BC NDP RETAIN LEAD IN EVER TIGHTENING RACE

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Vancouver, BC – An Ipsos Reid poll taken Wednesday and Thursday of this week shows Christy Clark and the BC Liberals continuing to show positive movement as the campaign nears an end. On decided vote, the BC Liberals still trail the NDP by 6 points, but have cut the gap from 19 points at the start of the campaign and from 10 points in our previous poll released one week ago. On leadership, Christy Clark now leads Adrian Dix by 3 points as best premier, an improvement from a 13 point deficit for Clark at the start of the campaign and a 3 point deficit for Clark in our previous poll.

Ballot

The NDP currently has the support of 43% of decided voters in BC. This is a 6 point lead over the BC Liberals who are at 37% support. The Green Party is at 10%, followed by the BC Conservatives at 7% and all other parties/candidates at 3%.

The NDP (43%) are down 2 points from 45% one week ago and down 5 points from 48% at the start of the campaign. The BC Liberals (37%) are up 2 points from 35% one week ago and are up 8 points from 29% at the start of the campaign. Both the Green Party (10%) and BC Conservatives (7%) are unchanged from one week ago.

These results exclude the 10% (down 3 points) of British Columbians who are undecided or express no preference.

- Region: The NDP has an 8 point lead (unchanged) in Metro Vancouver (46% NDP vs. 38% BC Lib) and a 12 point lead (down from 20) on Vancouver Island (44% NDP vs. 32% BC Lib). The two main parties are tied (vs. 9 point NDP lead) in the Southern Interior/North (39% NDP vs. 39% BC Lib).
- Gender: The NDP has a 15 point lead (down from 20) among women (48% NDP vs. 33% BC Lib), while the BC Liberals lead by 4 points (vs. a tie) among men (42% BC Lib vs. 38% NDP).



Vote Firmness

Only 11% (down 4 points from previous poll) of decided voters say there is a good chance that they will change their mind and vote for some other party's candidate in this election. This includes 9% of BC Liberal voters and 7% of NDP voters. The numbers are higher for other parties, but the sample sizes are small.

Best Premier

Christy Clark has now passed Adrian Dix as the leader that voters think would make the best premier of British Columbia, with a caveat that the result is a statistical tie. Currently, 34% select Christy Clark as best premier, up 3 points from 31% last week and up 11 points from 23% at the start of the campaign. Adrian Dix is selected by 31% of voters, down 3 points from 34% last week and down 5 points from 36% at the start of the campaign.

John Cummins is selected by 8% (up 1 point) and Jane Sterk by 7% (down 1). Twenty percent (unchanged) of voters are undecided on this question.

• **Gender:** Christy Clark has a 10 point lead (up from 3 points) among men (39% Clark vs. 29% Dix), while Adrian Dix has a 6 point lead (down from 9 points) among women (34% Dix vs. 28% Clark).

These are the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll of 800 adult British Columbians conducted online using Ipsos Reid's national online household panel between May 8 and 9, 2013. These data were statistically weighted to ensure the sample's regional and age/sex composition reflects that of the actual BC population according to 2011 Census data. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll is accurate to within +/- 4.0 percentage points had all British Columbia adults been surveyed. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.

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