



City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fraser Health Offers Naloxone Training in Maple Ridge

Maple Ridge, BC: On Wednesday, December 7 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm Fraser Health, in partnership with the Strong Kids Team and Alouette Addictions, will be hosting a free overdose prevention, recognition and response training session at the Greg Moore Youth Centre in Maple Ridge. This drop-in event is open to everyone and will provide participants with vital information on how to give lifesaving first aid both with and without a Naloxone (Narcan) kit in the event of an overdose.

Take Home Naloxone (THN) kits will be available for free to individuals who qualify as per the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control (BC CDC) policy.

“Overdoses are not limited to people with addictions issues,” cautions School Trustee Susan Carr. “The reality is we’re seeing people who use drugs occasionally and people experimenting for the first time overdosing and dying. Both Kiersten and I are trained to administer Naloxone and encourage everyone to attend this event, get trained and purchase a kit.”

“I wear a Naloxone kit to reduce stigma surrounding carrying Naloxone and to encourage conversation on addiction,” says Councillor Kiersten Duncan. “Naloxone is a lifesaving medication that’s easy to use and has a proven track record of saving lives. This event is your opportunity to learn how to save someone’s life in the event of an overdose.”

“This training session is timely as we head into the holiday season,” says Dr. Helena Swinkels, Medical Health Officer for Fraser Health. “We know people may be thinking of, or be around people mixing substances such as drugs and alcohol, which increases your risk of overdose. It’s important to know this risk, recognize an overdose and know what to do if that happens.”

For more information on the Strong Kids Team please contact the Chair of the Strong Kids Team Susan Carr at Susan_Carr@sd42.ca or the Strong Kids Team Co-Chair Councillor Kiersten Duncan at kduncan@mapleridge.ca. Media enquiries may also be directed to Fraser Health at 604-450-7881.