

CAI LOCAL LEADERS NETWORK



LOCAL GOVERNMENTS & COMMUNITY OVERDOSE RESPONSE

Local Leadership United (LLU) is a provincial project that seeks to support local government (particularly elected officials) engagement in local community overdose response efforts. Since April 2022, LLU held over 30 in-person dialogues with local governments and community partners, across all five health authorities, as well as a provincial convening of LLU membership. With over 60 local governments engaged at full-day dialogues to date, there has been high demand to keep the conversation going around important issues like overdose prevention, public safety, public consumption and stigma.

The LLU network hosts monthly webinars to hold space for important conversations with local government representatives interested in advancing community overdose response efforts locally.

NETWORK PURPOSE

- Support local governments to engage with local community overdose response efforts by elevating innovative initiatives and approaches that are having a positive impact with respect to community health & cohesion.
- Create opportunities for local government representatives interested in our working on this issue to network, connect and learn from each other.

REGISTRATION

- The LLU network is available to all local government elected officials in BC and select senior local government staff (i.e. CAOs, bylaw managers, fire chiefs, public safety directors).
- To register, please email the network coordinator, Dakota Fayant, Dfayant@caibc.ca

GROUP GUIDELINES

All network members are required to adhere to the group guidelines to ensure a positive learning environment for all participants. These group guidelines were co-developed with LLU participants over the past few years of engagement.

Group Guidelines are a social contract that we commit to each other for the session. We aim to search for common goals, shared ground, and to build from a place of hope.

- **Remember the context** – community members have been lost & others are grieving. This fact engenders us to approach conversations with openness, honesty; to listen actively and be fully present.
- **Approach with curiosity** – We approach new ideas and conversations from a place of curiosity. This includes assuming the best intentions of those we are in dialogue with, while also being mindful of the impact of our words on sensitive topics.
 - Intention to learn from one another
- **Demonstrate mutual respect** – Respect is core to having a productive dialogue around complex issues, including:
 - A shared commitment to guarding dignity, working toward the repair.
 - Holding up all community members.
 - Committing to keeping the conversation about the work, not personal matters.
 - Recognizing that language matters.
- **What's said here stays here, what's learned here leaves here** – To create a safe space for people to learn, share and ask questions, we respect the confidentiality of fellow participants while also honouring contributions by carrying our learning out of the space to have an impact.
- **Share space** – We are mindful of the space we take up so other voices can be heard. Know when to step forward and step back.

CAI reserves the right to remove participants from the network meetings, where there is a failure to respect these guidelines or other participants.