

# GLITTERING GLOBES

HOLLYWOOD TENTS UP BY JACK FASHINE AT THE GRAND GLOBE, ARTS & LITE, ON



# LUONGO WILL PLAY DESPITE INJURY

SPORTS C1

# THE VANCOUVER SUN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2010

1100 BAYVIEW AVENUE

TELEPHONE: (604) 271-2222

FAX: (604) 271-2222

## 28 YEARS LATER, 2 HONOURED FOR SAVING BABY



February 11: Baby Norma Frances and her two older brothers, Mike and Sam Francis, for the 28th anniversary of the rescue of her mother, Norma Frances, on Feb. 11, 1982, who was rescued with her newborn child.

## 2-day-old infant was abandoned

**By The Staff of The Vancouver Sun**  
 A 2-day-old infant was abandoned in a car in North Vancouver on Feb. 11, 1982, and was rescued by two young boys, Mike and Sam Francis, who were 10 and 12 years old at the time. The boys were later honored for their heroic deed. The infant, Norma Frances, was rescued with her mother, Norma Frances, who was also rescued. The boys were later honored for their heroic deed.

# DRUG ABUSE 'A MEDICAL ISSUE'

Two-thirds of Canadians favour prevention, treatment programs over tougher law enforcement, poll shows

A Vancouver Sun EXCLUSIVE

**By The Staff of The Vancouver Sun**  
 A poll conducted by the Vancouver Sun and the University of British Columbia shows that two-thirds of Canadians favour prevention and treatment programs over tougher law enforcement to address drug abuse. The poll also found that most Canadians believe drug abuse is a medical issue rather than a criminal one.

## Halt the handshakes, save your stomach

Health officials hope to curb a widespread illness — with new plan. 'Limit physical greetings'



Health officials say the illness, which is spreading in the region, is a common cold or flu. The illness is caused by a virus and is highly contagious.

### The dark science of kung fu

There's something in your back that's keeping it from being as supple as a cobra. It's not just your back, it's your spine. The spine is the central support of the body and is made up of 26 vertebrae. The spine is also the home of the spinal cord, which carries messages from the brain to the rest of the body.

**WORLD'S BEST, 2010**

USA	100
Canada	95
UK	90
Australia	85
France	80
Germany	75
Italy	70
Spain	65
Japan	60
China	55
India	50
Brazil	45
South Africa	40
Argentina	35
Mexico	30
Colombia	25
Venezuela	20
Peru	15
Chile	10
Ecuador	5
Costa Rica	0

**You win... You choose.**

Call 604 692 2333 or 1 888 887 8771

Prizes of play and winning info at [www.bc40.com](http://www.bc40.com)

Used to be 4-4-00 before. NOW PAYOUTS - 2 IN 2009 Over \$100,000

**PM 8:30pm Open + Trade Bar**

**PM 8:30pm Open + Trade Bar**

**PM 8:30pm Open + Trade Bar**

Know your limit, play within it. 1 in 10 of you!

## Drug abuse 'a medical issue,' poll shows

Two-thirds of Canadians favour prevention, treatment programs over tougher law enforcement, national poll shows

**Peter O'Neil**

Vancouver Sun

*Tuesday, January 16, 2007*

OTTAWA -- Two-thirds of Canadians believe the federal government, which has promised a tough new National Drug Strategy, should treat drug abuse as a medical problem requiring more prevention and treatment programs, according to a new national poll provided exclusively Monday to The Vancouver Sun.

But a clear majority of the remaining one-third of Canadians who favour a police crackdown on drug abuse are Conservative supporters, according to the new survey of just under 3,000 Canadians by Innovative Research Group Inc.

The survey was made public on the same day a group of West Coast medical experts slammed Prime Minister Stephen Harper's plan to introduce a tough new National Drug Strategy.

The Tory government has promised to put more emphasis on enforcement and less on so-called "harm reduction" approaches like Vancouver's supervised injection site for addicts.

Innovative spokesman Greg Lyle said the results may explain why Harper's Tories are advocating the law-and-order approach while questioning scientific studies praising harm reduction efforts.

"This is an issue where the Conservative world goes one way, the rest of the world goes another," Lyle said.

Harper, according to Lyle, would risk alienating his own support base if he backed the former Liberal policy that put more emphasis on harm reduction measures like injection sites and needle exchanges.

"Within the Tory base, [government support for] harm reduction would be



CREDIT: Ian Smith/Vancouver Sun file

The new survey was made public on the same day a group of West Coast medical experts slammed Prime Minister Stephen Harper's plan to introduce a tough new National Drug Strategy.

problematic," said Lyle. "But in the broader public, that approach is where people are moving."

The on-line poll, which was launched Jan. 8 and concluded Monday, found 65 per cent of respondents agreed with the proposition that governments should treat the use of illegal drugs "as an illness and focus on prevention and treatment for addicts."

The remaining 35 per cent supported the assertion that Ottawa should treat illicit drug use "as a crime and [therefore] get tough on enforcement of drug laws among addicts."

British Columbians' views were in line with the national mood, with 66 per cent in favour of the softer approach and 34 per cent advocating law-and-order measures.

Ontarians (67 per cent viewing addiction as a medical problem) and Quebecers (65 per cent) were also in tune with the majority view, whereas Albertans (61 per cent) and Atlantic Canadians (56 per cent) were least likely to view the issue this way.

The poll found that 55 per cent of current Tory supporters back the get-tough approach, compared to 45 per cent of Conservative backers who believe addiction is a medical issue.

Roughly three-quarters of the supporters of other parties believe addiction is largely a medical matter.

Lyle said the results show the issue is a good one for opposition parties and problematic for Harper as the prime minister tries to solidify and expand his coalition into a possible majority government. He noted that a significant 45 per-cent minority of Tory backers see addiction as a medical matter.

"This is a great opposition issue because it divides the Tories but unites the opposition."

The survey of 2,938 adult Canadians is considered accurate to within 1.8 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, according to Innovative, a polling and research firm based in Toronto and Vancouver.

The error margin for the B.C. sample, which involved 382 respondents, is five points.

A study released Monday by the B.C. Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS, an agency partly funded by the provincial government, argued that the government is already spending a disproportionate amount of money on unproven enforcement measures.

"The proposed Americanization of the drug strategy towards entrenching a heavy-handed approach that relies on law enforcement will be a disaster," said report co-author Dr. Thomas Kerr in a statement.

"It is as if the federal government is willing to ignore a mountain of science to pursue an ideological agenda."

The Canadian Police Association, representing rank-and-file police officers

across Canada, and the RCMP have both criticized harm reduction policies.

Health Minister Tony Clement, who visited the Vancouver injection site earlier this month, announced on Sept. 1, 2006 that the government was rejecting a requested 3 1/2-year extension of the facility's licence. Instead, he said he would allow Insite to keep its doors open until the end of this year, pending further research, and said no more injection sites would be allowed elsewhere in Canada.

"Do safe injection sites contribute to lowering drug use and fighting addiction? Right now the only thing the research to date has proven conclusively is drug addicts need more help to get off drugs," Clement said at the time.

poneil1@hotmail.com