

180,000 ONTARIANS WILL LOSE EMERGENCY HEALTHCARE ON APRIL 1



What's at stake?

Supervised consumption sites provide emergency supports, healthcare, and community connections all across the province.

These sites provide community services like:

- Neighbourhood clean ups
- Testing to keep communities alert to dangerous drugs
- Referrals to housing, shelter, and income supports
- Connections to counselling and mental health supports
- Non-judgmental access to primary health care services

SCSs are places where trust, care, and supports are provided to anyone who needs it - no matter what. They keep our whole community informed, cared for, and safe.

But what about?

Are safe consumption sites expensive?

No! It's much more cost effective than relying on ambulances and overnight stays in the emergency room.

Are these sites supplying drugs to people?

No! These sites make sure that people who are using drugs are safe when they do so.

Do these sites increase crime?

No! Crime rates have been shown to go down when SCS sites are opened.

Do these sites bring in more drugs to a neighbourhood?

No! The sites prevent the impact of toxic drugs supplies in the community by making sure that people who use drugs are safe when they do so.

Do these sites present a risk to children?

No! Many people who use these sites are parents, professionals, and residents who work, live, and contribute to the community!

Join the fight!

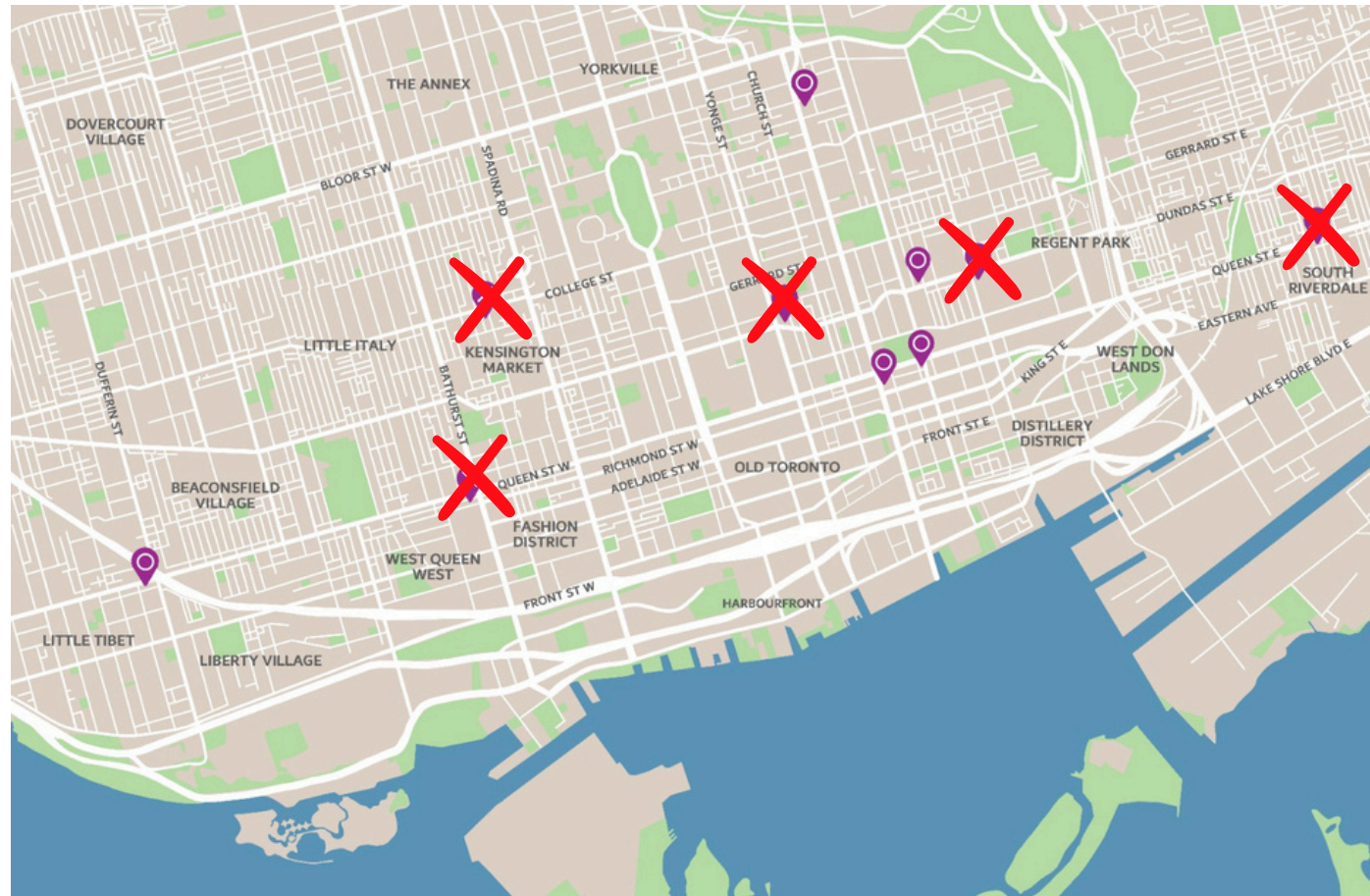
**“Everything worthwhile is done with other people”
-Mariame Kaba**



**The Harm Reduction
Advocacy Collective**

www.hractoronto.net

Without supervised and safe consumption sites, the whole city will become an unsupervised and unsafe consumption site.



The Provincial government is closing 10 of Ontario’s 17 supervised consumption sites. These 10 sites successfully reverse 2000 overdoses every year.

Impacts of Closing Supervised Consumption Sites (SCSs)

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What can we expect to see when the provincial government closes 10 of Ontario's 17 supervised consumption sites (SCSs) on April 1st, 2025?

Increased Deaths

From March 2020–March 2024, SCSs across Ontario reversed a total of 21,979 non-fatal overdoses.¹ 36% of these overdose reversals occurred in SCSs slated to close.¹ Toronto neighbourhoods with an SCS have seen a 67% decrease in overdose deaths after these sites opened.²

Increased Crime & Violence

Toronto neighbourhoods with an SCS have seen an overall decrease in crime after these sites opened.¹ Specifically, rates of assault and robbery decreased, while rates of other crimes (homicides, break & enters, auto thefts, thefts >\$5000) did not change.^{1,3}

Inadequate Healthcare for Drug Users

SCSs are an essential part of the continuum of care for people who use drugs. From March 2020–March 2024, SCSs in Ontario made 533,624 referrals to additional services (including substance use treatment programs).¹

Increased Burden on Healthcare System

SCSs not only provide life-saving services that reduce the burden on ambulances and emergency rooms, but they also reduce the rates of other health concerns (like HIV and HCV infections), allowing our healthcare system to improve care for all.⁴

1 [Report](#) by the Centre on Drug Policy Evaluation (2024), based on publicly available data from Health Canada and Toronto Police Services.

2 *Lancet Public Health* journal [article](#) by Indhu Rammohan & team (2024).

3 Pre-publication [article](#) by Dr. Dan Werb & team, based on data from the Chief Coroner of Ontario.

4 *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* journal [article](#) by Chloé Potier & team (2014).