

Safeworks Monthly Report – January 2020

Supervised Consumption Services

February 13, 2020

Background

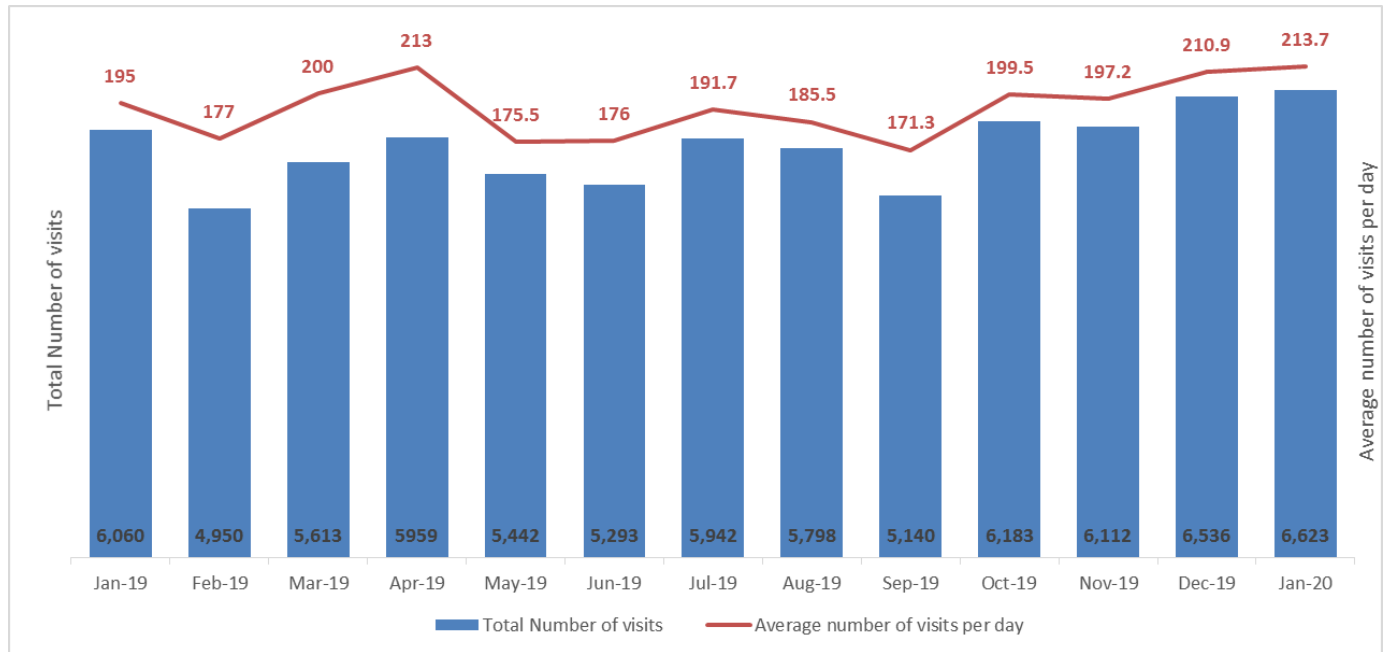
Safeworks Supervised Consumption Services (SCS) launched on October 30, 2017 in a temporary facility at the Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre with a federal exemption to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act from Health Canada. On January 15, 2018, the temporary facility closed, and the permanent facility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

Service Uptake

From October 30, 2017 to January 31, 2020, Safeworks SCS had **130,124 client visits**. In January 2020, the site saw **1270 unique individuals** in **6,623 visits**.

Uptake of services has increased over time. The average number of visits per day has increased from 11 in the first week of operations (October 30 – November 5, 2017), to 213.7 visits per day averaged from January 1 to January 31, 2020.

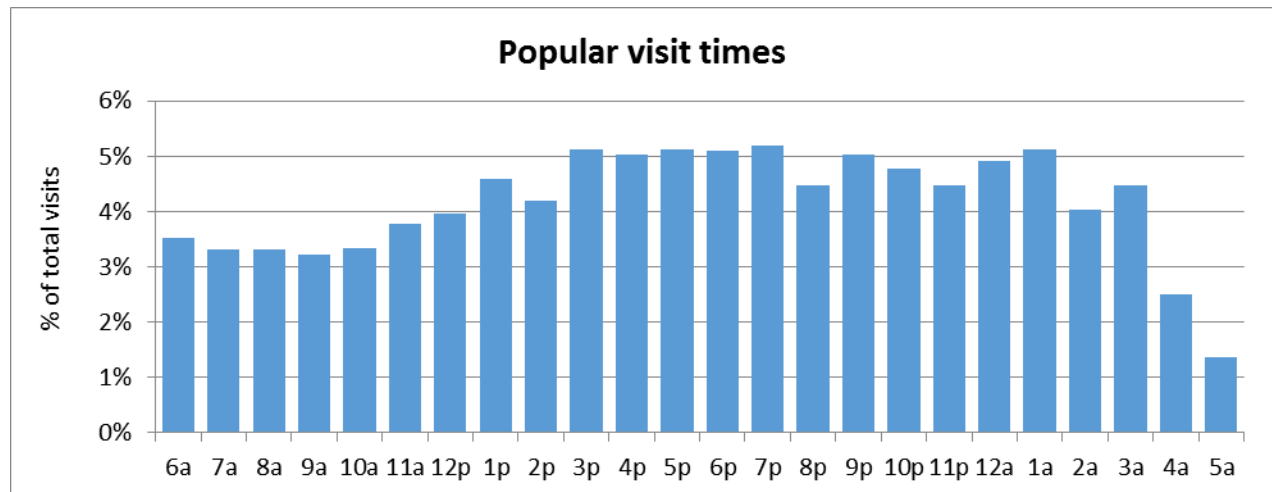
Fig 1: Safeworks SCS Total Number of Visits and Average Number of Visits per Day, by Month



The majority of clients use Safeworks SCS more than once, often within the same day. Not all clients consumed drugs on site: 11.3% of visits in January reflect receiving harm reduction supplies and/or naloxone kits, being monitored post-consumption from use off-site, receiving wound care or meeting with a social worker.

Safeworks SCS hours of operation are 24 hours per day, 365 days per year.

Fig 2: Safeworks SCS Total Number of Visits by Time (hourly – based on time of admission) January 2020



Drug Use and Overdose Prevention and Response

In January 2020, drugs were consumed on site under the supervision of registered nurses (RNs) or paramedics **5,994 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 304 instances of intranasal use (snorting).

The most frequently reported drugs used in January were meth/crystal (2,841 times) and fentanyl (2,074 times). Clients may use more than one drug with a single visit.

Overdose response kits (containing Naloxone) and overdose prevention education are offered to all clients accessing Safeworks SCS. In January, staff distributed 199 **overdose response kits**.

From October 30, 2017 to January 31, 2020, Safeworks staff responded to a **total of 1,545 overdoses**.

In January, Safeworks staff responded to 47 overdoses. Of these, 46 required supplemental oxygen, 13 required naloxone and one 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
Oct 30–Nov 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%
February, 2019	4,950	3,877	70	1.81%
March, 2019	5,613	4,409	53	1.20%
April, 2019	5,959	5,309	38	0.72%
May, 2019	5,442	4,942	63	1.27%
June, 2019 *	5,293	4,532	57	1.26%
July, 2019	5,942	4,804	90	1.87%
August, 2019	5,798	4,928	64	1.30%
September, 2019	5,140	4,361	39	0.89%
October, 2019	6,183	5,311	49	0.92%
November, 2019	6,112	5,420	73	1.35%
December, 2019	6,536	5,800	71	1.22%
January, 2020	6,623	5,994	47	0.78%
Total	130,124	109,117	1,545	1.42%

* The number of overdoses reported from June 2019 to November 2019 have been amended from previous reports due to a data processing error that was corrected in the December 2019 report and onward.

Wrap-Around Care and Referrals

To provide streamlined access to specialized care, Safeworks SCS has partnerships with both AHS programs and external community partners. In January, Safeworks made 153 referrals, including 16 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
Oct 30–Nov 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
Dec 2017	33	12	10				55
Jan 2018	11	12	10				33
Feb 2018	14	9	12				35
Mar 2018	14	6	9				29
Apr 2018	2	10	11				23
May 2018	10	12	12				34
Jun 2018	0	5	6				11
Jul 2018	1	3	7				11
Aug 2018	0	2	6				8
Sep 2018	1	3	13				17
Oct 2018	0	4	15				19
Nov 2018	4	8	26				38
Dec 2018	10	4	57				71
Jan 2019	15	9	85	19	22	13	163
Feb 2019	5	8	64	14	52	7	150
Mar 2019	3	5	56	16	49	4	133
Apr 2019	5	6	43	9	41	6	110
May 2019	1	3	80	30	43	4	161
Jun 2019	1	5	66	14	52	4	142
Jul 2019	8	18	165	25	123	9	348
Aug 2019	26	10	106	24	65	13	244
Sep 2019	33	17	97	16	51	11	225
Oct 2019	19	4	53	8	52	13	153
Nov 2019**	9	2	28	7	36	15	97
Dec 2019	11	7	32	9	70	13	142
Jan 2020	8	16	39	9	62	19	153
Total	256	207	1122				2638

* “Other” includes referrals made to a variety of programs, including iOAT, The SORCE, and Community Paramedics.

** Number of referrals may be under-reported for November 2019.