

RATING POSSIBLE BC LIBERAL LEADERSHIP CONTENDERS

Dianne Watts and Carole Taylor are Early Public Favourites



Ipsos Reid

Public Release Date: November 4, 2010

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Vancouver, BC – A new Ipsos Reid online poll taken in the wake of Gordon Campbell's surprise resignation shows that only three of the rumoured leadership contenders have a strong image with British Columbians. Of the 14 contenders tested in this poll, only Dianne Watts, Carole Taylor and John Furlong generate more positive than negative impressions.

Surrey Mayor, Dianne Watts has 43% positive impressions versus 13% negative impressions, for a NET impression score of +30. Former Finance Minister, Carole Taylor is next best with a NET impression score of +21, followed closely by 2010 Games CEO, John Furlong at +19.

Federal Minister, Chuck Strahl is next best with a NET impression score of -9, followed by former provincial Minister, Christy Clark at -14.

Among current Cabinet members, Bill Bennett rates best (NET -16), while Colin Hansen rates worst (-41).

IMPRESSIONS: Among All Respondents (n=600)

<i>Listed below are the names of some of the people rumoured to be considering a run for the BC Liberal leadership. Please indicate your impression of each of these individuals.</i>	Positive %	Negative %	Neutral %	Never Heard of Person %	NET Positive - Negative
Surrey Mayor, Dianne Watts	43	13	28	15	+30
SFU Chancellor and former Finance Minister, Carole Taylor	39	18	32	11	+21
CEO of the 2010 Games, John Furlong	41	22	31	7	+19
Federal Transport Minister, Chuck Strahl	15	24	36	25	-9
Former Minister of Education, Christy Clark	22	36	35	7	-14
Energy Minister, Bill Bennett	11	27	53	9	-16
Aboriginal Relations - Reconciliation Minister, Barry Penner	6	25	44	25	-19
Attorney-General, Mike de Jong	16	36	42	6	-20
Minister of Labour, Iain Black	1	22	41	37	-21
Solicitor General, Rich Coleman	14	36	37	13	-22
Minister of Education, George Abbott	7	36	38	18	-29
Health Minister, Kevin Falcon	13	45	32	10	-32
Former Solicitor General, Kash Heed	9	47	30	14	-38
Finance Minister, Colin Hansen	13	54	27	6	-41

Impressions among 2009 BC Liberal Voters: Among those who voted for the BC Liberals in 2009, impressions are most positive for Dianne Watts (NET +41), Carole Taylor (+41) and John Furlong (+30). Chuck Strahl (+7) and Christy Clark (+4) also have NET positive impression ratings among BC Liberal voters.

Among past Liberal voters, the ratings are most negative for Kash Heed (NET -33).

IMPRESSIONS: Among 2009 BC Liberal Voters (n=231)

<i>Listed below are the names of some of the people rumoured to be considering a run for the BC Liberal leadership. Please indicate your impression of each of these individuals.</i>	Positive %	Negative %	Neutral %	Never Heard of Person %	NET Positive - Negative
Surrey Mayor, Dianne Watts	51	10	30	9	+41
SFU Chancellor and former Finance Minister, Carole Taylor	55	14	24	7	+41
CEO of the 2010 Games, John Furlong	49	19	28	4	+30
Federal Transport Minister, Chuck Strahl	24	17	44	15	+7
Former Minister of Education, Christy Clark	32	28	35	5	+4
Solicitor General, Rich Coleman	25	32	36	7	-7
Attorney-General, Mike de Jong	23	30	43	5	-7
Health Minister, Kevin Falcon	24	35	36	6	-11
Energy Minister, Bill Bennett	13	24	55	8	-11
Minister of Labour, Iain Black	<1	14	52	33	-14
Aboriginal Relations - Reconciliation Minister, Barry Penner	7	22	57	15	-15
Finance Minister, Colin Hansen	26	43	28	3	-17
Minister of Education, George Abbott	10	32	47	11	-22
Former Solicitor General, Kash Heed	12	45	36	7	-33

Impressions among 2009 NDP Voters: Among those who voted for the NDP in 2009, impressions are most positive for Dianne Watts (NET +21), John Furlong (+17) and Carole Taylor (+11). They are most negative for Colin Hansen (-71) and Kevin Falcon (-52).

IMPRESSIONS: Among 2009 NDP Voters (n=197)

<i>Listed below are the names of some of the people rumoured to be considering a run for the BC Liberal leadership. Please indicate your impression of each of these individuals.</i>	Positive %	Negative %	Neutral %	Never Heard of Person %	NET Positive - Negative
Surrey Mayor, Dianne Watts	39	18	26	17	+21
CEO of the 2010 Games, John Furlong	41	24	29	6	+17
SFU Chancellor and former Finance Minister, Carole Taylor	36	25	30	10	+11
Federal Transport Minister, Chuck Strahl	10	38	26	26	-28
Energy Minister, Bill Bennett	8	38	47	8	-30
Aboriginal Relations - Reconciliation Minister, Barry Penner	5	37	33	26	-32
Minister of Labour, Iain Black	1	34	27	39	-33
Attorney-General, Mike de Jong	13	49	34	4	-36
Former Minister of Education, Christy Clark	14	52	31	3	-38
Solicitor General, Rich Coleman	11	50	28	12	-39
Former Solicitor General, Kash Heed	12	55	20	13	-43
Minister of Education, George Abbott	8	52	29	12	-44
Health Minister, Kevin Falcon	8	60	24	8	-52
Finance Minister, Colin Hansen	5	76	15	5	-71

Candidate Most Likely to Generate Interest in Voting Liberal

The poll also asked respondents to select the leadership candidate that would be most likely to get them to consider voting for the BC Liberals in the next provincial election.

On this measure, Dianne Watts (16%) and Carole Taylor (15%) are basically tied for tops in support. John Furlong is third at 9%, followed by Chuck Strahl (4%), Colin Hansen (3%) and Christy Clark (3%). Nearly three-in-ten (29%) residents say that none of the contenders would be likely to get them to consider voting Liberal.

- Among 2009 BC Liberal voters, Carole Taylor (21%) has a slight lead over Dianne Watts (17%), with John Furlong (12%) in third place.
- Among 2009 NDP voters, Carole Taylor (16%) also has a slight lead over Dianne Watts (13%), with John Furlong (4%) in a distant third place. Nearly half (48%) of past NDP voters say that “none” of the contenders is likely to get them to consider voting for the BC Liberals.

MOST LIKELY TO CONSIDER VOTING LIBERAL

Which one of these potential leadership candidates would be most likely to get you to consider voting for the BC Liberals in the next provincial election?	All Respondents (n=600) %	2009 Liberal Voters (n=231) %	2009 NDP Voters (n=197) %
Surrey Mayor, Dianne Watts	16	17	13
SFU Chancellor and former Finance Minister, Carole Taylor	15	21	16
CEO of the 2010 Games, John Furlong	9	12	4
Federal Transport Minister, Chuck Strahl	4	5	2
Finance Minister, Colin Hansen	3	5	2
Former Minister of Education, Christy Clark	3	4	3
Health Minister, Kevin Falcon	2	5	0
Attorney-General, Mike de Jong	2	4	1
Energy Minister, Bill Bennett	2	1	1
Solicitor General, Rich Coleman	1	2	1
Former Solicitor General, Kash Heed	1	1	1
Minister of Education, George Abbott	1	0	2
Aboriginal Relations - Reconciliation Minister, Barry Penner	<1	<1	0
Minister of Labour, Iain Black	0	0	0
None of them	29	14	48
Don't know	12	10	7

These are the findings of an Ipsos Reid online poll conducted on behalf of Global BC. The poll was fielded November 3-4, 2010 with a representative sample of 600 adult British Columbia residents. A survey with an unweighted probability sample of this size and a 100% response rate would have an estimated margin of error of ± 4.0 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. The margin of error will be larger 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 British Columbia population according to 2006 Census data. The polling was conducted using Ipsos Reid's "Voice of the West Interactive Forum" – an online panel of more than 6,500 British Columbians who have been recruited to match the overall characteristics of the adult residents of the province.

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