

# NEWS RELEASE



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Sharp increase in those favouring minimum income**

### **Idea especially favoured by young males**

TORONTO February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1406 Canadian voters, more than a third favour the introduction of a guaranteed annual minimum income to replace other state supports like social assistance, unemployment and pensions (36%), a sharp increase from the last time we polled this question four years ago (November 2012 - 27%). Fewer than this oppose the idea (33%) and a similar proportion don't share an opinion (31%). The basic income is especially favoured by the youngest (44%), males (44%), the least wealthy (45% - often a proxy for youth), in Atlantic Canada and Quebec (42% each) but not so much in Alberta (25%), among Liberals (44%) and New Democrats (45%) but not among Conservatives (21%).

"The longer our economic difficulties persist, the more attractive the idea of a basic income for all citizens becomes. It is, naturally, not as popular with small "c" conservatives, who no doubt see it as money for nothing, but it is very popular with youth and those in Quebec and the Atlantic," 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**

**February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

#### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- More than a third favour the introduction of a guaranteed annual minimum income to replace other state supports like social assistance, unemployment and pensions (36%).
- "The longer our economic difficulties persist, the more attractive the idea of a basic income for all citizens becomes. It is, naturally, not as popular with small "c" conservatives, who no doubt see it as money for nothing, but it is very popular with youth and those in Quebec and the Atlantic," 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 1406 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted between February 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 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](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. Electoral success is dependant on the parties' skill at getting out the vote. 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)

### Minimum Income Approval - Trending

%	February 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	November 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2012
Sample	1406	1849
Favour	36	27
Oppose	33	39
Don't know	31	34

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### **Guaranteed Annual Minimum Income**

*'Would you favour or oppose a Guaranteed Annual Minimum Income for all adult Canadians, which would replace welfare, employment insurance, social assistance and the Canada Pension Plan?'*

[All Respondents]

### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1406	240	199	266	336	365	761	645
Favour	36	44	32	33	37	30	44	29
Oppose	33	28	35	37	34	34	34	32
Don't know	31	28	33	30	28	36	22	39

### **Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1406	90	351	495	99	193	178	1076	330
Favour	36	42	42	36	32	25	35	35	40
Oppose	33	31	25	35	36	45	31	36	24
Don't know	31	26	33	29	32	30	34	29	35

### **Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1406	435	599	156	90	46	33
Favour	36	21	44	45	38	40	47
Oppose	33	54	27	19	25	18	21
Don't know	31	25	29	36	37	43	33

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