Greetings Mayor and Council,

The BC Coroner’s Service released the 2018 data on the opioid crisis this morning during an event with provincial representatives in Victoria. The data shows that in 2018, 382 people died from an overdose in the city compared with 376 people in 2017, showing that the emergency endures across the city with last year’s data averaging more than one overdose death a day.

Vancouver remains at the epicentre of the public health emergency declared by the Province in 2016, and while increased investments have saved many lives, the City recognizes that bold actions need to be taken together with all partners to change the course of the crisis. A news release will be shared by the City later today, highlighting the data for Vancouver along with the City’s priorities to address the crisis in 2019.

Best,
Sadhu

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.