

NEWS RELEASE



FORUM RESEARCH INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Majority Disapprove of Catholic Hospitals' Stance on Assisted Dying

Half want public funds withheld

In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1124 Ontario voters, the majority disapprove of the practice of publicly funded Catholic Hospitals who refuse to allow patients to seek a referral for assisted dying (57%), and this position is especially characteristic of the youngest (62%), the very wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 64%), among Liberals (63%) and New Democrats (73%). Approval of the hospitals' position (27%) is characteristic of mid income groups (\$60K to \$80K - 31%) the city of Toronto (31%) and among PCs (39%).

Half want public funding withheld until hospitals change

One half of Ontario voters want Catholic hospitals to be denied public funding until they allow patients to seek referrals for assistance in dying (47%), and 4-in-10 think the opposite (39%). Wanting funding withheld is common to the youngest (52%) the wealthiest (\$80K to \$250K - 53%), northern Ontario (57%), among New Democrats (54%) and college graduates (52%).

"The concept of fairness is ingrained in our perceptions of public services, and when citizens see institutions which flout the law receiving public money, it bothers them. The dissonance between public values and Catholic values will always be an irritant in Ontario, as long as Catholic institutions receive public funding" 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 or at (416) 960-9603.

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TORONTO

October 19th, 2016

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The majority disapprove of the practice of publicly funded Catholic Hospitals who refuse to allow patients to seek a referral for assisted dying (57%)
- One half of Ontario voters want Catholic hospitals to be denied public funding until they allow patients to seek referrals for assistance in dying (47%)
- "The concept of fairness is ingrained in our perceptions of public services, and when citizens see institutions which flout the law receiving public money, it bothers them. The dissonance between public values and Catholic values will always be an irritant in Ontario, as long as Catholic institutions receive public funding" 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 1124 randomly selected Ontario adults. The poll was conducted on October 17-18th, 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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Approval of Catholic Hospital Position on Assisted Dying

Publicly funded Catholic hospitals in Ontario will not allow patients to seek referrals for assistance in dying, a right which is guaranteed by federal legislation under Bill C-14. Do you approve or disapprove of these Catholic Hospitals' position?

[Aware]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1124	159	114	209	277	365	568	543
Approve	27	23	27	30	30	27	28	25
Disapprove	57	62	57	55	53	57	59	57
Don't know	16	15	16	15	17	17	13	19

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	1124	92	182	151	150	142	198
Approve	27	21	29	24	31	28	25
Disapprove	57	49	58	61	55	60	64
Don't know	16	30	13	15	13	13	11

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1124	167	168	359	527	255	175
Approve	27	27	31	27	29	29	15
Disapprove	57	52	55	56	56	59	67
Don't know	16	21	14	17	16	12	18

Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1124	491	259	190	85	53
Approve	27	39	20	17	20	23
Disapprove	57	46	63	73	70	56
Don't know	16	15	17	10	10	21

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Funding for Catholic Hospitals

Should Catholic hospitals in Ontario continue to receive public funding if they continue to refuse patients the right to a referral for assistance in dying?

[Total]

TORONTO

October 19th, 2016

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1124	159	114	209	277	365	568	543
Should continue to receive public funding	39	34	35	43	42	42	37	40
Should not continue to receive public funding	47	52	49	44	46	42	51	44
Don't know	14	14	15	13	12	15	12	16

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	1124	92	182	151	150	142	198
Should continue to receive public funding	39	33	35	40	35	37	38
Should not continue to receive public funding	47	43	44	47	52	53	53
Don't know	14	24	21	12	13	11	9

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1124	167	168	359	527	255	175
Should continue to receive public funding	39	43	39	42	41	37	28
Should not continue to receive public funding	47	36	48	45	46	52	57
Don't know	14	22	13	13	13	12	15

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Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1124	491	259	190	85	53
Should continue to receive public funding	39	46	39	29	31	45
Should not continue to receive public funding	47	43	47	54	58	37
Don't know	14	11	14	18	11	18

For more information:

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