

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Half disagree with public funding for Catholic schools

Split in opinion on Spring bear hunt

TORONTO October 1st, 2014 – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1079 Ontario voters, just less than one half disagree with Catholic schools receiving public funding in the province (48%), while just fewer agree that they should continue to do so (45%). Very few do not have an opinion on this volatile issue (7%). The last time we polled this, in May 2013, results were identical (48% disagree, 44% disagree) and they have not differed since we began polling this question (January 2012 - 49% disagree, 45% agree). Surprisingly, findings do not vary across demographic and socio-political groupings, although past polling has shown Catholics significantly more in favour of public funding than other faiths, or the non-religious.

Equal split on Spring bear hunt

Relatively equal proportions, about one third each, are in favour of the Spring bear hunt (35%), oppose it (32%) or do not have an opinion (33%). Those who favour it are likely to be males (42%), younger (39%), higher income (\$80K to \$250k - 42%), in Northern Ontario (67%) and PC voters (50%).

“Ontarians don’t want, by a very slim margin, to see their resources spent on religious education. On the environmental front, they are unsure about their approval of the Spring bear hunt (except in the North),” 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.

TORONTO

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- Just less than one half disagree with Catholic schools receiving public funding in the province (49%), while just fewer agree that they should continue to do so (45%).
- Relatively equal proportions, about one third each, are in favour of the Spring bear hunt (35%), oppose it (32%) or do not have an opinion (33%).
- “Ontarians don’t want, by a very slim margin, to see their resources spent on religious education. On the environmental front, they are unsure about their approval of the Spring bear hunt (except in the North),” 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 1079 randomly selected Ontarians 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted on Sept. 30 – Oct. 1st, 2014.

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. Actual results will depend on the parties' success at getting their voters out. 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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Catholic Schools Should Receive Public Funding Agreement Trending

%	Sample	Agree	Disagree	Don't Know
Sep 30 – Oct 1 st , 2014	1079	45	48	7
May 29 th , 2013	918	44	48	8
Feb 20 th , 2013	1053	39	54	7
Oct. 30 th -31 st , 2012	1102	44	50	6
May 14 th , 2012	1072	40	53	6
Jan. 18 th , 2012	1041	45	49	6

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Public Funding of Catholic Schools

'Do you agree or disagree that Catholic schools should continue to receive public funding in Ontario?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1079	72	121	199	278	409	459	620
Agree	45	45	46	43	46	45	45	45
Disagree	48	45	48	53	48	46	52	44
Don't know	7	10	6	4	6	8	3	11

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1079	155	187	314	501	236	187
Agree	45	40	41	51	46	43	48
Disagree	48	57	50	45	47	45	45
Don't know	7	3	10	5	7	11	7

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1079	109	176	150	117	97	196
Agree	45	33	47	41	33	62	45
Disagree	48	42	43	50	63	37	54
Don't know	7	25	11	9	3	1	1

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1079	367	386	166	61	33
Agree	45	48	45	40	39	63
Disagree	48	48	48	57	53	32
Don't know	7	3	7	3	8	5

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FORUM RESEARCH INC.

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Spring Bear Hunt

'Do you approve or disapprove of the spring bear hunt?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1079	72	121	199	278	409	459	620
Approve	35	39	33	36	35	32	42	30
Disapprove	32	27	34	34	33	31	27	36
Don't know	33	33	33	29	33	37	31	35

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1079	155	187	314	501	236	187
Approve	35	40	21	33	28	33	67
Disapprove	32	37	29	39	35	26	21
Don't know	33	23	50	28	38	41	13

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1079	109	176	150	117	97	196
Approve	35	33	27	35	40	42	42
Disapprove	32	28	30	24	35	32	30
Don't know	33	39	43	41	25	26	29

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1079	367	386	166	61	33
Approve	35	50	28	33	27	47
Disapprove	32	28	29	38	48	43
Don't know	33	22	43	29	25	11

For more information:

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