

# NEWS RELEASE



## MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Close to half approve of Ontario Pension Plan

#### Most would rather see CPP enhanced, however

TORONTO, OCTOBER 26, 2013 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1049 Ontario voters 18 years of age and older, close to one half approved of Ontario Finance Minister Charles Sousa's proposal to create an Ontario Pension Plan to supplement CPP (48%), while 3-in-10 disapprove (30%). Almost one quarter do not have an opinion on this issue (22%). Approval of this proposal is common to older Ontarians (55 to 64 - 53%), lower income groups (\$20K to \$40K - 57%), in Toronto 416 (52%), among Liberals (59%) and Green supporters (57%), but not among PCs (33%), among those with some college or university (55%), non-Christians (60%) and those of non-European background (62%).

#### Majority agrees CPP is not sufficient

More than half of Ontario voters say CPP, in replacing about 25% of pre-retirement income, does not go far enough (55%), while just more than a quarter think it is sufficient (28%). One tenth don't have an opinion (11%), and few think CPP is too generous (6%). PCs are less likely to think CPP is insufficient (42%), while Liberals (54%) and New Democrats (66%) are more likely to say so. Boomers are especially likely to think this (55 to 64 - 64%).

#### Majority agrees CPP should be enhanced

More than half agree CPP contributions and benefits should be increased (55%), while 3-in-10 don't agree (31%). Just more than a tenth have no opinion on this (13%). Older respondents are more apt to agree (55 to 64 - 62%, 65+ - 66%) as are lower income groups (\$20K to \$40K - 65%). Agreement is high in Toronto 416 (61%), among Liberals (62%), those with some college or university (65%) or post grad studies (63%), non-Christians (70%) and those with a non-British European background (63%).

#### Twice as many prefer CPP enhancement to creating provincial pension plans

When given the choice, close to half opt for enhancing CPP (46%) over creating provincial pension plans (23%). One quarter say neither is their choice (22%), while fewer than one tenth don't have an opinion on this measure (8%). Boomers (55 to 64) are especially likely to prefer CPP enhancement (57%) over provincial pension plans (20%) as are New Democrats (52% to 20%). CPP enhancement is especially preferred in Eastern Ontario (63%).

## TORONTO

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- close to one half approved of Ontario Finance Minister Charles Sousa's proposal to create an Ontario Pension Plan to supplement CPP (48%).
- More than half of Ontario voters say CPP, in replacing about 25% of pre-retirement income, does not go far enough (55%), while just more than a quarter think it is sufficient (28%).
- More than half agree CPP contributions and benefits should be increased (55%), while 3-in-10 don't agree (31%).
- When given the choice, close to half opt for enhancing CPP (46%) over creating provincial pension plans (23%).

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## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- “While the proposed provincial pension plan does quite well on its own, it's clear it fares a poor second choice to the much simpler and more intuitive expedient of just expanding CPP, something the current government seems loath to do, regardless of expert opinion,” said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

“While the proposed provincial pension plan does quite well on its own, it's clear it fares a poor second choice to the much simpler and more intuitive expedient of just expanding CPP, something the current government seems loath to do, regardless of expert opinion,” 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](mailto: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 1049 randomly selected Ontarians 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted on October 23-25<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

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 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.

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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**Approval of a Provincial Pension Plan**

*'The government of Ontario has proposed creating a provincial pension plan that would supplement CPP. Do you approve or disapprove of this proposal?'*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1049	70	112	203	329	335	540	509
Approve	48	46	44	50	53	50	47	49
Disapprove	30	27	36	28	31	27	34	26
Don't know	22	27	20	22	16	23	19	25

**Region**

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1049	160	194	303	497	231	161
Approve	48	41	52	48	49	49	49
Disapprove	30	35	27	28	28	31	28
Don't know	22	24	21	24	23	20	22

**Household Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1049	95	188	141	154	100	186	26
Approve	48	52	57	44	45	42	45	63
Disapprove	30	26	24	36	23	29	41	34
Don't know	22	22	19	19	32	29	14	2

**Provincial Party Preference**

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1049	344	278	250	73	46
Approve	48	33	59	51	57	44
Disapprove	30	45	20	23	33	27
Don't know	22	22	21	26	11	29

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### **Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1049	207	255	414	173
Approve	48	45	55	45	51
Disapprove	30	25	30	32	29
Don't know	22	30	15	23	20

### **Religion**

%	Total	Christian	Protestant Christian	Evangelical Christian	Catholic	Other Christian	Other	None
Sample	1049	737	358	40	259	80	73	239
Approve	48	46	47	51	48	37	60	49
Disapprove	30	30	34	29	23	36	24	31
Don't know	22	24	19	20	29	27	15	21

### **Ethnicity**

%	Total	Canadian	British, Scots, Irish or Welsh	Other European	Non-European
Sample	1049	712	122	135	80
Approve	48	48	43	45	62
Disapprove	30	30	36	25	26
Don't know	22	22	21	30	12

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**Approval of CPP**

*'The Canada Pension Plan, or CPP, is designed to replace about 25% of pre-retirement income. Is this too much, too little or about right?'*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1049	70	112	203	329	335	540	509
Too much	6	8	2	8	5	3	6	6
Too little	55	48	59	55	64	53	51	59
About right	28	31	28	24	24	34	32	25
Don't know	11	13	11	13	7	9	11	11

**Region**

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1049	160	194	303	497	231	161
Too much	6	4	5	4	4	6	11
Too little	55	53	52	52	52	61	59
About right	28	32	25	36	32	22	24
Don't know	11	11	17	8	12	12	6

**Household Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1049	95	188	141	154	100	186	26
Too much	6	10	4	7	8	5	3	16
Too little	55	56	56	47	50	58	53	50
About right	28	22	30	41	29	23	32	29
Don't know	11	12	9	5	13	14	12	5

**Provincial Party Preference**

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1049	344	278	250	73	46
Too much	6	5	6	4	5	4
Too little	55	42	54	66	54	85
About right	28	39	30	20	34	11
Don't know	11	14	10	10	6	1

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## Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1049	207	255	414	173
Too much	6	10	5	4	7
Too little	55	57	60	52	54
About right	28	25	27	32	26
Don't know	11	7	9	13	13

## Religion

%	Total	Christian	Protestant Christian	Evangelical Christian	Catholic	Other Christian	Other	None
Sample	1049	737	358	40	259	80	73	239
Too much	6	4	3	4	4	10	4	9
Too little	55	56	53	62	60	49	68	50
About right	28	28	34	17	27	19	21	31
Don't know	11	11	10	16	8	22	7	11

## Ethnicity

%	Total	Canadian	British, Scots, Irish or Welsh	Other European	Non-European
Sample	1049	712	122	135	80
Too much	6	5	6	6	11
Too little	55	54	63	61	49
About right	28	31	15	27	26
Don't know	11	11	16	6	14

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**Increase of CPP Benefits**

*'Do you agree or disagree CPP contributions by employees and employers should be increased so pension benefits can be increased?'*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1049	70	112	203	329	335	540	509
Agree	55	51	51	53	62	66	54	57
Disagree	31	38	37	34	24	19	33	30
Don't know	13	12	12	13	15	15	14	13

**Region**

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1049	160	194	303	497	231	161
Agree	55	51	61	53	56	56	57
Disagree	31	34	25	33	30	33	30
Don't know	13	15	14	14	14	10	13

**Household Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1049	95	188	141	154	100	186	26
Agree	55	52	65	53	54	58	50	54
Disagree	31	38	21	27	31	34	38	44
Don't know	13	11	14	20	15	8	12	2

**Provincial Party Preference**

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1049	344	278	250	73	46
Agree	55	48	62	59	53	54
Disagree	31	39	22	28	41	45
Don't know	13	13	16	13	6	1

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**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1049	207	255	414	173
Agree	55	57	65	47	63
Disagree	31	31	24	37	27
Don't know	13	12	11	16	10

**Religion**

%	Total	Christian	Protestant Christian	Evangelical Christian	Catholic	Other Christian	Other	None
Sample	1049	737	358	40	259	80	73	239
Agree	55	54	49	53	58	61	70	55
Disagree	31	32	37	31	30	23	19	33
Don't know	13	14	14	16	12	16	11	12

**Ethnicity**

%	Total	Canadian	British, Scots, Irish or Welsh	Other European	Non-European
Sample	1049	712	122	135	80
Agree	55	54	52	63	59
Disagree	31	33	29	24	34
Don't know	13	13	19	13	7

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**Federal or Provincial Pension Plan**

*'Is it better for provinces to create supplementary provincial pension plans, or for the federal government to increase the contributions and benefits of CPP? '*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1049	70	112	203	329	335	540	509
create a supplementary provincial pension plan	23	25	26	23	20	19	22	24
increase contributions and benefits of the CPP	46	45	37	45	57	52	47	46
neither of these	22	26	27	22	15	16	23	21
Don't know	8	4	10	10	7	12	8	9

**Region**

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1049	160	194	303	497	231	161
create a supplementary provincial pension plan	23	16	21	22	22	24	32
increase contributions and benefits of the CPP	46	63	52	45	47	37	42
neither of these	22	17	19	24	22	30	17
Don't know	8	5	9	9	9	9	9

**Household Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1049	95	188	141	154	100	186	26
create a supplementary provincial pension plan	23	27	24	22	23	21	22	13
increase contributions and benefits of the CPP	46	43	46	47	50	43	47	58
neither of these	22	21	17	18	18	30	25	22
Don't know	8	10	12	13	9	6	5	7

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**Provincial Party Preference**

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1049	344	278	250	73	46
create a supplementary provincial pension plan	23	18	29	20	33	9
increase contributions and benefits of the CPP	46	45	48	52	45	43
neither of these	22	28	17	18	18	46
Don't know	8	10	6	10	4	2

**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1049	207	255	414	173
create a supplementary provincial pension plan	23	23	25	24	18
increase contributions and benefits of the CPP	46	48	53	40	53
neither of these	22	15	13	29	23
Don't know	8	14	8	7	6

**Religion**

%	Total	Christian	Protestant Christian	Evangelical Christian	Catholic	Other Christian	Other	None
Sample	1049	737	358	40	259	80	73	239
create a supplementary provincial pension plan	23	22	21	16	24	27	30	23
increase contributions and benefits of the CPP	46	46	48	24	51	40	40	49
neither of these	22	23	21	52	21	21	22	19
Don't know	8	8	10	9	5	13	8	8

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## *Ethnicity*

%	Total	Canadian	British, Scots, Irish or Welsh	Other European	Non- European
Sample	1049	712	122	135	80
create a supplementary provincial pension plan	23	22	31	18	32
increase contributions and benefits of the CPP	46	46	44	53	40
neither of these	22	23	20	19	25
Don't know	8	9	6	10	3

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