



Ever wonder what your small city can do about the substance use crisis?

Introducing the *Small Cities Playbook* and *Implementation Guide*

Why Small Cities?

Challenges like insufficient healthcare access, reduced skill-building opportunities for youth, affordable housing shortages, stigma, public consumption, and an increasingly toxic and unpredictable drug supply are not just big city problems. Small cities and towns are also hit hard by these issues but often lack the resources to address them effectively.

What are the Playbook and Implementation Guide?

The *Small Cities Playbook for Action* and its *Implementation Guide* highlight municipally-led, practical interventions small cities can use to tackle Canada's substance use crisis, developed with recommendations and input from **over 30 mayors and community leaders from across Canada**.

The Playbook features **50+ evidence-based interventions** municipalities can choose from and adapt to their own needs. The Implementation Guide is a practical step-by-step how-to for getting started.

Topics include:

- Prevention and early intervention
- Harm reduction and outreach
- Treatment and recovery
- Community and cultural supports
- Housing and employment supports
- Policing and public safety

A Shift in Approach

- **From** top-down and one-size-fits-all ➡ **To** tailored solutions meeting unique contexts and needs
- **From** fragmented ➡ **To** whole-of-health community well-being
- **From** siloed partners ➡ **To** multi-sectoral buy-in and coordinated action

The Result

Meaningful change and cross-sector collaboration, suited to local needs.
Strengthened local systems, improved access to supports and lives saved.

From Insight to Evidence-Based Action:

Reach out to smallcities@ccsa.ca to learn more.



Canadian Centre
on Substance Use
and Addiction

ccsa.ca

