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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community Housing a Polarizing Topic

Nobody sure who is most responsible for maintaining it

Toronto, May 31st – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ among 1035 Toronto voters, the plurality (45%) believes Toronto Community Housing should continue to build and maintain low cost social housing, while more than 4 in 10 (42%) prefer to decommission existing social housing and provide a rent supplement instead. (13%) say they don't know which option they prefer.

Respondents most likely to say that housing should continue to be built and maintained include those aged 35-44 (46%), 45-54 (47%), or 55-64 (49%), earning \$80,000-\$100,000 (57%), and living in the Former City of Toronto (50%) or North York (47%).

Respondents most likely to say existing social housing should be decommissioned with a rent supplement provided instead include those aged 34 or younger (43%), 35-44 (43%), or 65+ (43%), earning \$20,000-\$40,000 (46%), \$60,000-\$80,000 (49%), and living in East York (54%).

Confusion over which level of government is responsible for community housing

(27%) say that the municipal government is most responsible, (28%) say Provincial, and (27%) say Federal.

Just under 2 in 10 (18%) say they do not know which level of government is most responsible for community housing.

“The responsibility for Toronto Community Housing is not particularly well understood by Torontonians, and their opinions on continuing the existing pattern of building and maintaining social housing or decommissioning it in favour of a rent supplement is mixed,” said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research.

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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Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1035 randomly selected Toronto Voters. The poll was conducted on May 25, 27, and 28, 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

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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Responsibility for TCH

In your opinion, which level of government is most responsible for ensuring community housing is properly maintained? [All respondents]

Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1035	188	155	195	232	265	522	487
Municipal	27	28	25	29	23	27	26	28
Provincial	28	27	25	27	34	32	31	25
Federal	27	26	33	25	28	24	29	27
Don't know	18	19	17	19	16	17	15	20

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1035	99	131	120	138	120	216
Municipal	27	20	28	25	22	29	30
Provincial	28	25	19	27	38	25	32
Federal	27	26	26	22	23	35	31
Don't know	18	29	27	26	17	11	7



Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate degree
Sample	1035	106	264	405	260
Municipal	27	20	27	26	31
Provincial	28	19	29	30	29
Federal	27	28	23	29	29
Don't know	18	33	21	15	11

Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	1035	364	87	191	160	60	173
Municipal	27	28	36	28	28	27	20
Provincial	28	29	19	26	33	22	31
Federal	27	28	28	26	23	36	29
Don't know	18	14	17	20	16	15	21

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Method of Travel to Work/School

%	Total	Private vehicle	Public transit	Bicycle	Walking	Some other way	Don't travel to work or school
Sample	1035	402	309	38	73	19	194
Municipal	27	28	23	34	26	18	31
Provincial	28	31	27	30	22	23	26
Federal	27	24	33	20	30	24	26
Don't know	18	17	18	17	22	35	17

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Community housing or rent supplement

In your opinion, which approach to Toronto Community housing is best: continue to build and maintain low cost social housing or decommission existing social housing and provide a rent supplement instead?

[All respondents]

Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1035	188	155	195	232	265	522	487
Continue to build and maintain low cost social housing	45	43	46	47	49	43	47	44
Decommission existing social housing and provide a rent supplement instead	42	43	43	39	39	43	44	41
Don't know	13	14	11	13	12	14	9	16

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1035	99	131	120	138	120	216
Continue to build and maintain low cost social housing	45	48	40	43	42	57	47
Decommission existing social housing and provide a rent supplement instead	42	35	46	40	49	32	45
Don't know	13	17	14	17	9	11	8

Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate degree
Sample	1035	106	264	405	260
Continue to build and maintain low cost social housing	45	46	45	45	46
Decommission existing social housing and provide a rent supplement instead	42	38	41	44	42
Don't know	13	17	14	12	12



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Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	1035	364	87	191	160	60	173
Continue to build and maintain low cost social housing	45	50	36	47	46	41	42
Decommission existing social housing and provide a rent supplement instead	42	38	54	41	40	41	45
Don't know	13	12	9	12	14	17	13

Method of Travel to Work/School

%	Total	Private vehicle	Public transit	Bicycle	Walking	Some other way	Don't travel to work or school
Sample	1035	402	309	38	73	19	194
Continue to build and maintain low cost social housing	45	44	47	56	37	59	45
Decommission existing social housing and provide a rent supplement instead	42	45	43	33	33	34	39
Don't know	13	11	10	12	30	7	16

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