



# BOARD REPORT

Friday December 15, 2017

# Public Health Roles in Emergency Response, Opioid Overdose Prevention and Naloxone

## PRESENTERS

IAN ARRA, MD, MSC  
GREY BRUCE HEALTH UNIT (GBHU)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

DR. BRIAN SCHWARTZ AND DR. YASMIN KHAN  
PUBLIC HEALTH ONTARIO (PHO)

DR. BONNIE HENRY  
UBC SCHOOL OF POPULATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# Disclosures of potential conflict of Interest

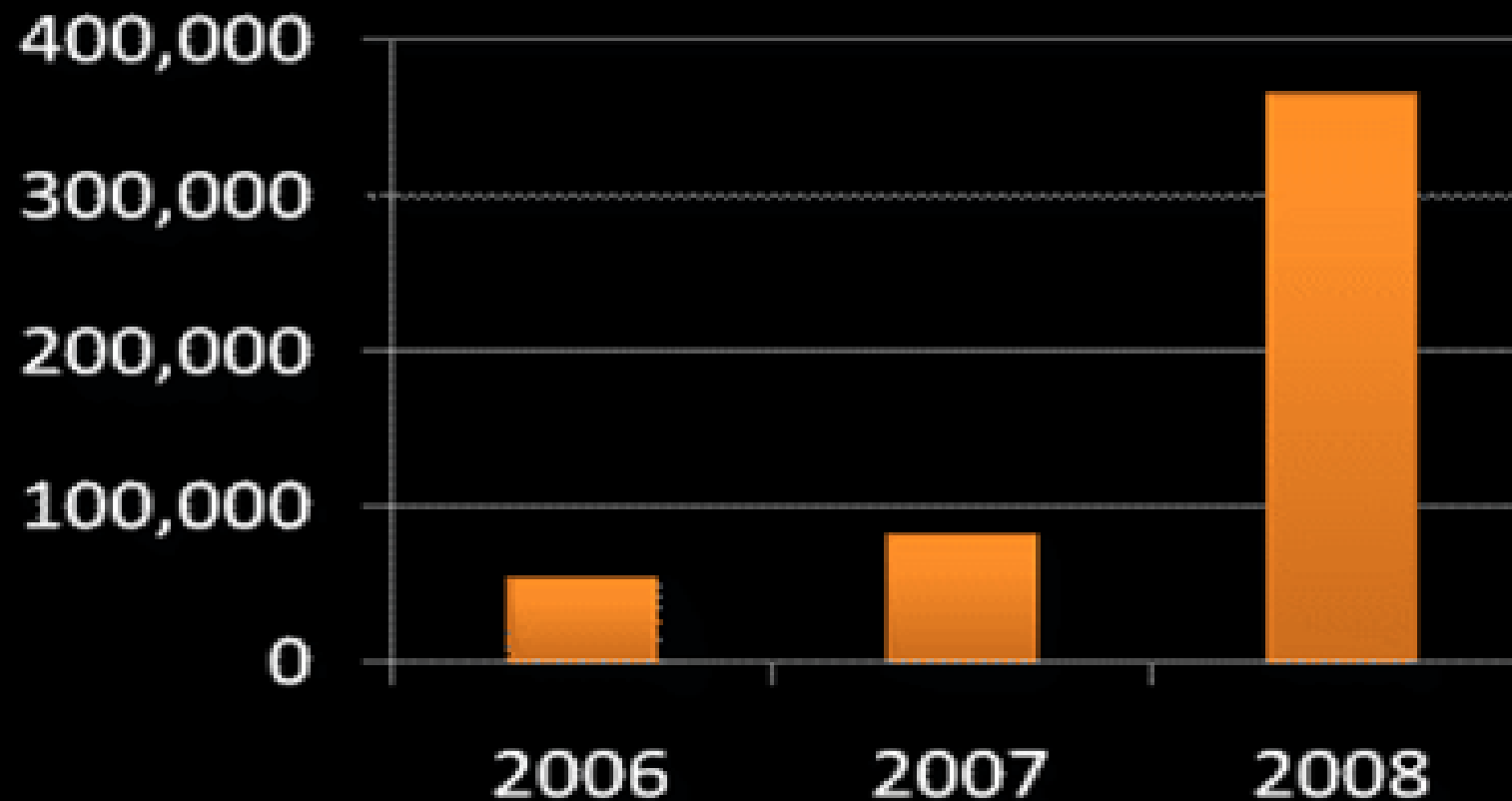
None



# Incidence of Death by PowerPoint

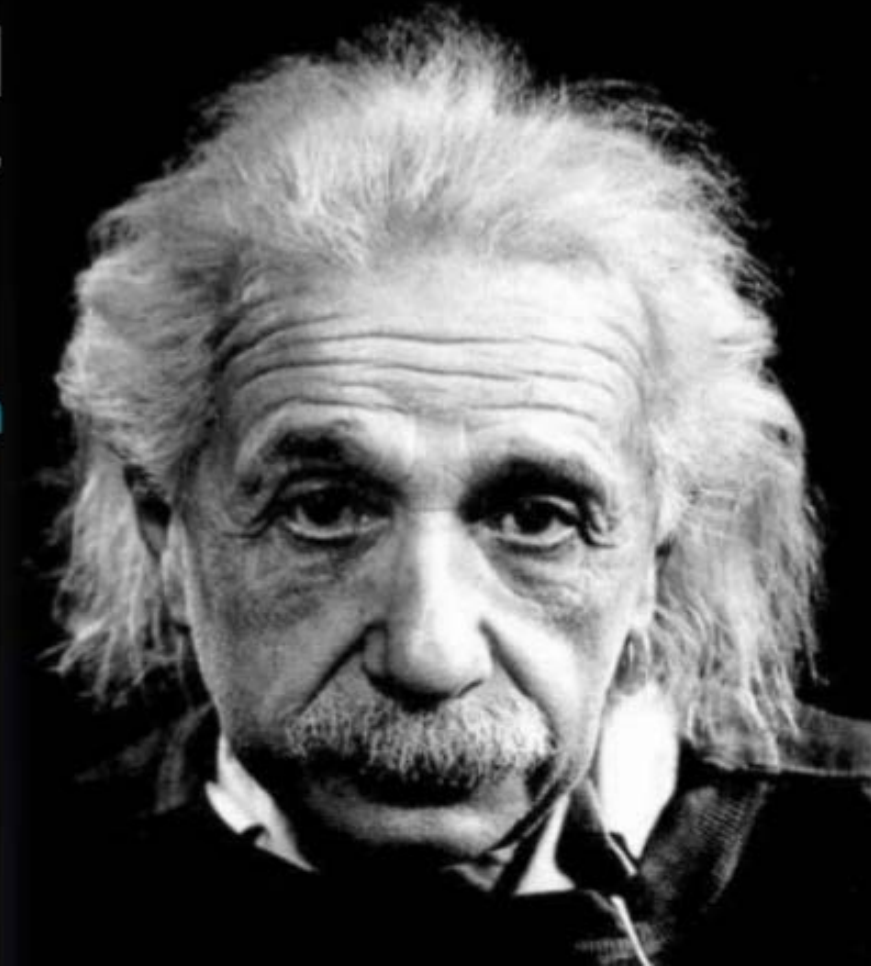
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## PowerPoint Death Watch



“If you can’t explain  
it simply, you don’t  
understand it well  
enough.”

- Albert Einstein



# AGENDA

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By the end of this presentation, you will:

First half:

- ▶ Understand Public Health (PH) roles in emergency response
- ▶ Know PH roles in the response to opioid overdose
- ▶ Know GBHU role in local opioid overdose crisis management
- ▶ Updates on Opioid Response







# Definition and Examples of Emergencies

Definition: ?

## 1. Natural events:

- ▶ Natural disasters: extreme weather, earthquake, flood
- ▶ **Infectious diseases: CD outbreaks and pandemics**

## 2. Anthropogenic (human-related) events:

- ▶ power failure, **water/food system**, HazMat, fire, nuclear
- ▶ terrorism (biological, chemical, radiological, nuclear), civil disturbance, armed conflict, large public gatherings





# PH Capabilities

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- ▶ Early Detection
- ▶ Epidemiologic investigation
- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Command and Control
- ▶ Mass Patient Care
- ▶ Mass Immunization/Prophylaxis
- ▶ Mass Fatality Management
- ▶ Evacuations/sheltering (humans and animals)
- ▶ Environmental Surety
- ▶ Community Recovery (rapid health risk assessment, mental health)

# PH Capabilities

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- ▶ Epidemiologic investigation
  - Extent of release
  - Affected populations
  - Effects of toxic chemicals: human and animal health
- ▶ Communication
  - Collaboration with first responders, EMS, acute care
  - Public statements with municipal/regional officials
- ▶ Command and Control
  - IMS - e.g. CD outbreaks, Biological terrorism
- ▶ Mass Patient Care
  - Communication with EMS and acute care
  - Advice re: PPE





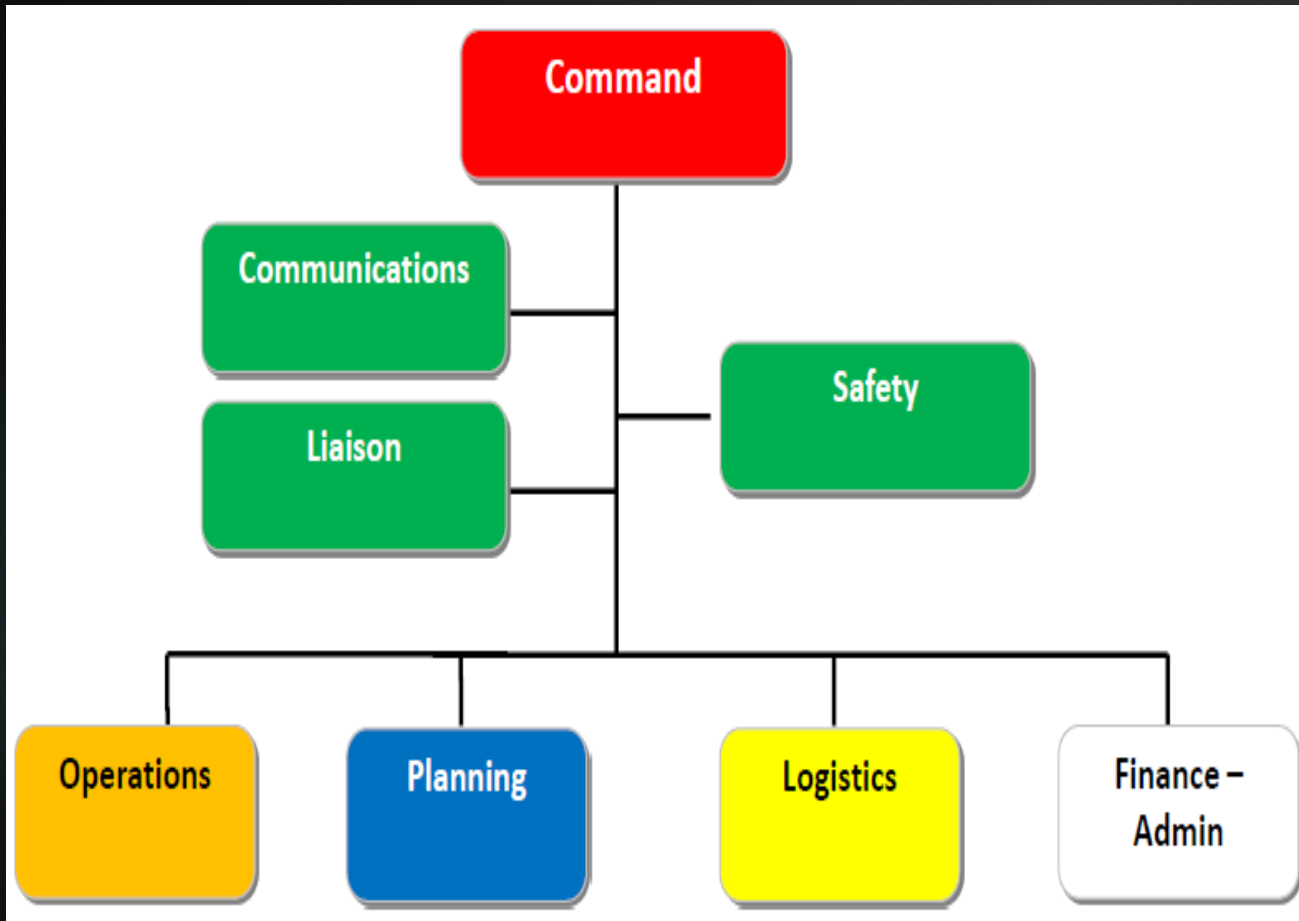
# PH Capabilities

- ▶ Mass Fatality Management
  - Communication with coroner's office
- ▶ Evacuations/sheltering (humans and animals)
  - Based on risk to human and animal health
  - Food and water safety
- ▶ Environmental Surety
  - HazMat assessment
  - Recovery phase: repeat assessments during clean-up
- ▶ Community Recovery (rapid health risk assessment, mental health)
  - Recovery phase
  - Mental health issues never covered well



# Emergency Management Tools

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IMS Structure



Emergency Management Cycle  
Recovery





# Mass Opioid Overdose Casualty Event

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- ▶ Recent events across Ontario involving illicit opioids - surge in overdoses secondary to new opioids in our communities
- ▶ The growing severity and scope of the opioid situation has put the problem-solving skills of municipalities, health system partners and government agencies to the test
- ▶ This issue requires planning, preparation, and collaboration among a variety of partners



# Surveillance

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Conduct surveillance of opioid overdose:

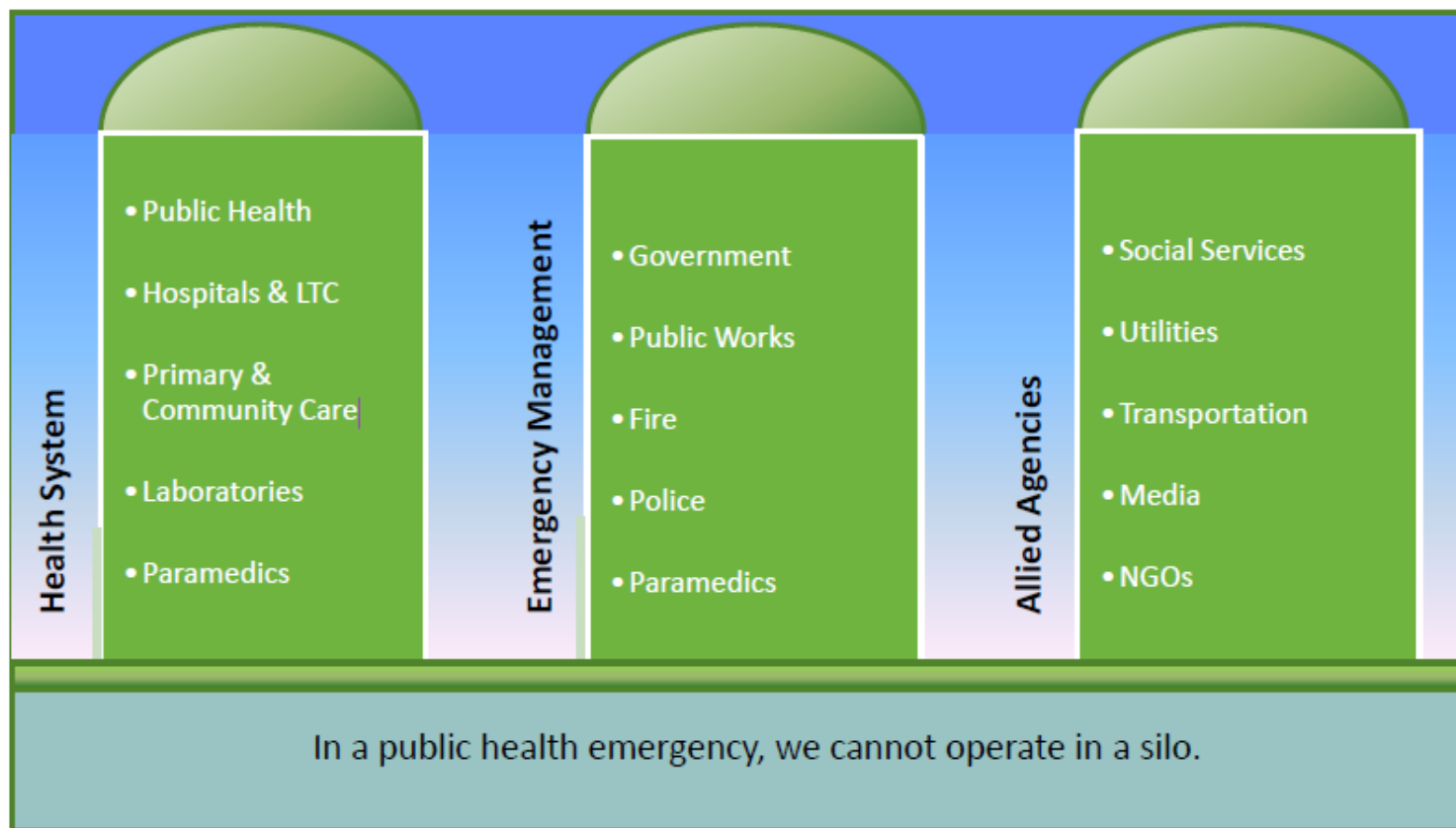
- ▶ Hospital ED visit
- ▶ Hospital admission
- ▶ Paramedic services
- ▶ Coroner
- ▶ Naloxone distribution/usage data to detect surges in baseline opioid overdoses

Determine the epidemiological triggers for an alert through analysis of surveillance data from partners

# Communication

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## Who do you call for information?







# Harm Reduction

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- ▶ Assist with distributing naloxone in the community and support an urgent ramp up in the availability of naloxone to at-risk community members
- ▶ Connect with community and street health partners to ensure people who use drugs have the proper training on harm reduction
- ▶ Provide needle exchange and education programs





# Role related to Supporting First Responders

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Public Health could play a role in:

- ▶ Waiting time for overdose testing, closing the loop (4 labs for rapid testing)
- ▶ Advocating for access to Naloxone
- ▶ Distribution and training for these services



# Opioid Overdose Prevention and Naloxone Access working group (OOPNA)

- ▶ PH, local hospital partners, and LHIN to advocate for expansion of Naloxone into Emergency Departments (ED)
- ▶ Three essential components to an overdose response by ED:
  1. Take Home Naloxone kits
  2. Withdrawal management if necessary (Buprenorphine/Naloxone)
  3. Rapid referral to Addiction Medicine for treatment.
- ▶ Strong foundation of respectful and **anti-stigma attitudes** and **behaviours**



# Updates on Opioid Response

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- ▶ Naloxone will be offered to all 61 police services across the province, including municipal and First Nation police services as well as the Ontario Provincial Police.
- ▶ To all 447 municipal full-time, composite, and volunteer fire departments, all northern fire departments, as well as all First Nations fire services to prevent overdoses.
- ▶ Provinces experiencing a public health emergency can request an exemption under federal law for temporary overdose prevention sites
- ▶ More than 30 communities across Ontario will benefit from new or expanded Rapid Access Addiction Medicine (RAAM) clinics



# Moving Towards the Future

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- ▶ Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of interventions (policies/programs) and impact, including revised clinical guidelines and prescribing standards:
  - Will this change behaviour?
- ▶ Considering two distinct target populations (current opioid users, and those who might start using)
- ▶ Anticipating the next drug of abuse:
  - Carfentanil?
  - Hydromorph Contin?
- ▶ ? Awareness campaign - joined presentations with Police, Fire and Paramedic Services





# REFERENCES

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- ▶ Public Health Ontario Emergency Preparedness,  
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/BrowseByTopic/EmergencyPreparedness/Pages/Emergency-Preparedness.aspx>
- ▶ Moore et.al., BMC Proc. 2017; 11(Suppl 7): 8. Published online 2017 Jul 18. doi: 10.1186/s12919-017-0076-7,  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5547449/>
- ▶ <https://news.ontario.ca/mohltc/en/2017/12/ontario-expanding-opioid-response-as-crisis-grows.html>



## PROGRAM REPORT December 2017

101 17<sup>TH</sup> Street East, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 0A5

Phone: 519-376-9420 or 1-800-263-3456

WEBSITE: [www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca](http://www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca)

### Working with the Grey Bruce communities to protect and promote health

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#### Fall Food Gathering '17 Come To the Table



The Fall Food Gathering was held on October 27, 2017 at The Harmony Centre in Owen Sound. The purpose of the day was to facilitate networking between food insecurity stakeholders and to generate a set of actions to address local food systems concerns. The program was part of a Sustainability Conversation Series hosted by the Grey Bruce Sustainability Network (GBSusNet) with support from the Grey Bruce Health Unit, the Food Security Action Group and Transition Owen Sound with financial support from Bruce Power.

Leadership from Barry Randall, General Manager of the GBSusNet and Jaden Calvert, Meaford Councillor was integral to the success of the event. More than 40 participants joined the discussion, representing groups including Community Voices; The Meeting Place, Tobermory; Ontario Student Nutrition Program; Meaford Second Harvest; Canadian Mental Health Association and The Launch Pad, Hanover.

Speakers discussed the current state of food insecurity in Grey Bruce and presented programs and opportunities supported in the region. Barriers such as financial, social stigma, education, awareness and accessibility were identified through small group discussions as common themes. Discussions also identified needed changes such as improved collaboration within and between sectors, better distribution systems and greater food literacy. Key projects to be undertaken include increasing opportunities for food literacy; finding efficiencies in food production, distribution and consumption and development of a Food Security Asset Map to better understand local food systems.

The Sustainability Network and Food Security Action Group plan to release a final report illustrating how this initiative supports taking action towards reaching Canada's [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#).

## Tobacco Prevention Board Report Make 'Em Plain Rally

**Every 6 minutes, someone around the world dies of a tobacco related illness.**

Part of what makes smoking appear cool and attractive to young people is product design and packaging. Freeze the Industry, a group of youth dedicated to stopping the tobacco industry from marketing its products to young people, held a "Make Em Plain" rally on Parliament Hill on November 9 to ask the federal government to pass Bill S-5, to introduce Plain and Standardized Tobacco Packaging and products in Canada.



On Wednesday, November 8, over 30 young people from South West Ontario, including three youth from Grey Bruce along with Grey Bruce Health Unit, Youth Advisor, Brooke Tomsett, travelled to Ottawa to take part in activities to support plain and standardised packaging for tobacco products in Canada.

By 9:00 a.m. Thursday, November 9, the group was on Parliament Hill and already getting attention. News media including CBC and Global News conducted interviews. Members of Parliament from various ridings spoke with youth about the issue.

A special luncheon following the rally included a presentation by a Freeze the Industry advocate on the history of tobacco packaging. As well, MP Don Davies, spoke about the issue and illustrated the need for plain packaging showing an example of tobacco products presented in a "lipstick" package that targets young women. Many youth from the Southwest Region had the opportunity to speak directly with their local Member of Parliament. The group also sat in on Question Period in the House of Commons.



Plain packaging removes all branding from tobacco products, leaving only the health warning. The tobacco industry has been campaigning very hard against this initiative, claiming there will be increases in contraband and organized crime. To date, there has been no credible evidence to indicate this will happen. Australia has seen a significant drop in the prevalence of smoking as well as other positive indicators that plain and standardized packaging is an important measure to prevent youth from experimenting with tobacco. Evidence now shows it is also helping regular smokers quit tobacco.

Bill S-5 has passed the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. The main goal of the rally was to highlight the need for regulations for this Bill, which have yet to be written. Regulations would standardize, package size, shape, opening style, foil inserts as well as the size and shape of the actual cigarettes.