

# NEWS RELEASE



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## **PC Lead Narrows but Still Tracking for Massive Majority**

### **NDP to serve as opposition**

Toronto, December 1<sup>st</sup> – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ among 861 Ontario voters, amongst those decided and leaning, 4 in 10 (40%) say they would support the PCs, down 5 points since October (Oct 26: 45%).

The NDP and Ontario Liberals are statistically tied again, but with a slightly higher share of the vote for the NDP, with a quarter (26%) for the NDP and a quarter (24%) for the Liberals. Since October the NDP are up 4 points (Oct 26: 22%) and the Liberals are unchanged (Oct 26: 24%)

Just under one-tenth (8%) are supporting the Greens, who are up one point (Oct 26: 7%) and few (2%) say they are supporting another party.

Were this electoral scenario to play out, the NDP would serve as official opposition to a Progressive Conservative majority government.

Respondents most likely to say they support the PCs include those aged 45-54 (51%), the most wealthy (49%), with some college/university (43%) or a college/university degree (43%), and living in Southwestern Ontario (48%).

Respondents most likely to say they support the NDP include those aged 34 and younger (39%) and 35-44 (37%), the least wealthy (35%) and those earning \$20-\$40,000 (37%), and with a post-graduate degree (34%).

Respondents most likely to say they support the Ontario Liberals include those aged 65+ (34%), earning \$40-\$60,000 (27%) or \$80-\$100,000 (30%), with a post-graduate degree (34%), and living in Toronto (31%).

### **Wynne unpopular, Brown unknown, Horwath liked, but also unknown**

When asked whether they approve or disapprove of Kathleen Wynne's performance as premier, one-sixth (15%) say they approve, three-quarters (74%) say they disapprove, and (10%) say they do not know. Her net favourable score (approve minus disapprove) is -59. The premier's approval is effectively unchanged from September when her net approval score was also -59. (Sept 26: -59)

Patrick Brown sees approval from just under a third (29%), and disapproval from just over a third (35%), with more than a third (36%) saying they do not know. His net favourable score (approve minus disapprove) is -6. Brown's approval is down slightly from September, seeing a drop of four points in his net favourable score. (Sept 26: -2)

### **MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

Lorne Bozinoff, President  
lbozinoff@forumresearch.com  
416.960.9603

"Brown's lead has slipped slightly," said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research. "Despite the dip, he's still sitting in majority territory, which is a good place to be six months before the election. One thing that is common to voters, regardless of political stripe? They don't really trust election promises."



180 Bloor Street W., #1400  
Toronto, ON M5S 2V6  
T 416.960.9600  
F 416.960.9602  
forumresearch.com

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Lorne Bozinoff, President  
lbozinoff@forumresearch.com  
416.960.9603

Andrea Horwath is the most popular leader, seeing approval from almost 4 in 10 (38%), and disapproval from more than a quarter (28%). A third (34%) also say they do not know about Horwath. Her net favourable score (approve minus disapprove is +10). Horwath's approval has ticked up slightly since September, two points higher than when last we measured it. (Sept 26: +2)

### **Almost no one trusts political promises**

Almost zero (1%) say they have a lot of trust in the promises made by politicians before an election. One quarter (28%) say they have some trust, while almost half (46%) say they do not have a lot of trust. A quarter (23%) have no trust at all in pre-election promises.

"Brown's lead has slipped slightly," said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research. "Despite the dip, he's still sitting in majority territory, which is a good place to be six months before the election. One thing that is common to voters, regardless of political stripe? They don't really trust election promises."

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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416.960.9603

## **Methodology**

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 861 randomly selected Ontario Voters. The poll was conducted November 29-30, 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' ability to get 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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**Provincial Election Voting Preference Trending**

[Decided / Leaning]

%	Sample	Con	Lib	NDP	Green	Other
Nov 29-30, 2017	861	40	24	26	8	2
Oct 24-25, 2017	946	45	27	22	7	2
Sept 26-27, 2017	801	44	22	27	5	2
Aug 23-24, 2017	981	40	25	27	6	2
June 12-14, 2017	1003	44	23	24	7	2
May 9-10, 2017	1103	41	28	23	6	3
March 28-30, 2017	844	43	19	28	8	2
February 15-16, 2017	1026	44	24	25	6	2
November 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	1104	43	24	24	8	2
October 17-18 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1078	43	24	23	8	2
September 12-13 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1154	45	25	23	6	2
August 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1097	41	28	23	6	2
July 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1183	42	35	17	5	2
June 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	1173	40	30	21	8	2
May 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	1172	40	30	21	7	2
April 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1157	39	34	21	5	2
March 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2016	1225	40	30	24	5	2
February 26 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	1148	44	27	22	6	2
December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	1003	34	31	26	7	2
November 2 <sup>nd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	1158	36	30	26	6	2
August 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	1001	35	26	33	4	2
July 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	678	32	26	35	5	2
May 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	1001	33	24	36	5	2
May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2015	912	36	29	24	9	2
March 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	881	34	29	27	8	2
February 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	996	39	32	21	6	2
January 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	1028	36	37	19	6	2
December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	1058	36	35	20	7	2
November 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	1054	37	37	17	7	2
November 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014	1104	35	40	19	4	2
October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014	1013	34	36	23	6	1
August 20-21 <sup>st</sup> , 2014	1229	32	39	19	8	2
Popular Vote – June 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2014 Provincial Election Results	-	<b>31</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>
June 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	1054	35	41	20	3	1
June 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	974	37	39	17	6	1
May 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	882	36	36	20	7	1
May 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	1136	34	41	20	4	1
May 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	996	35	38	21	5	1
May 2-3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2014	1845	38	33	22	6	1
April 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	928	38	31	23	7	1
Mar 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	908	32	35	25	7	1
Feb. 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	1014	35	32	26	6	1



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 lbozinoff@forumresearch.com  
 416.960.9603

**Horserace**

*If a provincial 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? [Decided + Leaning]*

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	814	124	124	137	183	246	462	329
Progressive Conservative	40	33	32	51	44	39	45	37
Liberal	24	14	22	23	26	34	25	24
New Democratic	26	39	37	16	22	20	21	30
Green	8	12	8	8	7	5	6	9
Another Party	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	0

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	814	71	107	121	99	76	175
Progressive Conservative	40	36	28	37	40	34	49
Liberal	24	16	26	27	24	30	25
New Democratic	26	35	37	26	30	26	21
Green	8	11	8	10	6	9	4
Another Party	2	3	2	1	1	1	1

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	North-eastern Ontario	North-western Ontario
Sample	814	153	198	183	199	64	17
Progressive Conservative	40	42	32	41	48	36	31
Liberal	24	18	31	27	18	28	5
New Democratic	26	29	27	27	20	29	42
Green	8	9	9	4	12	6	16
Another Party	2	3	1	1	2	1	6



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 forumresearch.com

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## MEDIA INQUIRIES:

Lorne Bozinoff, President  
lbozinoff@forumresearch.com  
416.960.9603

### Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	814	130	189	329	166
Progressive Conservative	40	41	43	45	26
Liberal	24	22	19	22	34
New Democratic	26	23	27	25	31
Green	8	13	8	6	7
Another Party	2	1	2	1	2



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 lbozinoff@forumresearch.com  
 416.960.9603

**Wynne**

*Do you approve or disapprove of the job Kathleen Wynne is doing as premier?*

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	861	129	128	146	191	267	483	354
Approve	15	12	13	11	18	23	14	17
Disapprove	74	75	75	83	74	65	78	71
Don't know	10	13	12	6	8	13	8	12

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	861	77	114	126	107	77	181
Approve	15	13	14	19	18	18	14
Disapprove	74	71	72	71	72	70	79
Don't know	10	16	14	10	10	12	7

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	North-eastern Ontario	North-western Ontario
Sample	861	160	207	198	208	70	18
Approve	15	14	25	16	8	15	19
Disapprove	74	75	62	73	85	80	60
Don't know	10	11	13	11	7	6	21

**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	861	140	202	346	173
Approve	15	8	9	15	29
Disapprove	74	84	78	75	61
Don't know	10	8	12	10	9



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[lbozinoff@forumresearch.com](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com)

416.960.9603

**Ballot intention**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	861	341	218	159	65	31
Approve	15	0	52	11	6	6
Disapprove	74	98	34	76	81	88
Don't know	10	2	14	13	12	6



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 lbozinoff@forumresearch.com  
 416.960.9603

### Brown

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Patrick Brown is doing as leader of the Opposition?

### Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	861	129	128	146	191	267	483	354
Approve	29	27	25	37	34	27	33	27
Disapprove	35	25	41	34	40	41	38	31
Don't know	36	48	34	30	26	33	29	42

### Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	861	77	114	126	107	77	181
Approve	29	36	25	27	30	19	34
Disapprove	35	22	31	35	38	61	33
Don't know	36	42	44	38	32	20	32

### Region

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	North-eastern Ontario	North-western Ontario
Sample	861	160	207	198	208	70	18
Approve	29	19	25	34	33	31	17
Disapprove	35	32	36	39	29	36	48
Don't know	36	49	39	27	38	33	35



### Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	861	140	202	346	173
Approve	29	31	29	33	21
Disapprove	35	25	35	33	47
Don't know	36	44	36	34	32

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***Ballot intention***

<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Progressive Conservative</b>	<b>Liberal</b>	<b>New Democratic</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Other Parties</b>
<b>Sample</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Approve</b>	29	61	10	12	9	27
<b>Disapprove</b>	35	13	57	52	35	44
<b>Don't know</b>	36	26	34	36	56	29



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 lbozinoff@forumresearch.com  
 416.960.9603

**Horwath**

*Do you approve or disapprove of the job Andrea Horwath (HOR-vath) is doing as leader of the NDP?*

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	861	129	128	146	191	267	483	354
Approve	38	35	38	48	35	36	33	43
Disapprove	28	23	25	30	37	30	37	20
Don't know	34	43	38	21	28	34	30	37

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	861	77	114	126	107	77	181
Approve	38	33	38	35	42	40	37
Disapprove	28	31	15	24	34	37	31
Don't know	34	36	47	41	24	23	32

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	North-eastern Ontario	North-western Ontario
Sample	861	160	207	198	208	70	18
Approve	38	27	37	45	37	38	33
Disapprove	28	29	30	29	28	26	3
Don't know	34	44	33	26	35	36	64

**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	861	140	202	346	173
Approve	38	32	46	36	41
Disapprove	28	28	23	31	27
Don't know	34	40	32	33	32



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***Ballot intention***

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	861	341	218	159	65	31
Approve	38	32	29	67	44	27
Disapprove	28	40	31	9	17	52
Don't know	34	28	40	24	39	21



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**Trust**

Overall, how much do you trust the promises made by politicians before an election?

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	861	129	128	146	191	267	483	354
TOP2	29	31	25	27	26	37	25	34
BTM2	69	65	75	73	73	61	74	64
A lot of trust	1	2	1	3	0	0	1	1
Some trust	28	29	24	24	26	37	24	33
Not a lot of trust	46	37	48	47	53	49	48	43
No trust at all	23	28	27	26	19	12	26	21
Don't know	2	4	0	0	1	1	1	2

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	861	77	114	126	107	77	181
TOP2	29	27	29	29	26	25	35
BTM2	69	71	64	71	74	75	64
A lot of trust	1	3	3	3	0	1	0
Some trust	28	23	26	26	26	25	35
Not a lot of trust	46	28	47	51	53	51	45
No trust at all	23	43	17	19	21	24	19
Don't know	2	3	7	0	0	0	1

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	North-eastern Ontario	North-western Ontario
Sample	861	160	207	198	208	70	18
TOP2	29	32	36	31	25	20	18
BTM2	69	67	62	66	74	78	82
A lot of trust	1	1	1	2	1	0	0
Some trust	28	31	35	29	24	20	18
Not a lot of trust	46	42	38	43	48	64	71
No trust at all	23	25	24	23	27	14	12
Don't know	2	0	2	2	0	2	0



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### **Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	861	140	202	346	173
TOP2	29	23	35	23	42
BTM2	69	75	63	75	58
A lot of trust	1	2	1	1	2
Some trust	28	21	34	22	40
Not a lot of trust	46	44	44	51	38
No trust at all	23	31	19	24	20
Don't know	2	2	2	2	0

### **Ballot intention**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	861	341	218	159	65	31
TOP2	29	23	51	26	30	9
BTM2	69	77	48	71	70	85
A lot of trust	1	1	4	0	1	0
Some trust	28	22	47	26	29	9
Not a lot of trust	46	50	38	49	41	32
No trust at all	23	28	9	22	30	53
Don't know	2	0	1	3	0	6



For more information:

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D.

President

Forum Research Inc.

Tel: (416) 960-9603

Fax: (416) 960-9602

E-mail: [lbozinoff@forumresearch.com](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com)

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F 416.960.9602

[forumresearch.com](http://forumresearch.com)