

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Just half satisfied with Canadian democracy

Two thirds "extremely/very" angry about Senate scandal

TORONTO December 11th, 2014 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1658 Canadian voters, just more than half said they were satisfied with how democracy works in Canada (56%), and just one seventh are "very satisfied" (16%). One tenth are "not at all satisfied" (12%). Strong dissatisfaction is characteristic of the youngest (16%), the least wealthy (a proxy for youth - 18%), in BC (18%) and the best educated (post grad - 16%).

8-in-10 aware of Senate expenses scandal

Almost all Canadians are aware of the Senate scandal (80%), and this is especially the case among the oldest (92%), the wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 90%), the best educated (90%). Awareness is more limited in Quebec (68%), among those with children (73%), Green (72%) and Bloc Quebecois voters (58%), the youngest (65%) and the least wealthy (70%).

Two thirds "extremely/very angry" about Senate scandal

Two thirds of those aware of the Senate scandal (66%) are extremely (42%) or very angry (23%) about it, and this is especially the case among the oldest (71%), mid income groups (\$40K to \$60K - 70%), in Quebec (70%), among liberals (72%) and New Democrats (70%), the least educated (70%) and Francophones (71%).

Majority disagree PM has handled scandal well

More than half of those aware of the Senate scandal disagree that Prime Minister Harper has handled it well (52%) and equal proportions say they disagree or disagree strongly (26% each). Albertans (46%) and Conservatives (20%) are less likely to disagree with this.

Half think media spends too much time on Senate scandal

One half of those voters familiar with the scandal think the media spend too much time on it (49%), and these are most likely to be the oldest (54%), males (52%), Albertans (58%), Conservatives (68%) and the least educated (54%).

"Canadians are dissatisfied with democracy and angry about the senate scandal, especially the youngest and members of the opposition. Nonetheless, the majority think too much ink and air is devoted to it in the media" 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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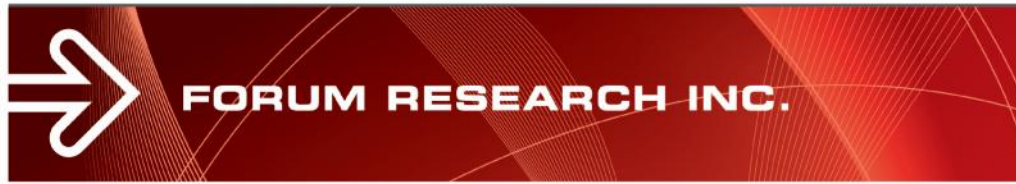
December 11th, 2014

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Just more than half said they were satisfied with how democracy works in Canada (56%), and just one seventh are "very satisfied" (16%).
- Almost all Canadians are aware of the Senate scandal (80%).
- Two thirds of those aware of the Senate scandal (66%) are extremely (42%) or very angry (23%) about it.
- More than half of those aware of the Senate scandal disagree that Prime Minister Harper has handled it well (52%).
- One half of those voters familiar with the scandal think the media spend too much time on it (49%).
- "Canadians are dissatisfied with democracy and angry about the senate scandal, especially the youngest and members of the opposition. Nonetheless, the majority think too much ink and air is devoted to it in the media" said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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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 1658 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted on December 10 - 11th, 2014.

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

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

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Democracy in Canada

‘On the whole, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in Canada?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1658	307	239	324	361	427	863	795
NET: TOP2	56	52	53	58	61	60	56	56
NET: BTM2	41	45	45	39	36	38	41	41
Very Satisfied	16	17	15	16	17	16	18	15
Fairly Satisfied	40	35	38	42	44	43	38	41
Not Very Satisfied	30	29	30	30	28	31	28	31
Not at All Satisfied	12	16	14	9	9	7	13	10
Don't know	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3

Region / Language

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1658	124	419	589	113	162	251	1264	394
NET: TOP2	56	50	53	59	63	61	48	57	54
NET: BTM2	41	47	45	38	33	34	50	40	44
Very Satisfied	16	11	18	17	9	21	12	15	20
Fairly Satisfied	40	39	34	42	54	40	36	41	34
Not Very Satisfied	30	32	34	27	25	27	32	28	34
Not at All Satisfied	12	15	11	11	9	7	18	12	10
Don't know	3	3	2	3	4	5	2	3	2

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1658	487	577	274	104	57	61
NET: TOP2	56	77	56	41	38	40	47
NET: BTM2	41	22	42	56	62	56	51
Very Satisfied	16	29	12	11	12	9	14
Fairly Satisfied	40	48	44	30	26	31	33
Not Very Satisfied	30	18	33	41	30	42	26
Not at All Satisfied	12	4	10	15	32	14	25
Don't know	3	1	2	4	1	3	2

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Senate Expenses Scandal: Awareness

'Are you aware of the Senate expenses scandal involving Senator Duffy and Senator Wallin, among others?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1658	307	239	324	361	427	863	795
Yes	80	65	79	85	89	92	86	75
No	20	35	21	15	11	8	14	25

Region / Language

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1658	124	419	589	113	162	251	1264	394
Yes	80	84	68	86	84	76	85	83	68
No	20	16	32	14	16	24	15	17	32

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc
Sample	1658	487	577	274	104	57	61
Yes	80	85	85	80	72	58	70
No	20	15	15	20	28	42	30

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Senate Expenses Scandal: Anger

'Are you angry or not angry about the senate expenses scandal?'

[Aware of Scandal]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1387	209	190	276	319	393	758	629
NET: TOP2	66	60	66	65	67	71	63	68
NET: BTM2	11	14	10	13	10	9	14	9
Extremely angry	42	37	45	42	42	46	42	43
Very angry	23	23	21	23	25	25	21	26
Somewhat angry	21	22	24	21	22	18	21	21
Not very angry	8	9	6	10	6	6	10	5
Not at all angry	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	4
Don't know	2	5	0	2	1	2	2	2

Region / Language

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1387	108	301	526	101	129	222	1103	284
NET: TOP2	66	69	70	62	59	66	69	64	71
NET: BTM2	11	13	7	13	12	14	10	12	7
Extremely angry	42	48	45	42	41	35	42	41	46
Very angry	23	21	25	21	18	31	27	23	25
Somewhat angry	21	18	20	23	27	19	18	21	20
Not very angry	8	7	6	8	9	7	8	8	5
Not at all angry	4	6	1	5	3	8	2	4	1
Don't know	2	0	3	2	2	1	2	2	3

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1387	424	509	230	83	34	45
NET: TOP2	66	55	72	70	63	76	61
NET: BTM2	11	19	7	6	16	2	20
Extremely angry	42	33	48	43	48	58	45
Very angry	23	22	24	27	15	19	16
Somewhat angry	21	24	19	22	20	16	12
Not very angry	8	12	6	6	4	2	6
Not at all angry	4	7	1	0	12	0	14
Don't know	2	2	1	1	1	5	7

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Senate Expenses Scandal: Prime Minister Harper

‘Do you agree or disagree Prime Minister Harper has done a good job dealing with the senate expenses scandal?’

[Aware of Scandal]

Age / Gender

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1387	121	216	238	206	149	261
NET: TOP2	39	29	42	43	40	33	39
NET: BTM2	52	52	46	52	51	60	53
Agree strongly	13	12	15	16	17	9	9
Agree	26	17	27	28	22	24	30
Disagree	26	22	26	29	20	36	26
Disagree strongly	26	30	20	23	32	24	27
Don't know	9	19	12	4	9	7	9

Region / Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1387	108	301	526	101	129	222	1103	284
NET: TOP2	39	30	43	40	48	46	29	38	45
NET: BTM2	52	56	47	53	49	42	61	53	47
Agree strongly	13	9	14	14	19	16	9	13	15
Agree	26	22	28	26	28	31	20	25	30
Disagree	26	27	30	25	30	26	25	26	30
Disagree strongly	26	29	18	29	19	17	36	28	17
Don't know	9	14	10	7	4	11	10	9	9

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1387	424	509	230	83	34	45
NET: TOP2	39	74	23	21	25	38	37
NET: BTM2	52	20	69	71	63	38	44
Agree strongly	13	30	5	5	13	11	16
Agree	26	44	18	17	12	27	21
Disagree	26	16	33	35	25	22	16
Disagree strongly	26	4	36	36	38	16	29
Don't know	9	6	8	8	12	24	19

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Senate Expenses Scandal: Media Coverage

‘Do you agree or disagree the media is spending too much time covering the senate expenses scandal?’

[Aware of Scandal]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1387	209	190	276	319	393	758	629
NET: TOP2	49	46	46	47	50	54	52	45
NET: BTM2	44	48	46	44	44	39	42	46
Agree strongly	20	20	17	20	20	21	23	16
Agree	29	26	30	27	30	33	29	29
Disagree	32	30	29	36	34	29	29	34
Disagree strongly	13	18	16	8	10	10	13	12
Don't know	7	5	8	9	6	7	5	9

Region / Language

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1387	108	301	526	101	129	222	1103	284
NET: TOP2	49	38	50	51	47	56	42	48	50
NET: BTM2	44	54	43	42	44	40	51	45	42
Agree strongly	20	13	17	20	18	32	19	20	17
Agree	29	25	33	31	29	24	23	28	34
Disagree	32	34	33	30	34	32	33	31	33
Disagree strongly	13	19	10	12	10	8	18	13	9
Don't know	7	9	8	7	8	4	7	7	7

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1387	424	509	230	83	34	45
NET: TOP2	49	68	40	38	33	53	47
NET: BTM2	44	25	56	53	54	36	42
Agree strongly	20	34	12	13	15	12	20
Agree	29	34	28	25	18	41	27
Disagree	32	22	39	38	29	30	21
Disagree strongly	13	4	17	15	25	6	20
Don't know	7	6	4	9	13	11	12

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