Taylor Yonkman – HIV & HCV Education and Outreach Coordinator – ANKORS East Social Media Coordinator – Drug Checking Technician – Shambhala Drug Checking Coordinator Co-Lead – Wicked Woods Drug Checking Coordinator Co-Lead

As the newest full-time employee of ANKORS East, joining in January 2025, I have been working to bring back a stronger focus on HIV and HCV and STBBI education in community, as well as bringing new services to some of the music festival we support.

**HIV & HCV** - Recently, I have been approved by the BC Hepatitis Network and working under a delegation of out Health Outreach Nurse and the BCCDC, I am now approved and trained to do HCV and HIV POC (point of care) testing. As well as focusing expanding knowledge of PEP, PrEP and DoxyPrEP, as discovered by a survey I created, there is a gap in knowledge surrounding those. The work with HIV and HCV has also led to connections with other organizations such as HIM (Mens Health Initiative) and am currently in an 2SGBTQ STBBI and Mpox Working Group. I am currently doing Drop-In Testing at the local shelter and in July will begin at the after-hours location as well.

**Social Media** - There has been mainly growth in all measurable categories. Content Interactions - +27.7% ; Link Clicks - +4k% ; Reach - +62.9% ; Visits – +27.1% ; Follows - -10.3%. Our top 5 demographics being in Cranbrook BC, Kimberley BC, Calgary AB, Fernie BC and Kelowna BC, with post interactions reaching as far as Australia. Our posts surrounding the Cold Weather Kit, Hot Weather Kit and Hygiene Kit donation how-to’s have given us an uptick in specific donations received during the post running. I also created ANKORS branded apparel that has gained a lot of popularity recently.

**Music Festivals** – In March took on the role of Shambhala Drug Checking Coordinator partnering with Chloe Sage and Antoine Marcheterre to coordinate. With a team of almost 70 volunteers from across Canada and the US brings one of the largest access to Drug Checking and Harm Reduction services in Canada.

 Wicked Woods – Partnering with James Kaufman to coordinate, ANKORS East is bringing in new services to Drug Checking and Harm Reduction. We are coordinating access to daily AA, NA and Wellbriety meetings as well as bringing in daily education workshops on Harm Reduction, Sexual Health and Substance Use education. We are also partnering and piloting a new idea with Crowd Compass, using their device as an innovative harm reduction tool to help and support festival attendees who may need additional safety, security, or who may be experiencing heightened vulnerability.