

KT CoP Meeting

January 16, 2013, 3.30 – 5.00pm (The Blusson Spinal Cord Centre)

Information Items

1. Paula welcomed everyone to the meeting. Around-the-table introduction. Alison and Gal commented on having 9 new faces in the room. Alison gave some background information on how this group had started in December 2010. First meetings were held at restaurants and formalized by having meetings at MSFHR.
 - Purpose of the group and where do we want to go with KT.
 - Alison brought up the BC website. References and survey to membership priorities.
 - Challenges in terminology of KT.
 - There will be another session in the near future to discuss in greater detail.
 - K* to bring everything together and capture full spectrum.
 - Not 100% agreement in literature. Question was raised as in what shall we use: translation, knowledge transfer or exchange?
2. Presentation by Kora De Beck and Michaela Montaner

Kora De Beck

- Promoting Evidence-based drug policy through KT – Supervised injection site *insite*.
- Lessons from the Urban Health Research Initiative – UHRI.
- Background: The Urban Health Research Initiative (UHRI) was established in 2007 as a program of the British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver, Canada.
- Created oversight by Provincial Steering Committee; included BC Provincial Medical Health Officer and Chief of Vancouver Police Department.
- External peer reviewed publications.
- Research findings: attracted intended population, improved public order, reduced overdose risks, no changes in community drug use.
- With those findings they developed KT strategies by engaging with media, plain language summaries, larger report of more than 30 studies.
- After the first 3 years they published more than 20 peer-reviewed articles (today > 40).
- In August 2006 RCMP started own study, which resulted in 2 reports funded by RCMP. These were not available to public but leaked to media. RCMP distanced from it.
- 2007 Journal of Global Drug Policy and Practice stated that everything researcher have done is wrong. This is not an academic journal indeed more like a website. It is funded by “Drug-free-America”.

- May 2008 lawsuit filed in BC Supreme Court. Results: *insite* is a health care facility and closing of *insite* would violate Charter of Right.
- Victory for evidence based medicine.
- Lessons learned for successful KT-strategy: high quality was vital for effective KT
many stakeholders involved
media was essential
building relationship with policy makers

Michaela Montana

- Scientists role in politics
- International Centre for Science in drug policy – ICSDB.
- Thousands of scientists, doctors, politicians, police, and people around the world are calling for reform.
- The Vienna Declaration (2010) is a scientific document calling for evidence-based illicit drug policy. Doctors, Nobel Laureates, politicians, law enforcement involved (23,000 individuals, 1000s scientists and academics, 400+ organizations, 7 Nobel laureates, current and former UN affiliates).
- Stop the Violence in BC launched www.stoptheviolencebc.org; coalition of legal experts, scientists and policy makers.
- Produced a variety of reports.
- You tube video was big success.
- Recommendations: 1. Take evidence-based approach to advocating for evidence-based policies. 2.) Develop strong collaborative relationships between researchers and communicators.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5.10pm.