

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Plurality approve of ORPP

Support down from November

TORONTO August 11th, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1001 Ontario voters, close to half approve of the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan (ORPP) when it is described to them (44%). Four-in-ten disapprove (40%) and one sixth don't have an opinion (15%). This stand in contrast to November, 2014, right after the ORPP was announced, when more than half approved (52%), 3-in-10 disapproved (28%) and as many as one fifth had no opinion (20%).

Approval of the ORPP is common to females (49%), mid income groups (\$40K to \$60K - 48%), the wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 49%), in the city of Toronto (52%), among Liberals (72%) and New Democrats (53%) and even among some PC voters (22%). Mothers of children under 18 approve (48%) as do the best educated (post grad - 52%). While small business owners (who will pay increased employer contributions) are less than enthusiastic about the ORPP (39%), so are those who have no pensions now (39%).

4-in-10 less likely to support government if they don't help ORPP

The plurality of Ontario voters will be less likely to support the federal government in the coming election because of its unwillingness to help Ontario administer the ORPP (40%), while about one quarter say this stance will make them more likely to support the government (28%). One quarter will not be influenced one way or the other (27%).

ORPP seen as retirement insurance, not a payroll tax

When voters are asked to describe employee pension contributions, they are most likely to describe them as retirement savings (27%), followed by a personal savings plan (22%). Fewer than one fifth characterize pension contributions as a payroll tax (17%). Opting for "payroll tax" is really only characteristic of PC voters (30%), and then only a minority.

"It may be that the Prime Minister picked the wrong hill to plant his flag on. The ORPP, while less popular than before, is still more liked than not liked, and very few seem to be buying the line that it is a payroll tax. Most voters know a retirement insurance plan when they see one," 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.

TORONTO

August 11th, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Close to half approve of the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan (ORPP) when it is described to them (44%).
- The plurality of Ontario voters will be less likely to support the federal government in the coming election because of its unwillingness to help Ontario administer the ORPP (40%).
- "When voters are asked to describe employee pension contributions, they are most likely to describe them as retirement savings (27%). "It may be that the Prime Minister picked the wrong hill to plant his flag on. The ORPP, while less popular than before, is still more liked than not liked, and very few seem to be buying the line that it is a payroll tax. Most voters know a retirement insurance plan when they see one," 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 1001 randomly selected Ontarians 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted from August 12th to August 13th, 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

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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Ontario Retirement Pension Plan Approval

‘The province will introduce the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan, or ORPP in 2017. Employees without pensions will contribute 1.9% of their income, which will be matched by employers. On retirement, the plan will provide an amount equal to about 15% of the employee’s pre-retirement income. Do you approve or disapprove of the ORPP?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1001	143	137	191	241	289	519	482
Approve	45	46	44	47	47	41	40	49
Disapprove	40	35	40	40	44	43	46	35
Don't know	15	18	16	13	9	16	14	16

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1001	156	182	254	436	263	146
Approve	45	46	52	42	46	44	42
Disapprove	40	39	32	45	40	38	43
Don't know	15	16	16	12	14	18	14

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1001	364	270	238	47	31
Approve	45	22	72	53	38	36
Disapprove	40	68	15	33	31	37
Don't know	15	10	13	14	32	27

Small Business, Pension, and Retirement

%	Total	Small business	Not small business	Public sector pension	Private sector pension	No pension	Retired	Not retired
Sample	1001	126	875	336	288	377	364	637
Approve	45	39	46	55	43	39	43	46
Disapprove	40	46	39	32	46	42	42	39
Don't know	15	15	15	13	11	19	15	15

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Federal Government Support: ORPP

'The federal government has said it will not help Ontario implement or process the ORPP. Are you more or less likely to support the government in the next election because of this decision?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1001	143	137	191	241	289	519	482
More likely to support the government	28	23	33	32	24	28	35	20
Less likely to support the government	40	38	35	40	45	46	37	44
Neither more nor less likely to support the government	27	33	28	25	24	20	24	29
Don't know	5	6	3	4	7	7	4	7

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1001	156	182	254	436	263	146
More likely to support the government	28	28	23	32	29	26	27
Less likely to support the government	40	45	44	40	42	36	39
Neither more nor less likely to support the government	27	25	25	25	25	32	26
Don't know	5	2	7	3	5	7	8

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1001	364	270	238	47	31
More likely to support the government	28	60	10	11	15	14
Less likely to support the government	40	16	62	52	48	39
Neither more nor less likely to support the government	27	20	24	35	31	35
Don't know	5	5	4	3	6	11

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Small Business, Pension, and Retirement

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%	Total	Small business	Not small business	Public sector pension	Private sector pension	No pension	Retired	Not retired
Sample	1001	126	875	336	288	377	364	637
More likely to support the government	28	36	26	20	33	30	26	28
Less likely to support the government	40	40	40	47	35	38	46	38
Neither more nor less likely to support the government	27	21	28	26	29	26	20	29
Don't know	5	3	6	6	3	6	8	5

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Employee Pension Contributions

'How would you describe employee pension contributions?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1001	143	137	191	241	289	519	482
Payroll tax	17	16	18	19	20	14	20	14
Personal savings plan	22	25	21	21	18	20	20	23
Retirement insurance	27	25	27	28	32	26	26	28
Something else	14	15	16	10	12	14	16	12
Don't know	21	20	18	22	18	26	18	23

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1001	156	182	254	436	263	146
Payroll tax	17	17	12	20	17	15	21
Personal savings plan	22	21	22	20	21	22	24
Retirement insurance	27	25	37	24	29	26	24
Something else	14	17	13	11	12	17	12
Don't know	21	21	16	25	21	20	18

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1001	364	270	238	47	31
Payroll tax	17	30	6	14	13	17
Personal savings plan	22	24	20	19	37	7
Retirement insurance	27	15	40	35	11	24
Something else	14	13	12	14	19	37
Don't know	21	19	22	18	21	14

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Sample	1001	126	875	336	288	377	364	637
Payroll tax	17	23	16	14	19	18	16	17
Personal savings plan	22	27	21	20	25	20	18	22
Retirement insurance	27	19	28	34	24	25	27	27
Something else	14	19	13	12	13	16	13	14
Don't know	21	12	22	20	20	22	25	19

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