

INSITE

GVRD Residents Support Insite, Only One-in-Four Agree with Shutdown

Three-in-five respondents would extend facility's license, either temporarily or indefinitely.

[VANCOUVER – May 31, 2008] – A majority of Greater Vancouver residents express support for the operations of the first legal supervised injection site in North America, and few believe the facility should be shut down after its license expires, according to a poll by Angus Reid Strategies.

In the online survey of a representative sample of Lower Mainland residents, 57 per cent of respondents support the operations of Insite, while one-in-three (33%) are opposed and 10 per cent are not sure. Almost two-thirds of City of Vancouver residents (65%) voiced support for Insite, along with a majority of respondents in all gender and age demographics.

Insite has been operating in British Columbia since 2003. The facility provides a safe and clean location for drug users, with the presence of medical staff to provide treatment, mental health assistance, and first aid. Insite's license to operate is set to expire on Jun. 30.

The survey presented three policy options for the future of Insite. Two-in-four Lower Mainland residents (39%) believe the facility's license should be renewed for an indefinite period, while 21 per cent would extend Insite's permit for another six months. One-in-four respondents (26%) would shut down the facility when its license expires.

Respondents over the age of 55 (47%) and City of Vancouver residents (49%) are more adamant on keeping Insite open for an indefinite period. Women (21%) are less likely than men (31%) to suggest that the facility should be shut down.

KEY FINDINGS

- » **57% support the operations of Insite, the first supervised legal injection site in North America**
- » **39% would renew Insite's license for an indefinite period, 21 per cent would extend Insite's license to operate for another six months, 26% would shut down Insite when its license expires**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

*From May 27 to May 28, 2008, Angus Reid Strategies conducted an online survey among a randomly selected, representative sample of **400 adult residents of the Lower Mainland**. The margin of error for the total sample is +/- 4.9%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the Lower Mainland. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.*

Insite

As you may know, a facility known as Insite has operated in Vancouver since 2003. Insite is the first legal supervised injection site in North America. From what you have seen, read or heard about Insite, do you support or oppose its operations?

	Total	Gender		Age			Region	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	City of Vancouver	Rest of GVRD
Support	57%	56%	58%	56%	58%	56%	65%	54%
Oppose	33%	37%	29%	33%	33%	34%	29%	35%
Not sure	10%	7%	13%	11%	9%	10%	6%	11%

Insite								
Insite's license to operate is set to expire on Jun. 30. Which of these policy options would you prefer?								
	Total	Gender		Age			Region	
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	City of Vancouver	Rest of GVRD
Shutting down Insite when its license expires	26%	31%	21%	25%	24%	29%	21%	28%
Extending Insite's license to operate for another six months	21%	19%	23%	28%	21%	13%	18%	22%
Renewing Insite's license for an indefinite period	39%	43%	36%	32%	39%	47%	49%	35%
Not sure	14%	7%	21%	15%	15%	11%	13%	15%

Angus Reid Strategies is a full-service polling and market research firm which is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Strategies team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995.

Angus Reid Strategies, along with its sister company, Vision Critical, is now the largest Canadian-owned market research enterprise. In addition to its four offices in Canada—located in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, and Montreal—the firm also has offices San Francisco, New York and London, England. Its team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research, and currently serves over 200 international clients.

Angus Reid Strategies polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum online panel (www.angusreidforum.com), which is recruited via an industry-leading process that incorporates a randomized, widespread invitation approach and a triple opt-in screening procedure. The panel is maintained through state-of-the-art sampling techniques and frequent verifications of personal identity, contact information, and demographic characteristics. This premier online survey platform presents respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses.

Over the last year, Angus Reid has covered five elections in Canada—more than any other pollster in the country—and the results have accurately predicted the outcome of each of these democratic processes. <http://www.angusreidstrategies.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=news&newsid=194>

More information on the way Angus Reid Strategies conducts public opinion research can be found at <http://www.angusreidstrategies.com/uploads/pages/pdfs/ARS.ARF.WP.pdf>

- 30 -

**For more information, please contact
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

**Copies of this poll are available on our website:
www.angusreidstrategies.com**