

# GET TO KNOW YOUR ED PATIENTS

Access more stories



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

“If you give them the respect they deserve, then they'll treat you with respect.”

“I treaded lightly coming in but they immediately greeted me with a smile and treated me just fine.”

“

Thank you [St. Paul's staff] for *treating me like a human being*

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MS. G  
SRO Caretaker



Ms. G, a proud Mi'kmaq woman from Nova Scotia, grew up in an environment surrounded by alcohol and drug use. She tried to avoid that lifestyle, having seen the effects it had on those around her. When she was 18, she had ruptured her appendix and was prescribed morphine to manage her pain. Unfortunately, a series of horrible car accidents led her to keep using opioids to manage her pain, and she was never able to stop. She's been in and out of emergency departments ever since. When she visited the St. Paul's Emergency Department, she was expecting the worst, having received poor treatment in other hospitals in the past. The staff were responsive to her needs and listened to what she had to say. She feels comfortable seeking care at St. Paul's in the future because of her positive experiences. Looking forward, she will continue her care-taking role at her SRO and support others who share a similar story. Simply put, “Thank you [St. Paul's staff] for treating me like a human being.”