

## Janet Hawkins

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**From:** webforms@victoria.ca  
**Sent:** Tuesday, Jun 9, 2015 8:22 AM  
**To:** Council Secretary  
**Subject:** Thank you for your submission - City of Victoria - Address Council Form  
**Attachments:** 20150603\_VICTORIA\_HepC\_in\_Canada\_HepCBC\_municipal\_focus.pptx

**Name:** Cynthia Carter

**Date:** June 09,  
2015

**Address:** 35 Logan Ave., Victoria BC V9A 1H4

**I wish to appear at the following Council meeting:** June 25, 2015

**I represent:** HepCBC Hepatitis C Education and Society

**Topic:** Hepatitis C in Victoria

**Action you wish Council to take:**

(1) Proclaim July 28th World Hepatitis Day in Victoria (Mayor) - NOTE: this request may already have been made by AIDS Vancouver Island in which case our request would be in support of theirs. (2) Take photo with our "Get Tested for Hepatitis C" bus ad (individuals or group) NOTE: This is an ad campaign running on buses in 7 cities in BC, including Victoria, for the month of July) (3) Get publicly tested for hepatitis C (individuals, at time/place of their choice - we can supply nurses at specific time at City Hall if that is preference)

**CONTACT INFO:**

**Contact Name:** Cynthia Carter (alt: Cheryl Reitz)

**Contact Address:** 35 Logan Ave., Victoria, BC V9A 1H4

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# HEPATITIS C IN VICTORIA: 3 STEPS CITY COUNCIL CAN TAKE

By Cynthia Carter and other Board Members and Volunteers  
June 25, 2015, Victoria, British Columbia



Committed to preventing the spread of hepatitis C virus (HCV)  
and to providing support and education to HCV+ people

## Hepatitis C in Canada – The Stats

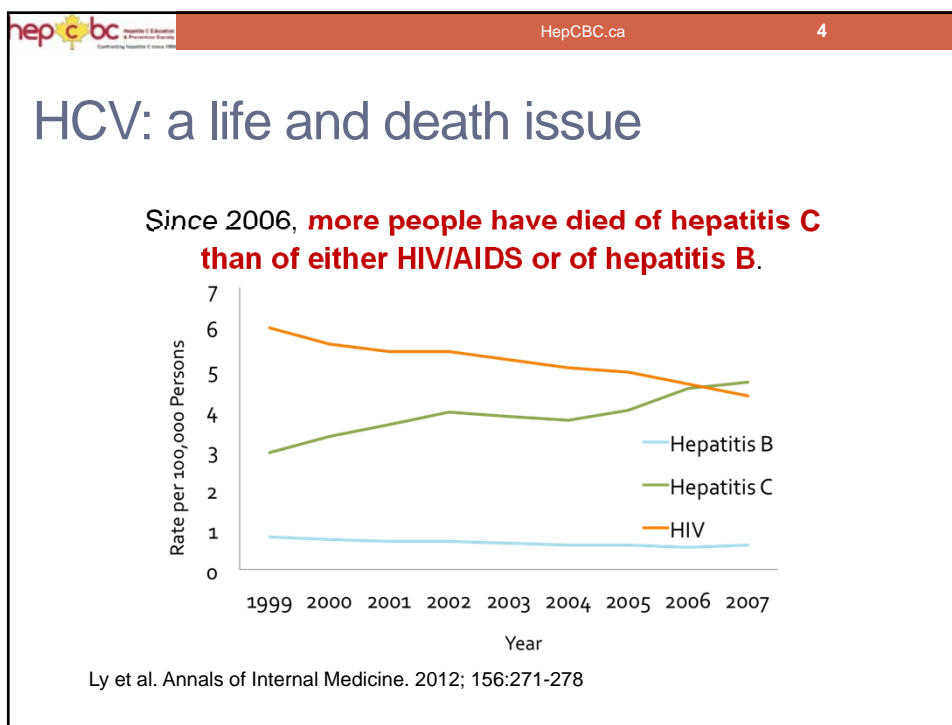
- **At least 220,000** Canadians live with chronic hepatitis C (approx. **1%** of population)
- **About 75%** of affected people are **Baby Boomers** (born between 1945 and 1975)
- People can have this 'silent killer' and **not know it for 3 to 4 decades after infection.**
- At least **44%** of these don't know they have it, **while it silently destroys their liver**

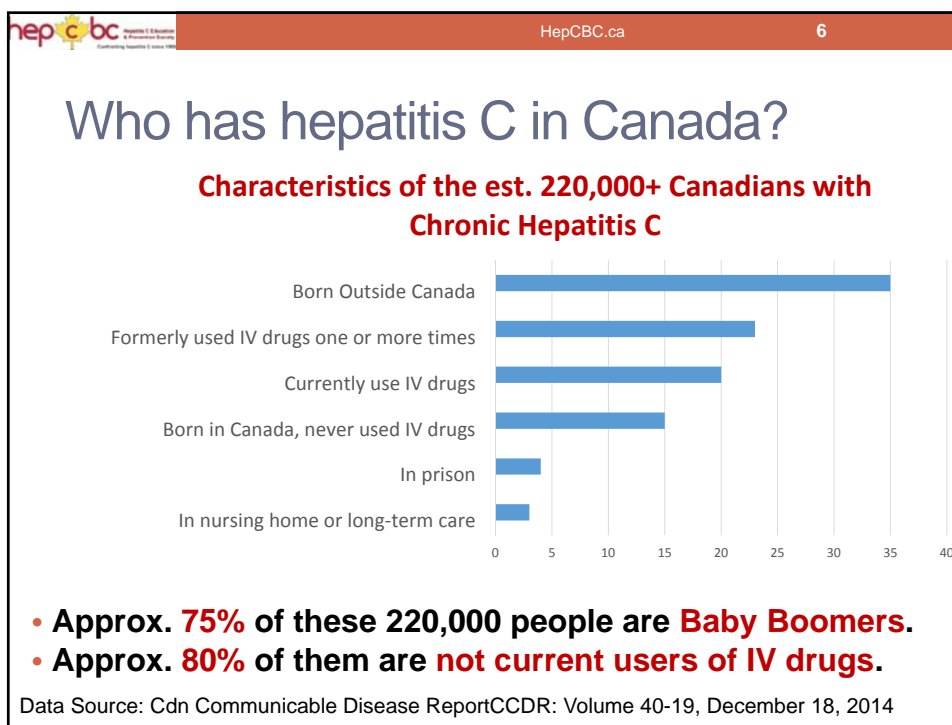
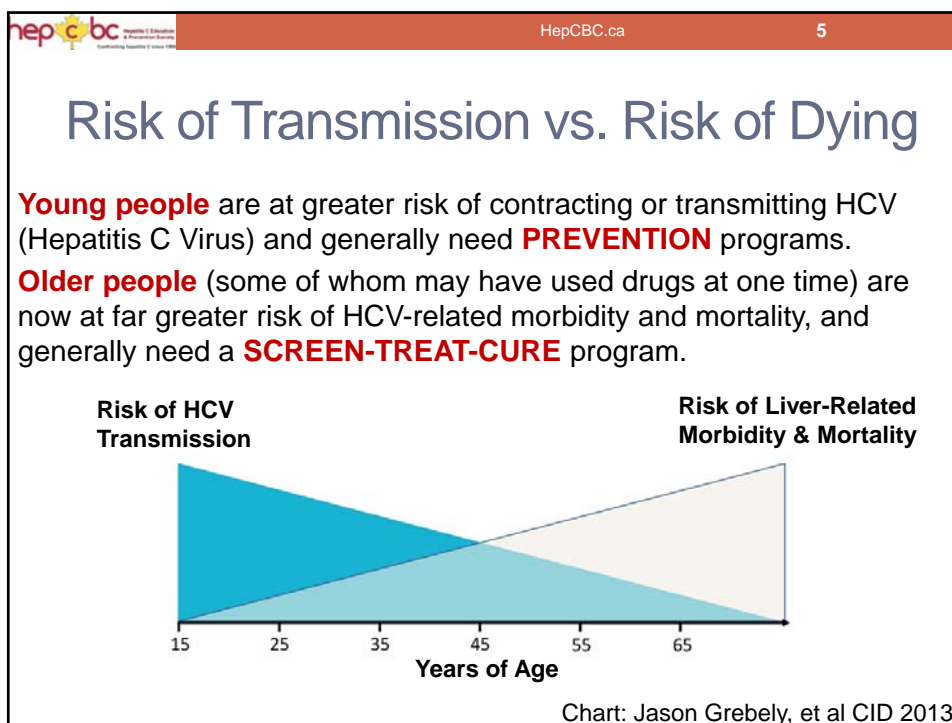
Source: CCDR\_ Volume 40-19, December 18, 2014 - Public Health Agency of Canada

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## Hepatitis C in BC (one of Canada's top provinces for high HCV prevalence)

- The BC Centre for Disease Control estimates that approximately **80,000** British Columbians are living with chronic hepatitis C.
- Leading cause of **cirrhosis of the liver** and **liver cancer** (high risk of other cancers as well) in BC
- Top reason for **liver transplants**; demand soaring
- Estimate of future lifetime costs range from **\$52,000 for patient with no fibrosis** to **\$328,000 for patient requiring liver transplant**





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## We want One-Time-Only Screening of those born between 1945 and 1965

- In US, this is **promoted by the Center for Disease Control** and widely advertised.
- In Canada, both the Canadian Liver Foundation and Canadian gastroenterologists suggest 1945-**1975!**
- **This simple blood test** need only be given once; this cohort generally no longer transmits nor contracts HCV.
- **HCV tests are not regularly given.** A patient must generally request this test specifically. Most don't ask for it.

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## Widespread Baby-Boomer Screening Would **De-Stigmatize** HCV Testing

- A one-time-only test for **all of those born 1945 – 1975** (the most commonly recommended cohort for Canada) would **“catch” 75% or more of the HCV+ people** in Canada
- ***Without singling out any group of people***
- ***Without using stigmatizing ‘risk-based’ testing***
- ***Would find the 44% who don’t know they have it,*** enabling them to get treated in time to avoid advanced liver disease, cancer, need for transplant

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## Baby Boomer Testing Targets the Most Vulnerable to HCV Morbidity & Mortality

- **73% of HCV-related deaths are in this cohort. A one-time hepatitis C Screen-Treat-Cure program in Canada for Baby Boomers would prevent at least 21,000 HCV-related deaths.**
- This sort of screen-treat-cure approach “is likely to be cost-effective, at **\$34,359 to \$44,034 per QALY (Quality-Adjusted Year of Life)** gained...”

Sources: CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (August, 2012) and Cost-effectiveness of screening for hepatitis C in Canada, William W.L. Wong PhD, Hong-Anh Tu PhD, Jordan J. Feld MD MPH, Tom Wong MD MPH, Murray Krahn MD MSc  
<http://www.cmaj.ca/content/early/2015/01/12/cmaj.140711.full.pdf>

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## Our BC bus ad campaign (July 1-28) will run in 7 cities including Victoria!

**You Can Have Hepatitis C and Not Know it.**

التهاب الكبد 肝炎 चेपेटाइटिस viêm gan hépatite

**It can kill. There is a cure. Get tested.**

hep c bc Find out more at **HEPCBC.ca**

<b>80,000</b> BC residents have hepatitis C	<b>75%</b> infected are Baby Boomers
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**Step #1: Would you please take a picture holding our BUS AD after tonight's meeting?**

## World Hepatitis Day is July 28th

- Hepatitis C can now actually be eradicated from the earth!
- 150 million or more people have it, worldwide.


**Step #2: Is the Mayor going to proclaim July 28<sup>th</sup> “World Hepatitis Day” in Victoria this year?**

## Political leaders are “rolling up their sleeves” in support of Baby Boomer Hepatitis C testing!



**Step #3: Would you be willing to be publicly tested for hepatitis C?**

THANKS SO MUCH FOR LISTENING TO OUR PRESENTATION!

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## Contact Information, HepCBC

- **Victoria, BC (Main) Office**
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- Incorporated 1996 as a BC Society
- Revenue Canada Charitable #86800-4979-RR0001