

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Majority, including union members, approve of Bill C-377

Most want bill to apply to business organizations as well

TORONTO July 8th, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll among 1200 Canadian voters, two thirds (62%) approve of Bill C-377, the legislation which requires unions to disclose expenditures and salaries. Just one fifth do not approve (18%), although this increases to more than a quarter among union members (28%). Even among this group, the majority (59%) approve of the bill.

Support for the bill is common to older Canadians (55 to 64 - 71%), males (65%) rather than females (58%), among federal Conservatives (81%), but not so much New Democrats (49%). Francophones are more supportive (69%) than Anglos (60%).

Wide majority want bill to apply to business organizations too

More than three quarters of voters (78%) agree the provisions of Bill C-377 should also apply to business organizations such as the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) or the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP). This is the case even in households with no union members (76%). In fact, the only group among whom disagreement with this proposition exceeds one tenth is Albertans (21%).

"It is not surprising that a bill which calls for transparency would gather majority support, but the bill's proponents should not in turn be surprised if voters see the bill being good for gander as well as goose. They may come to regret the innovative legislation they just passed," 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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HIGHLIGHTS:

- Two thirds (62%) approve of Bill C-377 the legislation which requires unions to disclose expenditures and salaries.
- More than three quarters of voters (78%) agree the provisions of Bill C-377 should also apply to business organizations.
- "It is not surprising that a bill which calls for transparency would gather majority support, but the bill's proponents should not in turn be surprised if voters see the bill being good for gander as well as goose. They may come to regret the innovative legislation they just passed," 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 1200 randomly selected Canadians 18 years of age or older. The poll was conducted on July 5-7th, 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

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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Bill C-377 Approval

'Bill C-377 was recently approved by the senate and will become law. It states that all unions must disclose any expenditure of five thousand dollars or more and any salary of one hundred thousand dollars or more. Do you approve or disapprove of Bill C-377?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1200	211	167	219	292	311	674	526
Approve	62	58	64	59	71	60	65	58
Disapprove	18	18	14	20	17	21	21	15
Don't know	20	25	22	20	12	18	13	27

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1200	88	273	401	97	149	192	945	255
Approve	62	62	67	60	61	60	59	60	69
Disapprove	18	19	13	20	23	16	22	20	12
Don't know	20	19	20	21	17	23	19	21	19

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1200	356	283	350	66	46	37
Approve	62	81	60	49	64	74	49
Disapprove	18	6	18	31	11	9	25
Don't know	20	13	22	20	25	17	26

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Organizations Representing Businesses and Corporations to Follow Same Disclosure Rules

'Do you agree or disagree that organizations that represent businesses and corporations, like the Canadian Federation of Independent Business or the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, should also be subject to the same disclosure rules?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1200	211	167	219	292	311	674	526
Agree	78	74	75	81	82	80	81	75
Disagree	7	9	9	7	6	4	8	6
Don't know	15	17	16	12	11	16	11	18

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	LANG - English	LANG - French
Sample	1200	88	273	401	97	149	192	945	255
Agree	78	83	78	79	79	63	83	77	80
Disagree	7	6	4	6	11	21	7	8	4
Don't know	15	11	18	16	10	16	11	15	15

Federal Vote Preference

%	Total	VOTE - Cons	VOTE - Lib	VOTE - NDP	VOTE - Green	VOTE - Bloc	VOTE - Other Parties
Sample	1200	356	283	350	66	46	37
Agree	78	75	76	83	79	86	73
Disagree	7	11	4	7	7	4	14
Don't know	15	15	19	10	14	10	13

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