

Applying the Okanagan Charter in response to campus community psychoactive substance use

HM|HC 2023 Summit Workshop

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**HEALTHY
MINDS**

**HEALTHY
CAMPUSES**

creating connections. inspiring change.

Territorial Acknowledgement

I'm presenting today from an area within the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the Katzie, Kwikwetlem and Qayqayt First Nations, on which lands I along with others am privileged to learn, work and play.

[Pronunciation Guide of BC First Nations](#)

The Okanagan Charter re substance use?

What are the implications of the Charter's

- vision and aspirations
- understanding of health and health promotion
- purpose and calls to action
- key principles

for appropriate response to substance use in the post-secondary context?

The Okanagan Charter re substance use?

- **vision:** strengthened communities, transformed sustainable societies, global well-being
- **aspirations:** exemplary institutions fostering cultures of compassion, well-being, equity & social justice on and beyond the campus
- **purpose:** guiding, inspiring collaborative action; generating dialogue & research
- **calls to action:** embed health in post-secondary institutional life, culture and mission; lead health promotion efforts locally & globally
- **key principles:** broad approaches, inclusion of diversity, participation, collaboration, salutogenic orientation

The Okanagan Charter re substance use?

What are the implications of all that for appropriate response to substance use in the post-secondary context?

- * in what such response focuses on
- * in why, in what its objectives are
- * in how, including the tenor, manner of initiatives

The Okanagan Charter's frame & thrust

Frame

- * holistic well-being for communities and their individual members

Thrust

- * health promotion, equipping & empowering, enhancing agency

The Okanagan Charter's frame & thrust

What may be inferred from that Charter frame & thrust for apt

- * impressions of and attitudes toward substance use?
- * recognition and acknowledgement of outcomes from it?
- * focus/foci in addressing it?

The Okanagan Charter on higher education

Features of the education it envisions and encourages:

- * transformative
- * jointly engaged
- * varied yet integrated
- * capacity, competence building

The Okanagan Charter on higher education

What follows from the Charter's educational emphases for what is needed to develop substance use literacy

- * in the campus community as a collective body?
- * among its individual members?

The Okanagan Charter on culture

Aspects of the Charter's consciousness of cultures and their importance in the campus context:

- * collective mindsets & attitudes that can be created, shaped
- * shared practices of doing things that have impacts
- * diverse ways of life that have narrow and broader domains
- * can have compassion, well-being, equity, social justice

The Okanagan Charter on culture

What is the upshot of the Charter's cultural consciousness for relating to substance use as

- * a social practice?
- * an individual behaviour?

The Okanagan Charter on community

Components of the Charter's outlook on community/ies

- * an equal if not greater level of focus than are individuals
- * an ecological setting that can enjoy collective health
- * a critical context of action that must be collaborative
- * a stepping stone to progress that is societal and global

The Okanagan Charter on community

How should the Charter's communal outlook bear on considerations, decisions and implementation around

- * policies
- * practices
- * programs

that relate to substance use?

The Okanagan Charter on evaluation?

Charter pointers to evaluation in references to

- * goals, objectives – not individual behaviour change but shifts in campus culture, attitudes and practices
- * progress toward attainment of greater capacity
- * results that reflect communal commitments
- * outcomes that implicitly call for extended, in-depth personal and interpersonal confirmation

The Okanagan Charter on evaluation?

What do these Charter indications suggest for an apt approach to assessing the value and success of initiatives attending to substance use?

A decorative graphic at the top of the slide consists of a teal rectangular area with a white wavy line at its bottom edge. Below this line, there are several overlapping, semi-transparent green shapes that create a layered, wavy effect across the width of the slide.

Thank you!

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