

# PROUD

## OUT LOUD!

Volume 2: February 2014

### ACCESS TO HARM REDUCTION EQUIPMENT & TREATMENT MARKET EDITION

**PROUD OUT LOUD** is a newsletter produced to communicate research findings from the PROUD Study, as well as relevant information for our community members and partner organizations. This current issue covers data related to questions about access to harm reduction equipment and treatment. Survey participants were recruited in the Byward Market area.

The Top 5 places people said that they **most often** get new crack pipes from:

1. **The Junction/OASIS**
2. **NESI Van**
3. **Close Friends**
4. **Casual Acquaintance**
5. **Use their own**

Friends and acquaintances did not make the top 5 list for places where people got new needles.

Top 5 places people said that they **most often** get new needles from:

1. **SITE Office**
2. **The Junction/OASIS**
3. **SITE Van**
4. **Pharmacy**
5. **Shepherds of Good Hope**

**21%** reported that other people get needles for them at least once a month.

**65%** reported that they get needles for other people at least occasionally.



Out of 513 people who smoke crack, **15% had trouble** accessing new pipes.

Out of 272 people who inject drugs, **17% had trouble** accessing new needles.

**65%** of women who inject drugs said they always pick up new needles for themselves, compared to **56%** of men.

Out of 272 people who inject drugs, **45% had been redzoned** from the market area, often preventing them from accessing treatment or harm reduction services in the area. (Being 'redzoned' means being given an order by police, judges, security and/or other enforcement agents that bars you from being within a specific geographical area for an amount of time)

## WHAT IS OPIOID SUBSTITUTION TREATMENT?

Opioid Substitution Treatment (OST) supplies an individual with a prescribed opioid drug to replace an opioid drug the person is dependent on. The goals of OST are to provide the person with stability, relieve withdrawal symptoms, remove the risks of injection, remove the risk of being arrested and provide the person treatment options to support short and long-term recovery.

Suboxone has been available in Canada since 2007, making it one of the newest OST drugs. In our survey **4%** of all participants said that they had ever been on **Buprenorphine/ Suboxone**

Among people who had injected drugs in the past 12 months:

- **50%** had ever been on **Methadone**
- **33%** were currently on **Methadone**
- **14%** of people not currently on **Methadone** would like to be

## PROUD MEMBER BIO

Kelly Florence has been an active member of PROUD since its beginning in 2012. His willingness to share his story and bring what he has learned into advocating for the community has helped him see strengths in himself that otherwise may have gone unnoticed. Kelly is passionate about fighting for useful and accessible services in Ottawa and isn't shy about letting it be known that nothing should be decided for us, without us!

**71%** of all survey participants had **ever** accessed addiction treatment services in their lives

**36%** of survey participants had accessed addiction treatment services in **the last 12 months**

The Top 3 types of treatments people had attended in the **last 12 months**

1. Alcoholics/Narcotics Anonymous
2. Short-term Detox
3. Alcohol/Drug Counsellor

The main reasons people gave that prevented them from accessing Methadone were:

## Time & Commitment Involved

## Other Barriers (Financial, Medical, Legal)

Special thanks to our:

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