



Attention: Parents and Caregivers in Grey Bruce

Dear Parents,

As a father of two, with one in high school, I found it imperative that my team prepare this package and send to you. The opioid epidemic is an ongoing issue throughout the world, and this letter is intended to be a reminder that this epidemic is alive in Grey and Bruce, and is alive in the youth population. This package is not meant to cause any panic, but rather, inform you, as the parent or guardian of a youth in high school. We want you to be informed, so that you have the tools needed to talk openly and honestly about this issue.

We are reaching out to you, as there is high potential for opioid overdose associated with the use of the current street drug supply. Reports show that multiple doses of Naloxone, a life-saving medication, have not been sufficient to reverse overdose effects leading to recent fatalities.

While anyone using street drugs is at risk, youth who by nature are more curious and take more risks may have no tolerance for these types of drugs and therefore one use puts them at risk of an overdose and possible brain damage or death. **Recent reports do show that youth are in attendance at parties where opioid overdoses occur.**

Their curious nature, in addition to lack of reliable information can put youth at even greater risk. For this reason, we are providing this information on opioids, which includes strategies to lower their overdose risk.

We are sharing this information to alert parents to what is going on in our community and to urge parents to talk to their teens about this danger. We hope the resources included will support you to have these conversations. We ask you to also consider sharing this information with your teens.

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Contact the Grey Bruce Health Unit Harm Reduction Team at 519-376-9420 or 1-800-263-3456 with questions