



## **Poll: One Year Later, Mayor Fontana's Approval Rating Sinks**

*Oct 25, 2011*

A new poll released on the one year anniversary of Joe Fontana's stunning election night win suggests the honeymoon with London voters is over.

According to Forum Research, one of Canada's leading polling firms, only 39% of respondents said they would vote for Fontana if an election was held today. The poll did not get into specifics with respect to the reasons for Fontana's dwindling support.

The former Liberal MP took 47.3% of the vote on October 25th, 2010 when he ended Anne Marie DeCicco-Best's 10-year reign as London's longest serving Mayor.

On the question of "In the next municipal election, will you be voting for current mayor or will you be voting for someone else?", only three other Mayors out of 15 cities surveyed had a worse score than Fontana. 79% of respondents in Montreal would vote for someone else, 70% of respondents in Toronto wouldn't vote for Rob Ford, while 67% of respondents in Quebec City wouldn't vote for Regis Labeaume.

The Forum Research poll did not identify if the other 61%, who said they would not vote for Fontana, had a preferred alternative candidate or if that 61% was divided among several candidates.

The survey did contain some positive news for London's Mayor.

In a curious twist, the poll found Fontana's approval rating was 61% - ranking him 7th out of 15 big city Mayors.

The average approval rating was 56%.

Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion had the highest approval rating at 78% while Montreal Mayor Gerard Tremblay had the lowest at 32%.

The news is perhaps worst for Toronto Mayor Rob Ford. His approval rating has dwindled in every Forum poll since the beginning of this year, falling from 60% in February, to 57% in June, to 42% in September, to 37% in this latest survey

The poll was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on a nationwide interactive voice response telephone survey of 6,763 randomly selected residents aged 18 or older of the 15 largest Canadian cities.

The poll was conducted from October 21st to 23rd, 2011.

More than 400 people in London were surveyed.

***Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 1.2%, 19 times out of 20. Subsample and regional results will be less accurate. Margins of error for both subsample (such as age, gender) results and regional 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.***