Bathroom Safety Assessment Walkthrough Checklist*

Bathroom location:

Completed by (name):

Date:

This document summarizes safer bathroom best practices.

Indicate yes or no for every item listed in this table.
· If you answer yes, feel free to use the middle column to make notes.
· If you answer no, this means that steps need to be taken to improve bathroom safety. Use the middle column to make a plan to improve safety and identify a deadline for making the changes required.

Best Practices	Y/N	Notes or Action(s) to be taken	Deadline
Bathroom Space and Design			
At least one single-user, accessible, universal bathroom is available			
All single-user bathrooms are designated as universal (gender-neutral)			
The bathroom occupant is easily reachable in case of emergency (no obstacles in the way, sufficient space)		❗ **Red flag:** If you answered no, the bathroom is unsafe and should be closed.	
Lighting outside and inside the bathroom is bright and optimal (no use of dimmed or blue lighting)			
A mirror, counters, and ledges are available within the bathroom			
Toilet paper container is closed, easily washable and locked			
The space between each toilet and the walls is wide enough to prevent someone from getting stuck			
Waterproof signs explaining bathroom policies and procedures are visible outside and inside the bathroom			

*Inspired by and adapted from Vancouver Coastal Health's Overdose Prevention & Response in Washrooms: Recommendations for Services Providers (Version 7, March 2021)

Best Practices	Y/N	Notes or Action(s) to be taken	Deadline
Bathroom Stalls or Doors			
Space and building code permitting, bathroom and stall doors open outward (not inward) 　✴ *Tip: If the doors have to swing inward, install double-action hinges*			
For multi-stall bathrooms: does not have an entrance door (if possible) 　✴ *Tip: If the entrance door remains, it should not be lockable from the inside*			
Stall doors have minimal gaps along the side for privacy			
Floor to ceiling doors include a display locking mechanism (occupied or free)			
Spacing between floor and bottom of stall doors is about 1 foot of space			
All locks include a safety mechanism to unlock from the outside			
All staff have a copy of key or device required to open doors, on their person at all times			

Safety and Supplies			
Bathroom has an emergency call bell or intercom within reach of the floor			
A tamperproof sharps container is available and safely secured in each bathroom/stall (at reach of person on toilet or sitting in wheelchair)			
Tamperproof sharps containers are checked and emptied routinely			
Naloxone is available and within staff reach			
A bathroom safety check protocol is in place, and it is reviewed by designated staff regularly			
Safety features are in place and signage is visible to explain their features and how they work: · Communication system (examples: intercom, baby-monitor, call bell or vent at bottom of door) · Motionless detector is in place and functional (examples: hardware or software) · Timer system (examples: egg timer or door timer)			

Best Practices	Y/N	Notes or Action(s) to be taken	Deadline
Staff Training and Support			
Staff completes annual harm reduction, anti-stigma, trauma-informed, cultural safety, and trans and gender inclusive training			
Staff completes annual overdose response and first aid training			
Staff completes a monthly mock bathroom overdose response			
Staff is trained and updated on bathroom safety check protocol			
Bathroom safety check protocol is reviewed (and updated) annually or following an overdose incident			
Debriefing is provided following an incident and support offered			
Staff consults bathroom users on ways of improving bathroom safety (examples: suggestion box, survey, etc.)			

Visit **saferbathrooms.ca** for more information on bathroom safety and to download ressources:

Safer bathroom policy and protocol guide

Examples of safer bathroom signage

Discarding Used Sharps

Mock overdose response scenarios

Safer bathroom design fact sheet