



For immediate release  
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## **Ontarians support Liberal *back-to-school* legislation**

Ontarians are largely in favour of the McGuinty government's legislation sending teachers and support staff back to school with a two-year wage freeze in place. Nearly three-in-five (59%) Ontarians support the government's decision to legislate a contract with teachers' unions that have not yet reached a negotiated deal.

Among parents with school-age children, support (56%) is slightly lower for the Liberals' legislation, while three-in-five (60%) respondents without school-age children support the government's action on this issue. Not surprisingly, support for the Liberals' legislation is significantly lower (at 32%) among those who are living in a household where at least one person is a school board employee.

As part of an ongoing *Ontario This Month* study tracking the opinions of Ontarians since 2001, Innovative Research Group (INNOVATIVE) recently conducted a telephone poll to determine Ontarians' opinions about the provincial Liberal government's legislation regarding teacher wage freezes.

INNOVATIVE asked Ontarians:

*The Ontario Liberal government has recalled the legislature early to introduce a bill to force a two-year deal on Ontario teachers that would freeze wages and prevent pending wage increases. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the government's decision to legislate a teachers' contract with those teachers unions that have not reached a negotiated deal?*

Additionally, responses were recorded for those respondents who stated that they "neither support nor oppose" the government's decision, as well as for those respondents who said they "don't know" and for those respondents who refused to provide an answer to the question.

### **Methodology**

INNOVATIVE conducted a telephone survey of 600 Ontarians, 18 years of age and older from August 28 – September 2, 2012. This survey has a margin of error of  $\pm 4.0\%$ , 19 times out of 20. Data has been weighted according to the 2006 Census to reflect actual demographic breakdowns.