

# NEWS RELEASE



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Ontario Labour Reforms Well Received**

Toronto, June 19<sup>th</sup> – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ among 1003 Ontario voters, three-quarters (74%) say that they approve of the provincial government increasing the minimum vacation from two weeks to three weeks for employees that have been with a company for at least five years. Only (18%) disapprove, with (8%) saying they do not know.

Respondents most likely to say they approve of the increase to vacation time include anyone under the age of 65: 34 or younger (75%), 35-44 (76%), 45-54 (75%), 55-64 (74%), earning \$40,000-\$60,000 (78%), living in Toronto (81%), with a post-graduate degree (79%), and supporting the Liberals (90%).

Respondents most likely to say they do not approve of the increase to vacation time includes those 65+ (25%), earning \$60,000-\$80,000 (24%) or \$80,000-\$100,000 (25%), males (25%), living in Southwestern Ontario (25%), and supporting the PCs (30%).

### **Same job/same pay**

More than two-thirds (67%) say that they approve of the provincial government's decision to mandate that employees doing the same job must be paid the same, regardless of their employment status. A quarter (24%) say that they disapprove, with fewer than 1 in 10 (9%) saying they don't know.

Respondents most likely to say they approve of the same pay for the same job include those 65+ (80%), females (72%), earning \$20,000-\$40,000 (76%) or \$40,000-\$60,000 (75%), living in the 905 (72%), with a post-graduate degree (75%), and supporting the NDP (84%).

Respondents most likely to say that they disapprove of the same pay for the same job include those aged 34 and younger (29%) or 35-44 (29%), males (28%), earning \$60,000-\$80,000 (30%), \$80,000-\$100,000 (28%), or the most wealthy (28%), living in Southwestern Ontario (29%), with some college/university (25%) or a post-graduate degree (27%), and supporting the Progressive Conservatives (37%).

### **Majority approve of offering pay to shift workers cancelled with short notice**

More than half (57%) say that they approve of the government introducing rules that say employers that cancel an employee's shift with less than 48 hours-notice must compensate their employee with three hours pay. More than a quarter (27%) say that they disapprove of the decision, with (16%) saying they do not know, the highest proportion of do not knows recorded on these four reforms.

### **MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

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"In most cases a considerable majority of voters support the Ontario Government's recently introduced labour reforms," said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research. "The government receives a wide measure of support on their reforms both from their own supporters and from the those of the NDP."



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Respondents most likely to approve of the decision include those aged 34 or younger (61%) or 35-44 (58%), earning \$20,000-\$40,000 (69%), living in Toronto (65%), with a post-graduate degree (64%), and supporting the NDP (72%).

Respondents most likely to disapprove include those earning \$80,000-\$100,000 (39%), living in Southwestern Ontario (37%), with a college/university degree (30%), and supporting the Progressive Conservatives (37%).

## **More than half approve of minimum wage increase**

The majority of respondents (53%) say they approve of increasing the minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour. Almost 4 in 10 (38%) disapprove, the highest proportion of disapproval amongst the four government labour reforms surveyed. Fewer than 1 in 10 say they do not know (9%).

Respondents most likely to say they approve of the minimum wage increase include those aged 35-44 (56%), 55-64 (56%), or 65+ (59%), females (59%), earning \$20,000-\$40,000 (66%), living in Toronto (63%), with a post-graduate degree (65%), and supporting the Liberals (79%).

Respondents most likely to say they disapprove of the minimum wage increase include those aged 34 and younger (40%), 45-54 (41%), or 55-64 (38%), males (45%), earning \$60,000-\$80,000 (47%) or \$80,000-\$100,000 (49%), living in Southwestern Ontario (47%), the least educated (40%) or with some college/university (42%), and supporting the Progressive Conservatives (62%).

“In most cases a considerable majority of voters support the Ontario Government’s recently introduced labour reforms,” said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research. “The government receives a wide measure of support on their reforms both from their own supporters and from the supporters of the NDP.”

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 1003 randomly selected Ontario Voters. The poll was conducted June 12-14, 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. 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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***Labour reforms by level of approval***

| %                  | Approve | Disapprove | Don't know |
|--------------------|---------|------------|------------|
| Vacation           | 74      | 18         | 8          |
| Same job/same pay  | 67      | 24         | 9          |
| Shift cancellation | 57      | 27         | 16         |
| Minimum wage       | 53      | 38         | 9          |



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**Vacation**

*Do you approve or disapprove of the provincial government increasing the minimum vacation from two weeks to three weeks, for employees with five or more years of experience at a company?*

**Age/Gender**

| %          | Total | 18-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------|--------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 142   | 131   | 178   | 225   | 327 | 528  | 462    |
| Approve    | 74    | 75    | 76    | 75    | 74    | 66  | 72   | 75     |
| Disapprove | 18    | 17    | 16    | 16    | 19    | 25  | 24   | 13     |
| Don't know | 8     | 8     | 8     | 8     | 6     | 10  | 4    | 12     |

**Income**

| %          | Total | <\$20K | \$20-\$40K | \$40-\$60K | \$60-\$80K | \$80-\$100K | \$100-\$250K |
|------------|-------|--------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 89     | 140        | 134        | 123        | 109         | 198          |
| Approve    | 74    | 67     | 72         | 78         | 69         | 74          | 74           |
| Disapprove | 18    | 18     | 17         | 16         | 24         | 25          | 18           |
| Don't know | 8     | 15     | 11         | 6          | 7          | 1           | 8            |

**Region**

| %          | Total | Eastern Ontario | 416 | 905 | South-western Ontario | North-eastern Ontario | North-western Ontario |
|------------|-------|-----------------|-----|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 140             | 171 | 290 | 238                   | 148                   | 16                    |
| Approve    | 74    | 71              | 81  | 74  | 69                    | 73                    | 70                    |
| Disapprove | 18    | 17              | 12  | 17  | 25                    | 21                    | 19                    |
| Don't know | 8     | 12              | 7   | 9   | 6                     | 6                     | 12                    |

**Education**

| %          | Total | Secondary school or less | Some college or university | Completed college or university | Post graduate studies |
|------------|-------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 183                      | 248                        | 382                             | 190                   |
| Approve    | 74    | 66                       | 74                         | 74                              | 79                    |
| Disapprove | 18    | 22                       | 19                         | 17                              | 15                    |
| Don't know | 8     | 13                       | 7                          | 8                               | 6                     |



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## ***Voter Ballot Intention***

| <b>%</b>              | <b>Total</b> | <b>Progressive<br/>Conservative</b> | <b>Liberal</b> | <b>New<br/>Democratic</b> | <b>Green</b> | <b>Other<br/>Parties</b> |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Sample</b>         | <b>1003</b>  | <b>439</b>                          | <b>224</b>     | <b>175</b>                | <b>76</b>    | <b>30</b>                |
| <b>Approve</b>        | 74           | 61                                  | 90             | 83                        | 68           | 65                       |
| <b>Disapprove</b>     | 18           | 30                                  | 5              | 9                         | 20           | 19                       |
| <b>Don't<br/>know</b> | 8            | 9                                   | 5              | 8                         | 12           | 16                       |



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**Same job/same pay**

*Do you approve or disapprove of the provincial government introducing rules that say employees doing the same job must be paid the same? [*

**Age/Gender**

| %          | Total | 18-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------|--------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 142   | 131   | 178   | 225   | 327 | 528  | 462    |
| Approve    | 67    | 62    | 62    | 64    | 74    | 80  | 63   | 72     |
| Disapprove | 24    | 29    | 29    | 25    | 20    | 12  | 28   | 20     |
| Don't know | 9     | 9     | 9     | 11    | 6     | 8   | 9    | 9      |

**Income**

| %          | Total | <\$20K | \$20-\$40K | \$40-\$60K | \$60-\$80K | \$80-\$100K | \$100-\$250K |
|------------|-------|--------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 89     | 140        | 134        | 123        | 109         | 198          |
| Approve    | 67    | 58     | 76         | 75         | 63         | 67          | 65           |
| Disapprove | 24    | 26     | 20         | 18         | 30         | 28          | 28           |
| Don't know | 9     | 16     | 4          | 7          | 7          | 5           | 8            |

**Region**

| %          | Total | Eastern Ontario | 416 | 905 | South-western Ontario | North-eastern Ontario | North-western Ontario |
|------------|-------|-----------------|-----|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 140             | 171 | 290 | 238                   | 148                   | 16                    |
| Approve    | 67    | 66              | 65  | 72  | 64                    | 68                    | 52                    |
| Disapprove | 24    | 25              | 26  | 20  | 29                    | 22                    | 11                    |
| Don't know | 9     | 9               | 9   | 7   | 7                     | 10                    | 37                    |

**Education**

| %          | Total | Secondary school or less | Some college or university | Completed college or university | Post graduate studies |
|------------|-------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 183                      | 248                        | 382                             | 190                   |
| Approve    | 67    | 67                       | 66                         | 65                              | 75                    |
| Disapprove | 24    | 20                       | 25                         | 27                              | 19                    |
| Don't know | 9     | 14                       | 9                          | 8                               | 6                     |



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## ***Voter Ballot Intention***

| <b>%</b>              | <b>Total</b> | <b>Progressive<br/>Conservative</b> | <b>Liberal</b> | <b>New<br/>Democratic</b> | <b>Green</b> | <b>Other<br/>Parties</b> |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Sample</b>         | <b>1003</b>  | <b>439</b>                          | <b>224</b>     | <b>175</b>                | <b>76</b>    | <b>30</b>                |
| <b>Approve</b>        | 67           | 55                                  | 79             | 84                        | 66           | 46                       |
| <b>Disapprove</b>     | 24           | 37                                  | 13             | 11                        | 24           | 32                       |
| <b>Don't<br/>know</b> | 9            | 9                                   | 9              | 5                         | 10           | 22                       |



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**Shift cancellation**

*Do you approve or disapprove of the provincial government introducing rules that say employees whose shift is cancelled without 48 hours of notice would be entitled to 3 hours pay?*

**Age/Gender**

| %          | Total | 18-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------|--------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 142   | 131   | 178   | 225   | 327 | 528  | 462    |
| Approve    | 57    | 61    | 58    | 55    | 55    | 54  | 59   | 56     |
| Disapprove | 27    | 24    | 30    | 29    | 31    | 21  | 27   | 26     |
| Don't know | 16    | 15    | 12    | 16    | 14    | 24  | 14   | 18     |

**Income**

| %          | Total | <\$20K | \$20-\$40K | \$40-\$60K | \$60-\$80K | \$80-\$100K | \$100-\$250K |
|------------|-------|--------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 89     | 140        | 134        | 123        | 109         | 198          |
| Approve    | 57    | 56     | 69         | 55         | 60         | 53          | 56           |
| Disapprove | 27    | 17     | 20         | 29         | 23         | 39          | 31           |
| Don't know | 16    | 27     | 11         | 17         | 16         | 9           | 13           |

**Region**

| %          | Total | Eastern Ontario | 416 | 905 | South-western Ontario | North-eastern Ontario | North-western Ontario |
|------------|-------|-----------------|-----|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 140             | 171 | 290 | 238                   | 148                   | 16                    |
| Approve    | 57    | 61              | 65  | 58  | 46                    | 59                    | 54                    |
| Disapprove | 27    | 25              | 19  | 26  | 37                    | 26                    | 13                    |
| Don't know | 16    | 14              | 16  | 15  | 17                    | 15                    | 33                    |

**Education**

| %          | Total | Secondary school or less | Some college or university | Completed college or university | Post graduate studies |
|------------|-------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 183                      | 248                        | 382                             | 190                   |
| Approve    | 57    | 54                       | 54                         | 58                              | 64                    |
| Disapprove | 27    | 24                       | 25                         | 30                              | 23                    |
| Don't know | 16    | 22                       | 20                         | 12                              | 13                    |



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### Voter Ballot Intention

| %          | Total | Progressive Conservative | Liberal | NDP | Green | Other parties |
|------------|-------|--------------------------|---------|-----|-------|---------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 306                      | 324     | 155 | 62    | 41            |
| Approve    | 57    | 40                       | 62      | 73  | 57    | 65            |
| Disapprove | 27    | 43                       | 22      | 15  | 20    | 18            |
| Don't know | 16    | 17                       | 16      | 12  | 23    | 18            |



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## Minimum wage

*Do you approve or disapprove of the provincial government increasing the minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour?*

### Age/Gender

| %          | Total | 18-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------|--------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 142   | 131   | 178   | 225   | 327 | 528  | 462    |
| Approve    | 53    | 50    | 56    | 49    | 56    | 59  | 47   | 59     |
| Disapprove | 38    | 40    | 37    | 41    | 38    | 32  | 45   | 32     |
| Don't know | 9     | 10    | 7     | 10    | 6     | 9   | 8    | 9      |

### Income

| %          | Total | <\$20K | \$20-\$40K | \$40-\$60K | \$60-\$80K | \$80-\$100K | \$100-\$250K |
|------------|-------|--------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 89     | 140        | 134        | 123        | 109         | 198          |
| Approve    | 53    | 61     | 66         | 54         | 43         | 48          | 54           |
| Disapprove | 38    | 26     | 28         | 38         | 47         | 49          | 39           |
| Don't know | 9     | 13     | 5          | 8          | 10         | 3           | 7            |

### Region

| %          | Total | Eastern Ontario | 416 | 905 | South-western Ontario | North-eastern Ontario | North-western Ontario |
|------------|-------|-----------------|-----|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 140             | 171 | 290 | 238                   | 148                   | 16                    |
| Approve    | 53    | 49              | 63  | 54  | 47                    | 56                    | 45                    |
| Disapprove | 38    | 38              | 29  | 37  | 47                    | 40                    | 35                    |
| Don't know | 9     | 13              | 8   | 9   | 7                     | 5                     | 21                    |

### Education

| %          | Total | Secondary school or less | Some college or university | Completed college or university | Post graduate studies |
|------------|-------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sample     | 1003  | 183                      | 248                        | 382                             | 190                   |
| Approve    | 53    | 48                       | 50                         | 52                              | 65                    |
| Disapprove | 38    | 40                       | 42                         | 38                              | 30                    |
| Don't know | 9     | 12                       | 7                          | 9                               | 5                     |



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|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Sample</b>         | <b>1003</b>  | <b>439</b>                          | <b>224</b>     | <b>175</b>                | <b>76</b>    | <b>30</b>                |
| <b>Approve</b>        | 53           | 28                                  | 79             | 73                        | 70           | 30                       |
| <b>Disapprove</b>     | 38           | 62                                  | 14             | 23                        | 22           | 55                       |
| <b>Don't<br/>know</b> | 9            | 10                                  | 7              | 4                         | 7            | 16                       |

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