FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PCs Widen the Gap in Ontario 70% PC majority seen; NDP as opposition

In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll[™] among 1154 Ontario voters, close to one half would vote Progressive Conservative if the election were held today (45%), while just one quarter (25%) would vote Liberal, for a 20 point gap between the two parties. This is an increase from a 13 point gap noted last month (August 15, PC - 41%, Liberal - 28%). The NDP currently has a vote share of just less than a quarter (23%) and this has not changed since last month. One twentieth support the Green Party (6%) and few support any other party (2%).

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The PCs are especially strong in Eastern Ontario (51%), while the Liberals have their best showing in the city of Toronto (33%), Nonetheless, the PCs lead in the city (40%).

A significant gender gap exists in that males predominate in PC ranks (51% to 39% female), while females are more common among Liberal supporters (29% to 21% male). The one group with which the Liberals score highest is the best educated (post grad - 37%).

70% majority seen: NDP to form opposition

If these results are projected up to sets in the legislature, the Progressive Conservatives would take 70% of them, or 75 seats, to 24 for the New Democrats. The Liberals would keep just 8 seats.

Leader approvals are stable

Fewer than a fifth of voters approve of Kathleen Wynne (16%), and this is as low as she has polled. Her net favourable score (approve minus disapprove) is a deeply negative - 58.

Patrick Brown has the approval of just more than a quarter (27%), and, owing to the high unknowns (48%), has a net score of just +1.

Andrea Horwath has the approval of a third of voters (36%), and her net favourable score is a positive +11.

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TORONTO September 15th, 2016

HIGHLIGHTS:

- 4-in-10 will vote Progressive Conservative if an election were held today (41%)
- The PC vote is common to the oldest (55+ - 46%), Males (48%) rather than females (35%), the wealthy (\$80K to \$100K - 47%) and in the 905 area code surrounding Toronto (47%)
- NDP vote is common to the youngest (30%), females (27%) rather than males (18%)
- Kathleen Wynne has the approval of just one sixth of voters (16%, down from 22%)
- Patrick Brown has the approval of just more than a quarter of voters (26%)

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Patrick Brown seen to be best Premier, along with "none of these"

One quarter of voters pick Patrick Brown as the best potential Premier (25%), the same proportion who say none of the leaders listed can do the job (24%). Andrea Horwath follows, with a fifth of the vote (19%) and the incumbent brings up the rear with about one sixth of the vote share (15%).

"The gap between the two leading parties is growing, and it's only a matter of time until the NDP takes over second place in the popular vote share like it has with the projected number of seats. Andrea Horwath doesn't score very high in approvals, but she still scores higher than anyone else" 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 September 15th, 2016 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Patrick Brown is seen to be the best candidate for Premier by a quarter (25%)
- "It appears Premier Wynne's chickens have finally come home to roost, and voters have started to notice the controversies surrounding her government. The beneficiary, however, appears to be the NDP, rather than the PCs, although a majority would be theirs if the election were held today" 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 1154 randomly selected Ontario voters. The poll was conducted on September 12th and 13th, 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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TORONTO September 15th, 2016

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Provincial Election Voting Preference Trending [Decided / Leaning]

%	Sample	Con	Lib	NDP	Green	Other
September 12 th -13 th	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 28th, 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 20th, 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 29th, 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
May 28 th . 2013	881	34	38	21	6	0
May 3 rd , 2013	832	35	35	25	4	1

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TORONTO September 15th, 2016

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Overall Seat Distribution

Overall Seat Distribution			
%	Con	Lib	NDP
September 12 th and 13 th	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 28 th , 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
Mar 26 th to 27 th 2013	43	50	14
Feb. 26 th to Mar 1 st , 2013	36	53	18

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Ontario Provincial Party Leader Approval Rating Trending (% Approve) [All Respondents]

[All Respondents]				
	Sample	Wynne	Brown	Horwath
September 12 th and 13 th	1154	16	27	36
August 15 th , 2016	1097	16	26	34
July 12 th , 2016	1183	22	29	33
June 21 st , 2016	1173	18	22	33
May 31 st , 2016	1172	21	25	34
April 28 th , 2016	1157	20	27	32
March 23rd, 2016	1225	20	26	35
February 26 th -29 th , 2016	1148	20	30	38
December 20 th , 2015	1003	23	25	40
November 2 nd -4 th , 2015	1158	21	27	41
August 11 th -12 th , 2015	1001	30	21	38
July 8 th , 2015	678	29	19	38
May 11 th , 2015	1001	26	17	41
	Sample	Wynne	Wilson	Horwath
May 1 st , 2015	912	29	22	39
March 26 th , 2015	881	33	22	40
February 28 th , 2015	996	36	24	37
January 30 th , 2015	1028	40	22	36
December 20 th , 2014	1058	37	22	35
November 29 th , 2014	1054	42	22	33
November 1 st , 2014	1104	46	23	31
October 1 st , 2014	1079	41	18	31
August 20-21 st , 2014	1229	46	27	35
July 3 rd , 2014	810	41	-	28
		Wynne	Hudak	Horwath
May 27 th , 2014	882	34	27	34
May 20 th , 2014		J-	27	J .
	1136	38	25	35
May 12 th , 2014	1136 996			
May 12 th , 2014 May 2-3 rd , 2014		38	25	35
-	996	38 38	25 23	35 35
May 2-3 rd , 2014	996 1845	38 38 34	25 23 26	35 35 36
May 2-3 rd , 2014 April 7 th , 2014	996 1845 928	38 38 34 34	25 23 26 27	35 35 36 40
May 2-3 rd , 2014 April 7 th , 2014 Mar 24 th , 2014	996 1845 928 908	38 38 34 34 34 34	25 23 26 27 23	35 35 36 40 38
May 2-3 rd , 2014 April 7 th , 2014 Mar 24 th , 2014 Feb. 25 th , 2014	996 1845 928 908 1014	38 38 34 34 34 34 32	25 23 26 27 23 24	35 35 36 40 38 40
May 2-3 rd , 2014 April 7 th , 2014 Mar 24 th , 2014 Feb. 25 th , 2014 Jan. 24-25 th , 2014	996 1845 928 908 1014 1222	38 38 34 34 34 34 32 40	25 23 26 27 23 24 21	35 35 36 40 38 40 40
May 2-3 rd , 2014 April 7 th , 2014 Mar 24 th , 2014 Feb. 25 th , 2014 Jan. 24-25 th , 2014 Dec. 17-18 th , 2013	996 1845 928 908 1014 1222 1044	38 38 34 34 34 32 40 35	25 23 26 27 23 24 21 28	35 35 36 40 38 40 40 40 41
May 2-3 rd , 2014 April 7 th , 2014 Mar 24 th , 2014 Feb. 25 th , 2014 Jan. 24-25 th , 2014 Dec. 17-18 th , 2013 Nov. 26 th , 2013	996 1845 928 908 1014 1222 1044 1126	38 38 34 34 34 32 40 35 35	25 23 26 27 23 24 21 28 28 26	35 35 36 40 38 40 40 40 41 41 44
May 2-3 rd , 2014 April 7 th , 2014 Mar 24 th , 2014 Feb. 25 th , 2014 Jan. 24-25 th , 2014 Dec. 17-18 th , 2013 Nov. 26 th , 2013 Oct. 25 th , 2013	996 1845 928 908 1014 1222 1044 1126 1049	38 38 34 34 34 32 40 35 35 35 33	25 23 26 27 23 24 21 28 26 26 26	35 35 36 40 38 40 40 41 41 44 46
May 2-3 rd , 2014 April 7 th , 2014 Mar 24 th , 2014 Feb. 25 th , 2014 Jan. 24-25 th , 2014 Dec. 17-18 th , 2013 Nov. 26 th , 2013 Oct. 25 th , 2013 Oct. 2 nd , 2013	996 1845 928 908 1014 1222 1044 1126 1049 1093	38 38 34 34 34 32 40 35 35 35 33 33 39	25 23 26 27 23 24 21 28 26 26 26 25	35 35 36 40 38 40 40 41 41 44 46 41
May 2-3 rd , 2014 April 7 th , 2014 Mar 24 th , 2014 Feb. 25 th , 2014 Jan. 24-25 th , 2014 Dec. 17-18 th , 2013 Nov. 26 th , 2013 Oct. 25 th , 2013 Oct. 2 rd , 2013 Aug 29 th , 2013	996 1845 928 908 1014 1222 1044 1126 1049 1093 1063	38 38 34 34 32 40 35 35 35 33 39 36	25 23 26 27 23 24 21 28 26 26 26 25 24	35 35 36 40 38 40 40 40 41 41 44 46 41 50
May 2-3 rd , 2014 April 7 th , 2014 Mar 24 th , 2014 Feb. 25 th , 2014 Jan. 24-25 th , 2014 Dec. 17-18 th , 2013 Nov. 26 th , 2013 Oct. 25 th , 2013 Oct. 2 rd , 2013 Aug 29 th , 2013 Jul 22 rd , 2013	996 1845 928 908 1014 1222 1044 1126 1049 1093 1063 914	38 38 34 34 32 40 35 35 35 33 39 36 35	25 23 26 27 23 24 21 28 26 26 26 26 25 24 27	35 35 36 40 38 40 40 40 41 41 44 46 41 50 43

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TORONTO September 15th, 2016



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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??

[Decided/Leaning ONLY]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1092	135	128	200	280	349	516	555
Progressive Conservative	45	38	49	46	45	46	51	39
Liberal	25	24	20	26	27	28	21	29
New Democratic	23	26	24	22	24	19	21	24
Green	6	10	4	5	3	5	6	6
Another Party	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	1

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	1092	93	162	150	126	117	215
Progressive Conservative	45	29	36	36	44	49	53
Liberal	25	31	23	28	24	24	24
New Democratic	23	27	31	27	25	25	19
Green	6	11	8	6	5	3	3
Another Party	2	1	2	2	1	0	1

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1092	159	188	344	532	233	168
Progressive Conservative	45	51	40	46	44	44	42
Liberal	25	24	33	26	28	20	24
New Democratic	23	18	19	23	22	30	22
Green	6	7	6	4	4	5	10
Another Party	2	1	1	2	2	1	1

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TORONTO September 15th, 2016

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Past Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	PAST PROV VOTE - PAST Progressive VOTE - Conservative Liberal		PAST PROV VOTE - NDP	PAST PROV VOTE - Green	PAST PROV VOTE - Other parties	
Sample	1092	379	388	169	40	49	
Progressive Conservative	45	92	22	11	29	35	
Liberal	25	4	56	11	7	23	
New Democratic	23	2	16	74	6	25	
Green	6	1	5	3	56	5	
Another Party	2	0	1	1	2	12	

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TORONTO September 15th, 2016



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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	1154	142	137	213	290	372	538	593
Approve	16	12	16	19	14	20	15	17
Disapprove	74	74	73	75	78	71	77	72
Don't know	9	14	10	6	8	10	8	11

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	1154	99	167	160	135	121	223
Approve	16	15	14	18	14	12	18
Disapprove	74	69	71	74	79	80	73
Don't know	9	16	15	8	7	7	8

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1154	166	195	359	554	253	181
Approve	16	18	21	16	18	15	12
Disapprove	74	76	68	76	73	76	74
Don't know	9	5	12	8	10	9	14

Current Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1154	489	285	201	68	49
Approve	16	3	50	8	13	7
Disapprove	74	93	32	87	68	83
Don't know	9	3	18	5	19	10

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TORONTO September 15th, 2016



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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	1154	142	137	213	290	372	538	593
Approve	27	26	27	26	28	28	33	21
Disapprove	25	22	27	26	29	27	30	21
Don't know	48	52	47	48	43	45	37	58

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	1154	99	167	160	135	121	223
Approve	27	16	25	25	27	36	30
Disapprove	25	24	31	26	24	24	26
Don't know	48	60	44	50	50	40	43

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1154	166	195	359	554	253	181
Approve	27	23	23	30	27	28	27
Disapprove	25	27	32	25	28	21	23
Don't know	48	50	45	45	45	51	50

Current Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1154	489	285	201	68	49
Approve	27	45	13	15	14	24
Disapprove	25	12	31	43	39	36
Don't know	48	42	55	42	47	40

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TORONTO September 15th, 2016



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Andrea Horwath Approval

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Andrea Horwath (HOR-vath) is doing as Leader of the NDP?

[All Respondents]

Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1154	142	137	213	290	372	538	593
Approve	36	31	37	37	41	39	33	39
Disapprove	26	21	26	30	26	26	35	17
Don't know	38	47	36	33	33	35	32	44

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	1154	99	167	160	135	121	223
Approve	36	37	33	36	40	46	34
Disapprove	26	24	26	19	24	22	32
Don't know	38	39	41	44	36	32	34

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1154	166	195	359	554	253	181
Approve	36	31	33	40	38	36	37
Disapprove	26	25	32	24	27	26	21
Don't know	38	44	35	35	35	39	42

Current Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1154	489	285	201	68	49
Approve	36	31	28	66	24	40
Disapprove	26	31	24	12	43	27
Don't know	38	38	48	22	33	33

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TORONTO September 15th, 2016



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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	1154	142	137	213	290	372	538	593
Kathleen Wynne	15	9	12	20	17	19	13	16
Patrick Brown	25	24	26	24	28	25	33	19
Andrea Horwath	19	19	18	22	20	17	16	22
None of these	24	26	27	20	22	23	24	24
Don't know	17	22	16	14	13	16	14	19

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	1154	99	167	160	135	121	223
Kathleen Wynne	15	10	12	15	13	14	19
Patrick Brown	25	18	22	23	27	33	29
Andrea Horwath	19	25	21	23	21	19	17
None of these	24	24	25	24	22	24	22
Don't know	17	23	20	15	17	10	14

Region

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%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1154	166	195	359	554	253	181
Kathleen Wynne	15	13	20	16	18	10	12
Patrick Brown	25	30	24	26	25	22	26
Andrea Horwath	19	13	18	18	18	27	16
None of these	24	28	22	24	23	22	25
Don't know	17	16	16	15	15	19	21

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TORONTO September 15th, 2016

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Current Provincial Vote Preference

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Another Party					
Sample	1154	489	285	201	68	49					
Kathleen Wynne	15	4	47	5	5	5					
Patrick Brown	25	53	5	7	7	5					
Andrea Horwath	19	12	11	54	14	16					
None of these	24	18	17	25	53	42					
Don't know	17	14	20	9	21	32					

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