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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PCs Continue to Lead Strongly in Ontario

Kathleen Wynne's approvals lower than ever

TORONTO November 23rd – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll[™] among 1184 Ontario voters, the plurality, more than 4-in-10, will vote for the Progressive Conservatives if a provincial election were held today (43%), while just one quarter would vote either for the Liberals or the NDP (24% each). Relatively few would vote Green (8%) or for another party (2%). The PCs post their largest vote share in the 905 area code surrounding Toronto (47%), the Liberals do best in the Toronto city limits (28%) and the NDP have their biggest share in Northern Ontario (29%).

PCs on track for supermajority

If these results were projected up to seats in the current 107 seat Legislature, the PCs would take a supermajority, or 70 seats, while the NDP would take 26 seats. The liberals would take just 11.

Kathleen Wynne's favourables are lower still

The Premier has the approval of just more than one tenth of voters (13%) and this is the lowest value we have ever recorded for a sitting premier. Her net favourable score (approve minus disapprove) is an astoundingly negative -60. Four-in-ten Liberals approve of her (43%), but one third disapproves (33%).

PC leader Patrick Brown has the approval of close to 3-in-10 (28%), and the disapproval of just less than a quarter (23%) which gives him a net score of +5. Half the voters don't know enough about him to take a position (49%). One half his party approves of him (49%) and one sixth disapprove (15%), but more than a third don't know enough about him to judge (36%).

Andrea Horwath has the best approval rating of the party leaders (36%) and her net score is a relatively positive +11. She has the approval of two thirds of her party's voters (65%). Even so, she prompts high levels of "don't knows" (39% in total, 23% among New Democrats).

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- More than 4-in-10 will vote for the Progressive Conservatives if a provincial election were held today (43%)
- If these results were projected up to seats in the current 107 seat Legislature, the PCs would take a supermajority of the seats
- The Premier has the approval of just more than one tenth of voters (13%) and this is the lowest value we have ever recorded for a sitting premier
- Patrick Brown scores the highest of the party leaders at being Premier, with just one quarter of the vote (26%)
- Just one quarter of Ontario voters describe themselves as "small "c" conservatives" (27%)

Brown seen to make best premier

Patrick Brown scores the highest of the party leaders at being Premier, with just one quarter of the vote (26%), and he is almost tied with "none of the above" (24%). Then comes Andrea Horwath, with a fifth of the vote (19%) and Kathleen Wynne with about one tenth (12%). One fifth don't offer an opinion (19%).

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Just one quarter are small "c" conservatives

Just one quarter of Ontario voters describe themselves as "small "c" conservatives" (27%), while more than 4-in-10 say they are not (42%). Three-in-ten aren't sure if they are (31%). Being a conservative is common to the oldest (33%), males (33%) rather than females (21%), mid income groups (\$60K to \$80K - 37%) and in Northern Ontario (30%). Among PCs, just half say they are "small "c" conservatives" (54%), and close to one fifth say they are not (18%). Among Liberals and New Democrats, about one tenth claim conservative tendencies (11% and 12%, respectively).

High approval for legal abortion, same -ex marriage, less for sex education curriculum

Seven-in-ten approve both of legalized abortion (70%) and same sex marriage (71%), and this is the case even among PCs (63% and 62%, respectively), Liberals (75% and 80%, respectively) and New Democrats (84% and 79%, respectively). As well, there is majority approval for these two positions among small "c" conservatives (69% and 67%, respectively). It is only with respect to Ontario's sex education curriculum that there is less consensus. One half approve of it (52%) while one third do not (33%) and one sixth don't know (15%). Among PCs, one half disapprove (48%), while just more than one third approve (37%). Among Liberals and New Democrats, approval is higher than disapproval (64% and 67%, respectively). Small "c" conservatives are exactly split on the issue (44% approve, 43% disapprove).

"It would appear that the traditional social value issues of abortion and equal marriage will have little ideological purchase in an Ontario election, but the more recent and widely publicized furor over the sex education curriculum might find some traction, at least among PC voters. It will not fly as far among Liberals and New Democrats though, nor even among those who describe themselves as ideological conservatives," 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:

- Seven-in-ten approve both of legalized abortion (70%) and same sex marriage (71%), and this is the case even among PCs (63% and 62%, respectively)
- "It would appear that the traditional social value issues of abortion and equal marriage will have little ideological purchase in an Ontario election, but the more recent and widely publicized furore over the sex education curriculum might find some traction, at least among PC voters. It will not fly as far among Liberals and New Democrats though, nor even among those who describe themselves as ideological conservatives," 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 1184 randomly selected Ontario voters. The poll was conducted on November 21st, 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 <u>www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp</u>

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>

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Provincial Election Voting Preference Trending

[Decided / Leaning]

%	Sample	Con	Lib	NDP	Green	Other
November 21 st , 2016	1104	43	24	24	8	2
October 17-18 th , 2016	1078	43	24	23	8	2
September 12-13 th , 2016	1154	45	25	23	6	2
August 15 th , 2016	1097	41	28	23	6	2
July 12 th , 2016	1183	42	35	17	5	2
June 21 st , 2016	1173	40	30	21	8	2
May 31 st , 2016	1172	40	30	21	7	2
April 28 th , 2016	1157	39	34	21	5	2
March 23rd, 2016	1225	40	30	24	5	2
February 26 th -29 th , 2016	1148	44	27	22	6	2
December 20 th , 2015	1003	34	31	26	7	2
November 2 nd -4 th , 2015	1158	36	30	26	6	2
August 11 th -12 th , 2015	1001	35	26	33	4	2
July 8 th , 2015	678	32	26	35	5	2
May 11 th , 2015	1001	33	24	36	5	2
May 1 st , 2015	912	36	29	24	9	2
March 26 th , 2015	881	34	29	27	8	2
February 28 th , 2015	996	39	32	21	6	2
January 30 th , 2015	1028	36	37	19	6	2
December 20 th , 2014	1058	36	35	20	7	2
November 29 th , 2014	1054	37	37	17	7	2
November 1 st , 2014	1104	35	40	19	4	2
October 1 st , 2014	1013	34	36	23	6	1
August 20-21 st , 2014	1229	32	39	19	8	2
Popular Vote – June7 th , 2014 Provincial Election Results	-	31	39	24	5	2
June 11 th , 2014	1054	35	41	20	3	1
June 5 th , 2014	974	37	39	17	6	1
May 27 th , 2014	882	36	36	20	7	1
May 20 th , 2014	1136	34	41	20	4	1
May 12 th , 2014	996	35	38	21	5	1
May 2-3 rd , 2014	1845	38	33	22	6	1
April 7 th , 2014	928	38	31	23	7	1
Mar 24 th , 2014	908	32	35	25	7	1
Feb. 25 th , 2014	1014	35	32	26	6	1
Jan. 24-25 th , 2014	1222	36	33	26	4	1
Dec. 17-18 th , 2013	1044	38	31	24	5	1
Nov. 26 th , 2013	1126	38	32	23	6	1
Oct. 25 th , 2013	1049	34	31	27	7	1
Oct. 2 nd , 2013	1093	36	33	23	7	1
Aug 29 th , 2013	1019	35	32	26	6	1
Jul 22 nd , 2013	861	36	31	27	5	1
Jun 26 th , 2013	977	35	33	24	8	1

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Overall Seat Distribution

Overall Seat Distribution			
%	Con	Lib	NDP
November 21 st , 2016	70	11	26
October 17-18 th , 2016	72	11	24
September 12-13 th , 2016	75	8	24
August 15th, 2016	69	15	23
July 12 th , 2016	48	44	15
June 21 st , 2016	51	36	20
May 31 st , 2016	57	26	24
April 28th, 2016	53	33	21
March 23rd, 2016	57	26	24
February 26 th -29 th , 2016	67	16	24
December 20 th , 2015	44	35	28
November 2 nd -4 th , 2015	54	19	34
August 11 th -12 th , 2015	54	19	34
July 8 th , 2015	35	27	45
May 11 th , 2015	49	18	40
May 1 st , 2015	48	33	26
March 26 th , 2015	52	23	32
February 28 th , 2015	49	39	19
January 30 th , 2015	34	56	17
December 20 th , 2014	37	52	18
November 29 th , 2014	38	52	17
November 1 st . 2014	37	56	14
October 1 st , 2014	35	51	21
August 20-21 st , 2014	31	61	15
Election – June 12 th , 2014	28	58	21
June 5 th , 2014	39	57	11
May 27 th , 2014	42	50	15
May 20 th , 2014	31	63	13
May 12 th , 2014	26	68	13
May 2-3 rd , 2014	45	49	13
April 7 th , 2014	49	45	13
Mar 24 th , 2014	29	66	12
Feb. 25 th , 2014	48	42	17
Jan. 24-25 th , 2014	47	46	14
Dec. 17-18 th , 2013	43	51	13
Nov. 26 th , 2013	47	44	16
Oct. 25 th , 2013	41	48	18
Oct. 2 nd , 2013	47	44	16
Aug 29 th , 2013	36	53	18
Jul 22 nd , 2013	45	46	16
Jun 26 th , 2013	42	54	11
May 28 th . 2013	37	60	10
May 3 rd , 2013	36	59	12
April 26 th , 2013	38	59	10

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Current Provincial Vote Preference

'If a provincial election were held today, which party are you most likely to vote for? + Even though you may not have made up your mind, which party are you leaning towards at this time?'

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[Decided/Leaning]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1104	172	126	197	279	330	567	521
Progressive Conservative	43	25	40	49	47	52	48	37
Liberal	24	28	19	23	29	20	22	25
New Democratic	24	33	28	21	19	21	22	26
Green	8	12	13	6	4	6	5	11
Another Party	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	1

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20- \$40K	\$40- \$60К	\$60- \$80К	\$80- \$100K	\$100- \$250К
Sample	1104	106	178	152	150	105	200
Progressive Conservative	43	17	39	47	51	46	46
Liberal	24	32	24	22	21	24	25
New Democratic	24	36	29	23	19	20	24
Green	8	14	7	7	7	9	3
Another Party	2	1	2	1	2	1	1

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1104	161	167	365	532	238	173
Progressive Conservative	43	40	40	47	45	41	42
Liberal	24	27	28	22	24	24	18
New Democratic	24	21	27	22	24	24	29
Green	8	11	3	7	6	10	9
Another Party	2	1	1	1	1	2	2

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Past Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	PAST PROV VOTE - Progressive Conservative	PAST PROV VOTE - Liberal	PAST PROV VOTE - NDP	PAST PROV VOTE - Green	PAST PROV VOTE - Other parties
Sample	1104	382	324	179	58	56
Progressive Conservative	43	89	20	12	20	45
Liberal	24	5	53	12	7	24
New Democratic	24	4	19	71	20	17
Green	8	1	7	6	51	3
Another Party	2	1	2	1	2	10

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Kathleen Wynne Approval

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Kathleen Wynne is doing as premier?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1184	180	136	215	301	352	598	569
Approve	13	12	16	14	12	11	12	13
Disapprove	73	66	71	71	77	78	77	69
Don't know	14	22	13	15	11	10	10	18

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1184	115	182	163	159	113	210
Approve	13	22	8	14	8	10	18
Disapprove	73	55	74	72	82	78	73
Don't know	14	23	18	14	10	12	9

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1184	173	181	390	571	255	185
Approve	13	14	17	11	13	12	11
Disapprove	73	67	66	76	72	75	78
Don't know	14	19	17	13	15	13	11

Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	Liberal NDP		Other
Sample	1184	491	267	209	81	56
Approve	13	2	43	6	11	6
Disapprove	73	96	33	80	59	93
Don't know	14	2	23	15	30	2

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Patrick Brown Approval

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Patrick Brown is doing as leader of the Opposition?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1184	180	136	215	301	352	598	569
Approve	28	23	28	31	25	32	31	24
Disapprove	23	22	22	25	23	25	28	18
Don't know	49	55	50	44	51	43	41	58

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1184	115	182	163	159	113	210
Approve	28	21	28	27	23	26	32
Disapprove	23	22	19	17	28	35	27
Don't know	49	57	54	56	48	39	41

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1184	173	181	390	571	255	185
Approve	28	19	29	27	27	29	35
Disapprove	23	26	27	26	26	14	24
Don't know	49	55	44	47	46	57	40

Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1184	491	267	209	81	56
Approve	28	49	16	18	12	10
Disapprove	23	15	29	33	26	30
Don't know	49	36	55	49	63	60

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Andrea Horvath Approval

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Andrea Horvath is doing as leader of the NDP?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1184	180	136	215	301	352	598	569
Approve	36	29	40	37	35	41	35	36
Disapprove	25	18	28	30	30	23	32	19
Don't know	39	53	33	33	35	35	33	45

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1184	115	182	163	159	113	210
Approve	36	32	36	39	33	44	36
Disapprove	25	18	22	17	26	29	33
Don't know	39	49	42	44	41	28	31

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1184	173	181	390	571	255	185
Approve	36	33	35	36	36	33	43
Disapprove	25	20	26	26	26	25	28
Don't know	39	47	38	38	38	42	29

Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1184	491	267	209	81	56
Approve	36	33	30	65	23	22
Disapprove	25	35	27	12	17	33
Don't know	39	33	43	23	60	46

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Best Premier

Regardless of which party you would vote for, who do you think would make the best Premier of Ontario?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1184	180	136	215	301	352	598	569
Kathleen Wynne	12	9	11	15	13	14	11	13
Patrick Brown	26	21	24	33	27	28	30	22
Andrea Horwath	19	20	20	14	19	21	17	21
None of these	24	24	26	23	27	22	27	21
Don't know	19	27	19	16	14	15	15	23

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1184	115	182	163	159	113	210
Kathleen Wynne	12	12	8	6	9	12	19
Patrick Brown	26	11	23	27	29	26	34
Andrea Horwath	19	19	23	22	23	14	17
None of these	24	22	22	17	27	35	22
Don't know	19	36	24	28	12	13	9

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1184	173	181	390	571	255	185
Kathleen Wynne	12	16	16	12	13	10	7
Patrick Brown	26	22	24	26	25	28	30
Andrea Horwath	19	14	21	21	21	16	19
None of these	24	26	24	23	23	24	25
Don't know	19	22	15	18	17	23	20

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Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1184	491	267	209	81	56
Kathleen Wynne	12	2	37	5	13	2
Patrick Brown	26	59	5	6	12	3
Andrea Horwath	19	9	12	55	14	8
None of these	24	18	21	20	35	74
Don't know	19	12	24	14	26	13

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Small "c" Conservative

Do you consider yourself a small "c" conservative?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1184	180	136	215	301	352	598	569
Yes	27	20	25	30	32	33	33	21
No	42	46	40	42	40	38	41	43
Not sure	31	34	35	28	28	29	25	36

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1184	115	182	163	159	113	210
Yes	27	16	22	30	37	29	34
No	42	41	37	45	46	46	41
Not sure	31	42	41	25	17	25	25

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1184	173	181	390	571	255	185
Yes	27	25	25	28	27	26	30
No	42	47	42	42	42	41	36
Not sure	31	28	32	30	31	33	34

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Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1184	491	267	209	81	56
Yes	27	54	11	12	8	17
No	42	18	64	64	45	37
Not sure	31	28	25	24	47	46

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Legalized Abortion

Do you support or oppose legalized abortion?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1184	180	136	215	301	352	598	569
Support	70	77	70	65	67	66	69	72
Oppose	20	17	18	25	21	22	21	20
Don't know	10	6	12	10	12	12	10	9

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1184	115	182	163	159	113	210
Support	70	67	68	62	69	75	80
Oppose	20	22	21	28	21	21	12
Don't know	10	11	11	11	10	4	8

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1184	173	181	390	571	255	185
Support	70	71	71	69	70	69	71
Oppose	20	16	20	22	21	22	20
Don't know	10	13	10	9	9	9	9

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Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1184	491	267	209	81	56
Support	70	63	75	84	74	46
Oppose	20	25	17	13	15	34
Don't know	10	12	8	3	12	20

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Same Sex Marriage

Do you support or oppose same sex marriage?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1184	180	136	215	301	352	598	569
Support	71	85	70	66	66	57	66	76
Oppose	21	9	23	25	26	29	26	16
Don't know	9	6	7	9	9	14	9	8

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1184	115	182	163	159	113	210
Support	71	62	64	63	67	77	80
Oppose	21	26	26	24	25	16	16
Don't know	9	12	10	13	8	6	4

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1184	173	181	390	571	255	185
Support	71	77	66	67	66	71	78
Oppose	21	13	18	26	23	24	17
Don't know	9	11	16	8	11	5	5

Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1184	491	267	209	81	56
Support	71	62	80	79	78	61
Oppose	21	29	15	15	13	19
Don't know	9	9	5	6	9	20

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Sex Education Curriculum

Do you approve or disapprove of Ontario's sex education curriculum?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1184	180	136	215	301	352	598	569
Approve	52	63	51	54	43	39	49	55
Disapprove	33	27	35	32	39	38	35	32
Don't know	15	10	14	14	18	23	16	13

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1184	115	182	163	159	113	210
Approve	52	53	44	42	53	55	63
Disapprove	33	29	42	42	33	31	24
Don't know	15	18	14	16	14	14	13

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1184	173	181	390	571	255	185
Approve	52	52	66	46	53	48	56
Disapprove	33	28	24	40	34	34	33
Don't know	15	20	10	14	13	18	11

Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1184	491	267	209	81	56
Approve	52	37	64	67	60	39
Disapprove	33	48	19	24	30	41
Don't know	15	15	16	9	10	20

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