

# NEWS RELEASE



**FORUM RESEARCH INC.**

## **MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Two thirds want end to rail shipments of flammable crude oil through city**

#### **"Extremely concerned" will lead to Lac Mégantic-type disaster**

TORONTO MARCH 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ among 1271 Torontonians 18 years of age and older, two thirds agreed rail shipments of flammable crude oil should not be allowed through Toronto (69%), while just fewer than one fifth say they should be allowed (17%). Opposition to rail shipments of flammable crude is highest among the mid aged (45 to 54 - 74%), females (74%), lower to mid-income groups (\$40K to \$60K - 76%, \$60K to \$80K - 74%), residents of the downtown (73%), transit users (73%), those with a college degree (73%), those without kids (73%), those who disapprove of Rob Ford (78%) and who will not vote for him (75%).

#### **Two thirds very concerned or more about Lac Mégantic-type disaster**

A high degree of concern that rail shipments of flammable crude oil through Toronto will lead to a disaster like Lac Mégantic is characteristic of two thirds of Torontonians (63%), and they are primarily "extremely concerned " (44%), rather than just "very concerned" (19%). Being extremely concerned is common to females (48%), the less wealthy (less than \$20K - 49%, \$20K to \$40K - 51%, \$40K to \$60K - 52%), in Scarborough (48%), transit users (50%), those with some college or university (54%) and mothers with kids (49%).

"Most Torontonians don't know the train that exploded in Lac Mégantic was scheduled to pass through Toronto on the old CP rail line north of Dupont Street a few days later. It's clear they are very uncomfortable with the idea of such hazardous cargo being transported through Canada's largest city," 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.

## **TORONTO**

**March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Two thirds agreed rail shipments of flammable crude oil should not be allowed through Toronto (69%), while just fewer than one fifth say they should be allowed (17%).
- A high degree of concern that rail shipments of flammable crude oil through Toronto will lead to a disaster like Lac Mégantic is characteristic of two thirds of Torontonians (63%).
- "Most Torontonians don't know the train that exploded in Lac Mégantic was scheduled to pass through Toronto on the old CP rail line north of Dupont Street a few days later. It's clear they are very uncomfortable with the idea of such hazardous cargo being transported through Canada's largest city," 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 1271 randomly selected Torontonians 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

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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**Rail Shipments of Crude**

*'Should rail shipments of flammable crude oil be allowed through the city of Toronto or not?'*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1271	98	141	304	326	402	562	709
Should be allowed	17	22	14	15	16	16	23	12
Should not be allowed	69	64	68	74	73	73	64	74
Don't know	13	13	18	12	11	11	13	14

**Region**

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
Sample	1271	436	283	287	265
Should be allowed	17	18	15	17	20
Should not be allowed	69	73	70	68	65
Don't know	13	9	16	15	15

**Transportation / Own Property**

%	Total	Drive	TTC or other public transit	Other	Own Property	Do Not Own Property
Sample	1271	472	373	126	914	357
Should be allowed	17	21	14	17	19	15
Should not be allowed	69	66	73	60	71	67
Don't know	13	12	13	23	10	18

**Household Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1271	110	202	189	171	131	207	48
Should be allowed	17	17	14	14	17	20	15	36
Should not be allowed	69	65	64	76	74	67	73	60
Don't know	13	18	22	10	9	13	12	4

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**March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

## Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1271	198	334	473	266
Should be allowed	17	18	15	15	23
Should not be allowed	69	63	67	73	69
Don't know	13	18	18	12	8

## Have Children / Are Mothers

%	Total	Yes	No	Moms
Sample	1271	270	1001	121
Should be allowed	17	20	16	17
Should not be allowed	69	62	73	63
Don't know	13	17	11	20

## Past Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Rob Ford	George Smitherman	Joe Pantalone	Someone else
Sample	1271	511	348	136	175
Should be allowed	17	26	10	16	14
Should not be allowed	69	61	77	77	74
Don't know	13	13	12	7	12

## Rob Ford Approval / Vote Ford in 2014

%	Total	Approve	Disapprove	Yes	No	Don't know
Sample	1271	517	754	382	813	76
Should be allowed	17	26	11	26	13	13
Should not be allowed	69	58	78	59	75	61
Don't know	13	16	12	15	11	26

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**Concern for Disaster in Toronto**

*'How concerned are you that rail shipments of flammable crude oil through the city of Toronto may cause an accident similar to Lac Mégantic?'*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1271	98	141	304	326	402	562	709
NET: TOP2	63	63	58	63	64	69	58	68
NET: BTM2	13	14	15	11	15	7	16	9
Extremely concerned	44	44	42	45	45	46	40	48
Very concerned	19	19	17	18	19	24	18	20
Somewhat concerned	22	20	25	24	19	22	24	20
Not very concerned	11	13	13	7	12	6	13	8
Not at all concerned	2	1	2	3	3	1	3	1
Don't know	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2

**Region**

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
Sample	1271	436	283	287	265
NET: TOP2	63	63	62	63	66
NET: BTM2	13	17	10	10	13
Extremely concerned	44	47	38	42	48
Very concerned	19	15	24	20	18
Somewhat concerned	22	20	27	24	17
Not very concerned	11	15	8	8	12
Not at all concerned	2	2	2	2	1
Don't know	2	1	2	3	4

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**Transportation / Own Property**

%	Total	Drive	TTC or other public transit	Other	Own Property	Do Not Own Property
Sample	1271	472	373	126	914	357
NET: TOP2	63	60	69	48	61	67
NET: BTM2	13	14	12	17	15	9
Extremely concerned	44	42	50	29	44	44
Very concerned	19	18	19	18	17	23
Somewhat concerned	22	23	17	30	23	20
Not very concerned	11	12	10	15	12	8
Not at all concerned	2	2	2	1	2	1
Don't know	2	3	1	6	1	3

**Household Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1271	110	202	189	171	131	207	48
NET: TOP2	63	79	76	79	55	59	49	27
NET: BTM2	13	5	6	5	16	11	19	40
Extremely concerned	44	49	51	52	40	43	38	17
Very concerned	19	29	25	27	15	16	12	10
Somewhat concerned	22	15	13	16	27	28	32	27
Not very concerned	11	4	4	5	15	10	17	40
Not at all concerned	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	1
Don't know	2	1	6	1	1	1	0	5

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**Education**

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1271	198	334	473	266
NET: TOP2	63	76	74	58	54
NET: BTM2	13	6	7	14	20
Extremely concerned	44	46	54	39	42
Very concerned	19	29	20	19	12
Somewhat concerned	22	13	16	27	26
Not very concerned	11	4	6	12	16
Not at all concerned	2	2	1	2	3
Don't know	2	5	4	1	1

**Have Children / Are Mothers**

%	Total	Yes	No	Moms
Sample	1271	270	1001	121
NET: TOP2	63	62	64	62
NET: BTM2	13	14	12	14
Extremely concerned	44	42	45	49
Very concerned	19	20	19	14
Somewhat concerned	22	23	21	22
Not very concerned	11	11	10	13
Not at all concerned	2	2	2	0
Don't know	2	1	3	2

**Past Mayoral Vote**

%	Total	Rob Ford	George Smitherman	Joe Pantalone	Someone else
Sample	1271	511	348	136	175
NET: TOP2	63	59	60	75	61
NET: BTM2	13	19	8	5	12
Extremely concerned	44	45	41	53	38
Very concerned	19	15	19	21	23
Somewhat concerned	22	19	30	18	26
Not very concerned	11	16	6	4	10
Not at all concerned	2	3	2	1	2
Don't know	2	2	2	2	1

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### ***Rob Ford Approval / Vote Ford in 2014***

<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Approve</b>	<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1271</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>NET: TOP2</b>	63	64	63	60	64	66
<b>NET: BTM2</b>	13	17	10	19	9	11
<b>Extremely concerned</b>	44	44	44	44	45	33
<b>Very concerned</b>	19	19	19	16	19	34
<b>Somewhat concerned</b>	22	16	26	18	25	12
<b>Not very concerned</b>	11	13	9	15	9	8
<b>Not at all concerned</b>	2	4	1	4	1	3
<b>Don't know</b>	2	4	1	3	1	11

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