

BRITISH COLUMBIANS – FEDERAL ELECTION PART II

Residents Split on Whether Liberals (45%) or Conservatives (40%) Will Win and Form Government

Most Acceptable Minority Government Would be A Liberal-Led, NDP-Supported Coalition



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Vancouver, BC – A new Ipsos-Reid/CTV/Globe and Mail poll shows British Columbians are split as to which party will win the up-coming election and form Canada's next government. Forty-five percent of BC residents are projecting a Liberal win and 40% are projecting a Conservative win.

If Canada has a minority government after the election, British Columbians are most accepting of a Liberal-led minority government supported by the NDP (58% acceptable). Very few British Columbians would accept a Liberal-Bloc (23%) or Conservative-Bloc (22%) coalition.

These are the findings of an Ipsos-Reid/CTV/Globe and Mail telephone poll conducted June 21st to June 23rd, 2004 with a randomly selected sample of 800 adult British Columbia residents. The results are considered accurate to within ± 3.5 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire BC adult population been polled. The margin of error will be larger within regions and for other sub-groupings of the survey population. These data were statistically weighted to ensure the sample's regional and age/sex composition reflects that of the actual BC population according to the 2001 Census.

BC Residents Split on Whether Liberals (45%) or Conservatives (40%) Will Win and Form Government

British Columbians have divided opinions on which party will win the up-coming election and form Canada's next government. Slightly more British Columbians think the Liberals (45%) will win than think the Conservatives (40%) will win. Only 6% think the NDP will win and form government. About one-in-ten (8%) British Columbians have no opinion.

The Interior/North is the only region to give the edge to the Conservatives over the Liberals (46% to 39%). Older residents (55+ years) also give a slight edge to the Conservatives (43% to 41%).

Most Acceptable Minority Government Would be A Liberal-Led, NDP-Supported Coalition

British Columbians were asked to consider the possibility of a minority government and rate the acceptability of six different scenarios. The most palatable scenario seems to be a Liberal-led, NDP-supported minority government. Six-in-ten (58%) residents say that a Liberal-led minority government supported by the NDP would be acceptable (“very” or “somewhat”) to them.

Roughly half of British Columbians would accept each of the following scenarios:

- A Liberal-led minority government supported by the Conservatives (52%)
- A Conservative-led minority government supported by the NDP (51%)
- A Conservative-led minority government supported by the Liberals (49%)

Only two-in-ten British Columbians would find acceptable a Liberal-led minority government supported by the Bloc Quebecois (23%) or a Conservative-led minority government supported by the Bloc Quebecois (22%).

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