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MAJORITY APPROVAL FOR SAFE INJECTION SITE IN OTTAWA

Popular among young, wealthy and well educated

OTTAWA, May, 19th, 2016 – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll[™] among 890 Ottawa voters, the majority approve of a safe injection site in downtown Ottawa for intravenous drug users (54%). Just more than a third disapprove of this idea (37%) and one tenth don't have an opinion (9%).

Approval of a supervised injection site is characteristic of the youngest (64%), the wealthy (\$80K to \$100K - 65%), among mothers of children under 18 (58%), the best educated (post grad - 64%), those who have used marijuana (64%), provincial Liberals (66%) and New Democrats (77%). Opposition is common to the oldest (48%), the less wealthy (\$20K to \$40K - 45%), homeowners (41%), the least educated (secondary school or less - 54%), those who have never used marijuana (44%) and provincial Progressive Conservatives (66%). Francophone voters are less likely to have an opinion (23%) than Anglophones (8%).

In comparison to Toronto, levels of approval are very similar (March 23, 2016 – 57%), but those who disapprove are fewer (March 23, 2016 - 32%).

"There is clearly a sentiment in urban centres in favour of harm reduction over sanctions and enforcement. Vancouver already has InSite, and Toronto and Ottawa are both contemplating similar centres. These results bode well for a successful outcome" said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at <u>lbozinoff@forumresearch.com</u> or at (416) 960-9603.

MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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TORONTO May 19th, 2016

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Majority approve of a safe injection site in downtown Ottawa
- Approval of a supervised injection site is characteristic of the youngest (64%), the wealthy (\$80K to \$100K -65%).
- In comparison to Toronto, levels of approval are very similar
- "There is clearly a sentiment in urban centres in favour of harm reduction over sanctions and enforcement. Vancouver already has InSite, and Toronto and Ottawa are both contemplating similar centres. These results bode well for a successful outcome" said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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Methodology

The Forum Poll[™] was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 890 randomly selected voters in Ottawa, Ontario. The poll was conducted on May 18th, 2016.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3%, 19 times out of 20. Subsample results will be less accurate. Margins of error for subsample (such as age, gender) results are available at www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted by age, region, and other variables to ensure that the sample reflects the actual population according to the latest Census data.

This research is not necessarily predictive of future outcomes, but rather, captures opinion at one point in time. Forum Research conducted this poll as a public service and to demonstrate our survey research capabilities. Forum houses its poll results in the Data Library of the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

With offices across Canada and around the world, 100% Canadian-owned Forum Research is one of the country's leading survey research firms. This Forum Poll™and other polls may be found at Forum's poll archive at <u>www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp</u>

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Comparison Chart – Ottawa and Toronto

Toronto vs. Ottawa Safe Injection Site Approval (% Approval)

%	Toronto (March 23 rd , 2016)	Ottawa	
Sample	908	890	
Approval	55	54	

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Safe Injection Site Approval

'Would you approve or disapprove of safe injection sites in downtown Ottawa for intravenous drug users?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	890	173	111	183	209	214	444	438
Approve	54	64	54	49	52	42	55	53
Disapprove	37	27	32	45	43	48	37	37
Don't know	9	9	14	7	6	10	8	10

Last Provincial Vote

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	- Liberal	NDP	Green	Other parties
Sample	890	269	329	85	40	39
Approve	54	30	66	77	60	44
Disapprove	37	66	23	15	36	50
Don't know	9	4	11	9	4	6

Language

%	Total	EN	FR	Have Dispensary in Neighbourhood	Have Used Marijuana	
Sample	890	815	75	890	890	
Approve	54	54	53	9	34	
Disapprove	37	38	23	52	58	
Don't know	9	8	23	39	N/A	

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