

# ALBERTANS OFFER TENTATIVE SUPPORT TO KLEIN'S HEALTH CARE REFORMS

*Twice as Many Albertans (44%) Support vs. Oppose (24%) Klein  
Government's Recently Announced Health Care Reforms  
But, Three in Ten (30%) Say they "Need More Information"*



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**Calgary, AB** – A new Ipsos Reid poll shows that in the wake of the Klein government's release of its "Getting on with Health Care" document outlining 12 health care reform initiatives to be tackled in 2005 and 2006, that Albertans are tentatively supporting the government's plans. Almost twice as many Albertans (44%) support versus oppose (24%) the government's efforts to reform health care. However, a large minority (30%) say they "need more information" before providing an opinion one way or the other.

*These are the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted between July 18th and July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005. The poll is based on a randomly selected sample of 800 adult Albertans. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate to within  $\pm 3.5$  percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult Albertan 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 Alberta population according to the 2001 Census data.*

### ***Twice as Many Albertans (44%) Support vs. Oppose (24%) Klein Government's Recently Announced Health Care Reforms***

On July 12<sup>th</sup> Premier Ralph Klein and the Health Minister announced their plans for reforming Alberta's healthcare system. The document, entitled "Getting on with Health Care", outlines 12 reform initiatives that will be tackled by the provincial government in 2005 and 2006. More than four in ten (44%) say they support the government's efforts, including one in five (19%) who "strongly support" and one in four (25%) who "somewhat support".



This is almost twice as many as the percentage who oppose (24%) the government's efforts. Among those who oppose, 15% "strongly oppose" while 9% "somewhat oppose".

- Albertans aged under 34 (37%) are less likely than those aged 35 or older (49%) to support the government's reforms.
- Albertans earning less than \$50,000 (36%) are less likely than those earning \$50,000 or more (49%) to support the reforms.
- Support for the government's efforts is highest in Calgary (51%) and lowest in Edmonton (39%).

### ***But, Three in Ten (30%) Say they "Need More Information"***

Despite this level of support, a large minority (30%) of Albertans are reserving judgment, saying they "need more information" before making a decision.

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