

# NEWS RELEASE



**FORUM RESEARCH INC.**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Half of Ontarians Disapprove of Doug Ford as PC leader**

### **Half say they're less likely to vote PC in the next election**

Toronto, March 11th – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ among 923 Ontario voters, half (48%) say they disapprove of Doug Ford as leader of the Ontario Progressive Conservatives. One-third (36%) say they approve of his leadership, while one-sixth (16%) say they do not know.

Respondents most likely to say they approve of his leadership include those aged 35-44 (41%) or 45-54 (41%), males (46%), living in Toronto (41%), and supporting the PCs (67%).

Respondents most likely to say they disapprove of his leadership include those aged 55-64 (53%), females (52%), living in the 905 (54%), and supporting the Ontario Liberals (73%).

One-fifth of (20%) PC supporters say they disapprove of Doug Ford's leadership.

### **Half say they are less likely to vote PC in the next election**

Half (BTM2: 48%) say they are less likely to vote PC in the next election with Doug Ford as leader, with most of those (41%) saying they are much less likely to do so.

2 in 10 (TOP2: 20%) say they are more likely to vote PC in the next election because of the election of Doug Ford as leader, with one sixth (15%) doing so strongly.

One-quarter (26%) say they are neither more likely nor less likely to vote PC because of Doug Ford. Few say they are unsure.

Respondents most likely to say they are less likely to vote for the PCs because of Doug Ford include those aged 55-64 (52%), females (50%), living in Eastern Ontario (52%), Toronto (51%), the 905 (49%), and supporting the Ontario Liberals (74%).

One quarter (23%) of PC supporters say they are less likely to vote PC because of Doug Ford.

Respondents most likely to say they are more likely to vote for the PCs because of Doug Ford include those aged 35-54 (28%) or 65+ (25%), living in Eastern Ontario (21%) or Toronto (24%), and supporting the PCs (40%).

### **MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

Lorne Bozinoff, President

[lbozinoff@forumresearch.com](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com)

416.960.9603



**FORUM  
RESEARCH**

180 Bloor Street W., #1400

Toronto, ON M5S 2V6

T 416.960.9600

F 416.960.9602

[forumresearch.com](http://forumresearch.com)

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lbozinoff@forumresearch.com  
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### **Ford PCs still poised for majority**

Amongst those decided an leaning, if an election were held today, the PCs would secure (44%) of the vote. The NDP would secure a quarter (27%) and the Liberals would secure a quarter (23%).

Few would support the Greens (5%) or another party (2%).

The PCs would win 84 seats, while the NDP would serve as official opposition with 29. The Liberals would secure 11.

"Doug Ford's leadership of the Progressive Conservatives has polarized Ontarians, with half saying they are less likely to vote for the party in the next election," said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research. "However, four in ten would still vote for Ford's Conservatives, more than enough to propel Ford into the Premier's office, with a healthy majority. Despite the positive numbers for the Conservatives under Ford, it seems that Ontarians are not so much accepting Doug Ford and his leadership, as they are rejecting the other alternatives."

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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## **Methodology**

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 923 randomly selected Ontario Voters. The poll was conducted March 11th, 2018.

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](http://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](http://www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp)



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 lbozinoff@forumresearch.com  
 416.960.9603

### Voter intent

*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?*

### Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	870	128	111	138	207	286	466	377
Progressive Conservative	44	35	39	49	42	52	51	38
Liberal	23	21	23	25	24	24	23	22
New Democratic	27	36	31	21	28	20	19	35
Green	5	6	6	5	5	2	4	4
Another Party	2	2	2	0	1	2	2	1

### Region

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	Northern Ontario
Sample	870	130	183	236	206	115
Progressive Conservative	44	41	40	43	46	48
Liberal	23	29	33	19	18	20
New Democratic	27	26	22	31	29	25
Green	5	3	3	5	6	5
Another Party	2	2	1	1	1	2



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**Ford approval**

*Doug Ford has been elected as leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of Doug Ford as leader of the Ontario PC party?*

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	923	133	119	146	217	308	483	412
Approve	36	31	41	41	35	36	46	28
Disapprove	48	48	43	45	53	49	43	52
Don't know	16	21	16	13	12	15	11	20

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	Northern Ontario
Sample	923	138	198	255	208	124
Approve	36	33	41	35	34	40
Disapprove	48	48	45	54	48	35
Don't know	16	19	13	11	18	25

**Voter Ballot Intention**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	923	408	216	171	45	30
Approve	36	67	14	12	23	35
Disapprove	48	20	73	68	66	44
Don't know	16	13	13	20	11	22



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**Likelihood**

*Overall, does the election of Doug Ford as leader, make you more likely, less likely, or neither more likely nor less likely to vote for the Progressive Conservatives in the next Ontario provincial election?*

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	923	133	119	146	217	308	483	412
NET: TOP2	20	15	16	28	17	25	25	15
NET: BTM2	48	49	44	41	57	48	45	50
Much more likely	15	11	10	23	12	19	20	11
Somewhat more likely	5	4	5	5	5	6	5	5
Neither more likely nor less likely	26	32	29	28	23	18	26	27
Somewhat less likely	7	8	5	8	5	7	7	7
Much less likely	41	41	38	33	52	41	38	43
Not sure	6	4	11	4	3	9	4	7

**Region**

%	Total	Eastern Ontario	416	905	South-western Ontario	Northern Ontario
Sample	923	138	198	255	208	124
NET: TOP2	20	21	24	18	16	23
NET: BTM2	48	52	51	49	45	39
Much more likely	15	14	19	14	11	18
Somewhat more likely	5	7	5	4	5	5
Neither more likely nor less likely	26	21	23	25	32	32
Somewhat less likely	7	9	9	5	7	4
Much less likely	41	43	42	44	38	35
Not sure	6	6	3	8	7	7



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## *Voter Ballot Intention*

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Other Parties
Sample	923	408	216	171	45	30
NET: TOP2	20	40	5	4	10	22
NET: BTM2	48	23	74	61	67	51
Much more likely	15	30	4	3	9	14
Somewhat more likely	5	10	1	2	2	7
Neither more likely nor less likely	26	34	16	28	18	16
Somewhat less likely	7	7	6	8	3	8
Much less likely	41	17	68	53	64	43
Not sure	6	3	5	6	5	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](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com)



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