

From: TC CAT <info@tri-citiescat.ca>
Date: August 24, 2024 at 12:39:13 AM GMT+2
To: westb@portcoquitlam.ca, Meghan Lahti <MLahti@portmoody.ca>, rstewart@coquitlam.ca,
belcarra@belcarra.ca, john.mcewen@anmore.com
Subject: **International Overdose Awareness Day - August 31, 2024**

Dear City Council,

I am writing to seek your support in lighting up the city purple for International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31st. This day is an opportunity to remember those lost to overdose, acknowledge the grief of their loved ones, and reduce the stigma surrounding drug-related deaths. It would be deeply appreciated if the Tri-Cities could light up landmarks in purple on August 31st or during the week leading up to it.

See attached the letter for more details.

We do recognize this is a quick turn around and if it's not possible this year, to revisit this in the new year as this has become an annual event. That being said as part of the week of action campaign on Wednesday, August 28th, we are asking local elected officials and ask them to publicly recognize International Overdose Awareness Day or Week.

I have also attached the poster for our upcoming event at Blue Mountain Park.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Roxanne Saxon

Program Coordinator

Tri-Cities Community Action Team

www.Tri-CitiesCAT.ca





Requesting a landmark is lit up purple for International Overdose Awareness Day.

To Whom It May Concern

Title/Subject line: International Overdose Awareness Day 2024: Lighting up the city purple

Dear City Council,

This August 31 will be the 24th International Overdose Awareness Day.

Today I am writing to seek the support of the Tri-Cities to help us widen the reach of this important day by lighting up the city in purple. Whether this be the local city hall, the lights along the Skytrain, or other community city lights in the neighbourhood.

International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) is a campaign for communities around the world to come together to remember without shame those lost to overdose, acknowledge the grief of loved ones left behind, reduce the stigma of drug-related deaths, and try to find ways to reduce the incidence and impacts of overdose or toxic drug poisoning events. It is about taking action to save lives. Unfortunately, we know that the Tri-Cities has not been immune to the crisis, as we have lost community members. This creates a ripple effect amongst families but also across the community.

Learn more about how you can be involved here:

<https://www.overdoseday.com/purple-landmarks>

Last year, landmarks all over the world were lit purple in recognition of IOAD, and this year we hope we can encourage even more to light up.

We would be deeply grateful if the Tri-Cities were to honour those whose lives have been lost by organizing purple lights within the city on the day of August 31st, or during the week leading up to as there is also a requested week of action starting on August 26th, 2024.

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Get together with friends or family and remember lost loved ones in whatever way works for you.	Take some time to learn more about the overdose prevention and harm reduction organizations in your area and connect with them.	Email your local elected official and ask them to publicly recognize International Overdose Awareness Day or Week.	Explore the International Overdose Awareness Day website for great educational materials you can print and share in your neighbourhood.	Share posts, stories, tributes, and infographics using the hashtags #IOAD2024 #TogetherWeCan #EndOverdose on social media.

This will send a powerful message of support to the families affected by the crisis and will help us get the message that overdose is preventable out into the community.

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If you are interested, I would be very happy to discuss this idea with you further if you would like. You can reach me, Roxanne Saxon at [604-230-9779] or [info@tri-citiescat.ca].

For more information and to get a social media kit to promote your purple landmark, visit <https://www.overdoseday.com/purple-landmarks>

I do recognize this is a quick turn around and if it's not possible this year, to revisit this in the new year as this has become an annual event.

Much appreciated.

Roxanne Saxon

Program Coordinator

Tri-Cities Community Action Team



International Overdose Awareness Day is an initiative of the public health not-for-profit organization Penington Institute, based in Melbourne, Australia (penington.org.au) – email: info@overdoseday.com; please find more information about the overdose crisis at overdoseday.com.

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**AUGUST 31
2024**



SIGN UP AS A SERVICE PROVIDER, AN ARTIST OR A VOLUNTEER

**INTERNATIONAL
OVERDOSE
AWARENESS
DAY**



**COQUITLAM-BLUE MOUNTAIN PARK
@ THE SCOUT HALL (WINSLOW AVE)**

SUBSTANCE USE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE PROVIDERS COMING TOGETHER WITH LOCAL ARTISTS TO SHARE RESOURCES, STORIES, LIVED EXPERIENCES, CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS, AND EDUCATION IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES GONE TOO SOON.

**11AM
-
3PM**

www.Tri-CitiesCAT.ca / info@Tri-CitiesCAT.ca

