

The Province

Robertson is 'Teflon mayor' no more

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Mayor Gregor Robertson and other Vision Vancouver candidates outline their platform on Sunday
Photograph by: Wayne Leidenfrost - PNG Files, The Province

Heading into next month's municipal election in Vancouver, the conventional wisdom has been that Mayor Gregor Robertson is a virtual shoo-in for re-election - much to the horror of his critics who don't support his left-leaning, nuts and green tea "vision" for the city.

But a new poll suggest many taxpayers are waking up to the fact that there's not much in the mayor's policies for homeowners, whose taxes are increasingly viewed by Vision as a way to fund their own special little projects for political supporters rather than to provide efficient city services that taxpayers actually want.

A new poll by Forum Research has that a tiny majority of city residents disapprove of Robertson's performance. More significantly, only 44 per cent of those polled say they'll vote for Vancouver's once-Teflon mayor on Nov. 19.

Perhaps Robertson's scoffing dismissal in the summer that the Stanley Cup riot wouldn't hurt him politically was as premature as it was arrogant. Add to that bike-lane overkill, secrecy at city hall and, of course, the mishandling of the Olympic Village that will leave taxpayers on the hook for millions - and Nov. 19 could bring more surprises than some in Vision would care to admit.

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