

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Less support now for stiffer terrorism legislation

#### One half of those aware of it disapprove of Bill C51

TORONTO March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1370 Canadian voters, just more than half now agree Canada needs stiffer anti-terrorism legislation (56%) compared to 7-in-10 who took this position in November, when the Iraqi mission was in its infancy (70%). Agreement stiffer legislation is needed is common to the oldest (62%), the wealthy (\$80K to \$100K - 62%), in Quebec (72%), among Conservative voters (84%), Bloquistes (76%), the least educated (74%), mothers of children under 18 (65%), Catholics (72%) and Evangelicals (82%).

#### More than two thirds aware of Bill C51

More than two thirds of Canadian voters are aware of the anti-terrorism Bill C51 (69%), and this is especially common to boomers (55 to 64 - 78%), males (77%), the very wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 79%), in Alberta (80%), among New Democrats (74%), the best educated (post grad - 84%), Protestants (76%) and the non-religious (74%).

#### One half disapprove of Bill C51

One half of Canadian voters disapprove of Bill C51 (50%) when they are asked without being prompted on any of the details of the bill, and just more than a third approve (38%). One tenth have no view (12%). Disapproval of the bill is characteristic of the youngest (64%), in Atlantic Canada (60%), the prairies (58%) and BC (61%), among Liberals (66%) and New Democrats (77%), the best educated (65%) and the non-religious (70%).

### Most disapprove of tracking environmentalists, etc, lack of parliamentary oversight

When asked their approval of a number of specific provisions of bill C51, the majority disapprove of the Bill allowing security services to infiltrate and track environmentalists, First Nations and pipeline protesters (61%), and the lack of parliamentary oversight included in the bill (52%). In each of these cases, about one quarter approve (28% and 27%, respectively), and this is especially common in Alberta (32% and 34%, respectively) and among federal Conservatives (56% and 46%, respectively).

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## TORONTO March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Just more than half now agree Canada needs stiffer anti-terrorism legislation (56%) compared to 7-in-10 who took this position in November, when the Iraqi mission was in its infancy (70%).
- More than two thirds of Canadian voters are aware of the anti-terrorism Bill C51 (69%).
- One half of Canadian voters disapprove of Bill C51 (50%) and just more than a third approve (38%).

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#### Two thirds approve of 'peace bond' process

Two thirds of Canadian voters approve of the 'peace bond' provision of the Bill, in which those who are thought to be potential terrorists can be detained, placed on the no-fly list and have their passports taken (66%), while one quarter disapprove (26%). Approval is common to Gen X and seniors (74% each), in Quebec (79%) among virtually all Conservative voters (90%), Bloquistes (80%), the least educated (75%), Francophones (81%), mothers of children under 18 (80%), Catholics and Evangelicals (80% each).

#### Divided opinion on not needing warrant, judge

There is an even split in opinion on the fact there is no requirement for a warrant or a judge's permission to infiltrate, track or disrupt organizations the security services see as suspect (47% approve, 45% disapprove). Approval is highest in Quebec (57%) and among Conservatives (74%).

#### After considering Bill C51, more approve of it

After being presented with a number of provisions of Bill C51, voters were asked once again if they approved or disapproved. In this case, approval increases from one third (38%) to close to half (45%), while disapproval decreases from one half (50%) to 4-in-10 (42%). Support is strongest in Quebec (57%) and among Conservatives (82%).

#### One third each say support bill but change it, or fight it and change it

When voters are presented with three options on how to deal with Bill C51, more prefer the NDP approach ("fight the bill unless changed significantly" - 38%) over the Liberal Party approach ("support the bill but add parliamentary oversight" - 34%). Few support the government's desired approach ("pass bill as written" - 19%). Those who support the NDP position are most likely to be NDP partisans (76%), while fewer of those supporting the Liberal approach are Liberal partisans (45%), and just fewer Liberals adopt the NDP view (37%). Passing the bill as written is the position of just fewer than half of Conservative partisans (45%), and just fewer want to see more parliamentary oversight, like the Liberals (39%). Other groups who want to see Bill C51 adopted as written include the least educated (23%), moms (26%) and Evangelicals (40%).

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## TORONTO March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Two thirds of Canadian voters approve of the 'peace bond' provision of the Bill.
- There is an even split in opinion on the fact there is no requirement for a warrant or a judges permission to infiltrate, track or disrupt organizations the security services see as suspect (47% approve, 45% disapprove).
- After being presented with Bill C51 provisions, approval increases from one third (38%) to close to half (45%).
- When voters are presented with three options on how to deal with Bill C51, more prefer the NDP approach ("fight the bill unless changed significantly" 38%) over the Liberal Party approach ("support the bill but add parliamentary oversight" 34%).

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"It is clear that, now the immediate rush of anxiety over the October 22 attacks is over, Canadians are slightly less likely to see the need to alter the country's security protocols. Voters are especially disturbed at the idea of legitimate activist groups such as environmentalists and First Nations being labelled and tracked as terrorist suspects, but they are no more comfortable with the fact parliament has no role in overseeing the activities of the security services. They see no problem, on the other hand, with terrorist suspects having their freedom of movement constrained," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at <a href="mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com">lbozinoff@forumresearch.com</a> or at (416) 960-9603.

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## TORONTO March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 HIGHLIGHTS:

• "It is clear that, now the immediate rush of anxiety over the November 22 attacks is over, Canadians are slightly less likely to see the need to alter the country's security protocols. Voters are especially disturbed at the idea of legitimate activist groups such as environmentalists and First Nations being labelled and tracked as terrorist suspects, but they are no more comfortable with the fact parliament has no role in overseeing the activities of the security services. They see no problem, on the other hand, with terrorist suspects having their freedom of movement constrained," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.



#### Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1370 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted on March 13-14<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 <a href="https://www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp">www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp</a>

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 <a href="www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp">www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp</a>

#### Canada needs stiffer anti-terrorism legislation - Trending

%	March 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	November 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2014
Agree	56	70
Disagree	36	27
Don't know	8	3

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'Do you agree or disagree Canada needs new, stiffer laws to deal with terrorism?'

[All Respondents]

#### Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1370	277	197	263	295	338	777	593
Agree	56	41	60	63	60	62	50	61
Disagree	36	47	35	32	34	27	43	30
Don't know	8	11	4	5	7	10	6	9

#### Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	АВ	ВС	English	French
Sample	1370	96	349	484	117	140	184	1046	324
Agree	56	43	72	54	45	59	42	51	71
Disagree	36	47	20	39	48	33	49	41	20
Don't know	8	10	8	7	7	8	9	8	9

#### Religion

%	Total	Protestant Christian	Catholic	Evangelical Christian	Other Christian	Other religion	No religion
Sample	1370	301	443	53	102	96	375
Agree	56	63	72	80	48	49	35
Disagree	36	30	22	14	38	43	57
Don't know	8	7	7	6	14	8	8

#### Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1370	399	421	261	98	52	44
Agree	56	84	47	35	35	76	46
Disagree	36	12	46	57	48	15	38
Don't know	8	4	7	8	16	9	16

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March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015



#### **Bill C51 Awareness**

'Are you aware of the government's anti-terrorism Bill C51 or not?'

[All Respondents]

#### Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1370	277	197	263	295	338	777	593
Aware of Bill C51	69	58	66	73	78	75	77	60
Not aware of Bill C51	31	42	34	27	22	25	23	40

#### Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	ВС	English	French
Sample	1370	96	349	484	117	140	184	1046	324
Aware of Bill C51	69	69	56	70	73	80	74	73	55
Not aware of Bill C51	31	31	44	30	27	20	26	27	45

#### Religion

%	Total	Protestant Christian	Catholic	Evangelical Christian	Other Christian	Other religion	No religion
Sample	1370	301	443	53	102	96	375
Aware of Bill C51	69	76	60	63	64	72	74
Not aware of Bill C51	31	24	40	37	36	28	26

#### Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1370	399	421	261	98	52	44
Aware of Bill C51	69	73	70	74	64	49	55
Not aware of Bill C51	31	27	30	26	36	51	45

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#### Bill C51 Approval

'Do you approve or disapprove of Bill C51?'

[Aware of Bill C51]

#### Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	983	172	133	195	229	254	602	381
Approve	38	23	36	48	41	44	42	33
Disapprove	50	64	51	42	50	41	51	49
Don't know	12	13	13	9	9	14	7	18

#### Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	ВС	English	French
Sample	983	67	211	359	88	113	145	793	190
Approve	38	30	49	37	28	44	30	35	51
Disapprove	50	60	41	51	58	40	61	52	40
Don't know	12	10	10	12	14	17	10	12	9

#### Religion

%	Total	Protestant Christian	Catholic	Evangelical Christian	Other Christian	Other religion	No religion
Sample	983	237	276	32	77	69	292
Approve	38	46	49	67	43	37	20
Disapprove	50	41	38	18	45	55	70
Don't know	12	13	13	15	13	8	11

#### Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	983	304	303	202	67	31	24
Approve	38	81	22	17	11	43	20
Disapprove	50	12	66	77	66	44	56
Don't know	12	7	12	6	23	13	24

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March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015



#### Bill C51: Security Services to Infiltrate Opponents of Government Policy

'Bill C51 would allow security services to infiltrate, investigate and disrupt opponents of government policy such as environmentalists, First Nations and those who protest against pipelines and other energy projects. Do you approve or disapprove of this provision of Bill C51?'

[All Respondents]

#### Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1370	277	197	263	295	338	777	593
Approve	28	23	29	35	26	32	29	27
Disapprove	61	67	61	55	65	54	64	58
Don't know	11	10	10	10	9	14	7	15

#### Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	ВС	English	French
Sample	1370	96	349	484	117	140	184	1046	324
Approve	28	17	37	26	27	32	24	25	39
Disapprove	61	72	55	62	59	56	67	63	55
Don't know	11	11	9	12	14	12	9	12	6

#### Religion

%	Total	Protestant Christian	Catholic	Evangelical Christian	Other Christian	Other religion	No religion
Sample	1370	301	443	53	102	96	375
Approve	28	30	35	49	22	24	20
Disapprove	61	56	54	41	65	67	71
Don't know	11	13	11	10	13	9	8

#### Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1370	399	421	261	98	52	44
Approve	28	56	20	10	13	36	27
Disapprove	61	33	71	82	77	64	57
Don't know	11	11	9	8	10	0	16

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#### **Bill C51: Future Terrorist Act Provision**

'Bill C51 would allow security services to seize the passport, place on the nofly list or detain up to 7 days, anyone they believe might commit a terrorist act in the future. Do you approve or disapprove of this provision of Bill C51?'

[All Respondents]

#### Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1370	277	197	263	295	338	777	593
Approve	66	54	66	74	69	74	63	69
Disapprove	26	38	28	18	24	18	31	22
Don't know	7	8	6	8	7	8	6	9

#### Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	ВС	English	French
Sample	1370	96	349	484	117	140	184	1046	324
Approve	66	60	79	64	56	68	56	62	81
Disapprove	26	30	17	27	38	25	35	30	16
Don't know	7	10	4	9	6	7	8	8	4

#### Religion

%	Total	Protestant Christian	Catholic	Evangelical Christian	Other Christian	Other religion	No religion
Sample	1370	301	443	53	102	96	375
Approve	66	71	80	80	59	51	53
Disapprove	26	20	15	15	31	43	39
Don't know	7	9	5	5	10	7	8

#### Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1370	399	421	261	98	52	44
Approve	66	90	61	49	56	80	45
Disapprove	26	6	32	42	40	15	39
Don't know	7	4	8	8	3	5	16

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#### Bill C51: No Warrant from a Judge

'Bill C51 would allow security services to investigate, infiltrate and disrupt the activities of people they suspected of terrorism, without seeking a warrant from a judge. Do you approve or disapprove of this provision of Bill C51?'

[All Respondents]

#### Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1370	277	197	263	295	338	777	593
Approve	47	35	45	56	51	54	44	49
Disapprove	45	57	47	38	41	35	51	40
Don't know	8	8	7	6	7	11	5	11

#### Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	ВС	English	French
Sample	1370	96	349	484	117	140	184	1046	324
Approve	47	35	57	46	41	46	41	44	58
Disapprove	45	50	35	47	51	45	52	48	34
Don't know	8	14	7	7	8	9	7	8	8

#### Religion

%	Total	Protestant Christian	Catholic	Evangelical Christian	Other Christian	Other religion	No religion
Sample	1370	301	443	53	102	96	375
Approve	47	52	55	67	39	46	35
Disapprove	45	38	36	21	51	47	60
Don't know	8	10	9	12	9	7	5

#### Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1370	399	421	261	98	52	44
Approve	47	74	40	25	30	65	45
Disapprove	45	20	51	70	60	29	49
Don't know	8	6	9	5	10	6	7

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#### Bill C51: No Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Services

'Bill C51 has no provision for parliamentary oversight of the security services. Do you approve or disapprove of this?'

[All Respondents]

#### Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1370	277	197	263	295	338	777	593
Approve	27	24	28	30	23	29	29	25
Disapprove	52	49	51	55	61	49	58	47
Don't know	21	27	21	15	16	22	13	28

#### Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	АВ	ВС	English	French
Sample	1370	96	349	484	117	140	184	1046	324
Approve	27	18	34	27	18	34	17	24	36
Disapprove	52	62	43	55	56	44	62	56	41
Don't know	21	20	24	18	26	23	21	20	23

#### Religion

%	Total	Protestant Christian	Catholic	Evangelical Christian	Other Christian	Other religion	No religion
Sample	1370	301	443	53	102	96	375
Approve	27	28	30	41	26	30	20
Disapprove	52	51	45	27	50	58	63
Don't know	21	21	24	32	24	12	17

#### Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1370	399	421	261	98	52	44
Approve	27	46	19	16	23	29	23
Disapprove	52	35	60	69	57	38	57
Don't know	21	19	21	16	21	32	20

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#### Bill C51: Overall Approval

'Overall, do you approve or disapprove of Bill C51?'

[All Respondents]

#### Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1370	277	197	263	295	338	777	593
Approve	45	33	46	53	47	52	43	47
Disapprove	42	56	40	35	41	32	48	37
Don't know	12	11	14	11	12	15	9	16

#### Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	ВС	English	French
Sample	1370	96	349	484	117	140	184	1046	324
Approve	45	31	57	46	36	44	34	42	57
Disapprove	42	54	30	43	51	40	55	46	30
Don't know	12	14	14	11	13	16	11	12	14

#### Religion

%	Total	Protestant Christian	Catholic	Evangelical Christian	Other Christian	Other religion	No religion
Sample	1370	301	443	53	102	96	375
Approve	45	52	54	64	42	37	31
Disapprove	42	34	29	22	47	51	61
Don't know	12	14	17	14	11	11	8

#### Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1370	399	421	261	98	52	44
Approve	45	82	34	20	23	56	37
Disapprove	42	9	52	71	60	33	45
Don't know	12	9	14	9	17	10	17

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#### Bill C51: NDP vs. Liberal vs. Conservative Version

'The Liberals will support the bill, but want to add more parliamentary oversight. The NDP will fight the bill unless it is changed significantly. The Conservatives want to pass the bill as written. Which of these options do you support?'

[All Respondents]

#### Age / Gender

%	Total	18- 34	35- 44	45- 54	55- 64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1370	277	197	263	295	338	777	593
Support bill, but include more oversight	34	23	33	40	43	40	32	36
Fight bill, unless changed significantly	38	54	37	30	34	28	41	36
Pass bill as written	19	13	23	23	16	23	20	18
None of these	5	8	4	4	4	4	4	6
Something else	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0
Don't know	3	2	3	3	1	5	2	4

#### Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	ВС	English	French
Sample	1370	96	349	484	117	140	184	1046	324
Support bill, but include more oversight	34	33	35	38	31	34	24	34	34
Fight bill, unless changed significantly	38	47	35	36	39	36	48	39	36
Pass bill as written	19	12	21	19	15	23	18	18	22
None of these	5	2	6	4	10	4	6	5	5
Something else	1	1	0	0	2	2	2	1	0
Don't know	3	5	3	3	4	2	3	3	3

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#### Religion

%	Total	Protestant Christian	Catholic	Evangelical Christian	Other Christian	Other religion	No religion
Sample	1370	301	443	53	102	96	375
Support bill, but include more oversight	34	42	37	37	33	25	28
Fight bill, unless changed significantly	38	28	33	16	38	47	51
Pass bill as written	19	23	21	40	18	15	12
None of these	5	3	4	3	7	4	7
Something else	1	2	0	2	1	0	1
Don't know	3	1	4	3	3	8	1

#### Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1370	399	421	261	98	52	44
Support bill, but include more oversight	34	39	45	17	23	38	20
Fight bill, unless changed significantly	38	7	37	76	65	38	39
Pass bill as written	19	47	9	5	6	19	18
None of these	5	4	5	2	4	5	21
Something else	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
Don't know	3	2	4	0	2	0	2

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