

# NEWS RELEASE



## MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### More than half oppose ending Syria mission, admitting refugees

#### Minority support for these policies

TORONTO November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 909 Canadian voters at the one month anniversary of the 2015 federal election, just more than one half disagree Canada should end its bombing mission against ISIS in the Mideast (51%) and an identical proportion disapprove of the federal government's plan to settle 25,000 Syrian refugees in Canada (51%). In each case, only a minority supports either policy (33% and 41%, respectively), both of which are keynotes to the Liberals' election-winning platform.

Those who disagree with ending the bombing mission are most likely to be mid aged (45 to 54 - 57%), male (60%), Albertans (60%) and Conservatives (79%). The profile of those who disapprove of settling Syrian refugees is very similar.

#### Majority agrees there is a security risk in admitting refugees

Close to 6-in-10 voters agree there are security risks in settling Syrian refugees in Canada (58%), while just one quarter disagrees (26%). Those who disagree are most likely to be the youngest (30%), the least wealthy (a proxy for age - 33%), the wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 31%), BC residents (37%) and Liberals (34%).

#### Plurality agree bombing ISIS is effective

Four-in-ten voters agree Canadian bombing has been effective in combatting ISIS (41%), while just fewer disagree (37%). Those who see bombing as ineffective tend to be the youngest (49%), the wealthier (\$80K to \$100K - 44%), residents of BC (49%) and Liberals (46%).

#### Two thirds see ISIS as a direct threat

Two thirds of voters see ISIS as a direct threat to Canada (67%) and this matches levels noted in January (67%), and is higher than levels noted later in September (55%). Less than a quarter do not see the terrorist organization as a threat (22%).

#### Plurality now support Bill C-51

Four-in-ten voters support the Bill C-51 anti-terrorism legislation as passed by the previous government (41%), and somewhat fewer oppose the bill (34%). One quarter has no opinion (24%). This hasn't changed significantly since September of this year (September 16, support - 41%, oppose - 37%).

## TORONTO

November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- One half disagree Canada should end its bombing mission against ISIS in the Mideast (51%) and an identical proportion disapprove of the federal government's plan to settle 25,000 Syrian refugees in Canada (51%).
- Close to 6-in-10 voters agree there are security risks in settling Syrian refugees in Canada (58%), while just one quarter disagrees (26%).
- Four-in-ten voters agree Canadian bombing has been effective in combatting ISIS (41%), while just fewer disagree (37%).
- Two thirds of voters see ISIS as a direct threat to Canada (67%) and this matches levels noted in January (67%), and is higher than levels noted later in September (55%).
- Four-in-ten voters support the Bill C-51 anti-terrorism legislation as passed by the previous government (41%), and somewhat fewer oppose the bill (34%).

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“Ending the air mission and admitting thousands of refugees are two key Liberal policies to which they have repeatedly committed in the past few days, and yet it appears that assertions by party leaders, including the Prime Minister, that this is what voters want, don’t appear to ring true,” 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**

**November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- “Ending the air mission and admitting thousands of refugees are two key Liberal policies to which they have repeatedly committed in the past few days, and yet it appears that assertions by party leaders, including the Prime Minister, that this is what voters want, don’t appear to ring true,” said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 909 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 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](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. 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)

### ISIS: Direct Threat - Trending

%	Nov 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	September 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
Sample	909	1402
Agree	67	55
Disagree	22	30
Don't know	12	14

### Bill C-51 - Trending

%	Nov 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	September 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
Sample	909	1402
Support	41	41
Oppose	34	37
Don't know	24	22

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**November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

### **Canada & ISIS**

*'Do you agree or disagree Canada should end its bombing missions against ISIS in the Mid-East?'*

[All Respondents]

#### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	909	159	126	184	219	221	512	397
Agree	33	41	30	25	31	35	29	37
Disagree	51	44	53	57	53	52	60	43
Don't know	15	15	17	17	15	13	11	19

#### **Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	909	83	265	331	74	110	46	656	253
Agree	33	39	33	30	30	31	46	34	31
Disagree	51	54	54	55	51	60	27	50	57
Don't know	15	7	13	16	19	9	27	16	13

#### **Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	909	321	363	104	45	44	15
Agree	33	12	50	34	43	22	45
Disagree	51	79	33	50	34	65	25
Don't know	15	9	18	15	22	13	30

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**November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

### **Combatting ISIS**

*'Do you agree or disagree bombing has been effective in combatting ISIS?'*

*[All Respondents]*

#### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	909	159	126	184	219	221	512	397
Agree	41	32	39	55	40	45	47	36
Disagree	37	48	42	26	34	32	36	39
Don't know	21	20	19	19	26	24	17	26

#### **Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	909	83	265	331	74	110	46	656	253
Agree	41	49	54	37	42	51	18	37	56
Disagree	37	33	30	43	38	24	49	40	30
Don't know	21	18	16	20	20	25	33	23	14

#### **Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	909	321	363	104	45	44	15
Agree	41	64	28	37	16	61	40
Disagree	37	20	46	44	66	26	35
Don't know	21	16	25	19	17	13	25

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**November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

### **ISIS: Direct Threat**

*'Do you agree or disagree ISIS is a direct threat to Canada?'*

*[All Respondents]*

#### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	909	159	126	184	219	221	512	397
Agree	67	57	62	75	73	73	72	62
Disagree	22	32	26	12	19	14	21	22
Don't know	12	12	12	13	7	13	7	16

#### **Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	909	83	265	331	74	110	46	656	253
Agree	67	68	76	66	70	68	48	64	75
Disagree	22	24	12	22	17	25	38	25	13
Don't know	12	8	12	12	14	7	14	11	12

#### **Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	909	321	363	104	45	44	15
Agree	67	87	55	60	45	91	72
Disagree	22	6	29	33	48	6	17
Don't know	12	6	17	7	7	3	11

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## **Bill C-51**

*'Do you support or oppose Bill C-51, the anti-terrorism legislation passed by the previous government?'*

*[All Respondents]*

### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	909	159	126	184	219	221	512	397
Support	41	33	38	50	45	44	47	36
Oppose	34	43	34	28	29	33	36	33
Don't know	24	24	27	22	26	23	17	32

### **Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	909	83	265	331	74	110	46	656	253
Support	41	41	48	41	46	48	23	39	50
Oppose	34	39	24	35	21	32	58	38	23
Don't know	24	20	28	24	33	19	19	23	28

### **Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	909	321	363	104	45	44	15
Support	41	75	23	26	19	54	51
Oppose	34	10	47	52	58	18	22
Don't know	24	15	30	22	23	28	27

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## TORONTO

November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### *Settling Syrian Refugees: Approval*

*'Do you approve or disapprove of the government's plan to settle 25,000 Syrian refugees in Canada?'*

[All Respondents]

#### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	909	159	126	184	219	221	512	397
Approve	41	49	42	28	43	37	37	43
Disapprove	51	43	50	63	50	50	55	46
Don't know	9	8	8	9	6	12	7	10

#### **Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	909	83	265	331	74	110	46	656	253
Approve	41	35	34	41	26	36	64	43	33
Disapprove	51	57	55	52	66	58	22	49	57
Don't know	9	9	11	6	8	6	14	8	10

#### **Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	909	321	363	104	45	44	15
Approve	41	14	59	53	51	21	31
Disapprove	51	80	30	36	39	75	54
Don't know	9	5	10	10	11	4	14

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## **Settling Syrian Refugees: Security Risk**

*'Do you agree or disagree there is a security risk in settling Syrian refugees in Canada?'*

[All Respondents]

### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	909	159	126	184	219	221	512	397
Agree	58	59	53	67	58	54	64	53
Disagree	26	30	28	20	27	23	23	29
Don't know	16	11	19	13	15	22	13	18

### **Region**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	909	83	265	331	74	110	46	656	253
Agree	58	65	67	57	72	64	33	56	68
Disagree	26	20	23	27	14	26	37	27	24
Don't know	16	16	10	16	14	10	29	18	8

### **Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	909	321	363	104	45	44	15
Agree	58	77	46	52	52	85	44
Disagree	26	15	34	33	28	9	32
Don't know	16	9	20	15	21	7	24

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