

# NEWS RELEASE



**FORUM RESEARCH INC.**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Liberals Losing Ground to Leaderless Conservatives**

### **Trudeau's net favourable score now only +1**

Toronto, March 9<sup>th</sup> – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ amongst 1,340 Canadian voters, the gap between the Liberals and the Conservatives amongst decided and leaning voters has shrunk to just four points.

The Liberals (39%) and the Conservatives (35%) are both down since January, three percentage points, and one percentage point respectively (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 42% / 36%).

The NDP (15%) and BQ (7%) have made the biggest gains this month, each rising three percentage points (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 12% / 4%).

The Green Party (4%) saw its support decline one point (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 5%).

The Liberals (42%) have widened their lead in BC, now topping the Conservatives (31%) by 11.

In the Atlantic region, the Liberals (59%) have seen a considerable decrease in support, losing 7 points (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 66%), which contrasts a Conservative (30%) rise in the Maritimes of nine points (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 21%).

In Québec, both the Liberals (38%) and Conservatives (17%) are down since January (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 42% / 21%). Their loss accounts for a 10% gain for the BQ, which sees its support rise to (27%) (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 17%).

In Ontario, the Liberals (42%) and Conservatives (39%) are down since January (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 42% / 39%), with the NDP (16%) the main beneficiary of this decline, rising six points (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 10%).

In the prairies, the Conservatives (42%) have seen their support dip slightly (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 42%) as have the Liberals (29%) (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 34%). Once again the NDP (25%) is the prime beneficiary of these declines, rising 7 points (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 18%).

### **Despite falling support, Liberals maintain majority**

If an election were held today, the Liberals would win 174 seats, the Conservatives 120, the BQ 23, the NDP 20, and 1 for the Green.

The biggest change since we last examined the Federal landscape is an increase of 19 seats for the BQ, and 5 for the NDP. The Liberals lose 13 seats, the Conservatives are down 11 with the Green Party unchanged. (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: Liberals 187, Conservatives 135, NDP 15, BQ 4, Green 1)

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### **TORONTO**

**March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

“Right now, both opposition parties have no permanent leader, so Justin Trudeau should be able to navigate past his opponents to drive his message, but it isn’t resonating. Of particular concern to Liberal partisans should be his precipitous drop of approval in Atlantic Canada, which has been a region of strength for the Liberals in the last few elections,” said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research.



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## **Trudeau net favourable down, Mulcair up, Ambrose unchanged**

Justin Trudeau's net favourable score (approve minus disapprove) now rests at +1, down five points (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: +6). His approval rating rests at (45%). He remains popular with those aged 34 and under (49%) and females (51%). While Trudeau is still popular with the majority in the Maritimes (57%), his approval in the Atlantic provinces is down sixteen points (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 73%).

Rona Ambrose's net favourable score is now higher than that of Trudeau at +5, with a (31%) approval for the Interim Conservative Leader.

Tom Mulcair has seen both his favourable score (+5) and his approval rating rise (34%). The increase in his favourable score is +8 (January 22<sup>nd</sup>: -3).

## **Trudeau is still the choice of almost 4-in-10 for best PM**

Trudeau is still seen by the plurality of voters as the best choice for PM (37%). For the third month in a row, none of these (19%) is the choice of the second most respondents.

"Right now, both opposition parties have no permanent leader, so Justin Trudeau should be able to navigate past his opponents to drive his message, but it isn't resonating. Of particular concern to Liberal partisans should be his precipitous drop of approval in Atlantic Canada, which has been a region of strength for the Liberals in the last few elections," said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research.

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.

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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 1,340 randomly selected Canadian Voters. The poll was conducted on Feb 24-26, 2017.

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. Actual results will depend on the parties' success at getting their voters out. 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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## Federal Party Preference Trending

[Decided/Leaning]

%	Sample	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
Feb. 24th -26th, 2017	1340	35	39	15	4	7	1
Jan. 19th-21st, 2017	1332	36	42	12	5	4	1
Dec. 6th-8th, 2016	1304	34	42	12	6	5	1
November 9th-10th, 2016	1474	28	51	11	5	4	1
October 11th-12th	1384	30	49	12	4	5	1
September 20-21st, 2016	1326	34	47	9	3	6	0
September 7th, 2016	1370	30	48	11	4	5	0
August 6th, 2016	1345	31	50	10	4	4	1
July 6th, 2016	1429	28	52	11	3	5	1
June 7th, 2016	2271	32	49	10	4	4	1
April 4th-5th, 2016	1455	28	51	12	3	6	1
March 15th, 2016	1567	34	46	12	3	4	1
Feb. 16th-17th, 2016	1406	32	49	10	5	3	1
Dec. 6th-8th, 2015	1369	32	46	13	4	4	1
November 17th, 2015	909	37	45	10	3	4	1
Nov. 4th-7th, 2015	1256	25	55	12	3	4	1
Election: Oct. 19th, 2015		32	40	20	3	5	0
October 18th, 2015	1373	30	40	20	3	6	1
Oct. 13th-14th, 2015	1438	31	37	24	2	6	1
Oct. 9th, 2015	1427	31	37	23	3	5	1
Oct 5th-6th, 2015	1447	31	35	26	3	4	1
Sept. 28-29th, 2015	1449	34	27	28	5	5	1
Sept. 21-23rd, 2015	1557	31	31	28	4	4	1
Sept. 18th, 2015	922	33	29	29	4	4	1
Sept. 14-15th, 2015	1402	32	28	30	6	4	1
Sept. 9-10th, 2015	1308	28	29	36	3	3	1
August 30-Sept. 1st, 2015	1384	24	32	36	4	4	1
August 23-24th, 2015	1440	23	30	40	3	3	1
August 17-19th, 2015	1473	29	28	34	4	4	1
August 10-11th, 2015	1392	28	27	34	4	6	1
August 2nd, 2015	1399	28	25	39	3	5	1
July 29th, 2015	1397	33	25	33	4	4	1
July 21st, 2015	1208	28	29	34	4	5	1
July 14th, 2015	1251	27	27	34	5	7	1
July 8th, 2015	1200	32	26	32	3	5	1
June 29th, 2015	1221	27	29	32	4	6	1
June 23rd, 2015	1268	28	28	36	2	5	1
June 16th, 2015	1281	26	28	34	5	7	1

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### Seat Distribution Projection Trending

%	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
February 24 <sup>th</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	120	174	20	1	23	0
January 19 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2017	131	187	15	1	4	0
Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	135	180	18	1	4	0
November 9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	72	257	8	1	0	0
October 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	83	240	14	1	0	0
September 20-21 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	111	219	7	1	0	0
September 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	87	238	8	1	4	0
August 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	81	246	10	1	0	0
July 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	55	278	5	0	0	0
June 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	98	230	9	1	0	0
April 4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	74	256	5	1	2	0
March 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	111	215	11	1	0	0
February 16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	91	240	6	1	0	0
December 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	99	224	14	1	0	0
November 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	108	222	6	0	2	0
November 4 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	57	276	5	0	0	0
Election: October 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	99	184	44	1	10	0
October 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	109	171	46	1	11	0
Oct. 13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	114	127	77	1	19	0
October 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	116	145	69	1	7	0
October 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	122	120	94	1	1	0
September 28-29 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	151	76	104	1	6	0
September 21-23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2015	125	107	104	1	1	0
September 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	145	97	95	1	0	0
September 14-15 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	138	86	113	1	0	0
September 9-10 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	113	85	139	1	0	0
August 30-September 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2015	73	123	141	1	0	0
August 23-24 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	87	76	174	1	0	0
August 17-19 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	123	79	133	1	2	0
August 10-11 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	120	89	125	1	3	0
August 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2015	118	58	160	1	1	0
July 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	156	58	122	1	1	0
July 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2015	121	78	134	1	4	0
July 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	107	79	132	1	19	0
July 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	155	59	120	1	2	1
June 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	104	106	119	1	8	0
June 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2015	116	65	149	1	3	0
June 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	112	86	120	1	18	1
June 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	151	101	83	1	1	1
May 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	131	95	111	1	0	0
April 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2015	146	101	77	1	12	1
April 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	142	137	58	1	0	0
March 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2015	129	125	65	1	17	1

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**Voter Support**

*If a federal election were held today, which party are you most likely to vote for? + Even though you may not have made up your mind, which party are you leaning towards at this time?*

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1241</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>588</b>
Conservative	35	29	37	36	36	36	41	29
Liberal	39	35	42	41	38	40	34	44
New Democratic	15	22	14	10	13	13	14	16
Green	4	7	4	4	4	2	4	4
Bloc Quebecois	7	6	3	7	8	8	7	6
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1241</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>171</b>
Conservative	35	25	30	30	35	34	35
Liberal	39	34	37	33	45	44	50
New Democratic	15	15	17	26	12	14	10
Green	4	9	3	3	3	3	2
Bloc Quebecois	7	15	11	8	5	5	3
Other	1	2	1	0	1	0	1

**Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1241</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>162</b>
Conservative	35	30	17	39	42	61	31
Liberal	39	59	38	42	29	23	42
New Democratic	15	6	14	16	25	10	18
Green	4	3	4	3	3	6	8
Bloc Quebecois	7	0	27	0	0	0	0
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	2



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## Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1241	225	297	472	247
Conservative	35	38	34	38	26
Liberal	39	34	38	37	49
New Democratic	15	11	17	14	16
Green	4	6	3	5	3
Bloc Quebecois	7	11	8	5	4
Other	1	1	0	1	1

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**March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

### ***Justin Trudeau Approval***

*Do you approve or disapprove of the job Justin Trudeau is doing as Prime Minister?*

*[All Respondents]*

#### **Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1340	124	131	226	338	521	659	653
Approve	45	49	41	46	44	45	40	51
Disapprove	44	44	47	42	43	43	52	36
Don't know	11	7	12	12	13	12	8	13

#### **Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1340	143	266	182	162	114	180
Approve	45	47	42	47	56	48	52
Disapprove	44	42	45	44	33	45	36
Don't know	11	11	13	9	11	7	12

#### **Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1340	93	330	521	89	131	176
Approve	45	57	52	42	34	34	52
Disapprove	44	27	36	49	48	60	39
Don't know	11	16	12	9	18	6	10

#### **Current Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1340	414	449	177	76	81	44
Approve	45	10	88	39	38	30	29
Disapprove	44	85	6	44	50	51	60
Don't know	11	5	6	17	13	19	11



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**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1340	245	328	510	257
Approve	45	43	49	42	51
Disapprove	44	47	42	47	37
Don't know	11	10	8	12	12



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**Rona Ambrose Approval**

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Rona Ambrose (RON-na) is doing as interim leader of the opposition?

[All Respondents]

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1340	124	131	226	338	521	659	653
Approve	31	22	33	30	35	40	38	25
Disapprove	26	30	28	24	27	21	27	25
Don't know	43	49	39	46	39	39	35	50

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1340	143	266	182	162	114	180
Approve	31	19	25	36	28	34	35
Disapprove	26	22	29	27	27	33	29
Don't know	43	59	46	37	45	33	35

**Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1340	93	330	521	89	131	176
Approve	31	28	29	28	27	56	26
Disapprove	26	20	26	28	29	18	29
Don't know	43	52	45	44	44	26	45

**Current Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1340	414	449	177	76	81	44
Approve	31	58	22	17	18	18	23
Disapprove	26	14	29	43	34	37	19
Don't know	43	28	49	39	47	45	58



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### Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1340	245	328	510	257
Approve	31	25	28	31	38
Disapprove	26	21	24	27	31
Don't know	43	54	48	42	32



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### Tom Mulcair Approval

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Tom Mulcair is doing as interim leader of the NDP?

[All Respondents]

### Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1340	124	131	226	338	521	659	653
Approve	34	34	31	35	34	36	33	36
Disapprove	29	25	32	30	33	29	33	26
Don't know	37	41	36	35	33	35	34	39

### Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1340	143	266	182	162	114	180
Approve	34	28	38	40	33	39	38
Disapprove	29	28	27	25	24	30	32
Don't know	37	43	35	35	43	31	29

### Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1340	93	330	521	89	131	176
Approve	34	28	50	30	22	22	35
Disapprove	29	24	22	30	30	41	34
Don't know	37	49	28	40	48	37	31

### Current Vote Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1340	414	449	177	76	81	44
Approve	34	19	35	60	45	49	21
Disapprove	29	42	29	15	19	19	36
Don't know	37	38	35	25	36	31	42



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## Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1340	245	328	510	257
Approve	34	26	29	35	43
Disapprove	29	28	33	28	30
Don't know	37	47	39	37	27

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**Best PM**

*Regardless of which party you plan to vote for, who do you think would make the best Prime Minister?  
 [All Respondents]*

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1340</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>659</b>	<b>653</b>
Justin Trudeau	37	37	38	36	37	35	31	42
Rona (RON-nah) Ambrose	15	15	18	10	15	16	18	12
Tom Mulcair	9	10	6	8	11	8	10	8
Elizabeth May	6	7	6	5	5	5	4	7
Rheal Fortin	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	1
None of these	19	19	20	22	19	15	22	16
Don't know	13	10	11	16	12	19	13	14

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1340</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>180</b>
Justin Trudeau	37	26	36	38	44	42	48
Rona (RON-nah) Ambrose	15	15	13	11	12	14	16
Tom Mulcair	9	14	10	13	7	12	6
Elizabeth May	6	10	6	4	8	0	4
Rheal Fortin	1	4	2	1	0	2	1
None of these	19	13	14	21	16	20	17
Don't know	13	18	19	11	13	10	9

**Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1340</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>176</b>
Justin Trudeau	37	36	44	36	27	24	39
Rona (RON-nah) Ambrose	15	9	9	16	19	33	10
Tom Mulcair	9	5	12	8	9	4	11
Elizabeth May	6	7	3	5	3	4	15
Rheal Fortin	1	0	4	1	0	0	1
None of these	19	15	17	21	22	26	13
Don't know	13	27	12	11	20	9	13



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# NEWS RELEASE



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**TORONTO**  
March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## Current Vote Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1340	414	449	177	76	81	44
Justin Trudeau	37	4	81	24	26	19	7
Rona (RON-nah) Ambrose	15	39	4	8	4	4	9
Tom Mulcair	9	5	2	36	6	18	4
Elizabeth May	6	5	4	3	24	5	14
Rheal Fortin	1	1	1	0	1	15	0
None of these	19	32	3	18	20	19	44
Don't know	13	14	5	12	19	19	22

## Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1340	245	328	510	257
Justin Trudeau	37	31	35	37	40
Rona (RON-nah) Ambrose	15	15	17	13	16
Tom Mulcair	9	6	9	9	10
Elizabeth May	6	5	3	6	9
Rheal Fortin	1	1	2	1	1
None of these	19	19	18	21	18
Don't know	13	23	15	13	5

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