

# NEWS RELEASE



## **MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Majority approve of all three controversial pipelines**

#### **Most see pipelines as safer than rail for moving crude**

TORONTO March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - In a random sampling of public opinion among 1567 Canadian voters, more than half approved of all three contentious proposed Canadian crude oil pipelines. Well more than half approve of the Energy East pipeline proposal (55%), while the majority approves of both the Northern Gateway pipeline and the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion (51% each). The proportions disapproving of these are about one third (Energy East - 32%, Northern Gateway - 36%, Trans Mountain expansion - 34%).

All three pipelines are popular in Alberta, which needs them to export crude oil from the Oil Sands (Energy East - 82%, Northern Gateway - 75%, Trans Mountain expansion - 75%). Apart from Alberta, the Energy East pipeline is especially popular in Atlantic Canada and in the Prairies (71% each). It is least popular in Quebec (38%). The Northern Gateway pipeline is least popular in BC and Quebec (40%) and is popular in the prairies (62%). The Trans Mountain expansion is also least popular in BC (41%) and Quebec (40%). In each case, the pipeline is most popular among Conservatives and least popular among New Democrats.

#### **6-in-10 agree pipelines safest**

Three times as many voters say pipelines are the safest way to transport crude oil (61%) as say this of rail (20%). Despite the tragedy of Lac Mégantic, favouring rail is highest in Quebec (28%) and belief in the safety of pipelines is lowest (48%). By contrast, in Alberta, home to many pipelines, they are seen to be safer by more than 8-in-10 (82%) and just one tenth choose rail (10%).

“It is apparent that public opinion in Quebec is the real fly in the ointment of national consensus on building crude oil pipelines and relieving the Alberta resource industry’s economic isolation,” 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](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com) or at (416) 960-9603.

## **TORONTO**

**March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- More than half approved of all three contentious proposed Canadian crude oil pipelines.
- Three times as many voters say pipelines are the safest way to transport crude oil (61%) as say this of rail (20%).
- “It is apparent that public opinion in Quebec is the real fly in the ointment of national consensus on building crude oil pipelines and relieving Alberta’s economic isolation,” said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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**March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

### **Methodology**

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1567 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 2%, 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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**March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

### ***Northern Gateway Approval – Trending***

%	Sample	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know
March 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1567	51	36	13
October 21 <sup>st</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2013	1859	36	48	16
April 2 <sup>nd</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	1863	32	54	14
Nov. 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	1849	36	50	15
September 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	1758	34	48	18
February 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	1210	39	45	19
January 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2012	1211	37	43	20
December 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2011	1160	35	51	15

### ***Safest Transportation for Oil - Trending***

%	March 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	October 21 <sup>st</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2013	July 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2013
Sample	1567	1859	1782
Rail	20	18	16
Pipeline	61	58	62
Don't know	19	24	22

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**March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

### ***Energy East Pipeline***

*'Do you approve or disapprove of building the Energy East pipeline, which would carry crude oil from Alberta's oil sands to the Atlantic coast in New Brunswick for shipping abroad?'*

*[All Respondents]*

### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1567	240	211	276	402	438	858	709
Approve	55	48	54	59	61	58	68	44
Disapprove	32	39	38	28	23	27	26	37
Don't know	13	13	9	13	16	15	6	19

### **Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1567	149	340	574	137	153	214	1239	328
Approve	55	71	38	57	71	82	45	60	39
Disapprove	32	20	50	28	14	14	39	27	49
Don't know	13	9	12	15	14	4	15	13	12

### **Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1567	487	621	192	82	55	65
Approve	55	81	50	38	36	31	48
Disapprove	32	12	35	45	54	61	39
Don't know	13	6	15	17	10	8	12

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### ***Northern Gateway Pipeline***

*'Do you approve or disapprove of building the Northern Gateway pipeline, which would carry crude oil from Alberta's oil sands to the Pacific coast at Kitimat, BC for shipping abroad?'*

*[All Respondents]*

### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1567	240	211	276	402	438	858	709
Approve	51	45	55	54	54	51	65	39
Disapprove	36	43	35	36	30	31	29	43
Don't know	13	12	10	10	16	18	6	19

### **Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1567	149	340	574	137	153	214	1239	328
Approve	51	59	40	53	62	75	40	54	41
Disapprove	36	24	46	33	22	21	53	33	45
Don't know	13	16	15	15	16	4	7	12	14

### **Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1567	487	621	192	82	55	65
Approve	51	79	45	31	30	32	46
Disapprove	36	13	41	52	66	59	42
Don't know	13	9	14	17	3	9	12

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***Trans Mountain Pipeline***

*‘Do you approve or disapprove of expanding the Trans Mountain Pipeline to carry crude oil from Alberta’s oil sands to the Pacific coast in Vancouver for shipping abroad?’*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1567	240	211	276	402	438	858	709
Approve	51	47	53	53	54	52	64	40
Disapprove	34	38	35	35	29	32	27	41
Don't know	14	14	12	12	17	16	9	19

**Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1567	149	340	574	137	153	214	1239	328
Approve	51	55	40	53	60	75	41	54	41
Disapprove	34	25	44	31	22	17	52	32	43
Don't know	14	21	16	16	18	7	6	14	16

**Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1567	487	621	192	82	55	65
Approve	51	78	44	34	31	33	51
Disapprove	34	13	40	49	60	61	35
Don't know	14	9	15	18	10	6	14

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### *Safest Way to Transport Crude Oil*

*'Which is the safest way to transport crude oil overland, by rail or by pipeline?'*

[All Respondents]

#### *Age / Gender*

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1567	240	211	276	402	438	858	709
Rail	20	25	24	19	14	13	17	22
Pipeline	61	53	58	64	68	68	73	50
Don't know	19	22	19	17	18	19	10	28

#### *Region*

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1567	149	340	574	137	153	214	1239	328
Rail	20	15	28	18	15	10	22	17	29
Pipeline	61	72	48	63	65	83	55	65	48
Don't know	19	13	24	19	19	8	24	18	24

#### *Federal Vote Preference*

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1567	487	621	192	82	55	65
Rail	20	12	21	28	24	20	38
Pipeline	61	80	60	46	45	48	39
Don't know	19	8	19	26	30	32	23

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