

September 17, 2004

or Name

Province

AB

SUPERPAGES:CA

Find a business

Type

City

Full News index

**Business** Full Business index

Showbiz Showbiz index

**Sports** Full Sports index

FIND Find! Find A Person

### **COMMENTS**



Michael Harris Bush and the house of cards

**Editorial** The listener

Letters Read today's letters

**Susan Dewar** Editorial cartoon

Columnists' page

WHAT'S RELATED ON CANOE



FEEDBACK AND SERVICES

Letters to the Editor

Send a letter

**Contact the Sun** 

#### Circulation

Contact our circulation department, or subscribe online



Thu, September 16, 2004

### Ontarians bullish on ban Most residents want pit bulls outlawed: Poll By ANTONELLA ARTUSO, Queen's Park Bureau Chief

TORONTO -- The majority of Ontarians would support an outright ban on pit bulls, according to an SES poll obtained by the Sun. Nik Nanos, president and CEO of SES Research, said Ontarians, horrified by recent reports of ferocious attacks, have strong feelings about the controversial canine.

"I think the clear message is that a majority of Ontarians -- almost six out of every 10 -- want the pit bull breed of dog off the streets," Nanos said.

"There's a certain image of the pit bull and it's not positive."

Forty-two percent of people polled said they would "strongly support" a ban on pit bulls, while another 16% "somewhat support" such action.

Another 15% "strongly oppose" the ban while 11% "somewhat oppose" it. Fourteen percent of people polled were unsure.

'STRONG OPINION'

We love to hear from our readers - complete e-mail directory

## **About the Sun**



# Loyal to Ottawa

Library

Sun

Archive services and Article search

Classifieds

Advertising

**Employment** Job opportunities at the

information

online

Place a classified ad

Display advertising

#### **OTTAWA LINKS**

**Ottawa Weather Senators** Renegades 67's **Olympiques** Lynx **CD Sales TV Listings Movie Listings** 

#### SUN SPECIALS





#### **QUICK HITS**

Comics Lotteries Crossword **Personals** 

Earl McRae Sue Dewar **Max Haines Greg Weston** 

#### **NEWSPAPERS / MAGAZINES**



Sun Media Newspapers

"The fact that four out of 10 Ontarians have a very strong opinion on this is very significant; it was the No. 1 response overall," Nanos said. "Not only do people have an opinion about banning pit bulls, but that opinion is actually quite strongly against pit bulls."

Attorney General Michael Bryant is considering introducing legislation to ban pit bulls in Ontario. Several cities are contemplating similar action.

Bryant launched the consultations after a Toronto man was nearly torn apart last August by a friend's two pit bulls.

At a recent round-table discussion at Queen's Park, pit bull fans rallied round the much-maligned dog, blaming irresponsible owners for the problems.

Nanos said their views don't reflect those of most Ontarians.

"I don't think we should confuse the presentations of pit bull owners with the opinions of Ontarians -there's obviously a silent majority out there that have a problem with pit bulls," he said.

Bryant is expected to make a decision on a province-wide ban by the end of the year.

The SES Research poll was conducted on Sept. 11 and 12 with 500 eligible voters. Results of the survey are accurate to within 4.5 percentage points, plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

#### BAN THE BEAST?

Would you support or oppose a law that would ban owning the pit bull breed of dog?

- Strongly support 42%
- Somewhat support 16%



- Somewhat oppose 11%
- Strongly oppose 15%
- Unsure 14%
- No answer/refused 1%

Previous story: Man dodges jail in choking

Next story: Politicians driven to hand back Rd. 174



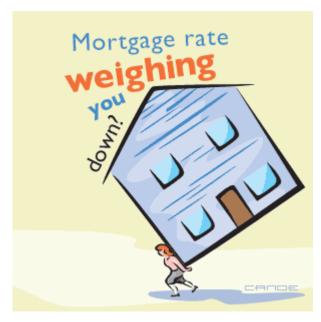


#### **CNEWS** Headlines

CANADA | August inflation rate drops WORLD | U.S. forces pound Fallujah TECH NEWS | Microsoft offering heads-up on security patches to some customers

CANADA | Sister: Cdn targeted as a Christian WORLD | Storm-weary Florida bears brunt of Ivan LAW & ORDER | Quebec police nab 71 in marijuana sweep

POLITICS | Martin defends health deal WAR ON TERROR | Some weapons used in Russian school raid believed stolen from police posts WEIRD NEWS | Filipino police to polish their poise and posture at personality school



This site is updated by 5:30 a.m. ET each day and includes stories and columns from the day's print edition of the Sun. Use these links to find the Sun stories you are looking for. For updated news, sports, business and entertainment updates around the clock, we invite you to use the links from our CANOE network.