NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Many more now approve of safe injection site in Toronto than 2 years ago

Majority now approve, two thirds in downtown

TORONTO March 23rd - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 908 Toronto voters, the majority, well more than half (57%), now approve of a safe injection site for intravenous drug users in downtown Toronto, while just one third disapprove of the idea (32%). About a tenth have no opinion (13%). This stands in contrast to two years ago, when just more than 4-in-10 approved (March, 2014 - 43%). and the same proportion disapproved (43%).

Approval of a safe injection site is common to the youngest (62%), males (57%) rather than females (53%), the wealthy (\$80K to \$100K - 69%), in the downtown (66%), among Olivia Chow voters from the last mayoral election (78%) and among the best educated (post grad - 63%). In contrast, in 2014, approval was common to boomers (55 to 64 - 47%) and the very wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 55%).

"It appears that harm reduction is more important to Toronto citizens than enforcement and prohibition, and this may be because of several factors. The opioid crisis has become more critical just in the past year, and has raised awareness of intravenous drug us. In addition, the change in government has been accompanied by a change in attitudes that sees a more caring solution as preferable to a more strict solution to an intractable problem," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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

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TORONTO March 23rd, 2016

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The majority, well more than half (57%) now approve of a safe injection site for intravenous drug users in downtown Toronto, while just one third disapprove of the idea (32%).
- "It appears that harm reduction is more important to Toronto citizens than enforcement and prohibition, and this may be because of several factors. The opioid crisis has become more critical just in the past year, and has raised awareness of intravenous drug us. In addition, the change in government has been accompanied by a change in attitudes that sees a more caring solution as preferable to a more strict solution to an intractable problem," 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 908 randomly selected voters in Toronto, Ontario. The poll was conducted on March 22nd, 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 www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp

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TORONTO
March 23rd, 2016

Safe Injection Sites Approval - Trending

%	March 23 nd , 2016	March 13 th , 2014	April 18 th , 2012	Jan. 30-31 st , 2012
Sample	908	1271	812	1560
Approve	55	43	46	44
Disapprove	32	43	40	37
Don't know	13	14	14	18

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Safe Injection Sites: Approval

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

[All respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	908	189	158	184	155	222	470	438
Approve	55	62	53	50	52	54	57	53
Disapprove	32	27	34	34	36	32	32	32
Don't know	13	11	12	16	12	14	11	14

Region

%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	908	364	208	181	155
Approve	55	65	54	52	46
Disapprove	32	26	35	35	34
Don't know	13	9	11	13	20

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	908	154	385	127	60
Approve	55	33	64	78	45
Disapprove	32	55	25	13	30
Don't know	13	11	11	9	25

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