

# NEWS RELEASE



**FORUM RESEARCH INC.**

## **MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

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## **TORONTO**

**October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Two thirds agree that provincial student loans should remain interest free, not just as long as the student is in school, but until they are paid, whenever that may be (66%)
- Agreement with the idea is especially common to the youngest (73%)
- "It is interesting to see that those who agree the least with this idea, the oldest and wealthiest, are those least likely to need it" said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Two Thirds Want Interest-Free Student Loans**

#### **Agreement with interest-free loans until paid**

In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1124 Ontario voters, two thirds agree that provincial student loans should remain interest free, not just as long as the student is in school, but until they are paid, whenever that may be (66%). Just one quarter do not approve of this idea (25%) and a tenth have no opinion (9%).

Agreement with the idea is especially common to the youngest (73%) but not the oldest (54%), with females (70%) rather than males (38%), among the less wealthy (\$20K to \$40K - 77%), among mothers (77%) and among New Democrats (81%).

Opposition is common to boomers (55 to 64 - 31%), the wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 37%), in Toronto (30%), among PCs (38%) and the best educated (post grad - 30%).

"It is interesting to see that those who agree the least with this idea, the oldest and wealthiest, are those least likely to need it" said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at lbozinoff@forumresearch.com or at (416) 960-9603.

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## Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1124 randomly selected Ontario adults. The poll was conducted on October 17-18<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3%, 19 times out of 20. Subsample results will be less accurate. Margins of error for subsample (such as age, gender) results are available at [www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp](http://www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp)

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted by age, region, and other variables to ensure that the sample reflects the actual population according to the latest Census data.

This research is not necessarily predictive of future outcomes, but rather, captures opinion at one point in time. Forum Research conducted this poll as a public service and to demonstrate our survey research capabilities. Forum houses its poll results in the Data Library of the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

With offices across Canada and around the world, 100% Canadian-owned Forum Research is one of the country's leading survey research firms. This Forum Poll™ and other polls may be found at Forum's poll archive at [www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp](http://www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp)

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### **Student Loans**

*Do you agree or disagree student loans in Ontario should be completely interest free until repaid, even after the student has left school?*

*[All Respondents]*

### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1124	159	114	209	277	365	568	543
Agree	66	73	68	68	63	54	64	70
Disagree	25	19	26	24	31	29	29	21
Don't know	9	7	6	8	6	16	7	10

### **Income**

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	1124	92	182	151	150	142	198
Agree	66	72	77	74	59	68	59
Disagree	25	15	14	18	33	27	37
Don't know	9	13	9	8	8	5	4

### **Region**

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1124	167	168	359	527	255	175
Agree	66	69	61	68	66	65	68
Disagree	25	20	30	25	27	27	20
Don't know	9	11	9	7	7	8	12

### **Provincial Vote Preference**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1124	491	259	190	85	53
Agree	66	53	73	81	77	76
Disagree	25	38	19	14	15	11
Don't know	9	9	8	4	8	13

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### **Children**

<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>MOMS</b>
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1124</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>116</b>
<b>Agree</b>	66	75	62	77
<b>Disagree</b>	25	20	28	14
<b>Don't know</b>	9	6	10	9

### **Education**

<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Secondary school or less</b>	<b>Some college or university</b>	<b>Completed college or university</b>	<b>Post graduate studies</b>
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1124</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>Agree</b>	66	66	67	69	61
<b>Disagree</b>	25	20	24	25	30
<b>Don't know</b>	9	14	9	6	9

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