

Thoughts from AP19

Tim Naimi

- **Being together, in person, was fantastic**
- **Remembrances: building on the work of others**
- **Some things we learned at AP19**
- **But first, thanks...**



University
of Victoria

Canadian Institute
for Substance
Use Research

Institut canadien
de recherche sur
l'usage de substances

Remembrances: Harold Johnson

“But the Queen’s children came here and asked our ancestors if they could share this beautiful land with us...They brought the Jesus story and the money story, and they brought the alcohol story.”

[Firewater: How Alcohol is Killing My People \(and Yours\)](#)



Rich Saitz

- **Researcher**
- **Physician**
- **Evidence maven**
- **Friend**



Frank LaMere, John Maisch



***"Nothing changes unless someone is made to feel uncomfortable!
Nothing changes unless we make ourselves uncomfortable!"***



Some Things We Learned at AP19

- **Alcohol and health equity – Advocate Institute, wow**
- **Three flavors of power: political, financial, moral**
- **The importance of telling stories...**
- **The power of stories from those with lived and living experience, or those who have been otherwise impacted by alcohol...**
- **The need to acknowledge, confront and talk about racism and exploitation and the role of alcohol**

Some Things We Learned, cont.

- **Labeling – hello!**
- **Minimum pricing policies – new(ish) kid on the block**
- **Cannabis policy liberalization and alcohol – not a solution, increasing co-use? Regulation...**
- **Local policy action – the heart of the matter, from Miami Gardens to Alaska and around the world**
- **Canadian guidelines – drink less, live longer**

Some Things we Learned, cont.

- **Global alcohol – increased consumption due to rising income, reduced religious influence, weak policies, strong consolidated industry...Global Alcohol Action Plan endorsed 2022...**
- **Place of last drink – part of the solution?, if...**
- **Adult drinking and youth – the statistics, and the art**
- **Binge drinking and other substances – common; role of alcohol in poisonings, ED overdose visits**

Some Things we Learned, cont.

- **Marketing – targeted digital, AI-driven customized marketing created and delivered in real time, with buy buttons! Can it be tracked?**
- **Home delivery – third party delivery services**
- **Alcohol and cancer - type I carcinogen, 7 cancers, research about effects of cutting back**
- **Industry – marketing, labeling, taxation, COVID shenanigans**

Closing Thoughts

- **Our task is big – deaths, violence, costs**
- **We can reduce and prevent harms - policies**
- **We will do so through scientific evidence, moral indignation, collaborative relationships, power acquisition, story telling, and advocacy**
- **Our work is important**
- **Together, we can create more balanced, healthy communities**
- **We have new, talented and increasingly diverse people entering the field**

The Future is Bright!



“See you at AP20!”

...But the Present is also Very Bright: Sandro Galea

