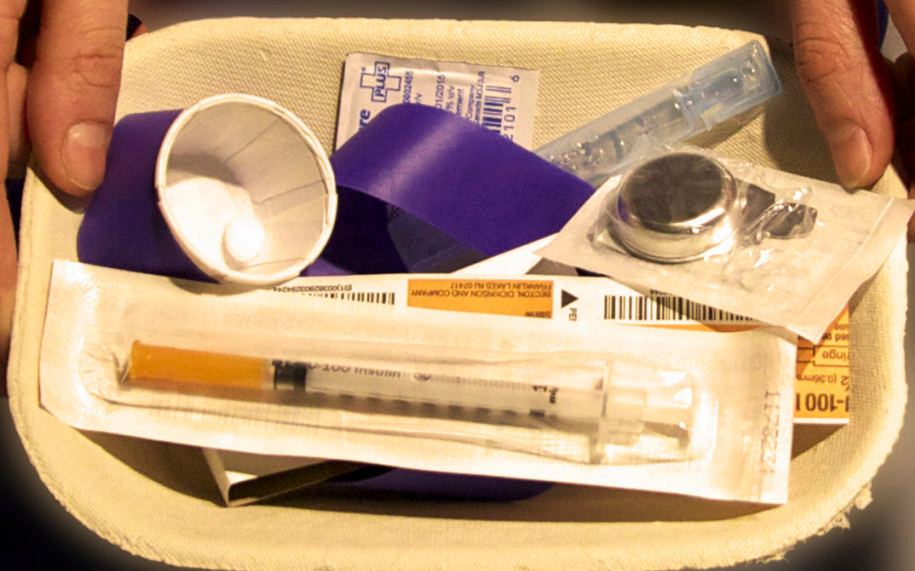


THE COMMUNITYINSITE.CA DEMILITARIZED ZONE

IN NORTH AMERICA'S DRUG WAR



INSITE BY THE NUMBERS

AS OF 2015



3416

TOTAL REFERRALS TO DETOX
RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAM
DIRECTLY ABOVE INSITE
(OPEN SINCE 2006)



2047

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF
HIV INFECTIONS AVERTED
SINCE OPENING THE SITE

ZERO OVERDOSE DEATHS

2667

LIVES SAVED
THROUGH OVERDOSE
INTERVENTION
2003-2011



2 MILLION

INJECTIONS IN THE FIRST 10 YEARS



\$1.8 ESTIMATED ANNUAL SAVINGS
FROM THE PREVENTION OF
MILLION HIV INFECTIONS ALONE



SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

SUPREME COURT OF CANADA RULED UNANIMOUSLY TO KEEP INSITE OPEN

905

AVERAGE NUMBER
OF VISITS TO INSITE
EACH DAY



587

AVERAGE NUMBER
OF DAILY INJECTIONS
(LIMITED BY NUMBER OF BOOTHS)

36% HEROIN

WHAT ARE PEOPLE
INJECTING?

32% COCAINE

12% MORPHINE

35%

DECREASE IN OVERDOSES
IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD
AROUND INSITE

9%

IN THE CITY OVERALL

Insite is the only square footage in North America where using illicit drugs is not a crime. Drugs are consumed in one of 12 booths, where clean equipment is made available, health teaching is provided, and trained medical and non-medical staff are on-site to intervene in an overdose. The site opened in 2003, and since then over 12,000 individuals have registered to use it, and over 2 million injections that would have otherwise occurred in back alleys, on the doorways of local businesses, in parks or in precarious situations - have come indoors. Most importantly, not one of these injections has resulted in a death. Insite has a small clinic where nurses offer primary care to treat disease and infection, change dressings and offer immunizations. Staff are also able to connect people into addiction counselling and treatment, housing and supports. There is a readily available detox program immediately upstairs. Despite numerous attempts from the Federal Government to close Insite, on September 30th 2011 the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that Insite protects drug users' Charter Rights of life, liberty and security of the person, and ordered the Minister of Health to grant the exemption for it to stay open.

SCIENTIFIC PAPERS AND REPORTS

Andersen and Boyd. (2009) International Journal of Drug Policy.

A COST-BENEFIT AND COST EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS OF VANCOUVER'S SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITY
Insite saves \$6 million per year

Bayoumi et al. (2008) Canadian Medical Association Journal.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE VANCOUVER SAFE INJECTION FACILITY
Insite saves the City, government, and health care system money

Boyd et al. (2008) pp. 29. Vancouver: Health Canada; 2008:29.

PUBLIC ORDER AND SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITIES: VANCOUVER'S SIS
Neighbourhood residents and businesses view Insite as making a positive contribution to public order

Cohen (2006) Potus Consulting, RCMP.

A REVIEW OF THE RESEARCH: LITERATURE ON SUPERVISED INJECTION SITES
Canada's national policing force concludes that supervised injection sites do not increase crime

Corrado (2006) Corrado Research and Evaluation Inc. RCMP.

AN ANALYSIS OF THE RESEARCH LITERATURE ON INSITE - VANCOUVER'S SUPERVISED INJECTION SITE
Canada's national police force supports Insite's methodological evaluation and results

DeBeck et al. (2008) Substance Abuse Treatment, Prevention and Policy, 3:1-5.

POLICE AND PUBLIC HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS: EVIDENCE FROM THE EVALUATION OF VANCOUVER'S SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITY

Vancouver police officers support the efforts of Insite and work in tandem with the facility to improve public order

Fairbairn et al. (2008) Social Science and Medicine.

SEEKING REFUGE FROM VIOLENCE IN STREET-BASED DRUG SCENES: WOMEN'S EXPERIENCES IN NORTH AMERICA'S FIRST SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITY

Insite provides a refuge from violence for survival sex trade workers

Fast et al. (2008) Harm Reduction Journal, 5.

THE PERSPECTIVES OF INJECTION DRUG USERS REGARDING SAFER INJECTING EDUCATION DELIVERED THROUGH A SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITY

Through regular access to nursing staff, Insite is successful in educating injection drug users on safer injection practices

Keepnews, David M. (2011) Policy Politics Nursing Practice, 12: 131-132.

CANADA'S INSITE DECISION: A VICTORY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

The ruling that Insite remains open is an important vindication of the public health principles underlying harm reduction efforts

Kerr et al. (2003) Canadian Medical Association Journal, 169:1- 5.

POTENTIAL USE OF SAFER INJECTING FACILITIES AMONG INJECTION DRUG USERS IN VANCOUVER'S DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE

Downtown Eastside community demands the opening of a safer injection site and related services

Kerr et al. (2005) Lancet, 366:316-318.

SAFER INJECTING FACILITY USE AND SYRINGE SHARING AMONG INJECTION DRUG USERS

Injection drug users who use Insite are 70% less likely to share syringes

Kerr et al. (2006) British Medical Journal, 332:220-222.

IMPACT OF A MEDICALLY SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTION FACILITY ON COMMUNITY DRUG USE PATTERNS: A BEFORE AND AFTER STUDY

Insite has not produced adverse changes in community drug use patterns

Kerr et al. (2007) American Journal of Public Health, 97:1228-1220.

CIRCUMSTANCES OF FIRST INJECTION AMONG ILLICIT DRUG USERS ACCESSING A MEDICALLY SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTING FACILITY

Insite does not promote drug use

Kerr et al. (2007) Current HIV/AIDS Reports, 4:158-164.

THE ROLE OF SAFER INJECTION FACILITIES IN THE RESPONSE TO HIV/AIDS AMONG INJECTION DRUG USERS

Insite could provide additional services, such as HIV testing

Kerr et al. (2007) International Journal of Drug Policy, 18:37-45.

A MICRO-ENVIRONMENTAL INTERVENTION TO REDUCE HARMS ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG-RELATED OVERDOSE: EVIDENCE FROM THE EVALUATION OF VANCOUVER'S SAFER INJECTION FACILITY

Insite addresses the social, cultural, and structural factors that contribute to overdose

Kerr et al. (2008) Canadian Medical Association Journal, 178:964.

MISREPRESENTATION OF SCIENCE UNDERMINES HIV PREVENTION EFFORTS

Outdated ideology and the 'War on Drugs' endangers the future of Insite

Kerr et al. (2008) The Lancet, 372:354-355.

SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITIES: TIME FOR SCALE-UP?

It's time harm reduction was a global initiative

Krüsi et al. (2009) AIDS Care, 21:638-644.

AN INTEGRATED SUPERVISED INJECTING PROGRAM WITHIN A CARE FACILITY FOR HIV-POSITIVE INDIVIDUALS: A QUALITATIVE EVALUATION

Supervised injection facilities have a place in comprehensive HIV care models

Lloyd-Smith et al. (2008) BMC Public Health, 8:405.

RISK FACTORS FOR DEVELOPING A CUTANEOUS INJECTION-RELATED INFECTION AMONG INJECTION DRUG USERS: A COHORT STUDY

Insite reduces mortality rates from injection-related infection

Lloyd-Smith et al. (2009) Annals of Epidemiology, 19:404-409.

DETERMINANTS OF CUTANEOUS INJECTION-RELATED INFECTION CARE AT A SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITY

Insite provides a variety of integrated health care services

Marshall et al. (2009) Sexually Transmitted Infections, 85:121-126.

CONDOM USE AMONG INJECTION DRUG USERS ACCESSING A SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITY

Insite supports safer sex practices by providing condoms to clients

Marshall et al. (2011) Lancet, 377:1429 - 1437.

REDUCTION IN OVERDOSE MORTALITY AFTER THE OPENING OF NORTH AMERICA'S FIRST MEDICALLY SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTING FACILITY: A RETROSPECTIVE POPULATION-BASED STUDY

Insite has decreased overdose mortality by 35% generally and by nearly 50% among First Nations people and women

McKnight et al. (2007) American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, 33:319-325.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH PUBLIC INJECTING AMONG USERS OF VANCOUVER'S SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITY

Demand for Insite access too high for just one facility to meet

Milloy et al. (2008) American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, 34:499-509.

NON-FATAL OVERDOSE AMONG A COHORT OF ACTIVE INJECTION DRUG USERS RECRUITED FROM A SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITY

Insite does not increase rates of overdose

Milloy et al. (2008) Drug and Alcohol Review 2008:1-7.

INCARCERATION EXPERIENCES IN A COHORT OF ACTIVE INJECTION DRUG USERS

Harm reduction programming essential to reducing spread of disease in Canadian penal system

Milloy et al. (2008) PLoS ONE, 3:e3351-e3351.

ESTIMATED DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS AVERTED BY NORTH AMERICA'S FIRST MEDICALLY- SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTION FACILITY

Insite prevents overdose deaths

Milloy et al. (2009) Addiction, 104:620- 621.

EMERGING ROLE OF SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITIES IN HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS PREVENTION

Supervised Injection Facilities: an important component in the battle against HIV transmission

Petrar et al. (2007) Addictive Behaviours, 32:1088- 1093.

INJECTION DRUG USERS' PERCEPTIONS REGARDING USE OF A MEDICALLY SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTING FACILITY

Users more willing to modify unsafe behaviours as a result of Insite

Reddon et al. (2011) AIDS Education and Prevention, 23 (5): 412-422.

USE OF NORTH AMERICA'S FIRST MEDICALLY SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTING FACILITY AMONG HIV-POSITIVE INJECTION DRUG USERS

Insite appears to have attracted a high-risk subpopulation of HIV-positive IDUs

Semaan et al. (2011) Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 118: 100– 110.

POTENTIAL ROLE OF SAFER INJECTION FACILITIES IN REDUCING HIV AND HEPATITIS C INFECTIONS AND OVERDOSE MORTALITY IN THE UNITED STATES

Insite has the potential to reduce viral and bacterial infections among those who engage in high-risk injection behaviours

Small et al. (2008) Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 98:159-162.

ACCESSING CARE FOR INJECTION-RELATED INFECTIONS THROUGH A MEDICALLY SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITY: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

Insite reduces strain on the health care system

Small et al. (2011) Qualitative Health Research, 21(6): 743–756.

INJECTION DRUG USERS' ACCESS TO A SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITY IN VANCOUVER, CANADA: THE INFLUENCE OF OPERATING POLICIES AND LOCAL DRUG CULTURE

Increased access to Insite is necessary in order to meet IDU's healthcare needs

Small et al. (2012) Health, Risk & Society, 14 (4): 307–324.

PERCEPTIONS OF RISK AND SAFETY WITHIN INJECTION SETTINGS: INJECTION DRUG USERS' REASONS FOR ATTENDING A SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITY IN VANCOUVER, CANADA

Insite, as perceived by the drug users, provides protection from a broader range of hazards associated with injecting drugs in unregulated settings

Stoltz et al. (2007) Addiction Research & Theory.

CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUNG ILLICIT DRUG INJECTORS WHO USE NORTH AMERICA'S FIRST MEDICALLY SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTING FACILITY

57% of drug users under 30 years of age use Insite regularly

Stoltz et al. (2007) Journal of Public Health (Oxford).

CHANGES IN INJECTING PRACTICES ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF A MEDICALLY SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITY

On average Insite users three times more likely to practice safer injection

Tyndall et al. (2005) Drug and Alcohol Dependence.

ATTENDANCE, DRUG USE PATTERNS, AND REFERRALS MADE FROM NORTH AMERICA'S FIRST SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITY

Insite successfully connects drug users to detox and other support services

Tyndall et al. (2006) Harm Reduction Journal, 3.

HIV SERO-PREVALENCE AMONG PARTICIPANTS AT A SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITY IN VANCOUVER, CANADA: IMPLICATIONS FOR PREVENTION, CARE AND TREATMENT

Insite bridges the gap between hard-to-reach HIV-positive injection drug users and the health care system

Wood et al. (2004) Canadian Medical Association Journal, 171:731-734.

CHANGES IN PUBLIC ORDER AFTER THE OPENING OF A MEDICALLY SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTION FACILITY FOR INJECTION DRUG USERS

Insite improves public order

Wood et al. (2004) Harm Reduction Journal, 1:1-5.

METHODOLOGY FOR EVALUATING INSITE: CANADA'S FIRST MEDICALLY SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTION FACILITY FOR INJECTION DRUG USERS

To date, Insite has been evaluated in over 50 peer-reviewed journals

Wood et al. (2004) Lancet Infectious Diseases, 4:301-306.

RATIONALE FOR EVALUATING NORTH AMERICA'S FIRST MEDICALLY SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITY

Insite successfully addresses the limitations of conventional drug control efforts

Wood et al. (2005) American Journal of Infectious Diseases, 1:50-54.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH SYRINGE SHARING AMONG USERS OF A MEDICALLY SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITY

Insite decreases likelihood of syringe sharing among HIV-positive drug users

Wood et al. (2005) American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 29:126-130.

DO SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITIES ATTRACT HIGHER-RISK INJECTION DRUG USERS?

Insite helps prevent the spread of HIV and other blood-borne diseases

Wood et al. (2005) International Journal of Drug Policy, 16:281-284.

SAFER INJECTING EDUCATION FOR HIV PREVENTION WITHIN A MEDICALLY SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTING FACILITY

Safer injecting education provided at Insite reduces the spread of HIV

Wood et al. (2005) Public Health, 119:1111-1115.

PREVALENCE AND CORRELATES OF HEPATITIS C AMONG USERS OF NORTH AMERICA'S FIRST MEDICALLY SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTION FACILITY

Insite reduces the spread of Hepatitis-C

Wood et al. (2006) American Journal of Public Health, 96:770-773.

SERVICE UPTAKE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF INJECTION DRUG USERS UTILIZING NORTH AMERICA'S FIRST MEDICALLY SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTION FACILITY

Insite's successful in attracting its target demographic: high-risk and outdoor drug users

Wood et al. (2006) Canadian Medical Association Journal, 175:1399-1404.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FROM THE EVALUATION OF A PILOT MEDICALLY SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITY

Initial evaluation conclusive: Insite is working

Wood et al. (2006) New England Journal of Medicine, 354:2512-2514.

ATTENDANCE AT SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITIES AND USE OF DETOXIFICATION SERVICES

Insite increases the use of addiction treatment and counselling services

Wood et al. (2006) Substance Abuse Treatment, Prevention and Policy, 1:1-4.

IMPACT OF A MEDICALLY SUPERVISED SAFER INJECTING FACILITY ON DRUG DEALING AND OTHER DRUG-RELATED CRIME

The opening of Insite did not increase drug trafficking and drug-related crime in the community

Wood et al. (2007) Addiction, 102:916-919.

RATE OF DETOXIFICATION SERVICE USE AND ITS IMPACT AMONG A COHORT OF SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITY USERS

Insite instrumental in connecting users to detox services and methadone treatment

Wood et al. (2007) The International Journal of Drug Policy 2007:1-6.

THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT'S TREATMENT OF SCIENTIFIC PROCESS AND EVIDENCE: INSIDE THE EVALUATION OF NORTH AMERICA'S FIRST SUPERVISED INJECTING FACILITY

Partisan politics overshadow scientific evidence

Wood et al. (2008) International Journal of Drug Policy.

NURSE-DELIVERED SAFER INJECTION EDUCATION AMONG A COHORT OF INJECTION DRUG USERS: EVIDENCE FROM THE EVALUATION OF VANCOUVER'S SUPERVISED INJECTION FACILITY

Insite nurses reaching high-risk female and younger injection drug users

Wood et al. (2008) Lancet, 8:142-143.

ILLICIT DRUG ADDICTION, INFECTION DISEASE SPREAD, AND THE NEED FOR AN EVIDENCE-BASED RESPONSE

Critical thinking critical to the survival of Insite

WHAT PEOPLE IN CANADA ARE SAYING



LIZ EVANS

*Founder, Former Executive Director PHS Community Services Society
OSF Fellow 2015/6
Consultant with Community Insite*

“It is clear the war on drugs has failed and communities all over the world are looking for alternative ways to lessen human suffering related to the use of illicit drugs. I struggled for years to open North America’s only legal site because I witnessed needless death on a daily basis in our community. This has proven an effective strategy to engage people outside of mainstream health care and services. It is pragmatic, evidence based, and most importantly saves lives.”



GREGOR ROBERTSON

Mayor of Vancouver

“As a key component of our City’s Four Pillars Drug Strategy, research confirms that Insite connects people to treatment services, counselling and medical help, at the same time as it reduces crime. The science in favour of Insite is clear, and as long as we have people suffering from addiction on our streets we need harm reduction options in place.”

Vancouver Observer, January 15, 2010



GORDON CAMPBELL

*Former British Columbia Premier
Former Vancouver Mayor*

“We think [Vancouver’s Supervised Injection Site] is a positive step, and we believe it should continue. We have let the federal government know that,”

Globe and Mail-August 16, 2006



KEVIN FALCON

Former British Columbia Minister of Health

“(Regarding the possibility of other supervised injection sites opening up elsewhere in BC)...Every community will have to be looked at on its own. We would have to work with the community and with (city) council to be sure that if we do make a decision like that it would be based on knowledge and evidence and hopefully have the support of the community.”

Kamloops Radio NL interview, January 20, 2010



GEORGE ABBOTT

Former British Columbia Minister of Health

“I’d say that I’m quite encouraged by the results that we have seen to date from the supervised injection site. We have a range of information. Actually, it’s very interesting information [...] there are a lot of interesting results that have come out of that work to date. By and large, the results are of an encouraging nature, so I’m certainly supportive of that continuing.”

BC Legislative Assembly-May 10, 2006



SAM SULLIVAN

Former Mayor of Vancouver

“We strongly believe that [Vancouver’s Supervised Injection Site] plays an important role in not only reducing harm to those who are drug addicted, but also reducing harm and costs to our communities.”

CBC, September 1, 2006



LARRY CAMPBELL

Senator, former Mayor of Vancouver and Chief Coroner for British Columbia

“[Insite] has surpassed all expectations we had. We’ve seen a [positive] difference in the number of people injecting in the street. We’ve seen a change in the [Downtown Eastside] street-scape. We’ve seen a drop [in the area] in HIV and Hep C. Those are major changes, but they are very preliminary. I hope they [can] continue.”



PHILIP OWEN

Former Vancouver Mayor

“After travelling to five international drug policy conferences and talking with experts from Europe, Afghanistan, Australia and South America, I know safe injection sites are a huge success. They all say, “We wish we’d done it sooner and had more.” There are over 45 cities with 85 safe injection sites with a proven track record over 15 years of improving public health and public safety.”



JAMIE H. GRAHAM

Former Chief Constable, City of Vancouver Police Department

“My staff has been working on the front-line with the VCHA to ensure that both enforcement and health related goals are addressed in this project. We plan on continuing in the spirit of cooperation to create a more safe and healthy community.”

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

GLOBE AND MAIL EDITORIAL BOARD

(Canada’s largest national newspaper)

Addicts deserve treatment too, September 30, 2011

“The nine votes cast by the Supreme Court of Canada in favour of Insite...constitute a victory for common sense over the “war on drugs”. Heroin and crack addicts have no political constituency. But their lives have value too.”



SUPREME COURT OF CANADA

Canada (Attorney General) v. PHS Community Services Society, 2011 SCC 44, [2011] 3 S.C.R. 134

[133] The application of the possession prohibition to Insite is also grossly disproportionate in its effects. Gross disproportionality describes state actions or legislative responses to a problem that are so extreme as to be disproportionate to any legitimate government interest. Insite saves lives. Its benefits have been proven. There has been no discernable negative impact on the public safety and health objectives of Canada during its eight years of operation. The effect of denying the services of Insite to the population it serves is grossly disproportionate to any benefit that Canada might derive from presenting a uniform stance on the possession of narcotics.



Insite, North America's only legal supervised injection site, has been subject to millions of dollars worth of scientific evaluations. Much of this has been funded by the Federal Government of Canada, who have battled to close the project, but lost in a unanimous supreme court decision. There are now over 40 peer reviewed academic papers, articles and reports that illustrate the value of supervised injection. You can view them at [CommunityInsite.ca /science.html](http://CommunityInsite.ca/science.html)

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