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**Another level of protection is needed VANCOUVER/CKNW(AM980)**

Janet Brown | Email news tips to Janet  
12/9/2010

Vancouver Police, health officials and first responders are calling for a centre to be built where intoxicated people can go to sober up, instead of being tossed in jail.

Vancouver Police Inspector Scott Thompson says it's a no brainer, a so-called "sobering centre" he says should be built in Vancouver to save lives and money, "We feel that after all these years, the police should be out of the business of dealing with anything, whatsoever with intoxicated persons. Violent and non-violent intoxicated people, particularly the chronic alcoholics in our city, should be in a health facility not with the Vancouver Police Department and it's jail.

The Elizabeth Fry Society says between 2008 and 2010, 18 people in the Province would still be alive if they had received medical supervision and attention in a sobering centre instead of drying out in jail.

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