

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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TORONTO

January 24th, 2012

HIGHLIGHTS:

- It was found that if a provincial election were held today, most decided or leaning voters would back the NDP who have strengthened their lead with the lion's share of new support coming from the Green party (39%, up from 34% on December 15th, 2011), followed by the Liberals (26%, up from 23%), Conservatives (22%, down slightly from 23%), and the Green Party (9%, down from 15%).
- Taking into account margin for error, these voting intention results—if they hold on Election Day—would yield 57 seats for the NDP (up from 34), 20 seats for the Liberals (down from 47), 7 for the Conservatives (up from 0), and Vicki Huntington of Delta South stands to keep her seat as an Independent Candidate. These results will change as voting intentions change and are subject to the usual margins of error.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NDP lead widens in British Columbia; Liberals gain

NDP would form majority government if election held today

Toronto, January 24th, 2012 – In a recent survey conducted by Forum Research among residents of British Columbia aged 18 years or older, it was found that if a provincial election were held today, most decided or leaning voters would back the NDP who have strengthened their lead with the lion's share of new support coming from the Green party (39%, up from 34% on December 15th, 2011), followed by the Liberals (26%, up from 23%), Conservatives (22%, down slightly from 23%), and the Green Party (9%, down from 15%). Four per cent of those polled indicated they would back another party, down slightly from five per cent. Male voters were significantly more likely to back the Conservative party (26%; compared to 19% of females) whereas females were significantly more likely to back the NDP and Green parties (43%, 13%; compared to 35%, 6% of males). It was also found that households with a higher income were significantly more likely to support the Liberal party (40% \$100K+; compared to 19% <\$20K, 23% \$20K-\$40K, 21% \$40K-\$60K, 29% \$60K-\$80K, and 23% \$80K-\$100K) while support for the NDP party was concentrated among individuals with a lower household income (43% <\$20K, 43% \$20K-\$40K, 42% \$40K-\$60K, 38% \$60K-\$80K, 41% \$80K-\$100K, and 30% \$100K+). On a regional level, support for the Liberal party was significantly higher among those residing in the Vancouver Mainland region when compared to those residing in the Interior North (27%; compared to 17%) with no other significant deviations being noted on a regional level.

NDP on course for sweeping majority; Conservatives set to gain seats

Taking into account margin for error, these voting intention results—if they hold on Election Day—would yield 57 seats for the NDP (up from 34), 20 seats for the Liberals (down from 47), 7 for the Conservatives (up from 0), and Vicki Huntington of Delta South stands to keep her seat as an Independent Candidate. These results will change as voting intentions change and are subject to the usual margins of error.

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Disapproval of Clark high; only one in three approve of the job she is doing as premier

Christy Clark continues to face strong public discontent, but her approval rating improved slightly since December, with one in three approving of her job performance as premier (34%; up from 29% on December 15th, 2011). 46% disapprove (up slightly from 45%), and 20% do not have an opinion (down from 27%). It was found that males were significantly more likely to approve of the job being done by Clark (40%; compared to 28% of females).

Just less than four of 10 polled approve of the job Adrian Dix is doing as Leader of the Opposition

Adrian Dix' approval rating has remained relatively stable since December with just over one of three approving of the job he is doing as Leader of the Opposition (35%; down slightly from 37% on December 15th, 2011). 34% disapproved (up from 28%), and 35% do not have an opinion (unchanged). It was found that males were significantly more likely to disapprove of the job being done by Dix (41%; compared to 27% of females).

Only one of five polled approve of the job John Cummins is doing as leader of the Conservative Party

Approval for Cummins has dipped since December with just over one of five British Columbians approving of the job he is doing as leader of the British Columbia Conservative Party (21%; down from 23% on December 15th, 2011) 35% disapproved (down from 32%), and 45% disapproved (unchanged). It was found that older British Columbians were significantly more likely to approve of Cummins (16% 18-34, 19% 35-44, 22% 45-54, 23% 55-64, and 30% 65+) as were males (26%; compared to 16% of females).

"Christy Clark's B.C. Liberals still have much work left to do to win back approval of British Columbians," said Forum Research president Dr. Lorne Bozinoff. "With the NDP party strengthening their lead in the province coupled with Clark's high disapproval rating it will be interesting to see how the party moves forward with a possible election on the horizon."

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- Christy Clark continues to face strong public discontent, but her approval rating improved slightly since December, with one in three approving of her job performance as premier (34%). Approval for Dix as Leader of the Opposition was similar with over one of three approving of the job he is doing (35%), and approval of Cummins was low with one of five approving of the job he is doing (21%).
- "Christy Clark's B.C. Liberals still have much work left to do to win back approval of British Columbians," said Forum Research president Dr. Lorne Bozinoff. "With the NDP party strengthening their lead in the province coupled with Clark's high disapproval rating it will be interesting to see how the party moves forward with a possible election on the horizon."

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Methodology

The poll was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 988 randomly selected residents of British Columbia aged 18 or older. The poll was conducted on January 23rd, 2012.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3.1%, 19 times out of 20. Subsample results will be less accurate. Margins of error for subsample (such as age, gender) results are available at www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp.

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted to ensure that the sample reflects the actual population according to the latest Census data.

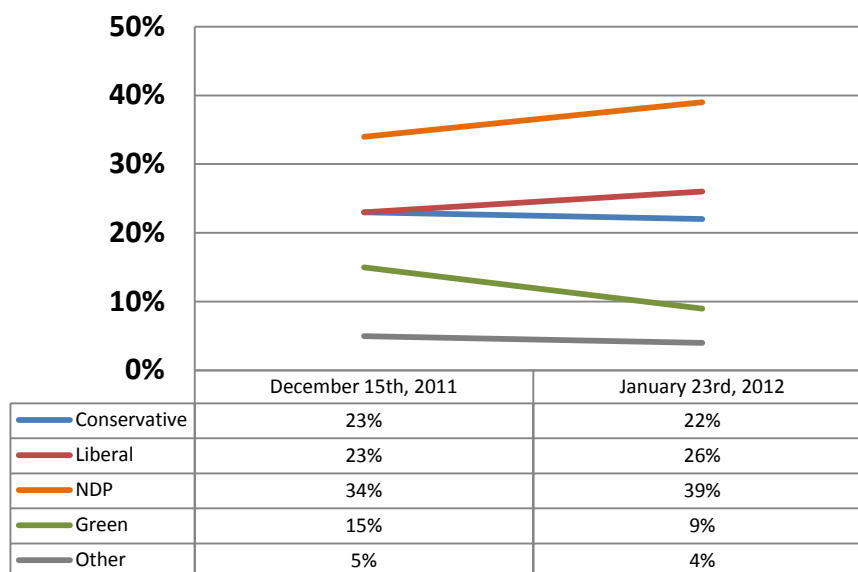
This research is not necessarily predictive of future outcomes, but rather, captures opinion at one point in time. Forum Research conducted this poll as a public service and to demonstrate our survey research capabilities.

With offices across Canada and around the world, 100% Canadian-owned Forum Research is one of the country's leading survey research firms.

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January 24th, 2012

Provincial Party Preference Trending



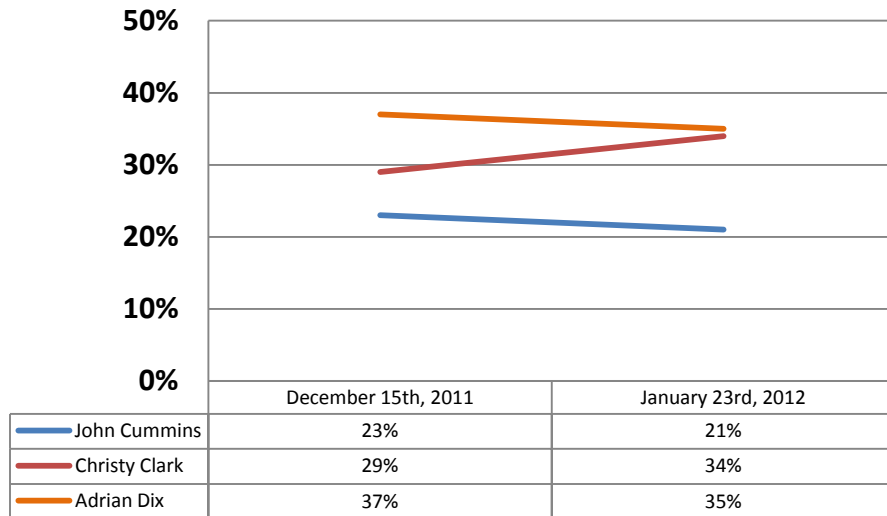
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Provincial Party Leader Approval Trending (% Approve)



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Provincial Election Voting Preference Trending

%	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
May, 2009 Election	2	46	42	8	2
Dec 15 th , 2011 Forum Research Poll (Decided / Leaning) (n=986)	23	23	34	15	5
Jan 23 rd , 2012 Forum Research Poll (Decided / Leaning) (n=914)	22	26	39	9	4

Provincial Party Leader Approval Trending (% Approve)

%	Cummins	Clark	Dix
Dec 15 th , 2011 Forum Research Poll (Decided / Leaning) (n=986)	23	29	37
Jan 23 rd , 2012 Forum Research Poll (Decided / Leaning) (n=914)	21	34	35

Seat Distribution

%	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Other
May, 2009 Election	-	49	35	1
Jan 24 th , 2012	7	20	57	1

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Provincial Election Voting Preference

'If a provincial election were held today, which party would you be most likely to vote for? + Even though you may not have made up your mind, which party are you leaning towards at this time?'

[Decided / Leaning]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
sample	914	86	122	189	225	292	443	471
Liberal	26	20	26	32	24	26	28	23
New Democrat	39	26	41	37	48	40	35	43
Conservative	22	28	20	19	18	25	26	19
Green	9	13	10	10	7	7	6	13
Other	4	13	2	2	2	1	5	2

Region

%	Total	Vancouver Lower Mainland	Vancouver Island	Interior North
sample	914	660	173	81
Liberal	26	27	26	17
New Democrat	39	39	41	37
Conservative	22	23	18	25
Green	9	8	11	15
Other	4	3	4	6

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20K-\$40K	\$40K-\$60K	\$60K-\$80K	\$80K-\$100K	\$100K+
sample	914	115	178	156	98	85	149
Conservative	26	19	23	21	29	23	40
Liberal	39	43	43	42	38	41	30
NDP	22	19	22	23	21	27	19
Green	9	12	11	9	9	6	9
Other	4	7	1	4	3	3	3

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Christy Clark Approval Rating as Premier of British Columbia

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Christy Clark is doing as premier?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
sample	988	98	131	202	243	314	466	522
Approve	34	32	31	39	32	35	40	28
Disapprove	46	44	47	44	48	48	47	45
Don't know	20	24	22	17	20	17	13	27

Region

%	Total	Vancouver Lower Mainland	Vancouver Island	Interior North
sample	988	711	186	91
Approve	34	34	36	31
Disapprove	46	46	42	49
Don't know	20	20	23	20

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20K-\$40K	\$40K-\$60K	\$60K-\$80K	\$80K-\$100K	\$100K+
sample	988	129	187	161	102	91	153
Approve	34	26	38	34	33	34	46
Disapprove	46	44	40	51	48	53	44
Don't know	20	29	22	15	19	14	10

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Adrian Dix Approval Rating as Leader of the Opposition

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Adrian Dix is doing as Leader of the Opposition?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
sample	988	98	131	202	243	314	466	522
Approve	35	28	35	37	42	40	35	35
Disapprove	34	37	34	31	33	33	41	27
Don't know	31	35	31	31	25	27	23	38

Region

%	Total	Vancouver Lower Mainland	Vancouver Island	Interior North
sample	988	711	186	91
Approve	35	34	37	35
Disapprove	34	36	31	30
Don't know	31	30	32	34

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20K-\$40K	\$40K-\$60K	\$60K-\$80K	\$80K-\$100K	\$100K+
sample	988	129	187	161	102	91	153
Approve	35	28	37	42	42	34	36
Disapprove	34	27	32	32	35	39	40
Don't know	31	45	30	26	23	27	24

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John Cummins Approval Rating as Leader of the Opposition

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job John Cummins is doing as Leader of the Conservative Party?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
sample	988	98	131	202	243	314	466	522
Approve	21	16	19	22	23	30	26	16
Disapprove	35	41	35	32	34	28	37	33
Don't know	45	44	46	47	43	43	38	51

Region

%	Total	Vancouver Lower Mainland	Vancouver Island	Interior North
sample	988	711	186	91
Approve	21	23	17	16
Disapprove	35	35	29	40
Don't know	45	42	54	43

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20K-\$40K	\$40K-\$60K	\$60K-\$80K	\$80K-\$100K	\$100K+
sample	988	129	187	161	102	91	153
Approve	21	14	22	26	17	36	20
Disapprove	35	30	38	31	43	31	41
Don't know	45	56	41	42	40	34	40

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