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## Poll: Numbers Change In Toronto Mayoral Race

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AHN News Staff

Toronto, Ontario, Canada (AHN) - After several months of campaign, the numbers in Toronto's mayoral race are changing. According to the latest polls Councilor Rob Ford is neck-to-neck with the previous survey topnotcher, former Ontario Deputy Premier George Smitherman.

A poll of over 400 Toronto residents made by Forum Research over the weekend showed that 29 percent of the respondents would vote for Smitherman, 26 for Ford and the rest for four other candidates. However, the survey

found out that 44 percent of the respondents are still undecided which candidate to support.

But when the survey added John Tory to the race, Tory topped the poll with 38 percent. Tory, however, shocked the city in January when he announced he would not run for mayor.

Forum President Lorne Bozinoff explained the high rating that the non-candidate got to Tory's popularity and high trust and confidence rating brought by his non-partisan way of approaching public service. Tory lost in the 2003 election to outgoing Toronto Mayor David Miller and eventually headed the Ontario Conservative Party.

Another survey by Nanos Research, along with a major Canadian media outfit, showed that Ford topped the poll with a 17.8 percent vote. Smitherman followed Ford with a 15.9 percent vote.

Like the Forum survey, Nanos poll showed that about 40 percent of Toronto residents are still undecided on who will they vote for as their next mayor.

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