



Community Action Teams (CAT): Safer Supply Project Activities to Improve Access

Here are four project activity examples to get you thinking about how you can bring people together to improve access to safer supply in your community. These projects utilize the other parts of the Safer Supply Project Toolkit.

Consider these questions to help you to develop your safer supply project in a way that best suits your specific community:

1. What do CAT members think about safer supply? Is there an opportunity for better alignment?
2. Who are the different health providers in your area and what is their connection with safer supply?
3. What are the assets of your community and how could existing safer supply services be improved?
4. Who could you reach out to for advice and ideas when engaging partners?

Safer Supply Overview Handout

An overview of what safer supply is, who can access it and program success factors.

Safer Supply Project Activities to Improve Access

Four project activity examples that consider objectives and guide implementation.

Safer Supply Talking Points for Health Providers

How to address commonly heard concerns in your engagement with health providers.

Questions? Contact us at
substanceuse@bcpsqc.ca



Activity 1:

Safer Supply CAT Roundtable

Consider organizing a facilitated event for CAT members to:

1. Recognize different perspectives to increase understanding among CAT members.
2. Reflect on how the CAT could support improvement and spread awareness.
3. Develop team goals.

What to do:

- Engage with members to determine if there is a desire for this event and identify objectives.
- Create an event and invite members, describing the objectives and providing background information - see our [Safer Supply Overview Handout](#).
- Measure the effectiveness of the event with pre- and post-questioning for the objectives.
- To prepare for the facilitation you can:
 - Create a short presentation on the background information.
 - Use the [Safer Supply Talking Points for Health Providers](#) to support the discussion.
 - Invite an experienced safer supply provider and a person who has benefited from using safer supply to present and contribute to the discussion.
 - Meet with speakers beforehand to prepare and to determine how to support them.
 - Explore the ATTIC resources and choose to do one of the activities as a group. For example:
 - [Six Thinking Hats](#) to reconcile different perspectives.
 - [Look Before You Leap](#) to assess team goals.
- Remember to send out a summary of the meeting with any decisions made, follow-up items and deadlines.

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Activity 2: Safer Supply Partnerships

Consider arranging individual meetings with potential community partners to:

1. Empathize and assess the needs of communities, health providers and people who use drugs.
2. Demonstrate the benefits of safer supply and improve engagement with the CAT.
3. Create a shared purpose and develop mutual goals.

Who are potential partners?

Clinical Providers Health Authorities
Municipalities Local Associations

What to do:

- Develop a plan for this engagement:
 - Prioritize specific providers and organizations that have the potential to improve and spread safer supply.
 - Determine specific objectives for these meetings and the aim of the partnerships.
 - Research available community services and assets to inform the potential partner when you meet.
- Create personalized invitations to meet using the principles from:
 - [Clinician and Physician Engagement Primer](#)
 - [How to Collaborate With Municipalities: A Practical Guide for Public Health Actors](#)
- Prepare one or two members for the meeting, including a peer. You may want to rehearse with a supportive provider.
 - Use the [Safer Supply Talking Points for Health Providers](#) and the [Safer Supply Overview Handout](#) to support the conversation.
- Measure the effectiveness of the meetings by evaluating responses and achievement of the objectives.

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Activity 3: Safer Supply Provider Dialogue

Consider organizing a facilitated event for CAT members & community providers to:

1. Develop relationships with prescribers who are not yet involved with safer supply.
2. Demonstrate the benefits of safer supply to CAT members and new prescribers.
3. Reflect on how the community and experienced providers can support new prescribers.
4. Identify community goals, such as increasing the number of safer supply prescribers.

What to do:

- Engage with CAT members and the community to determine if there is a desire for this event and identify objectives.
- Create an event and invite CAT members and community providers, describing the objectives and providing background information - see the [Safer Supply Overview Handout](#).
- Measure the effectiveness of the event with pre- and post-questioning for the objectives.
- To prepare for the facilitation you can:
 - Create a short presentation on the background information. Research available community services and assets to inform the provider when you meet.
 - Use the [Safer Supply Talking Points for Health Providers](#) to support the dialogue with prescribers.
 - Invite 2-3 speakers (experienced safer supply prescribers, pharmacists or other experienced providers), including persons who have benefited from using safer supply, to present and contribute to the discussion.
 - Meet with speakers beforehand to prepare and to determine how to support them.
 - Explore the ATTIC resources and choose to do one of the activities as a group. For example:
 - [Three Ws](#) to improve communication during a dialogue.
- Remember to send out a summary of the meeting with any decisions made, follow-up items and deadlines.

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Activity 4: National Safer Supply Community of Practice (NSS-CoP)

Consider coordinating group registration to an NSS-CoP members virtual drop-in meeting to:

1. Demonstrate the benefits of safer supply to CAT members and other community partners.
2. Determine how the NSS-CoP can support your CAT and community partners.
3. Reflect on how the CAT and community partners can support improvement and spread awareness.
4. Create a shared purpose and develop mutual safer supply goals.

What to do:

- Engage with members to determine if there is a desire for this meeting and identify objectives.
- Invite members or community partners to become an NSS-CoP member, describing the objectives and providing background information - see the [Safer Supply Overview Handout](#).
- Connect with the NSS-CoP facilitator to determine which meeting would be appropriate to attend as a group.
 - Using NSS-CoP as the host to have your CAT and community partners learn more about safer supply.
 - [SAFER Knowledge Translation & Exchange \(KTE\)](#) organized by AVI in Victoria may be another potential host.
- Measure the effectiveness of the meeting with pre- and post-questioning for the objectives.

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