

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Majority favours reducing council size

More than half want term limits for mayor and councillors

TORONTO December 29th - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 802 Toronto voters, the majority favour the idea of reducing the size of City Council to 22 wards and councillors to correspond with provincial riding boundaries (52%). Just one quarter oppose the idea (27%). Opposition to this cost reduction move is common to the youngest (33%), mid income groups (\$60K to \$80K - 33%), the wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 34%), in the downtown and Eat York (37%) and among Olivia Chow voters (53%). These findings are comparable to the last time we asked this question (November 2014, reduce council size to 22 councillors/wards - 56%).

Majority wants term limits for mayor and councillors

The majority of voters want to see term limits for the mayor (56%) and slightly more see the need for term limits for councillors as well (60%). Fewer than a third disagrees with either position (32% and 30%, respectively). Interest in term limits is common to the mid aged (45 to 54 - 67%), the wealthier (\$80K to \$100K - 65%) and Doug Ford voters in the last election (68%). These findings are consistent with the last time we asked this (December 2014, term limits for mayor - 57%; term limits for councillors - 60%).

Approvals high for Tory, solid for Saunders, poor for Rob Ford

Mayor John Tory has very high approvals, and three quarters think he's doing a good job (75%). This compares favourably with last month's tally (77%). Police Chief Mark Saunders has the approval of one half of voters (48%) and a net favourable rating (approve minus disapprove) of a very positive +24. Councillor Rob Ford has the approval of just one third (34%), and his net score is a negative -11. Chief Saunders' approval has declined slightly since last month (November 16 - 52%), while Ford's has as well (from 38%).

"Torontonians are adamant, and have been since we started asking about council size. They see 44 councillors as unwieldy and they understand the logic of matching provincial riding boundaries. As for term limits, they are convinced these are a good idea, although those who voted for Olivia Chow clearly don't think so," 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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TORONTO

December 29th, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Majority favour the idea of reducing the size of City Council to 22 wards and councillors to correspond with provincial riding boundaries (52%).
- The majority of voters want to see term limits for the mayor (56%) and slightly more see the need for term limits for councillors as well (60%).
- Mayor John Tory has very high approvals, and three quarters think he's doing a good job (75%).
- "Torontonians are adamant, and have been since we started asking about council size. They see 44 councillors as unwieldy and they understand the logic of matching provincial riding boundaries. As for term limits, they are convinced these are a good idea, although those who voted for Olivia Chow clearly don't think so," 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 802 randomly selected voters in Toronto, Ontario. The poll was conducted on December 23rd, 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

Mayor Tory Approval - Trending

%	Sample	Approve
December 29 th , 2015	802	75
November 16 th , 2015	812	77
August 2 nd , 2015	892	72
July 16 th , 2015	825	74
June 8 th , 2015	822	69
May 5 th , 2015	822	72
April 11 th , 2015	865	71
March 15 th , 2015	520	72
February 21 st , 2015	807	65
January 25 th , 2015	843	67
December 18 th , 2014	1001	74

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Mark Saunders Approval - Trending

%	December 29 th , 2015	Nov 16 th , 2015	August 2 nd , 2015	June 16 th , 2015	June 8 th , 2015	May 6 th , 2015
Sample	802	812	892	825	822	822
Approve	48	52	45	46	48	44
Disapprove	24	19	25	23	21	14
Don't know	28	28	30	32	31	41

Mayoral Term Limits – Trending

%	December 29 th , 2015	December 18 th , 2014
Sample	802	1001
Approve	56	57
Disapprove	32	30
Don't know	12	14

City Councillor Term Limits – Trending

%	December 29 th , 2015	December 18 th , 2014
Sample	802	1001
Approve	60	60
Disapprove	30	23
Don't know	10	17

City Wards Size – Trending

%	December 29 th , 2015	November 25 th , 2014
Sample	802	950
Approve	52	56
Disapprove	27	30
Don't know	21	14

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December 29th, 2015

Approval of Mayor Tory

'Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job John Tory is doing as mayor?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	802	167	125	153	156	201	457	345
Approve	75	71	81	65	81	85	70	80
Disapprove	25	29	19	35	19	15	30	20

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	802	76	121	100	83	95	154
Approve	75	79	69	73	81	76	79
Disapprove	25	21	31	27	19	24	21

Region

%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	802	321	175	169	137
Approve	75	73	77	75	77
Disapprove	25	27	23	25	23

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	802	122	359	119	52
Approve	75	42	90	70	66
Disapprove	25	58	10	30	34

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December 29th, 2015

Rob Ford Approval

'Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job Rob Ford is doing as city councillor?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	802	167	125	153	156	201	457	345
Approve	34	35	34	45	32	18	33	34
Disapprove	44	45	38	37	44	61	46	43
Don't know	22	20	28	18	24	21	21	23

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	802	76	121	100	83	95	154
Approve	34	30	42	35	28	42	26
Disapprove	44	50	35	39	52	34	57
Don't know	22	20	22	25	21	24	17

Region

%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	802	321	175	169	137
Approve	34	23	36	40	39
Disapprove	44	53	44	39	38
Don't know	22	23	20	22	23

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	802	122	359	119	52
Approve	34	85	20	8	28
Disapprove	44	4	55	72	50
Don't know	22	11	25	20	22

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December 29th, 2015

Mark Saunders Approval

'Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job Mark Saunders is doing as Chief of Police?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	802	167	125	153	156	201	457	345
Approve	48	41	50	54	53	46	45	51
Disapprove	24	34	19	21	22	16	32	17
Don't know	28	25	30	25	26	39	24	32

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	802	76	121	100	83	95	154
Approve	48	41	48	52	46	46	50
Disapprove	24	29	27	24	20	29	21
Don't know	28	31	25	23	34	25	29

Region

%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	802	321	175	169	137
Approve	48	43	52	52	46
Disapprove	24	26	27	21	20
Don't know	28	31	21	27	34

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	802	122	359	119	52
Approve	48	52	51	47	38
Disapprove	24	29	16	30	33
Don't know	28	18	33	23	29

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City Wards

'Are you in favour of or opposed to cutting the number of city wards and city councillors in half from 44 to 22, to match provincial riding boundaries?'

[All respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	802	167	125	153	156	201	457	345
Favour	52	46	45	60	57	57	56	47
Oppose	27	33	29	23	24	21	27	27
Don't know	21	22	26	17	19	22	16	26

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	802	76	121	100	83	95	154
Favour	52	37	51	47	57	58	51
Oppose	27	30	24	27	33	25	34
Don't know	21	33	25	25	10	17	15

Region

%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	802	321	175	169	137
Favour	52	45	55	55	53
Oppose	27	37	22	23	24
Don't know	21	18	23	22	24

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	802	122	359	119	52
Favour	52	72	58	22	55
Oppose	27	15	24	53	25
Don't know	21	14	18	25	20

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Term Limits for Mayor

'Do you agree or disagree there should be term limits for the Mayor of Toronto?'

[All respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	802	167	125	153	156	201	457	345
Agree	56	51	54	67	52	56	53	58
Disagree	32	33	35	27	37	25	37	27
Don't know	12	16	10	6	10	18	10	14

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	802	76	121	100	83	95	154
Agree	56	61	52	68	48	60	51
Disagree	32	15	35	19	41	31	42
Don't know	12	24	13	13	12	9	8

Region

%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	802	321	175	169	137
Agree	56	58	48	57	61
Disagree	32	33	34	32	27
Don't know	12	9	17	11	13

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	802	122	359	119	52
Agree	56	70	46	60	49
Disagree	32	22	40	31	25
Don't know	12	8	14	8	26

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Term Limits for City Councillors

'Do you agree or disagree there should be term limits for city councillors?'

[All respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	802	167	125	153	156	201	457	345
Agree	60	52	60	67	62	66	58	62
Disagree	30	34	31	27	30	27	35	26
Don't know	10	14	10	6	8	7	7	12

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	802	76	121	100	83	95	154
Agree	60	62	57	64	55	65	58
Disagree	30	17	31	25	36	29	40
Don't know	10	20	13	10	8	6	2

Region

%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	802	321	175	169	137
Agree	60	61	58	59	61
Disagree	30	32	31	30	28
Don't know	10	7	11	11	11

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	802	122	359	119	52
Agree	60	68	56	54	62
Disagree	30	26	34	38	24
Don't know	10	6	10	7	14

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