NEWS RELEASE



FORUM RESEARCH INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Approval of new Ontario sex ed curriculum bounces back

One half now approve, one third disapprove

TORONTO July 8th, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll[™] among 678 Ontario voters, one half now approve of the province's new health and physical education curriculum (49%), while just more than a third disapprove (37%). One sixth do not share an opinion (14%). This represents a sharp increase in approval of the new curriculum since the last time we polled it (May 1, approve - 42%, disapprove - 40%), but also represents a return to the more favourable ratings seen when we polled the subject immediately after the curriculum was announced (but not presented). At that time, approval levels were similar to those seen now (February 28, approve - 49%, disapprove - 34%).

Support for the new curriculum is strongest among the youngest (63%), females rather than males (53% to 45%), mid-income groups (\$60K to \$80K - 60%), in Eastern Ontario (54%), among Liberals especially (68%), less so among New Democrats (59%) and least so among PC supporters (27%). Approval is slightly higher among mothers of kids under 18 (54%) and much higher among the best educated (60%).

Opposition to the curriculum is common to boomers (55 to 64 - 48%), PC voters (63%) and the least educated (46%).

"For a while there, Patrick Brown's leadership campaign and opposition to the health and physical fitness curriculum were occurring in lockstep, but now Brown is the leader, it appears much of the organizing against the new curriculum has ended, with the result that it is seen in a more favourable light now than it was 3 months ago," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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

MEDIA INQUIRIES:

Lorne Bozinoff, President Ibozinoff@forumresearch.com 416.960.9603

TORONTO July 8th, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS:

- One half now approve of the province's new health and physical education curriculum (49%).
- "For a while there, Patrick Brown's leadership campaign and opposition to the health and physical fitness curriculum were occurring in lockstep, but now Brown is the leader, it appears much of the organizing against the new curriculum has ended, with the result that it is seen in a more favourable light now than it was 3 months ago," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

180 Bloor Street W., #1400 Toronto, ON M5S 2V6 T 416.960.9600 F 416.960.9602 forumresearch.com

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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 678 randomly selected Ontarians 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted on June 25 to July 5, 2015.

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Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 4%, 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 <u>www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp</u>

New Sex Education Curriculum Approval - Trending

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%	July 8 th , 2015	May 1 st , 2015	February 28 th , 2015
Sample	678	912	996
Approve	49	42	49
Disapprove	37	40	34
Don't know	14	17	17

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'Do you approve or disapprove of the provincial government's new sex education curriculum?'

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[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	678	93	84	127	157	217	346	332
Approve	49	63	55	43	35	39	45	53
Disapprove	37	32	29	39	48	40	41	33
Don't know	14	4	16	17	17	21	14	14

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	678	117	163	175	338	128	95
Approve	49	54	52	48	50	49	46
Disapprove	37	30	38	35	36	40	40
Don't know	14	17	10	17	14	11	14

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other parties
Sample	678	222	183	170	40	31
Approve	49	27	68	59	73	32
Disapprove	37	63	20	23	18	57
Don't know	14	10	12	18	10	11

For more information: Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. President Forum Research Inc. Tel: (416) 960-9603 Fax: (416) 960-9602 E-mail: lbozinoff@forumresearch.com

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