

RATING POSSIBLE BC NDP LEADERSHIP CONTENDERS

Mike Farnworth Rates Best; Adrian Dix and Corky Evans Also Viewed Positively



Ipsos Reid

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Vancouver, BC – Following Carole James’ announcement that she will step down as NDP leader, Ipsos Reid completed an online poll to gauge British Columbians’ impressions of 17 possible leadership contenders. The results show that only 3 of these 17 possible contenders generate more positive than negative impressions.

Mike Farnworth (MLA) has 31% positive impressions versus 16% negative impressions, for a NET impression score of +15, best of the 17 possible contenders. Corky Evans (former MLA) is next best with a NET impression score of +7, followed closely by Adrian Dix (MLA) at +6.

Jenny Kwan (MLA) has the highest positive impressions (34%) of any of the possible contenders. She also has by far the highest negative impressions (37%) of any current MLA on our list.

IMPRESSIONS: Among All Respondents (n=1,400)

<i>Listed below are the names of some of the people who might consider a run for the NDP leadership. Please indicate your impression of each of these individuals.</i>	Positive %	Negative %	Neutral %	Never Heard of Person %	NET Positive - Negative
Mike Farnworth, MLA	31	16	36	17	+15
Corky Evans, former MLA	27	20	39	14	+7
Adrian Dix, MLA	23	17	35	25	+6
Dawn Black, MLA	9	10	33	48	-1
Paul Ramsey, former MLA	10	12	42	36	-2
Rob Fleming, MLA	6	8	31	55	-2
Nathan Cullen, Federal MP	5	7	30	59	-2
Jenny Kwan, MLA	34	37	22	7	-3
John Horgan, MLA	5	8	33	54	-3
Bob Simpson, MLA	10	14	35	41	-4
Bruce Ralston, MLA	4	9	37	49	-5
Leonard Krog, MLA	7	13	36	45	-6
Katrine Conroy, MLA	3	9	28	60	-6
Gregor Robertson, Vancouver Mayor	29	37	28	7	-8
George Heyman, former BCGEU President	7	24	31	38	-17
Jim Sinclair, BC Federation of Labour President	15	41	31	13	-26
Moe Sihota, NDP President and former MLA	16	57	20	7	-41

Impressions among 2009 NDP Voters: Among those who voted for the NDP in 2009, impressions are most positive for Adrian Dix (NET +32), Mike Farnworth (+27) and Corky Evans (+24).

Among past NDP voters, the ratings are most negative for Moe Sihota, NDP President and former MLA (NET -29).

Among past NDP voters, Jenny Kwan has the highest level of positive impressions (43%) and the second highest level of negative impressions (34%).

IMPRESSIONS: Among 2009 NDP Voters (n=511)

<i>Listed below are the names of some of the people who might consider a run for the NDP leadership. Please indicate your impression of each of these individuals.</i>	Positive %	Negative %	Neutral %	Never Heard of Person %	NET Positive - Negative
Adrian Dix, MLA	38	6	37	20	+32
Mike Farnworth, MLA	39	12	31	17	+27
Corky Evans, former MLA	38	14	37	11	+24
Dawn Black, MLA	16	6	34	44	+10
Jenny Kwan, MLA	43	34	19	4	+9
Jim Sinclair, BC Federation of Labour President	30	25	34	11	+5
Rob Fleming, MLA	10	5	35	49	+5
Nathan Cullen, Federal MP	8	4	31	57	+4
John Horgan, MLA	8	4	38	51	+4
Gregor Robertson, Vancouver Mayor	34	31	26	8	+3
Paul Ramsey, former MLA	11	9	46	34	+2
Bruce Ralston, MLA	7	5	41	47	+2
Bob Simpson, MLA	13	12	35	40	+1
Leonard Krog, MLA	12	11	39	39	+1
George Heyman, former BCGEU President	13	14	38	35	-1
Katrine Conroy, MLA	4	8	31	57	-4
Moe Sihota, NDP President and former MLA	21	50	25	4	-29

Impressions among 2009 BC Liberal Voters: Among those who voted for the BC Liberals in 2009, only Mike Farnworth has more positive (29%) than negative (21%) impression ratings (NET +8).

Past BC Liberal voters are most negative toward Moe Sihota (NET -59) and Jim Sinclair, BC Federation of Labour President (NET -55).

IMPRESSIONS: Among 2009 BC Liberal Voters (n=559)

<i>Listed below are the names of some of the people who might consider a run for the NDP leadership. Please indicate your impression of each of these individuals.</i>	Positive %	Negative %	Neutral %	Never Heard of Person %	NET Positive - Negative
Mike Farnworth, MLA	29	21	37	12	+8
Paul Ramsey, former MLA	10	15	40	35	-5
Bob Simpson, MLA	10	16	36	37	-6
Corky Evans, former MLA	20	28	40	11	-8
Rob Fleming, MLA	3	11	28	58	-8
Nathan Cullen, Federal MP	2	10	29	59	-8
John Horgan, MLA	4	13	32	52	-9
Katrine Conroy, MLA	2	12	28	58	-10
Dawn Black, MLA	4	15	33	48	-11
Bruce Ralston, MLA	3	14	36	47	-11
Leonard Krog, MLA	4	17	35	44	-13
Jenny Kwan, MLA	30	44	22	4	-14
Adrian Dix, MLA	14	31	32	23	-17
Gregor Robertson, Vancouver Mayor	25	46	25	4	-21
George Heyman, former BCGEU President	4	38	26	32	-34
Jim Sinclair, BC Federation of Labour President	6	61	23	10	-55
Moe Sihota, NDP President and former MLA	11	70	15	4	-59

Candidate Most Likely to Generate Interest in Voting NDP

The poll also asked respondents to select the leadership candidate that would be most likely to get them to consider voting for the NDP in the next provincial election. The results show that no single individual stands out from the pack at this point.

On this measure, the top three possible contenders are Jenny Kwan (11%), Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson (9%) and Mike Farnworth (9%). Three-in-ten (30%) residents say that none of the contenders would be likely to get them to consider voting NDP.

- Among 2009 NDP voters, Jenny Kwan (16%) leads, followed by Mike Farnworth (12%), Gregor Robertson (10%), Jim Sinclair (9%), Adrian Dix (8%) and Corky Evans (7%).
- Among 2009 BC Liberal voters, the top three choices are Jenny Kwan (9%), Gregor Robertson (9%) and Mike Farnworth (8%). More than half (52%) of past BC Liberal voters say that “none” of the contenders is likely to get them to consider voting for the NDP.

MOST LIKELY TO CONSIDER VOTING NDP

Which one of these potential leadership candidates would be most likely to get you to consider voting for the NDP in the next provincial election?	All Respondents (n=1,400) %	2009 NDP Voters (n=511) %	2009 Liberal Voters (n=559) %
Jenny Kwan, MLA	11	16	9
Gregor Robertson, Vancouver Mayor	9	10	9
Mike Farnworth, MLA	9	12	8
Corky Evans, former MLA	5	7	3
Adrian Dix, MLA	4	8	2
Jim Sinclair, BC Federation of Labour President	4	9	1
Moe Sihota, NDP President and former MLA	4	6	2
Bob Simpson, MLA	2	1	2
John Horgan, MLA	2	4	<1
Dawn Black, MLA	1	2	1
George Heyman, former BCGEU President	1	3	<1
Leonard Krog, MLA	1	1	<1
Nathan Cullen, Federal MP	1	2	<1
Paul Ramsey, former MLA	1	<1	1
Rob Fleming, MLA	1	1	1
Katrine Conroy, MLA	<1	0	<1
Bruce Ralston, MLA	<1	<1	0
None of them	30	6	52
Don't know	13	10	7

These are the findings of an Ipsos Reid online poll conducted on behalf of Global BC. The poll was fielded December 6-7, 2010 with a representative sample of 1,400 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 ± 2.7 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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