

GET TO KNOW YOUR ED PATIENTS

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The Stories and Life Journeys of People Who Use(d) Substances



“I shouldn't have to fight to not slip through the cracks.”

“Opiates don't just numb wounds, they numb things across the board, everything, like your psyche and emotions.”

“They treaded me as a person, as a *human being*, and the addiction is secondary.”

“

What's important to me is *freedom*

”

MR. X

Born and raised in the Lower Mainland



A local man, Mr. X, had a rough childhood navigating a difficult family dynamic in a low-income neighborhood. To get through the days, he turned to opioids to help “numb the psyche and emotions”. He is on a long-term journey of recovery, with hiccups along the way, and is hoping to stop using opioids for good one day. He first visited St. Paul’s Hospital Emergency Department not too long ago and was surprised at the positive way in which he was treated. He was sent by his community health center for an assessment and was immediately placed in the Fast Track and was treated very well by the staff for the three days he waited until a ward bed became available. “How they treat a person with addictions seems to standalone.” After having tried methadone and suboxone in the past, he was grateful to the addictions medicine team for telling him about Kadian. He looks forward to finding a new sense of freedom while on Kadian thanks to the care he received at St. Paul’s Hospital.