

Torontonians like Mayor Ford's handling of Occupy issue, poll says

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Most Torontonians approve of Mayor Rob Ford's handling of the Occupy encampment in St. James Park, a new Forum Research poll has found.

The poll conducted Wednesday found that 61 per cent approved of Ford's low-key approach to getting protesters out of the downtown park.

His support was highest among older residents, with 69 per cent of those aged 55 and over approving his conduct, and lowest among 18 to 34 year olds, at 51 per cent.

"Torontonians are giving their mayor a thumbs-up on his handling of this sensitive issue," said Forum Research president Lorne Bozinoff in a statement. "Although approval ratings for his management of the Occupy Toronto protests are still strongest with his base, significant support among younger voters on this issue will provide Ford with positive momentum."

Fewer than half of respondents - 46 per cent - thought the Occupy protesters had "accomplished anything" in their five-week squat, the poll found.

Results of the poll are considered accurate plus or minus 3.1 per cent 19 times out 20.