

**Opinion Survey of  
Ontario Physicians  
On Key Issues of Current Concern**

**Governance, tPSA, Trust,  
OMA Leadership, RAND**

October 2016



## Opinion Survey Overview

The Coalition of Ontario Doctors sent an opinion survey on September 30, 2016 seeking the views of medical doctors across the province on a spectrum of issues pertaining to the recently rejected tentative Physician Services Agreement (tPSA), governance matters, OMA leadership and accountability issues.

In the course of the one-week survey period, 4250 physicians responded to thirteen (13) questions providing either a yes or no answer. Tracking of the response rate occurred at regular intervals and the survey analytics indicated that there was no more than a 1% variation in the responses to all the questions during the survey period. That, combined with the larger than average sample size, has allowed the Coalition to reliably state the results are dependable and reflective of Ontario doctor perspectives.

The topics addressed the basic themes of the ***OMA's post-PSA behaviour*** in light of the 63.1% rejection of the tPSA; the ***OMA's record on transparency*** (disclosure of the April secret agreement with the MOH, expenditures paid by members for the Charter Challenge and the tPSA ratification vote); the ***issues of trust and accountability in the OMA***; and the ***suitability of the current OMA leadership***.

Responses consistently presented a clear picture that support for the OMA's position has worsened since the tPSA relative to the percentage of votes cast against the tPSA. On matters related to the OMA's post-tPSA behaviour, disapproval scores between 81% - 85% were registered. On transparency, disapproval worsened to 87% - 93%. Trust and accountability had the highest disapproval ratings ranging from 84% - 94%. Suitability of current OMA leaders ranged from a disapproval level of 73% to 91%.

Almost three-quarters (73%) of the respondents want the OMA president and Executive members to resign. Another 72% felt the removal of the RAND formula in favour of voluntary membership

# COALITION OF ONTARIO DOCTORS

---

would make the OMA a more accountable organization to its members.

Over 94% of Ontario doctor respondents do not have confidence in Health Minister Eric Hoskins to manage the health care system and provide doctors with the necessary environment to serve critical patient care needs. This disapproval rating was almost unanimous.

The purpose of the survey was to obtain a current state assessment of the performance of the OMA as an organization and its leadership from the perspective of its members in light of the:

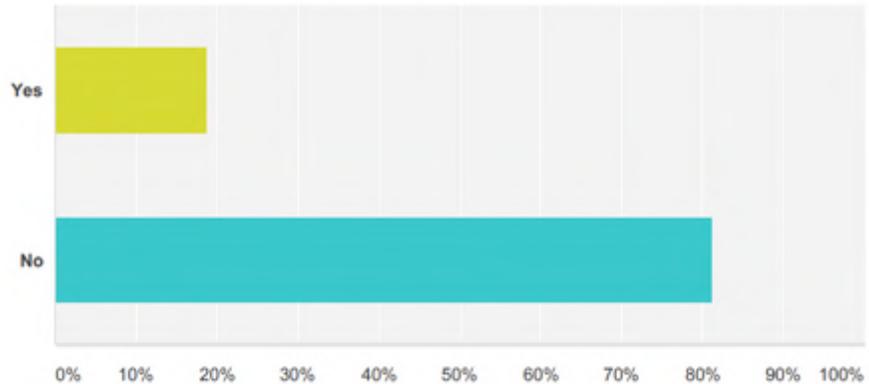
- Unprecedented internal crisis engendered by the release of the covert tPSA negotiation in July 2016
- The existence of a still unrevealed secret April 2016 agreement between the OMA and MOH
- The OMA's sudden mid-summer flip-flop from strong criticism to an equally strong endorsement of a deficient MOH proposed agreement lacking binding arbitration and specific details
- The business-as-usual posture adopted by the OMA leadership following the clear mid-August tPSA rejection

The results confirmed that a crisis exists at the OMA and that members want and expect:

- Transparency into key initiatives impacting their professional lives
- Trust and accountability must be reinstated at the OMA
- Change of OMA leadership
- Binding arbitration and direct membership involvement in future negotiations.

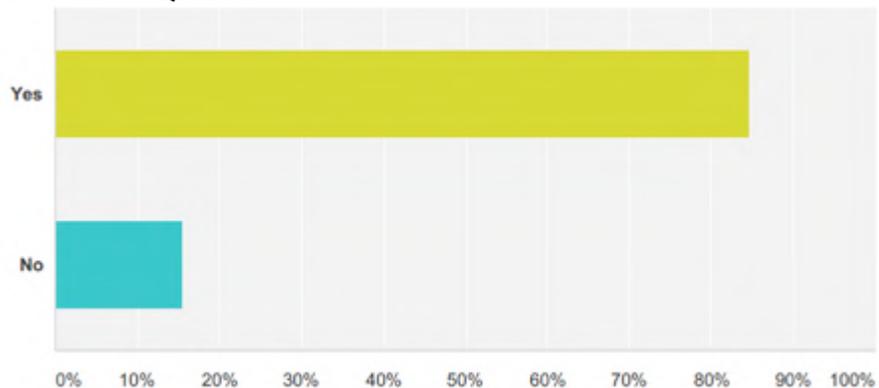
The Coalition will soon be releasing policy discussion papers to all doctors as a vision statement to bring about constructive renewal and opportunity for positive change and the provision of high quality patient care.

**Q1. Should the OMA’s recently announced “independent” review of the events and processes relating to the tPSA be conducted by Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC), a consulting company with a longstanding business relationship with both the OMA and MOH?**



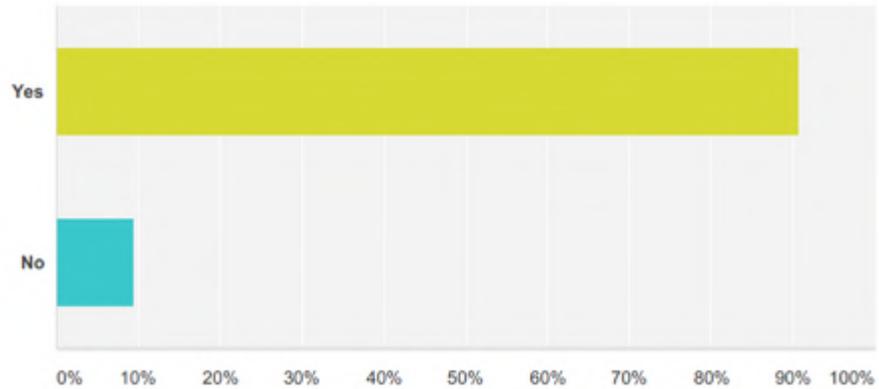
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	18.78%	798
No	81.22%	3,452
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>

**Q2. In order to ensure complete objectivity and accountability to OMA members, do you support having the Superior Court of Ontario appoint an independent reviewer to assess the events described in Question 1.**



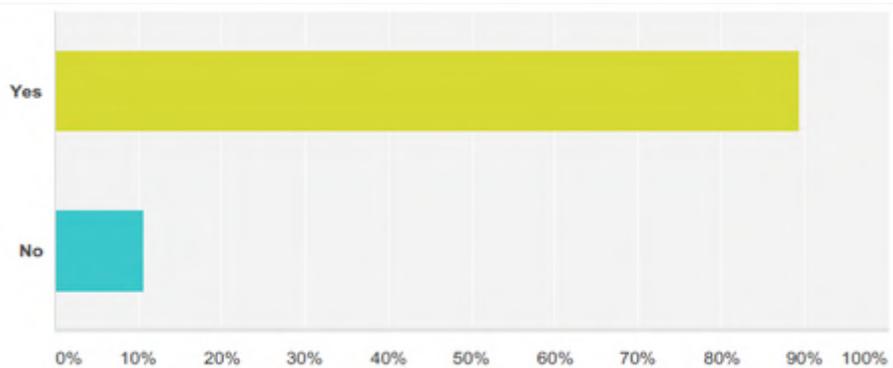
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	84.59%	3,595
No	15.41%	655
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>

**Q3. Do you believe the OMA should disclose its secret April 2016 agreement with MOH relating to the OMA Executive’s unilateral decision to drop binding arbitration as a mandatory pre-condition to initiate negotiations that resulted in the tPSA?**



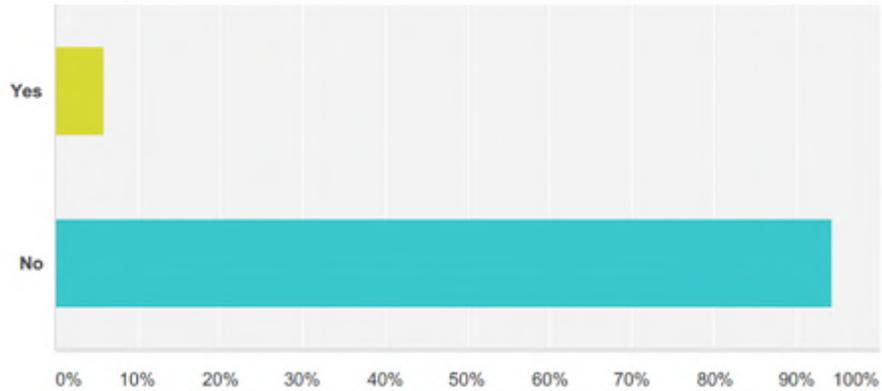
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	90.59%	3,850
No	9.41%	400
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>

**Q4. Do you believe the tPSA voting breakdown by Section should be released by the OMA consistent with the format normally provided by the OMA?**



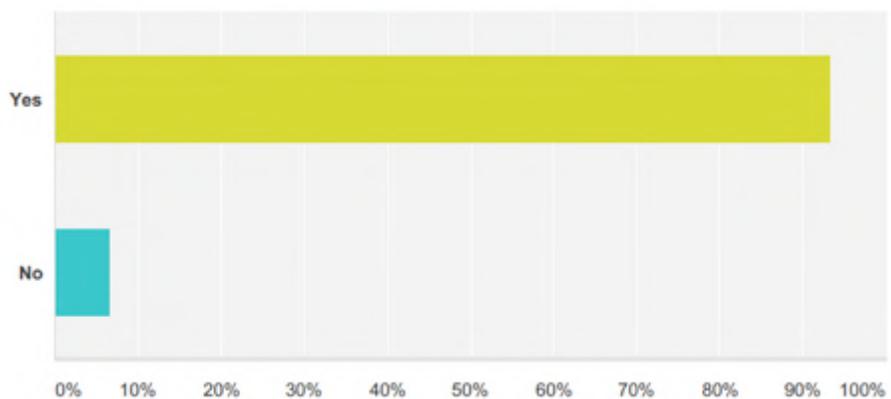
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	89.36%	3,798
No	10.64%	452
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>

**Q5 Do you have confidence in the Minister of Health (Eric Hoskins) and the Wynne government to manage the health care system and provide doctors with the necessary environment and resources to adequately serve our patients' needs?**



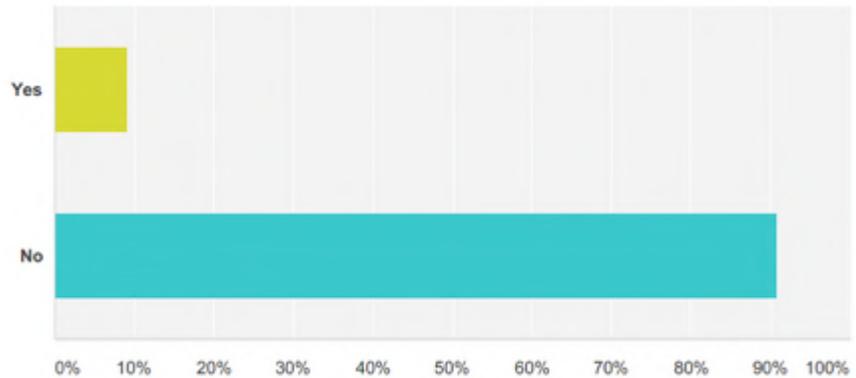
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	5.88%	250
No	94.12%	4,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>

**Q6. Do you support the disclosure of the current cost of the Charter Challenge to OMA members?**



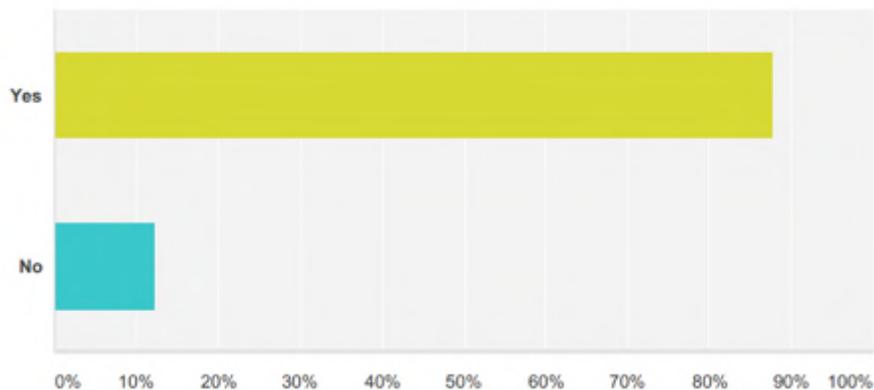
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	93.39%	3,969
No	6.61%	281
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>

**Q7. Do you support the OMA President’s recent position that legal information that would otherwise be public regarding the Charter Challenge case should not be shared with OMA members until 2018?**



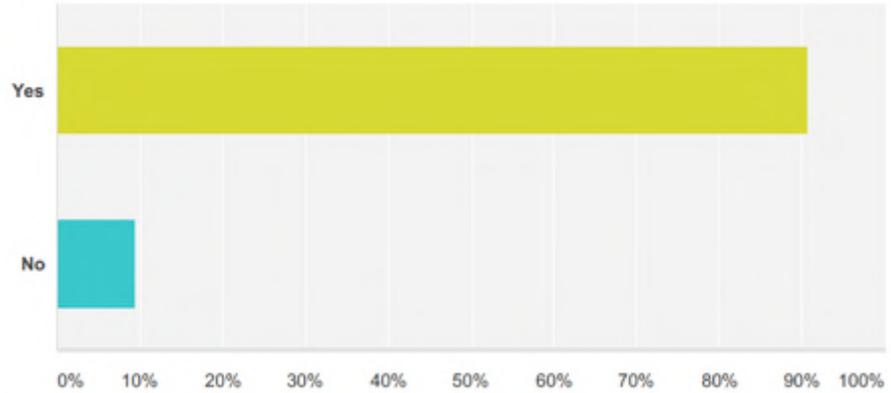
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	9.25%	393
No	90.75%	3,857
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>

**Q8. Do you support the immediate disclosure to OMA members of all evidence produced by the OMA and the government to date in the OMA's Charter Challenge?**



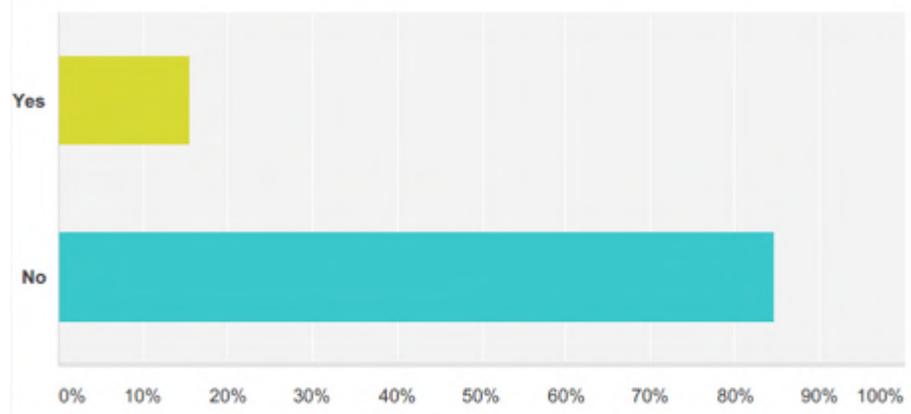
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	87.74%	3,729
No	12.26%	521
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>

**Q9. Do you support the immediate disclosure of the OMA's overall cost of its YES campaign for the tPSA to OMA members?**



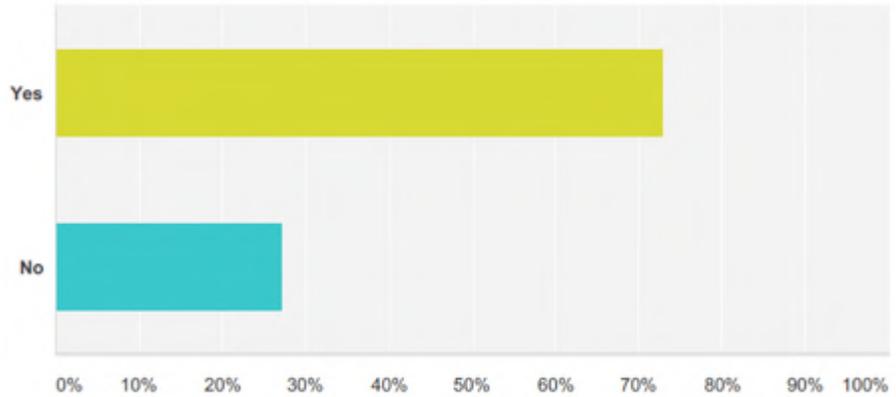
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	90.71%	3,855
No	9.29%	395
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>

**Q10. Do you trust the OMA leadership's handling of recent issues of importance to Ontario doctors since the tPSA proposal was announced?**



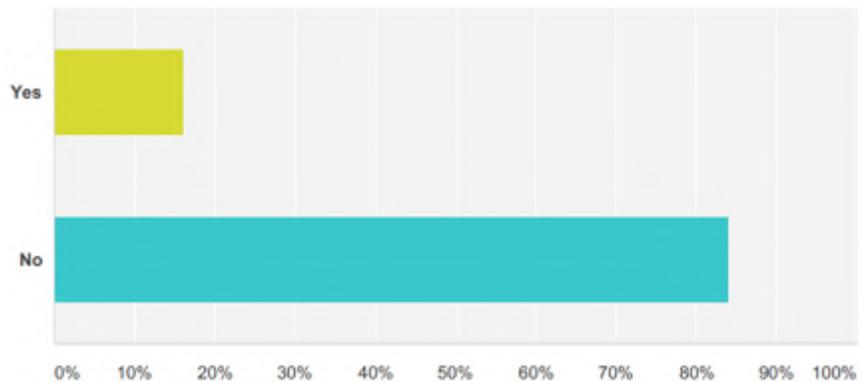
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	15.51%	659
No	84.49%	3,591
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>

**Q11. Do you believe that the OMA President and the OMA Executive should resign?**



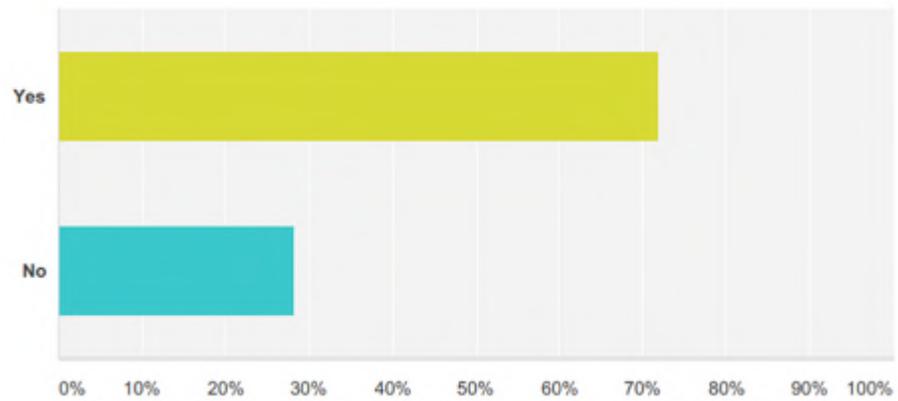
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	72.78%	3,093
No	27.22%	1,157
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>

**Q12. Do you have confidence in the current OMA leadership's ability to negotiate an agreement with the MOH that is satisfactory to doctors of all specialties and family practice?**



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	16.16%	687
No	83.84%	3,563
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>

**Q13. In order to make the OMA more representative and accountable to members, do you support making OMA membership and the payment of dues voluntary (i.e. removing the RAND formula)?**



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	71.72%	3,048
No	28.28%	1,202
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,250</b>



## **About the Coalition of Ontario Doctors**

We are a Coalition representing thousands of OMA community and academic family doctors and specialists from across Ontario that stood up to the OMA and the Wynne government on August 14, 2016, and rejected a deeply flawed tentative Physician Services Agreement (TPSA).

As front-line doctors, we believe that the government and the OMA must develop a physician services agreement that is good for patients, protects and improves patient access to care, is fair to doctors, and provides funding for these services.

The Coalition created the opportunity for all OMA members to have their say on the TPSA at the August 14th general members' meeting. The results of this vote have laid the groundwork for renewal of the OMA and a re-set of the relationship with government; based on equality and respect.

### **Our Mission**

Our mission is to facilitate renewal of the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) to achieve more effective advocacy for patient care, responsiveness to membership and process transparency and accountability.

We aim to re-establish physicians as respected leaders and patient care champions by re-establishing a collaborative relationship as equals with the Ontario government.

# COALITION OF ONTARIO DOCTORS

---

## Coalition Leadership

Charles Peniston MD  
Jim Swan, MD  
Cardiology  
Chris Giorshev, MD  
Kulvinder Gill, MD  
David Adam, MD,  
David Jacobs, MD  
Doug Mark, MD  
Sharad Rai, MD  
Michael Murray, MD  
Iain Murray, MD

Christian Rabbat, MD  
Keith Meloff, MD  
Sean Symons, MD  
Christopher O'Brien  
Mark Preditis, MD  
Joan Charboneau, MD

OMA Section on Cardio-Vascular Surgery  
OMA Section Cardiology & Ontario Assoc of  
Cardiology  
OMA Section Chronic Pain  
Concerned Ontario Doctors  
Dermatology Association of Ontario  
OMA Section Diagnostic Imaging  
DoctorsOntario  
Doctors for Justice  
OMA Section Emergency Medicine  
OMA Section Gastroenterology & Ontario  
Assoc of Gastroenterology  
OMA Section Nephrology  
OMA Section Neurology  
OMA Section Neuroradiology  
Ontario Association of Nuclear Medicine  
Ontario Association of Radiologists  
Family Practice