

## **Majority (54%) Find Change to Toronto Council Size (From 47 to 25) Acceptable versus 46% who Say it's Unacceptable**

*Six in 10 (58%) believe Toronto City Council will be more effective in getting things done with just 25 Councillors*

**October 20, 2018**— A new Toronto Sun/National Post poll conducted by **DART** Insight finds that less than a month after Premier Doug Ford's provincial government restructured Toronto's electoral wards to be identical to the boundaries for both provincial and federal elections (down from 47 to 25), a majority (**54%**--very 27%/somewhat 27%) of Torontonians find the change acceptable compared to **46%** (very 34%/somewhat 12%) who find it to be unacceptable

And while a small majority believe the change in the boundaries is acceptable, more (**58%**) believe that the work at Toronto City Council with 25 Councillors will be more effective in getting things done than previously was the case with 47 Councillors compared to **42%** who disagree (not very much 22%/not at all 20%) that this will be the case.

Further, a larger majority (**61%**--very much 28% /somewhat 33%) believe that by reducing the size of Council to 25 seats, City Hall will save millions of dollars versus **39%** who disagree (not very much 21%/19% not at all 19%.)

And lastly, while in the past some **48%** of Torontonians say they've been in touch with their local Municipal Councillor on a matter that needs their help, to obtain information or to attend an event (very much 24%/somewhat 25%), two thirds (**63%**--very much 30%/somewhat 33%) agree that if both 25 federal and provincial members of Parliament can serve their Toronto constituents, then Toronto City Councillors will be able to do the same compared with **38%** (21% not very much/17% not at all) who disagree with the sentiment.

*These are some of the findings of a Toronto Sun/National Post **DART** Insight poll. The survey was conducted among a randomly selected group of 669 Toronto adults who are members of the National **Maru/Blue** Online panel between October 12-15, 2018. The results have been weighted to the latest census data for the city of Toronto. The precision of this **DART** Insight Online poll is measured using a Bayesian Credibility Interval. In this case, a weighted sample size of 669 is accurate to +/- 4.3% 19 times out of 20, had all Toronto adults been*

polled. What follows, is an analysis of the findings. The description of the methodology at the end of the analysis has links to download all of the materials used for this survey – including the questions asked and the detailed tables.

### ***Rating Premier Doug Ford and his Government...***

While six in 10 (59%--somewhat 19%/very much 40%) Torontonians don't believe that Premier Doug Ford and his government have done a good job since taking office in June, for all the sound and fury that came with the his use of the Notwithstanding Clause until an appeals court ruled his government had the right to proceed, the number of Torontonians who believe that he and his government have done a *good* job is at 41% (very much 16%/somewhat 15%) which compares more favourably than the 33% of the vote that he and his party received on election night in the city (+8).

### ***To Use or to Block Marijuana...***

With marijuana now becoming legal, 32% (very much 12%/somewhat 20%) indicate they will likely partake of it. But while this may be the case, a larger group (49%--very much 21%/somewhat 28%) believe that each ward in the city should be able to hold a referendum to make their community "weed free" with no over-the-counter marijuana being available to buy compared with 51% (somewhat 26%/very much 25%) who disagree.

### ***Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Immigrants...***

Torontonians are split on whether or not the city is coping well in accommodating the influx of refugees and asylum seekers: 49%– agree (10% very much/39% somewhat) versus 51% (29% somewhat/22% very much) who disagree. Regardless, a firm majority (69%--very much 23%/somewhat 45%) believe that new immigrants in their community are having a positive impact compared to 31% (somewhat 23%/very much 8%) who disagree.

## *Tougher to Make Ends Meet? Need Sleep, Not Sex...*

Almost two thirds (62%--very much 26%/somewhat 36%) of Torontonians are finding it tougher and tougher to make ends meet compared with four in 10 (38%--somewhat 27%/very much 11%) disagree.

And during these tough times, 70% (very much 29%/somewhat 42%) of Torontonians say they prefer a good night of sleep versus a good night of sex (30%--somewhat 20%/very much 10%)

*These are some of the findings of a Toronto Sun/National Post poll created and analyzed exclusively by **DART Insight** under the direction of veteran pollster John Wright, CEO of **DART Insight**, a division of **DART Insight and Communications** Inc. The data was collected in partnership with Canada's national survey sample research provider **Maru/Blue** that curates a vast Online Panel and provides data collection services. All questions herein were placed carefully on the questionnaire and then randomized to ensure that there was no inter-item contamination.*

Visit <http://www.dartincom.ca/polls/> for the written release and detailed tables.

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## About **DART** Insight and **Maru/Blue**...

**DART Insight** is the market and public affairs opinion research services division of Canadian based consultancy **DART Insight and Communications Inc.** The other half of the company is **DART Communications** and provides communications strategy and execution, media training, event deployment and corporate services. The company serves clients in private, public, association and not-for-profit organizations, is independent, and is not tied to any political organization. Founded by veteran pollster and commentator **John Wright (CEO DART Insight)** and communications specialist **Victoria Ollers (CEO DART Communications)**, the company is comprised of highly experienced, recognized and awarded senior practitioners in many related disciplines who have gathered together under one banner to serve clients in North America and beyond.

Public releases of polling results, including detailed tables (weighted/unweighted), questions used and analysis, are provided freely at <http://www.dartincom.ca/polls/>

**DART Insight and Communications** is a member in good standing with the Marketing Intelligence and Research Association (MIRA) of Canada. Accuracy of any Online polling results are measured using a Bayesian Credibility Interval which is endorsed by MIRA and the American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR).

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We began disrupting the market community industry in 2000. Our market communities' broke new ground, adding depth and richness to clients' understanding of what motivates their customers and shapes their markets. Now, as part of the **Maru Group**, we continue to provide reliable global data connections for agencies, brands, and market research firms.

**Springboard America**, and **Maru Voice Canada**, established more than a decade ago, are a testament to our commitment and depth of engagement. More recently we developed the **Maru Voice Business Canada** and **Springboard America Business Forum**, both an excellent source for business to business research.

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