



HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES' UNION

# BACKGROUND

## Poll indicates support for public hospital services

The Viewpoints Research/HEU telephone survey of 400 adult residents of the Vernon and Kelowna areas was conducted May 25 to May 27. It's considered accurate to within +/- 5 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

The survey included 200 from each Census Metropolitan Area (Kelowna and Vernon), and the results were weighted to reflect the actual distribution of population between the two areas. Here are the detailed results for the questions included in the release:

### **Who do you trust more to be responsible for cleaning and maintenance services at Kelowna General and Vernon Jubilee hospitals?**

A private corporation	22.0 %
Public employees who currently provide these services	62.6
None/more than one	3.0
Don't know/refused	12.4

### **Regardless of what the provincial government wants them to do, the IHA should reject proposals to privatize existing hospital services if the health authority finds that doing so will put patient care and safety at risk.**

Strongly agree	45.6 %
Agree	34.2
Disagree	10.9
Strongly disagree	6.0
Don't know/refused	3.4
<b>Total agree</b>	<b>79.8</b>
<b>Total disagree</b>	<b>16.9</b>

### **As part of plans to expand Kelowna General and Vernon Jubilee hospitals, the provincial government wants cleaning and maintenance services at these hospitals to be privatized. Do you support or oppose privatizing these services?**

Strongly support	12.0 %
Somewhat support	17.2
Somewhat oppose	15.1
Strongly oppose	46.9
Don't know/refused	8.8
<b>Total support</b>	<b>29.2</b>
<b>Total oppose</b>	<b>62.0</b>

### **Which one of the following do you think should be the top priority when decisions are made regarding the construction and operation of these expanded hospitals?**

Patient safety and quality of care	86.7 %
Rapid construction and lowest possible cost	8.4
None/more than one	2.9
Don't know/refused	2.0

June 5, 2007

