

# SUPERVISED INJECTION SITES – GET THE FACTS

Supervised consumption sites are public health facilities that offer a safe, hygienic place where people can use their own drugs under medical supervision. Recently, there's been a lot of discussion about supervised consumption sites in Ottawa. It's important to separate the FACTS from the MYTHS.

## **FACT: IF A SUPERVISED CONSUMPTION SITE OPENED IN OTTAWA, POLICE WOULD RETAIN FULL POWERS TO ENFORCE ALL LAWS THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY.**

Only the inside of the supervised consumption site itself would be exempt from drug possession laws. Ottawa Police Superintendent Tyrus Cameron dismissed the myth of restricted police enforcement around a potential supervised consumption site during a Lowertown Community Association meeting:

*“There is no such thing as a 'No-go zone'. The Ottawa Police will enforce the Criminal Code everywhere in Ottawa. The community expects us to, so we will.”*

*Superintendent Cameron, Ottawa Police  
October 21, 2013*

In an article published by the Ottawa Sun, Inspector Scott Thompson of the Vancouver Police Department spoke about policing policy around Insite, Vancouver's supervised injection site:

*There is no 'bubble zone'. The force “recommended” that officers direct users found injecting within a four-block radius to Insite to avoid future brushes with the law but they had “full discretion” to lay charges and seize drugs.*

*Ottawa Sun Interview with Insp. Thompson, VPD  
September 28, 2013*

## Cleaner and safer streets. Healthier communities.

The evidence from Insite in Vancouver – and from over 90 such sites around the world – shows that supervised consumption sites encourage cleaner, safer streets by helping to reduce public drug use and drug equipment litter. They're also proven to reduce the spread of diseases such as HIV, prevent overdose deaths, and improve access to addiction treatment programs.

The Campaign for Safer Consumption Sites in Ottawa is a grassroots group of community members who believe that we can help reduce the harmful effects of drug use in our city by offering evidence-based health care initiatives for people who use drugs.

**CSCS**  
OTTAWA

CAMPAIGN FOR  
SAFER CONSUMPTION  
SITES IN OTTAWA

**Get the facts about supervised consumption sites in Ottawa. Visit [cscsottawa.ca/facts](http://cscsottawa.ca/facts).**