

New poll suggests Ontario heading toward first minority government in decades

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TORONTO, Ont. - With less than two weeks left until the provincial election, a new poll finds Ontario is likely headed toward a minority government for the first time since 1985.

The Forum Research survey, published in the *Toronto Star*, polled over 40,000 people and found the Liberals and Progressive Conservatives are deadlocked.

The two parties were separated by only 107 respondents, each holding even with 35 per cent support. The NDP could also make some late noise, as they aren't sitting totally out of reach, holding 23 per cent support according to the survey.

The green party holds 5 per cent support according the poll.

If the numbers from the poll are accurate and hold true, this would be the first minority government since 1985. With more than 40,000 respondents, this is one of the largest polling samples in Canadian history.

The numbers were broken down riding by riding, and the results show that 28 of the ridings were too close to call.

All this makes Tuesday's upcoming leadership debate even more crucial, as the leaders will have to have a strong showing should they want to make a major move.

However as the numbers stand, it appears unlikely any party will be able to win the 54 seats required for a majority.