

# OVERDOSE ALERT



Date: February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

## Increase in Overdoses and 1 Death in Waterloo Region

- There has been an increase in overdoses in Waterloo Region, including 1 suspected overdose death on February 1st. Between January 24<sup>th</sup>-January 31<sup>st</sup>, Waterloo Region emergency services responded to 42 suspected overdose calls.
- There have been reports of a new batch of purple fentanyl circulating in Waterloo Region. Substances may be stronger than expected and/or contain substances that cause unexpected reactions. Dangerous drugs continue to circulate locally causing an increased risk of overdose.
- Opioids like fentanyl are “downers” and can increase the risk of overdose.
- Please be careful and stay safe. Use at the Consumption & Treatment Services (CTS) site at 150 Duke Street West (Open 7 days a week, 9am-9pm, 8:30 last call) or use with someone you trust. Keep naloxone with you and know how to use it.

### IF SOMEONE OVERDOSES:

1. Call 911
2. Administer naloxone if an opioid overdose is suspected
3. Do not give stimulants (e.g. crystal meth) as this can make the overdose worse
4. Continue to assist victim until paramedics arrive
5. The victim should accompany paramedics to hospital

### IF USING SUBSTANCES:

- Never use substances alone
- Try a very small amount first
- If you use with a friend do not use at the exact same time
- Avoid mixing substances
- Have naloxone ready. Know how to respond to an overdose.

### GET FREE NALOXONE

Region of Waterloo Public Health – 519-575-4400. For other locations in Waterloo Region, click [here](#).

Spokesperson for this alert: **Brenna Bonn**- Waterloo Regional Police Services

Visit us at [www.waterlooregiondrugstrategy.ca](http://www.waterlooregiondrugstrategy.ca)

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