NL has the highest heavy-drinking rate in Canada, so true NL numbers are likely higher.

THE CRISIS IS HERE

Lethal drugs are killing our people. It has to stop now.

Newfoundland and Labrador needs a coordinated plan to keep lethal drugs out of the province, take apart the networks that sell them, protect our neighbourhoods and open real pathways into recovery. Enforcement and recovery must work together: stop the supply, reduce demand, and make sure people choosing recovery have somewhere safe to go.

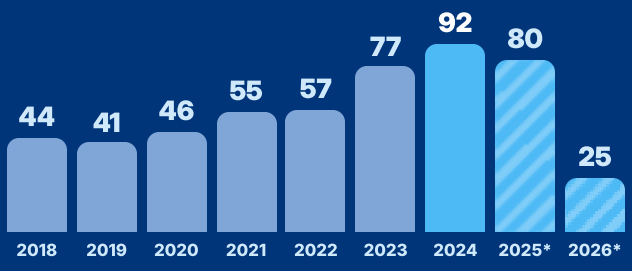
EVERY DAY

On average, someone in Newfoundland & Labrador overdoses every single day. Every one of them is somebody's child.

Source: Guardians of Recovery frontline experience. The province does not publish non-fatal overdose numbers. Action 8 calls for it.

Deaths are down. The drugs aren't.

Substance-related toxicity deaths in NL



Our view: overdoses keep coming in. Fewer deaths does not mean fewer drugs. Source: NL Office of the Chief Medical Examiner via VOCM, as of Sept. 29, 2026. *Preliminary; 2026 is a partial year.

14 yrs old

The age of the youngest overdose victims the Chief Medical Examiner reported in 2025, including teens believed to have died from counterfeit pills laced with a synthetic opioid.

CBC News / Canadian Press, April 2025

56,000+

Canadians lost to opioid toxicity since national tracking began in 2016. In 2025, an average of 15 people died every day.

Public Health Agency of Canada, 2026 release

We live on an island. An island has doors. Let's lock them.

Unlike most of Canada, nearly everything that reaches Newfoundland arrives through a short list of ports, ferry terminals, airports, mail facilities and one road link into Labrador. That is a strategic advantage no other province has. The largest cocaine seizure in NL's history (RCMP, 2024) came from an investigation into groups moving cocaine **from British Columbia into this province**. The drugs are coming in. We know where the doors are. **This plan closes them**, while building somewhere for people to go when they choose recovery.

Sources: Daily overdoses: Guardians of Recovery frontline experience; NL Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, substance-related toxicity deaths 2018–2026, provided to VOCM News (data as of Sept. 29, 2026); CBC News, "More young people are dying from toxic drugs, warns chief medical examiner" (Apr. 16, 2025); Public Health Agency of Canada, national opioid toxicity data for 2016–2025 (released 2026); RCMP Federal Policing Eastern Region, Project Bourbon results (2024).

KNOW EVERY DOOR

How drugs get in, and where we stop them

Nine main gateways bring people and goods into our province, plus the mail and courier system that reaches every doorstep.



Sea & ferry

Container ports, Marine Atlantic ferries from North Sydney, the Strait of Belle Isle ferry and thousands of kilometres of open coastline.

→ ACTION 1

Mail & courier

Parcels move drugs straight to doorsteps in every community, often in small, hard-to-detect quantities.

→ ACTION 2

Air

St. John's, Gander, Deer Lake, Goose Bay and Labrador West airports, plus air cargo and private airstrips.

→ ACTION 3

Road & freight

Trucks rolling off the ferries onto the Trans-Canada, and the Route 389 road link from Quebec into Labrador.

→ ACTION 4

THE STRATEGY

Three pillars. Ten actions. One province, working together.

PILLAR 1 — Lock the Doors

Stop lethal drugs at our ports, ferries, airports, mail and highways before they reach our streets.

1. Ports, ferries & coastline
2. Mail & courier networks
3. Airports & air cargo
4. Trucking, freight & highways

PILLAR 2 — Reclaim Our Streets

Dismantle trafficking networks and make every neighbourhood safe again.

5. Provincial trafficking task force
6. Foot patrols in high-risk areas
7. Drug houses → sober homes
8. Intelligence & early warning

PILLAR 3 — Build the Road Home

Give every person who chooses recovery a safe place to go, and protect the next generation.

9. Detox, treatment & sober housing
10. Protect children & prevent addiction
+5. Measures to tighten the net
✓ A monthly public scoreboard

OUR GOAL

Make Newfoundland and Labrador the hardest place in Canada to import, distribute and sell lethal illegal drugs, while building the recovery system that helps people rebuild their lives.

WHO'S WHO

CBSA Canada Border Services Agency, which screens goods and travellers entering Canada · **RCMP** Royal Canadian Mounted Police · **RNC** Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, which polices St. John's, Corner Brook and Labrador West · **MHA** Member of the House of Assembly, your provincial representative



PILLAR 1 · ACTIONS 1–4

Lock the Doors

01

Intelligence-led screening at every gateway, so the drugs never reach our communities.

1 Seal marine ports, ferries & coastline

Increase intelligence-led inspections at commercial ports, Marine Atlantic terminals, the St. Barbe ferry and known coastal landing points. Use cargo screening, surveillance technology and detection dogs where the risk is highest.

WHO LEADS CBSA · RCMP · RNC · Marine Atlantic · port authorities

FIRST 100 DAYS

- [ ] Joint risk assessment of every marine entry point
- [ ] Detection-dog teams at Port aux Basques & Argentia
- [ ] Anonymous tip-line signs at every terminal

Measure: seizures at each marine entry point

2 Close the mail & courier pipeline

Work with Canada Post, private couriers and police to lawfully screen suspicious shipments, place detection dogs at selected processing sites, flag suspicious shipping patterns and pursue the networks behind them, while protecting legitimate mail and privacy.

WHO LEADS Canada Post · couriers · RCMP · CBSA · Province

FIRST 100 DAYS

- [ ] Premier urges Ottawa to pass and use the mail-search powers in the federal Strong Borders Act
- [ ] Parcel-intelligence agreement with major couriers
- [ ] Red-flag training for every carrier, plus a direct reporting line to police

Measure: suspicious parcels flagged and intercepted

3 Secure airports & air cargo

Increase targeted inspections at airports, air-cargo facilities and identified private airstrips. Combine intelligence sharing, the right screening technology and strategically placed detection dogs to close gaps in passenger and cargo travel.

WHO LEADS CBSA · RCMP · airport authorities · Transport Canada

FIRST 100 DAYS

- [ ] Risk profile for all five major airports
- [ ] Inventory of private airstrips and landing sites
- [ ] Unannounced detection-dog sweeps of air cargo

Measure: air-cargo inspections and seizures per airport

4 Target trucks, freight & highways

Strengthen intelligence-led inspections at freight depots, trucking terminals and selected truck stops along the Trans-Canada and into Labrador. Work with transport companies to identify suspicious loads and organized trafficking runs.

WHO LEADS RCMP · RNC · highway enforcement · trucking industry

FIRST 100 DAYS

- [ ] Commercial-vehicle checks at ferry off-ramps
- [ ] "See something" agreement with carriers
- [ ] Route 389 checkpoint plan with Labrador RCMP

Measure: commercial inspections and trafficking charges



PILLAR 2 · ACTIONS 5–8

Reclaim Our Streets

02

Go after the suppliers, take back our neighbourhoods and see the next threat coming.

5 A provincial drug trafficking task force

Build on the RCMP–RNC Joint Forces Operation model and take it province-wide with CBSA and other partners. Focus on major suppliers, repeat operations, interprovincial routes, financial networks and proceeds of crime.

WHO LEADS RCMP · RNC · CBSA · Justice & Public Safety

FIRST 100 DAYS

- [ ] Mandate, funding and one point of command announced
- [ ] Teams for East, Central, West and Labrador
- [ ] Shared target list of top suppliers

Measure: networks dismantled and proceeds of crime seized

6 Visible foot patrols in high-risk neighbourhoods

Put dedicated officers on foot where trafficking, public drug use and violence are concentrated. Build relationships with residents and businesses, deter open dealing, and connect people seeking help to the right services.

WHO LEADS RNC · RCMP · municipalities · outreach workers

FIRST 100 DAYS

- [ ] Map the top hotspots with residents and businesses
- [ ] Launch regular foot-patrol beats
- [ ] Every officer carries recovery referral cards

Measure: dealing complaints in hotspot neighbourhoods

7 Shut down drug houses, open sober homes

Launch a **Housing Recovery First** initiative. Police, municipalities and property owners tackle properties tied to trafficking. Where a property can lawfully be acquired, repurposed or redeveloped, it becomes a sober living home.

WHO LEADS Province · municipalities · police · NL Housing · Guardians

FIRST 100 DAYS

- [ ] Adopt or strengthen "safer communities" problem-property tools
- [ ] Identify the first property for conversion
- [ ] Set standards for sober-home operators

Measure: drug houses closed and sober beds opened

8 Drug intelligence & early-warning system

Improve information sharing among police, hospitals, health providers and community organizations. Spot trafficking hotspots, new substances, overdose clusters and suspicious transport routes, and give residents safe ways to report.

WHO LEADS NL Health Services · Chief Medical Examiner · RCMP · RNC · Canada Post

FIRST 100 DAYS

- [ ] Public monthly overdose dashboard
- [ ] 48-hour alert protocol for toxic batches
- [ ] Promote Crime Stoppers 1-800-222-TIPS everywhere

Measure: hours from detection to public alert

PILLAR 3 · ACTIONS 9–10

Build the Road Home

03

Stopping the supply only works if people choosing recovery have somewhere safe to go.

THE GUARDIANS RECOVERY PATHWAY

STEP 1
Brain Diagnostics
Understand what's driving the addiction

STEP 2
On-Demand Detox
A bed the day someone says "I'm ready"

STEP 3
Sober Shelters
Safe, drug-free beds, never back to the street

STEP 4
Rehabilitation
Treatment, counselling, coaching

STEP 5
Sober Living Homes
Structure, mentorship, life skills

STEP 6
Independent Living
Work, home, family, a rebuilt life

Detox without a safe place to go is a revolving door. People end up back on the same street, in the same house, with the same dealers. Every step of this pathway has to exist, and connect.

9 Expand detox, treatment & sober housing

Build a connected recovery pathway so no one falls through the gaps between detox, rehab and home. People choosing recovery need timely access to treatment and a safe place to live after detox or rehabilitation, not a return to the same street, the same house and the same dealers.

WHO LEADS Health & Community Services · NL Health Services · community partners

FIRST 100 DAYS

- [ ] Publish detox and treatment wait times, by region
- [ ] Pilot same-day detox access in St. John's
- [ ] Create a stable funding stream for sober-living operators
- [ ] Guarantee a discharge plan: no one leaves detox to the street

Measure: days from asking for help to a detox bed; sober beds available

10 Protect children & prevent addiction

Bring schools, parents, police, health professionals and community groups together for age-appropriate drug education, brain-health awareness, early intervention, family support, youth mentorship and safe community activities. Teens as young as 14 have died. Prevention cannot wait.

WHO LEADS Education · NL Schools · Health · police · families

FIRST 100 DAYS

- [ ] Counterfeit-pill & potent-cocaine warning in every high school
- [ ] Parent information nights in every region
- [ ] Youth mentorship partners named in each district
- [ ] Safe, anonymous reporting around schools

Measure: students and parents reached; youth overdose hospitalizations



TODAY

The drug house

(trap houses)

- ✕ Open dealing on the street
- ✕ Fear, violence, needles
- ✕ Neighbours afraid to speak up
- ✕ A revolving door to overdose

TOMORROW

The sober home

- ✔ A safe, structured, drug-free house
- ✔ Peer mentors and house rules
- ✔ Neighbours who feel safe again
- ✔ A first step toward a rebuilt life

FIVE MORE WAYS TO TIGHTEN THE NET

Additional measures to strengthen the strategy

Drug surveillance & early warning

Track new substances, dangerous combinations and overdose clusters, and send timely alerts to frontline partners.

Youth & school protection

Stronger prevention partnerships and safe reporting around every place young people gather.

Follow the money

Work with federal authorities on money laundering and trafficking profits, using lawful asset-seizure processes.

Recovery-first diversion

Where appropriate, connect people with addiction to detox, treatment, coaching and sober housing, and focus enforcement on those profiting from trafficking.

Public accountability

One number per action, a named leader who answers for it, and a monthly public scoreboard. See next page.

The message to traffickers

Newfoundland and Labrador is closed for business. Every door is watched, and every network will be found.

GUARDIANS AT THE GATE ACTION PLAN

Measure it. Make it public.

Every action has **one Accountability Partner** and **one named leader** who answers for it, measured by **one public number** and shown on a scoreboard every month. No hiding, no silence.

THE PUBLIC SCOREBOARD · UPDATED MONTHLY

ACTION	ACCOUNTABILITY PARTNER	WHO ANSWERS FOR IT	THE ONE NUMBER	WE WANT	STATUS
1 Ports & ferries	CBSA & RCMP	Regional Director General, CBSA Atlantic	Seizures at marine entry points	↑	○○○
2 Mail & couriers	Canada Post	Senior Canada Post executive for NL	Suspicious parcels flagged to police	↑	○○○
3 Airports	CBSA & RCMP	Regional Director General, CBSA Atlantic	Air cargo seizures	↑	○○○
4 Highways	RCMP	Commanding Officer, RCMP NL	Trafficking charges from vehicle checks	↑	○○○
5 Task force	Justice & Public Safety	Deputy Minister, Justice & Public Safety	Trafficking networks shut down	↑	○○○
6 Foot patrols	RNC	Chief of Police, RNC	Dealing complaints in hotspots	↓	○○○
7 Trap houses	Justice & municipalities	Deputy Minister, Justice & Public Safety	Trap houses closed · sober beds opened	↑	○○○
8 Early warning	NL Health Services	CEO, NL Health Services	Hours from toxic batch to public alert	↓	○○○
9 Detox & recovery	Health & Community Services	Deputy Minister, Health & Community Services	Days waiting for a detox bed	↓	○○○
10 Children	Education & NL Schools	Deputy Minister, Education	Students & parents reached	↑	○○○

GREEN · On track
Reported by the 5th and moving the right way.

YELLOW · Slipping
Reported late, or no improvement for 2 months.

RED · Stalled
No report by the 5th, or 3 months with no improvement.

HOW IT HOLDS THEM ACCOUNTABLE

STEP 1
They sign
The named leader signs a one-page commitment: their action, their number, their deadline.

STEP 2
They report
Their number plus one sentence, by the 5th of every month. Published as received.

FIRST RED
They explain
A written public explanation and a fix within 14 days, posted beside the scoreboard.

STILL RED
They're called in
Two months: before the lead minister. Three months: named to the Premier and the House of Assembly.

A tip is a lead, not evidence.

Tips received → Investigated → Charges laid → Convictions

Anonymous tips can't be used in court on their own. Police report every month what they **did** with tips, not just how many came in.

No number reported = RED.

Guardians keeps score and publishes it. Government writes the scoreboard into the lead minister's mandate.

THE FIRST 100 DAYS

From report to reality, starting now.

DAYS 1–30

- Premier announces the strategy and names one lead minister
- Task-force mandate and funding confirmed
- Province presses Ottawa on mail-search powers
- Guardians and families at the table

DAYS 31–60

- Risk assessment of every port, ferry, airport and road link
- Neighbourhood hotspots mapped with residents
- Monthly overdose dashboard goes live

DAYS 61–100

- Detection dogs and inspections live at ferries & airports
- Foot patrols on the street
- First drug house chosen for a sober home
- Detox wait times published
- First monthly scoreboard published

BY YEAR 1

- Full early-warning system linking police and health
- More sober shelter and sober living beds
- Prevention program in every school district
- Annual public report to the House of Assembly

WHO LEADS EACH ACTION

	ACTION	LEADS	SUPPORTS
1	Ports, ferries & coastline	CBSA · RCMP	RNC · Marine Atlantic & ports · Justice & Public Safety
2	Mail & courier networks	Canada Post & couriers · RCMP	CBSA · RNC · Premier (presses Ottawa)
3	Airports & air cargo	CBSA · RCMP	Airport authorities · RNC
4	Trucking, freight & highways	RCMP · Justice & Public Safety	RNC · Trucking industry
5	Trafficking task force	Justice & Public Safety · RCMP · RNC	CBSA · Canada Post · Government of Canada
6	Foot patrols	RNC · RCMP	Municipalities · Residents
7	Trap houses → sober homes	Justice & Public Safety · Municipalities · Guardians	Police · NL Housing
8	Intelligence & early warning	NL Health Services · RCMP · RNC · Canada Post	CBSA · Chief Medical Examiner · Community
9	Detox, treatment & sober housing	Health & Community Services · Guardians	Premier · Municipalities
10	Protect children	Education & NL Schools · Health · Guardians	Police · Families

The Premier's Office coordinates the whole strategy and reports progress publicly. See the next two pages for exactly what we expect from each partner.

WHAT WE EXPECT FROM EVERY PARTNER

Everyone has a job. Here is government's.

The Premier's Office

Owns the strategy

COORDINATES ALL 10 ACTIONS

- **Adopt Guardians at the Gate** as the province's official strategy
- Name **one lead minister** and fund the plan in the next budget
- Press Ottawa for mail-search powers and more CBSA officers at our gateways
- Write the **monthly public scoreboard** into the lead minister's mandate, and report yearly to the House of Assembly

Justice & Public Safety

Enforcement & community safety

LEADS ACTIONS 4, 5, 7

SUPPORTS ACTIONS 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 10

- Stand up and fund the **provincial trafficking task force**
- Fund dedicated **foot patrols** in high-risk neighbourhoods
- Give communities legal tools to **close trap houses** fast
- Make **recovery-first diversion** standard for people with addiction

Health & Community Services

With NL Health Services & the Chief Medical Examiner

LEADS ACTIONS 8, 9, 10 SUPPORTS ACTIONS 7

- Publish **detox and treatment wait times**, by region, every month
- Deliver **same-day detox**, so no one is turned away when they're ready
- Fund **sober shelters and sober living** homes
- Report **all overdoses**, not just deaths, and issue toxic-batch alerts within 48 hours

The Government of Canada

Federal partner

SUPPORTS ACTIONS 1, 2, 3, 5

- **Pass and use** the Strong Borders Act mail-search powers
- Put **more CBSA officers and detection dogs** at NL ports, ferries and airports
- Go after **money laundering** and seize the profits of trafficking
- Co-fund interdiction **and** recovery: both halves of the plan

Canada Border Services Agency

CBSA

LEADS ACTIONS 1, 3 SUPPORTS ACTIONS 2, 5, 8

- Risk-based screening at **every port, ferry terminal and airport** in NL
- Deploy **detection dogs** where the risk is highest
- Share intelligence with the task force in real time
- Report seizures **by entry point**, every quarter

RCMP

Province-wide policing

LEADS ACTIONS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8

SUPPORTS ACTIONS 7, 10

- Lead interdiction on **highways, ferry off-ramps and into Labrador**, including Route 389
- Co-lead the task force and keep **one shared list** of top suppliers
- Expand the RCMP–RNC Joint Forces model **province-wide**
- Carry recovery referral cards and connect people to help

WHAT WE EXPECT FROM EVERY PARTNER

Every door needs a guardian. Here is everyone else's.

Canada Post & Couriers

Our first line of defence at the front door

LEADS ACTIONS 2, 8 **SUPPORTS ACTIONS 5**

- **Train carriers and sorting staff** to spot and report red flags: repeat parcels to the same address, suspicious packaging, deliveries to known trap houses
- **Detection dogs and screening** at NL processing centres, starting in St. John's
- A **direct line into the early-warning system**: flag suspicious shipping patterns to police as they happen, within the law
- Use new mail-inspection powers **the day they become law**, and publish yearly intercept numbers

Royal Newfoundland Constabulary

RNC

LEADS ACTIONS 5, 6, 8

SUPPORTS ACTIONS 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 10

- Put **officers on foot** in the hotspots residents identify
- Co-lead the task force and the **early-warning system**
- Map neighbourhood hotspots **with residents and businesses**
- Make every stop a chance to **connect someone to recovery**

Municipalities

Cities and towns

LEADS ACTION 7 **SUPPORTS ACTIONS 6, 9, 10**

- Use bylaws and property tools to **shut down trap houses**
- **Fast-track permits and zoning** for sober homes
- Run neighbourhood **safety walks** with residents and police
- Better lighting and safe public spaces in problem areas

Education & NL Schools

Protecting the next generation

LEADS ACTION 10

- **Age-appropriate drug and brain-health education** in every school
- Urgent warnings about **counterfeit pills and potent cocaine**
- **Parent nights** in every region, and early help for students at risk
- Safe, anonymous ways for students to report dealing

Ports, Ferries, Airports & Trucking

Marine Atlantic, port and airport authorities, carriers

SUPPORTS ACTIONS 1, 3, 4

- Give enforcement the **space, access and time** to screen cargo and vehicles
- Train staff to **recognise and report** suspicious shipments
- Post the **anonymous tip line** at every terminal and depot
- Share passenger and cargo intelligence lawfully with police

Guardians, Families & Every Resident

The community

LEADS ACTIONS 7, 9, 10 **SUPPORTS ACTIONS 6, 8**

- **Guardians:** open and run sober homes, provide recovery coaching, and publish our own community scorecard
- **Families:** share your story and sit at the planning table
- **Residents:** report trafficking to Crime Stoppers, 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), and welcome sober homes on your street



RALLY FOR CHANGE

GUARDIANS AT THE GATE · OUR CHALLENGE TO GOVERNMENT

STOP THE SUPPLY. PROTECT OUR COMMUNITIES. BUILD THE RECOVERY SYSTEM.

WE CALL ON

The Premier	Adopt this strategy, name one lead minister and publish the scoreboard every month.
Justice & Public Safety	Stand up the provincial trafficking task force and foot patrols, and launch Housing Recovery First.
Health & Community Services	Publish wait times, deliver on-demand detox and fund sober shelters and sober living.
The Government of Canada	Give police and Canada Post the lawful tools to stop drugs in the mail, and resource CBSA at our gateways.
RCMP, RNC & CBSA	Lock the doors together, with one shared picture of every route into this province.



"I lost my son Ben to a drug that never should have reached our shores. We know where the doors are. Let's close them, and open the door to recovery, so no other family has to bury a child."

TINA OLIVERO
Founder & CEO, Guardians of Recovery

EVERYONE HAS A ROLE

Become a Guardian at the Gate

Report trafficking
Crime Stoppers: 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or nlcrimestoppers.com. It's anonymous.

Call or write your MHA
Ask them one question: "Will you support these 10 actions?"

Donate
Help build sober shelters and sober living homes in NL.

Volunteer or partner with us
Become a Guardian of Recovery.

Share this report
With your family, your council and your community.

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Remembering more than 56,000 Canadians who have died of opioid overdose, including

BEN OLIVERO

August 16, 2002 – July 29, 2023

who sparked a

RECOVERY REVOLUTION

GUARDIANS FOR RECOVERY CORPORATION

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Registered Charity - 782967350 RR0001

CRA HST Number: 782967350 RT0001

Incorporation Number: 1544991-0