

# Safeworks Monthly Report – January 2019: Supervised Consumption Services

**Date:** February 11, 2019

## Background

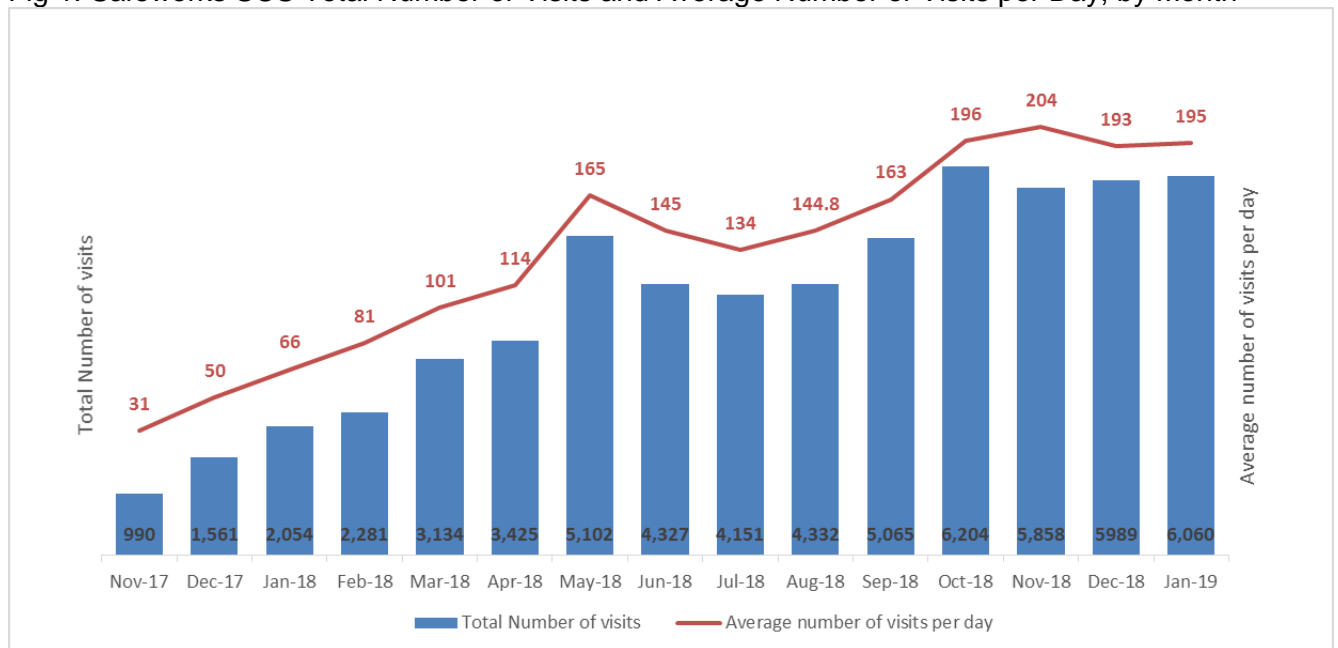
Safeworks Supervised Consumption Services (SCS) launched on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in a temporary facility at the Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre with a federal exemption to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act from Health Canada. On January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the temporary facility closed, and the permanent facility inside the Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre opened for operations. On April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Safeworks began offering services 24 hours, 7 days a week.

## Service Uptake

From October 30, 2017 to January 31, 2019, Safeworks SCS had **60,533 client visits**. In January 2019, the site saw **847 unique individuals** in **6,060 visits**.

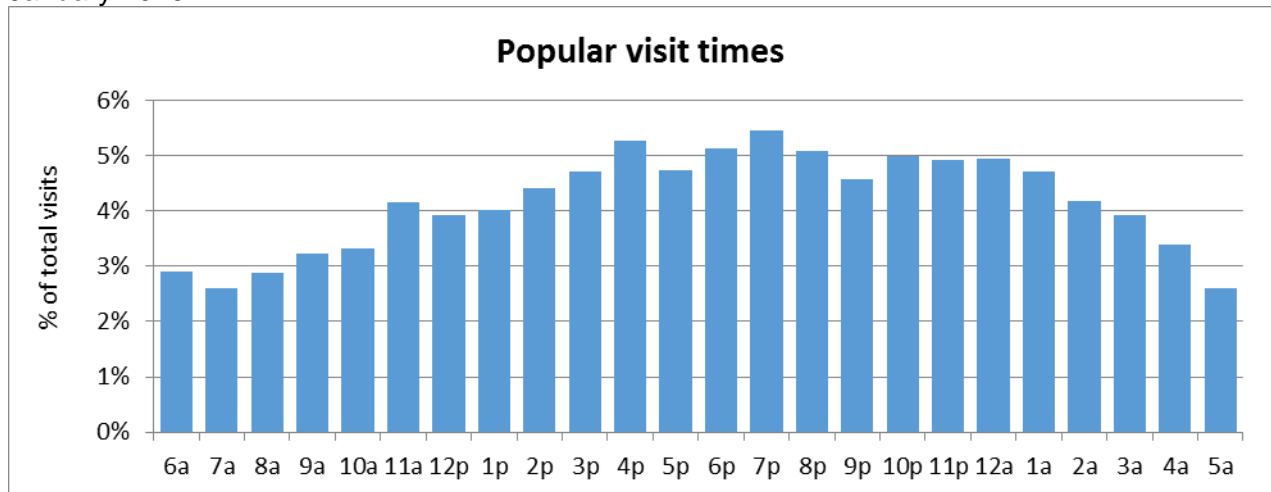
Uptake of services increased over time. The average number of visits per day has increased from 11 in the first week of operations (October 30 – November 5), to 195 visits per day averaged from January 1 to January 31, 2019.

Fig 1: Safeworks SCS Total Number of Visits and Average Number of Visits per Day, by Month



Safeworks SCS hours of operation are 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. Service uptake is consistent throughout the day.

Fig 2: Safeworks SCS Total Number of Visits by Time (hourly – based on time of admission) January 2019



### Drug Use and Overdose Prevention and Response

In January 2019, drugs were consumed on site under the supervision of Registered Nurses (RNs) or Paramedics **4,936 times**. With each client who uses drugs by injection, RNs and Paramedics are available to provide education on vein care, infection prevention, and injection technique. In January, there were three instances of ingestion (swallowing), and 157 instances of intranasal use (snorting).

The most frequently reported drugs used in January were meth/crystal (2,395 times) and fentanyl (1,746 times). Clients may use more than one drug with a single injection/consumption and as such, these counts are not reported as percentages.

Naloxone kits and overdose prevention education are offered to all clients accessing Safeworks SCS, and in January, **333\* overdose response kits**.

From October 30, 2017 – January 31, 2019, Safeworks staff responded to a **total of 831 overdoses which was associated to 231 unique clients**.

In January, Safeworks staff responded to **60** overdoses, 58 required supplemental oxygen; 23 overdoses required naloxone and 3 also required an EMS response.

Table 1: Safeworks SCS Summary of Visits and Overdoses by Month

Month	Number of client visits	Number of times drugs consumed	Number of Overdoses	Overdoses per number of times drugs consumed
October 30 – November 30, 2017	990	827	26	3.14%
December 2017	1,561	1,281	29	2.26%
January 2018	2,054	1,687	35	2.07%
February 2018	2,281	2,003	29	1.45%
March 2018	3,134	2,683	67	2.50%
April 2018	3,425	2,867	44	1.53%
May 2018	5,102	4,131	71	1.72%
June 2018	4,327	3,545	78	2.20%
July 2018	4,151	3,295	67	2.03%
August 2018	4,332	3,571	59	1.65%
September 2018	5,065	4,162	89	2.14%
October 2018	6,204	4,664	63	1.35%
November 2018	5,858	4,745	62	1.31%
December 2018	5,989	5,033	52	1.03%
January 2019	6,060	4,936	60	1.22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,533</b>	<b>49,430</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>1.68%</b>

### Wrap-Around Care and Referrals

In order to provide streamlined access to specialized care, Safeworks SCS has partnerships with both AHS programs and external community partners. In January, Safeworks made 163 referrals, including 9 referrals to the Opioid Dependency Program (ODP).

Table 2: Safeworks SCS Summary of Referrals by Month

Month	Social Work Referrals	ODP Referrals	*Other Referrals	Treatment/ Detox	Shelter/ Housing	Urgent Care	Total Referrals
October 30 – November 30, 2017	12	7	14	Data not broken down during this time period. These categories were grouped into “Other Referrals” from October 2017 to December 2018.			33
December 2017	33	12	10				55
January 2018	11	12	10				33
February 2018	14	9	12				35
March 2018	14	6	9				29
April 2018	2	10	11				23
May 2018	10	12	12				34
June 2018	0	5	6				11
July 2018	1	3	7				11
August 2018	0	2	6				8
September 2018	1	3	13				17
October 2018	0	4	15				19
November 2018	4	8	26				38
December 2018	10	4	57				71
January 2019	15	9	85	19	22	13	163
<b>Total</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>392</b>				<b>580</b>

\* Other includes referrals made to a variety of programs, including: iOAT, SORCe, and Community Paramedics

## Program Evaluation

Safeworks is partnering with the Institute of Health Economics to conduct a provincial program evaluation of SCS.

## Community Engagement

The SCS Community Liaison Committee acts as a forum for the service and local neighbours to freely exchange information, discuss issues and work towards constructive ongoing communication and solutions where concerns are raised. Membership includes stakeholders from AHS, City of Calgary, community residents, local businesses, community social and health services organizations, neighbourhood associations, people with lived experience, the Calgary Police Service, and faith communities.