

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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TORONTO

May 24th, 2012

HIGHLIGHTS:

- More than one third would support the federal NDP if an election were held today (36%), compared to just less than one third who would support the Conservatives (32%). One fifth would support the Liberals (20%), and about one twentieth would support either the Green Party (6%) or the Bloc Quebecois (5%).
- Taking in to account margin for error, these voting intention results—if they hold on Election Day - would see the NDP capture a minority of 138 seats in the 308 seat house, up from 133 last month, and up considerably from 103 in the election last year. The Conservatives would take 123 seats, up slightly from 118 last month, but well down from 166 in the election. The Liberals would capture 42 seats, well down from 54 last month, but up from the 34 they claimed in the election. The Bloc Quebecois would take the 4 seats they took in the election, and the Green Party would retain leader Elizabeth May's single seat.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Federal NDP continue to edge towards a majority government

Would form minority government if election held today

Toronto, May 24th, 2012 – In a sampling of public opinion taken among Canadians 18 years of age and older by The Forum Poll™, more than one third would support the federal NDP if an election were held today (36%), compared to just less than one third who would support the Conservatives (32%). One fifth would support the Liberals (20%), and about one twentieth would support either the Green Party (6%) or the Bloc Quebecois (5%).

The federal Conservatives had highest support among Canadians residing outside of Quebec and the Atlantic region, especially in Alberta (61% Alberta, 38% Prairies, 35% Ontario, 31% British Columbia, 22% Atlantic, and 18% Quebec). The federal Liberals had higher support among those with annual household incomes above \$100K (18% <\$20K, 22% \$20-\$40K, 16% \$40-\$60K, 19% \$60-\$80K, 20% \$80K-\$100K, and 26% \$100K+).

NDP to form 15 seat minority government

Taking in to account margin for error, these voting intention results—if they hold on Election Day - would see the NDP capture a minority of 138 seats in the 308 seat house, up from 133 last month, and up considerably from 103 in the election last year. The Conservatives would take 123 seats, up slightly from 118 last month, but well down from 166 in the election. The Liberals would capture 42 seats, well down from 54 last month, but up from the 34 they claimed in the election. The Bloc Quebecois would take the 4 seats they took in the election, and the Green Party would retain leader Elizabeth May's single seat.

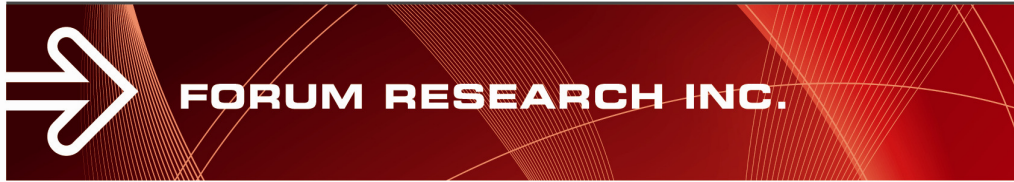
Party leader favourables stable

One third approve of the job Stephen Harper is doing as Prime Minister (33%), stable from last month (34%), while one third also approve of the job Bob Rae is doing (33%) and this is down slightly since last month (35%). NDP leader Tom Mulcair's favourables are at 41% and this hasn't changed. In terms of 'net approval' (approve minus disapprove), Mulcair is at +10, while Harper and Rae languish in the negative numbers (-26 and -5, respectively). Harper's low net approval rating is due to high levels of disapproval not applied to the other two leaders.

Harper had the most approval among older Canadians (27% <34, 31% 35 to 44, 34% 45 to 54, 34% 55 to 64, and 42% 65+), males (37%; compared to 29% for

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- One third approve of the job Stephen Harper is doing as Prime Minister (33%), stable from last month (34%), while one third also approve of the job Bob Rae is doing (33%) and this is down slightly since last month (35%). NDP leader Tom Mulcair's favourables are at 41% and this hasn't changed. In terms of 'net approval' (approve minus disapprove), Mulcair is at +10, while Harper and Rae languish in the negative numbers (-26 and -5, respectively). Harper's low net approval rating is due to high levels of disapproval not applied to the other two leaders.
- As many as three quarters agree that Canada suffers from an 'income gap, where the rich are getting too rich and the poor are getting too poor' (77%), and very few respondents have no opinion on this matter (4%).
- Close to one half of those polled said a low dollar supporting manufacturing was better for Canada than a high dollar bolstered by resource exports (45%), while about one third disagreed (35%).

females), and Albertans (56%; compared to 39% Prairies, 35% British Columbia, 34% Ontario, 23% Atlantic, and 21% Quebec). Mulcair, on the other hand, had the most support Quebecers (62%; compared to 46% Atlantic, 35% Ontario, 35% British Columbia, 30% Prairies, and 22% Alberta). Rae's approval ratings were highest among residents of the Atlantic region (45%; compared to 37% Ontario, 36% British Columbia, 29% Quebec, 26% Prairies, and 22% Alberta).

Wide majority agree Canada suffers from income gap

As many as three quarters agree that Canada suffers from an 'income gap, where the rich are getting too rich and the poor are getting too poor' (77%), and very few respondents have no opinion on this matter (4%).

Conservatives (53%; compared to 92% NDP, 90% Green, 84% BQ, 80% Liberal), Albertans (63%; compared to 89% Atlantic, 80% British Columbia, 78% Ontario, 77% Prairies, and 76% Quebec), and high income earners (81% <\$20K, 84% \$20-\$40K, 75% \$40-\$60K, 81% \$60-\$80K, 80% \$80K-\$100K, and 65% \$100K+) were the least likely to agree that an income gap exists.

Most prefer lower dollar to higher dollar

Close to one half of those polled said a low dollar supporting manufacturing was better for Canada than a high dollar bolstered by resource exports (45%), while about one third disagreed (35%).

Supporters of the federal Conservatives (53%; compared to 33% Liberal, 31% BQ, 26% Green, and 24% NDP) and Albertans (59%; compared to 38% British Columbia, 33% Prairies, 33% Atlantic, 33% Quebec, and 29% Ontario) were more likely to prefer a high dollar based on resource exports.

Majority want to deny Conrad Black Canadian citizenship

More than six-in-ten say they disagree convicted media tycoon Conrad Black should be given back the Canadian citizenship he renounced (61%). Just one fifth (21%) think he deserves this second chance.

Supporters of either the federal Conservatives or Liberals (28%, 26%; compared to 18% Green, 15% NDP, and 7% BQ), and Canadians residing outside of Quebec (28% Alberta, 24% British Columbia, 24% Ontario, 24% Atlantic, 22% Prairies, and 9% Quebec) were more likely to agree that Black should be given back his Canadian citizenship.

"Canadians are proud of their country, and value its citizenship. It is clear they do not think Conrad Black deserves the benefits of being a Canadian anymore," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- More than six-in-ten say they disagree convicted media tycoon Conrad Black should be given back the Canadian citizenship he renounced (61%). Just one fifth (21%) think he deserves this second chance.
- "Canadians are proud of their country, and value its citizenship. It is clear they do not think Conrad Black deserves the benefits of being a Canadian anymore," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1836 randomly selected residents of Canada aged 18 or older. The poll was conducted on May 23rd, 2012.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 2.29%, 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. This Forum Poll™ and other polls may be found at Forum's poll archive at www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp

Party Preference Trending

[Decided/Leaning]

%	Sample	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
May 23 rd , 2012	1756	32	20	36	6	5	1
Apr 24 th , 2012	1669	33	22	36	2	6	1
Mar 30 th , 2012	1591	36	19	34	5	5	1
Mar 26 th -27 th , 2012	1565	35	19	35	3	7	1
Mar 2 nd -3 rd , 2012	1603	37	25	28	4	5	1
Feb 6 th , 2012	1148	36	26	28	3	6	1
Jan 13 th , 2012	1140	35	25	28	4	6	1
Dec 13 th , 2011	1160	33	21	27	8	6	5
Federal Election May 2 nd , 2011	n/a	40	19	31	4	6	0

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Seat Distribution Projection Trending

%	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
May 23 rd , 2012	123	42	138	1	4	0
Apr 24 th , 2012	118	54	133	1	2	0
Mar 30 th , 2012	142	36	126	1	3	0
Mar 26 th -27 th , 2012	151	25	120	1	11	0
Mar 2 nd -3 rd , 2012	145	69	78	1	15	0
Feb 6 th , 2012	151	60	88	1	8	0
Federal Election May 2 nd , 2011	166	34	103	1	4	0

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Federal Leader Approval Rating Trending (% Approve)

[All Respondents]

%	Sample	Rae	Harper	Mulcair
May 23 rd , 2012	1836	33	33	41
Apr 24 th , 2012	1669	35	34	41
Mar 30 th , 2012	1675	36	34	32
Mar 26 th -27 th , 2012	1638	32	34	32

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Federal Party Preference

'If a federal election were held today, which party are you 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	1756	216	220	340	487	493	813	943
Conservative	32	25	30	33	34	38	36	29
Liberal	20	17	22	20	19	22	19	21
New Democratic	36	39	39	36	36	31	35	37
Green	6	10	5	6	5	3	5	6
Bloc Quebecois	5	8	5	5	5	4	5	5
Other Parties	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1

Region

%	Total	Atlantic	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	Alberta	BC
Sample	1756	124	401	632	134	211	254
Conservative	32	22	18	35	38	61	31
Liberal	20	24	14	25	17	15	18
New Democratic	36	51	40	34	37	16	40
Green	6	3	5	5	7	6	10
Bloc Quebecois	5	0	21	0	0	0	0
Other Parties	1	1	1	1	1	2	1

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Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100K+
sample	1756	233	350	294	222	138	285
Conservative	32	26	26	39	28	32	38
Liberal	20	18	22	16	19	20	26
New Democratic	36	36	39	35	41	39	30
Green	6	9	6	6	6	5	3
Bloc Quebecois	5	9	7	4	6	2	2
Other Parties	1	2	1	1	0	1	1

Past Vote (2011 Federal Election)

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1756	593	360	460	84	102	63
Conservative	32	80	9	5	4	7	24
Liberal	20	8	63	9	6	7	18
New Democratic	36	9	24	79	31	24	20
Green	6	2	3	4	56	3	17
Bloc Quebecois	5	1	1	2	1	59	10
Other Parties	1	1	1	0	1	0	10

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Approval of Leaders:

Conservative

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Stephen Harper is doing as Prime Minister?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1836	223	231	363	504	515	841	995
Approve	33	27	31	34	34	42	37	29
Disapprove	59	64	63	58	60	49	58	60
Don't Know	8	9	6	8	6	9	4	11

Region

%	Total	Atlantic	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	Alberta	BC
Sample	1836	132	420	668	138	216	262
Approve	33	23	21	34	39	56	35
Disapprove	59	70	70	58	53	37	58
Don't Know	8	8	9	8	8	7	7

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100K+
sample	1836	250	362	304	227	140	291
Approve	33	26	28	39	29	36	38
Disapprove	59	69	63	52	65	58	57
Don't Know	8	5	9	9	6	6	5

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1836	550	341	572	132	84	77
Approve	33	87	17	7	16	8	22
Disapprove	59	8	76	89	75	83	59
Don't Know	8	5	7	4	9	8	19

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NDP

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Thomas Mulcair is doing as Leader of the Opposition?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1836	223	231	363	504	515	841	995
Approve	41	41	42	42	40	38	44	38
Disapprove	31	30	28	29	33	36	34	27
Don't Know	29	29	30	29	27	26	22	35

Region

%	Total	Atlantic	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	Alberta	BC
Sample	1836	132	420	668	138	216	262
Approve	41	46	62	35	30	22	35
Disapprove	31	19	17	33	37	55	34
Don't Know	29	35	21	32	33	22	31

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100K+
sample	1836	250	362	304	227	140	291
Approve	41	41	41	42	44	37	44
Disapprove	31	30	29	30	28	29	32
Don't Know	29	29	30	28	29	34	24

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1836	550	341	572	132	84	77
Approve	41	15	39	67	32	68	25
Disapprove	31	59	25	11	27	15	43
Don't Know	29	26	35	21	41	17	32

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Liberal

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Bob Rae is doing as leader of the Liberal Party?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1836	223	231	363	504	515	841	995
Approve	33	24	33	35	39	41	35	32
Disapprove	38	41	38	36	39	37	42	35
Don't Know	28	35	29	28	22	22	24	33

Region

%	Total	Atlantic	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	Alberta	BC
Sample	1836	132	420	668	138	216	262
Approve	33	45	29	37	26	22	36
Disapprove	38	26	37	40	32	51	36
Don't Know	28	29	34	23	42	27	28

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100K+
sample	1836	250	362	304	227	140	291
Approve	33	29	33	29	39	34	39
Disapprove	38	44	40	42	33	40	34
Don't Know	28	26	27	29	28	25	27

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Cons	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other Parties
Sample	1836	550	341	572	132	84	77
Approve	33	17	68	37	28	25	10
Disapprove	38	55	12	36	39	49	59
Don't Know	28	28	20	27	32	26	31

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Agreement Over the Existence of an Income Gap in Canada

‘Do you agree or disagree there is an “income gap” in Canada, that is, the rich are getting too rich and the poor are getting too poor?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1836	223	231	363	504	515	841	995
Agree	77	78	77	77	77	75	74	80
Disagree	19	19	19	19	18	19	22	16
Don't know	4	3	4	5	4	6	4	5

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man / Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1836	132	420	668	138	216	262
Agree	77	89	76	78	77	63	80
Disagree	19	8	19	18	17	32	16
Don't know	4	4	5	4	6	4	4

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20K-40K	\$40K-60K	\$60K-80K	\$80K-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1836	250	362	304	227	140	291
Agree	77	81	84	75	81	80	65
Disagree	19	13	13	22	18	18	30
Don't know	4	6	3	3	2	2	5

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Con	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
Sample	1836	550	341	572	132	84	77
Agree	77	53	80	92	90	84	68
Disagree	19	41	16	6	7	12	23
Don't know	4	6	4	2	4	4	9

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Opinion of Whether High Dollar Based On Resource Exports or Low Dollar Supporting Manufacturing is Better For Canada

‘Which do you think is better for Canada, a high dollar based on resource exports, or a low dollar supporting manufacturing?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1836	223	231	363	504	515	841	995
High dollar based on resource exports	35	36	34	34	33	35	39	30
Low dollar supporting manufacturing	45	41	45	51	49	44	46	45
Don't know	20	24	21	15	18	21	15	25

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man / Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1836	132	420	668	138	216	262
High dollar based on resource exports	35	33	33	29	33	59	38
Low dollar supporting manufacturing	45	48	47	50	39	27	45
Don't know	20	19	21	21	28	14	17

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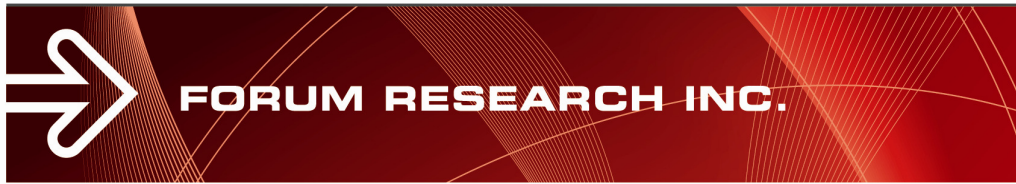
%	Total	<\$20K	\$20K-40K	\$40K-60K	\$60K-80K	\$80K-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1836	250	362	304	227	140	291
High dollar based on resource exports	35	29	30	40	36	35	39
Low dollar supporting manufacturing	45	45	48	41	52	53	39
Don't know	20	26	22	19	11	12	22

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Con	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
Sample	1836	550	341	572	132	84	77
High dollar based on resource exports	35	53	33	24	26	31	33
Low dollar supporting manufacturing	45	33	50	56	44	47	40
Don't know	20	14	17	20	30	22	27

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Agreement Surrounding Whether Conrad Black Should Be Given Back Canadian Citizenship

'Do you agree or disagree convicted media tycoon Conrad Black should be given back the Canadian citizenship he gave up to enter the British House of Lords?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1836	223	231	363	504	515	841	995
Agree	21	20	18	18	22	27	23	18
Disagree	61	54	63	68	65	56	60	61
Don't know	19	26	20	14	12	17	17	21

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man / Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1836	132	420	668	138	216	262
Agree	21	24	9	24	22	28	24
Disagree	61	55	66	59	60	58	60
Don't know	19	21	25	17	18	15	16

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20K-40K	\$40K-60K	\$60K-80K	\$80K-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1836	250	362	304	227	140	291
Agree	21	20	18	20	25	20	22
Disagree	61	60	61	61	57	65	63
Don't know	19	20	22	19	18	15	15

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Con	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
Sample	1836	550	341	572	132	84	77
Agree	21	28	26	15	18	7	27
Disagree	61	56	57	66	63	69	51
Don't know	19	16	18	19	19	23	22

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Last Federal Vote in 2011 Election

'Which party did you vote for in the last federal election held in the spring of 2011?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1836	223	231	363	504	515	841	995
Conservative	30	26	24	34	33	39	34	27
Liberal	19	14	20	21	21	23	17	21
New Democratic	28	32	32	24	26	21	25	30
Green	5	6	5	6	5	4	5	5
Bloc Quebecois	6	7	7	6	5	4	7	5
Other Parties	4	3	5	4	4	4	4	4
Didn't vote in the last federal election	8	12	7	6	5	5	7	8

Region

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man / Sask	AB	BC
Sample	1836	132	420	668	138	216	262
Conservative	30	26	19	31	44	54	27
Liberal	19	21	9	27	17	11	21
New Democratic	28	36	37	24	25	13	29
Green	5	5	3	4	3	7	11
Bloc Quebecois	6	2	22	1	1	1	1
Other Parties	4	3	3	4	5	5	5
Didn't vote in the last federal election	8	8	6	9	5	9	6

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NEWS RELEASE



FORUM RESEARCH INC.

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Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20K-40K	\$40K-60K	\$60K-80K	\$80K-100K	\$100K+
Sample	1836	250	362	304	227	140	291
Conservative	30	22	24	37	33	33	35
Liberal	19	21	17	17	18	15	27
New Democratic	28	24	32	28	29	37	21
Green	5	8	7	5	3	2	5
Bloc Quebecois	6	7	7	6	7	7	4
Other Parties	4	9	2	3	4	2	2
Didn't vote in the last federal election	8	10	10	3	6	4	5

TORONTO
May 24th, 2012

Current Federal Party Preference

%	Total	Con	Lib	NDP	Green	Bloc	Other
Sample	1836	550	341	572	132	84	77
Conservative	30	81	13	8	13	4	24
Liberal	19	6	64	12	11	4	15
New Democratic	28	5	13	63	21	12	15
Green	5	1	1	3	39	1	4
Bloc Quebecois	6	1	2	4	2	70	3
Other Parties	4	2	2	1	7	5	27
Didn't vote in the last federal election	8	4	4	9	7	5	12

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