

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Province Seen To Do Too Little For Autism

#### Especially by NDP, moms and the wealthiest

In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1154 Ontario adults, fully two thirds disagree that Ontario is doing enough for autistic children in the province (67%), while just more than a tenth agree the province is doing enough (13%). Disagreement that the government has the autism issue in hand is especially common to the wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 71%), in northern Ontario (69%), among New Democrats (72%) and mothers of children under 18 (70%).

"This is a case where a relatively small number of parents have had a larger impact than their numbers would suggest, and have spread their message to other parents who don't have autistic children" said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at Ibozinoff@forumresearch.com or at (416) 960-9603.

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## TORONTO September 15th, 2016 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Fully two thirds disagree that Ontario is doing enough for autistic children in the province (67%)
- "This is a case where a relatively small number of parents have had a larger impact than their numbers would suggest, and have spread their message to other parents who don't have autistic children" 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 1154 randomly selected Ontario voters. The poll was conducted on September 12 and 13, 2016.

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 Government's Role in Autism Treatment

Ontario recently restricted admission to intensive autism treatment to those 5 years and under. Critics say this discriminates against older autistic children. Do you agree or disagree the Ontario government does enough for autism treatment in this province?

[All Respondents]

#### Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1154	142	137	213	290	372	538	593
Agree	13	18	8	13	14	12	15	12
Disagree	64	59	68	68	65	63	60	68
Don't know	22	23	24	20	21	25	25	20

#### Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	1154	99	167	160	135	121	223
Agree	13	22	15	13	9	17	9
Disagree	64	53	63	62	69	61	71
Don't know	22	25	22	25	22	22	20

#### Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1154	166	195	359	554	253	181
Agree	13	7	10	15	13	18	12
Disagree	64	68	63	65	65	58	69
Don't know	22	25	27	19	22	24	19

#### **Current Provincial Vote Preference**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1154	489	285	201	68	49
Agree	13	13	15	9	21	12
Disagree	64	67	55	72	61	75
Don't know	22	20	31	19	17	13

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#### Children

%	Total	Yes	No	MOMS
Sample	1154	268	886	130
Agree	13	11	15	10
Disagree	64	69	62	70
Don't know	22	20	23	20

#### **Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1154	178	294	472	210
Agree	13	19	14	12	12
Disagree	64	55	66	66	64
Don't know	22	26	19	22	24

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