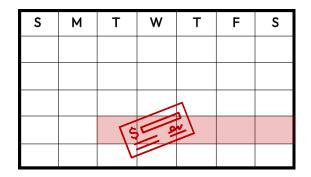
Overdose Events Spike During Cheque Week



(the days around income assistance day)



There was a record-breaking spike in calls to 9-1-1 for drug poisoning during cheque week in August 2025.



The current drug supply is unpredictable with more carfentanil found in it recently.

Use harm reduction practices to reduce risk.



Test your drugs



Check drug alerts



Have naloxone and know how to use it



Use with someone you trust



Take turns using so you can help each other



Start low, go slow

For BC Mental Health and Substance Use supports visit: helpstartshere.gov.bc.ca

For more resources go to: www.towardtheheart.com

September 2025