

# NEWS RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Majority likely to switch vote to see senate abolished**

**More than a third are “very likely”**

TORONTO June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1281 Canadian voters, the majority (56%) say they are likely to switch their usual vote to support a party or politician who promises to abolish the Senate, and more than a third say they are “very likely” to do so (36%). Strong interest in switching to achieve this end is much higher among the oldest (45%), males (40%), the very wealthiest (42%), in Quebec and the prairies (40% each) and among Conservatives (40%) and New Democrats (43%), but not Liberals (27%), among Francophones (44%) and those with no children (38%).

“The constitutional experts tell us abolishing the senate can’t be done, but there is a majority interest in it happening, especially among supporters of the government and the opposition. The constitutional reform process can no longer be a pair of handcuffs on the aspirations of a nation, and if it continues to hinder progress, we will see demands for reforms to the constitutional reform process itself,” 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.

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### **TORONTO**

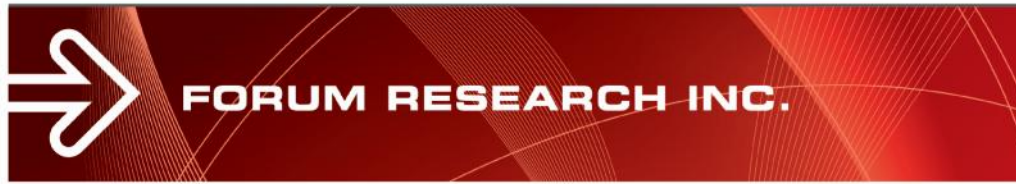
**June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- The majority (56%) say they are likely to switch their usual vote to support a party or politician who promises to abolish the Senate, and more than a third say they are “very likely” to do so (36%).
- “The constitutional experts tell us abolishing the senate can’t be done, but there is a majority interest in it happening, especially among the government and the opposition. The constitutional reform process can no longer be a pair of handcuffs on the aspirations of a nation, and if it continues to hinder progress, we will see demands for reforms to the constitutional reform process itself,” 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 1281 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted on June 15-16<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

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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***Voting Preference – Abolish the Senate***

*‘How likely would you be to change your vote to support a party or a politician who promised to do the following?’ + ‘Abolish the senate’*

*[All Respondents]*

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1281	243	190	228	277	343	672	609
NET: TOP2	57	50	56	60	59	63	59	54
NET: BTM2	30	31	28	29	33	31	32	28
Very likely	36	31	33	38	37	45	40	33
Somewhat likely	20	18	23	22	22	17	19	22
Not very likely	20	17	16	20	26	24	21	19
Not at all likely	10	14	11	9	7	7	11	9
Don't know	13	19	17	11	8	7	9	18

**Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1281	104	246	490	103	149	189	1082	199
NET: TOP2	57	60	61	56	59	47	54	54	65
NET: BTM2	30	29	24	32	30	39	32	33	18
Very likely	36	38	40	35	40	30	35	34	44
Somewhat likely	20	22	21	21	20	17	19	20	21
Not very likely	20	23	15	20	17	24	27	22	11
Not at all likely	10	7	8	12	12	15	5	11	8
Don't know	13	11	15	12	11	14	14	12	17

**Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1281	323	317	392	80	58	43
NET: TOP2	57	58	48	63	51	64	64
NET: BTM2	30	32	38	27	35	20	18
Very likely	36	40	27	43	34	40	34
Somewhat likely	20	18	21	21	17	24	29
Not very likely	20	21	25	20	20	11	10
Not at all likely	10	11	13	7	15	9	8
Don't know	13	9	14	10	13	16	18

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