

## Opioids: Willing to help but needing to learn more

Most Canadians aged 18 years and older said they have some level of awareness about the opioid issue in Canada and would call 9-1-1 if they were witnessing a suspected overdose. Over one-quarter (28%) reported that they would know the signs of an overdose, while 7% said they would know how to both obtain and administer naloxone.

Source: [Results of the Survey on Opioid Awareness, November 2017](#)



## Job vacancies climb in Canada in the third quarter of 2017

Canadian businesses reported 468,000 job vacancies in the third quarter of 2017, up 62,000 (+15.1%) from the third quarter of 2016. The overall job vacancy rate increased 0.3 percentage points to 2.9% in the quarter. Vacancies for permanent positions rose to account for 80.2% of all job vacancies, up from 78.5% one year earlier.

Source: [Job vacancies, third quarter 2017](#)

## Environmental spending by Canadian government grows

Spending on pollution abatement by the federal, provincial-territorial and local governments combined rose 62% from 2008 to \$2.5 billion in 2016. This increase was largely driven by spending in Alberta (+\$1.1 billion), with the introduction of the Climate Leadership Plan in 2016.

Source: [Canadian Classification of Functions of Government: Selected Functions, 2016 \(provisional estimates\)](#)



## Building permits are down after several months of increases

The value of building permits issued by Canadian municipalities declined 7.7% to \$7.7 billion in November 2017, the first decrease in three months. Nationally, the value of permits for all building components declined, with the exception of single-family dwellings.

Source: [Building permits, November 2017](#)

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