

BC 2017 Election – Late April/Early May Poll

Today we are doing a survey about some important issues here in BC.

1. As you probably know, a British Columbia election will be held on Tuesday, May 9th. What would you say are the most important issues in this election? (If your main issue isn't on this list, please write it in at the space below.)

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE -- ALLOW UP TO 3 SELECTIONS]

[KEEP ISSUES WITHIN THE "BLOCKS" BELOW. IF POSSIBLE, RANDOMIZE PRESENTATION OF BLOCKS AND RANDOMIZE ISSUES LISTED WITHIN EACH BLOCK. OTHERWISE, KEEP THIS ORDER AND THE SPACES BETWEEN BLOCKS.]

The economy
Pipelines
Resource sector/Forestry
Jobs/Unemployment
Deficit/Debt/Government spending
Taxes

Health Care
Education
Social services – welfare, daycare, public housing
Housing prices/affordability
Transportation/Traffic/Transit

Environment
Community issues – safety, recreation
Infrastructure/Roads and bridges

Leadership/Politics
Integrity/Ethics
Political party financing and fundraising

[FIX POSITION] Other Issue [PROVIDE WRITE-IN BOX]

2. As you consider the choices in this election, which of the following considerations is MOST important to you in making up your mind as to who to support?

[SINGLE RESPONSE – RANDOMIZE]
The parties' policies on the issues
The party leaders
The individual candidates running in your constituency

3. As of right now, how certain are you about which party you will vote for in this election?
Would you say you are:

I already voted at an advance poll

Absolutely certain of who I will vote for – no way I could change my mind

Fairly certain – I feel like I've made up my mind

Less certain – I could change my mind before voting day

Not certain at all – I have no idea who I'm going to vote for

[ASK ADVANCE VOTERS:]

4. Which party's candidate did you support?

[ROTATE ORDER OF FIRST TWO PARTIES]

BC Liberals

BC New Democratic Party

Greens of BC

Other/Independent

Rather not say

[ADVANCE VOTERS NOW SKIP TO Q8]

[ASK ALL BUT ADVANCE VOTERS]

5. Based on how you feel right now, which party's candidate are you most likely to support in this provincial election?

[KEEP SAME ROTATION]

BC Liberals

BC New Democratic Party

Greens of BC

Other/Independent

Undecided/Not sure

Rather not say

Will not vote

[IF NOT SURE/CAN'T SAY]

6. Is there any party you are leaning towards?

[KEEP SAME ROTATION]

BC Liberals

BC New Democratic Party

Greens of BC

Other/Independent

Undecided/Not sure

ASK ALL RESPONDENTS WHO SELECTED A PARTY in 5 OR 6:

7. Suppose for some reason you could not support your first-choice party, which party would most likely be your second choice?

[SINGLE CHOICE – SAME ORDER, EXCEPT HIDE ANSWER FROM 5 OR 6.]

BC Liberals
 BC New Democratic Party (NDP)
 [FIX POSITION] Greens of BC
 [FIX POSITION] Other/Independent
 [FIX POSITION] No Second choice

8. In the last year, in your opinion, have each of the following improved, worsened, or remained the same?

Your personal financial situation
 The financial situation of British Columbia
 The quality of life in your community
 Your own overall quality of life

[COLUMNS]
 Worsened
 Stayed the same
 Improved

9. The last provincial election was held in May 2013. All things considered, would you say you are better off or worse off now than you were back then?

Better off now
 About the same now
 Worse off now

10. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]
 I'm never really stressed about money
 I know someone who works part time because they can't find a full-time job
 I'm worried that I or someone else in my household will lose a job in the next year
 Too many people in B.C. are being left behind
 If you work hard in British Columbia, you will find success
 Rising inequality is a huge problem in B.C. today
 Based on my current financial position I feel I can have a comfortable retirement

[COLUMNS]
 Strongly disagree

Moderately disagree
 Moderately agree
 Strongly agree

Party Positions

11. A number of policies and ideas have been put forward in this election campaign. We'd like to get your opinions on some of these ideas.

For each of the following, please choose the option you would prefer:

[ROTATE OPTIONS WITHIN EACH PAIR/BLOCK]

a) On Housing and Real Estate...

A renter's rebate of \$400 per household and a 2% tax on absentee owners
 A loan of up to \$37,500 for first time homebuyers and speeding up permitting for new homes

b) On Pipelines...

Proceed with the twinning of the Kinder Morgan TransMountain pipeline
 Cancel the plan to twin the Kinder Morgan TransMountain pipeline

c) On Transportation...

Cap the amount that drivers pay to cross the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges at \$500
 Eliminate bridge tolls on the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges altogether
 Maintain the current system where drivers pay to cross the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges

d) On the Budget...

Spend the same amount or less if necessary on social programs to balance the budget
 Spend more on social programs and balance the budget through new taxes on the wealthy and foreign real-estate speculators
 Run a deficit to pay for new programs for three years

e) On Health Care...

Eliminate Medical Services Plan premiums (MSP) by rolling them into payroll and personal income taxes
 Reduce Medical Services Plan premiums (MSP) by half in 2018

Party Leaders

Thinking about the party leaders now...

12. Regardless of which party you intend to support in this upcoming federal election, please indicate whether you have an overall favourable or unfavourable opinion of each of the following people:

[ROWS – ROTATE FIRST TWO, KEEP SAME ORDER]

BC Liberal leader Christy Clark
 NDP leader John Horgan
 Green Party leader Andrew Weaver

Very unfavourable
 Unfavourable
 Favourable
 Very favourable
 Not sure/Can't say

13. Since the campaign started on April 11, would you say your opinion of each of the following has improved, stayed the same, or worsened?

[ROWS – ROTATE FIRST TWO, KEEP SAME ORDER]

BC Liberal leader Christy Clark
 NDP leader John Horgan
 Green Party leader Andrew Weaver

[COLUMNS] [THIS ORDER]
 Worsened
 Stayed the same
 Improved

[RANDOMIZE PRESENTATION OF LEADERS]

14. Here are some pairs of words and phrases that have been used to describe party leaders. For each, please indicate whether you agree or disagree with it.

BC Liberal leader Christy Clark:

[SHOW ALL PAIRS ON ONE PAGE, RANDOMIZE ORDER]

A. Trustworthy
 Untrustworthy

B. Competent
 Incompetent

C. Stands for someone like me
 Stands for her political donors and big business

D. She has a vision for BC
She has no vision for BC

15. BC NDP leader John Horgan

[SHOW ALL PAIRS ON ONE PAGE, RANDOMIZE ORDER]

A. Trustworthy
Untrustworthy

B. Competent
Incompetent

C. Stands for someone like me
Stands for his political donors and union bosses

D. He has a vision for BC
He has no vision for BC

16. Which of these two statements best reflects how you feel today?

It's **just too risky** to consider changing government right now; the BC Liberals may not be perfect, but the BC NDP doesn't have what is needed right now

It's **not too risky** to change government; the BC NDP is a better choice than keeping the BC Liberals in power

[ASK ALL UNDECIDED AT Q6 AND/OR COULD STILL CHANGE THEIR MIND AT Q3]

17. People look at election campaigns and their political choices with both their "hearts" and their "minds", and sometimes these suggest a different preference.

[ROTATE TWO ITEMS BELOW]

a. Suppose in this current provincial election campaign, you are relying only on your "gut" or your "heart". In that case, which of the three main party leaders are you most attracted to?

[RANDOMIZE – KEEP SAME RANDOMIZATION BETWEEN a AND b]

Christy Clark
John Horgan
Andrew Weaver

b. Suppose in this current provincial election campaign, you are relying only on your reasoning and intellectual considerations. In that case, which of the three main party leaders are you most attracted to?

[RANDOMIZE – KEEP SAME RANDOMIZATION BETWEEN a AND b]

Christy Clark
John Horgan
Andrew Weaver

ROTATE QUESTIONS 18 & 19

18. Setting aside your party preference for a moment, which of the major BC party leaders do you think would be the **best Premier** of BC?

[ROWS – SAME ORDER]

Christy Clark
John Horgan
Andrew Weaver
Not sure

19. Regardless of your views of the individual party leaders, which of the major political parties do you think would be able to provide the **best overall government** for BC?

[ROWS – SAME ORDER]

BC Liberals
BC New Democratic Party (NDP)
Greens of BC
Not sure

[EXCLUDE THOSE WHO ALREADY VOTED IN ADVANCE]

20. So now, considering all the issues and the choices facing B.C. in this election, which party's candidate are you yourself most likely to support? Will it be the candidate representing the:

[SINGLE CHOICE – SAME ORDER AS EARLIER]

BC Liberals
BC New Democratic Party (NDP)
[FIX POSITION] Greens of BC
[FIX POSITION] Other/Independent
[FIX POSITION] Undecided /Can't Say
[FIX POSITION] Will not vote
[FIX POSITION] Rather not say

21. Is there a party you could NEVER support in this election? (Choose all that apply.)

BC Liberals
 BC New Democratic Party (NDP)
 [FIX POSITION] Greens of BC
 No, could vote for any of the parties

22. Suppose in your own riding, it looks like a candidate or party you really don't like is going to win that seat. In that case, how likely is it that you would consider shifting your own support towards another candidate who may not be your first choice but has a better chance of beating that candidate you don't like?

Is this something you would:

Not do, you'd stick with your first choice
 Probably not do
 Consider doing
 Definitely consider doing

23. And regardless of your own choice, which party do you expect will win the election on May 9?

[SINGLE CHOICE – SAME ORDER AS EARLIER]

BC Liberals
 BC New Democratic Party (NDP)
 [FIX POSITION] Greens of BC
 [FIX POSITION] Not sure/Can't say

24. Now, suppose the BC Liberals win this provincial election and form the next government of B.C. If that were the case, would you be:

Very pleased
 Moderately pleased
 Neutral
 Moderately upset
 Very upset

25. Now, suppose the BC NDP wins this provincial election and forms the next government of B.C. If that were the case, would you be:

Very pleased
 Moderately pleased
 Neutral
 Moderately upset

Very upset

26. Thinking about past elections, which of the following best describes your own personal voting habits?

[SINGLE RESPONSE] [THIS ORDER]

I vote in every election (federal, provincial, and municipal)

I vote in most elections (three of the last four elections)

I vote in some elections (two of the last four elections)

I rarely vote (one of the last four elections)

I never vote

27. Now, thinking back to the last BC election held in May of 2013 – only about half of eligible voters actually went out and voted in that election. Did you yourself actually go out and vote in that last BC election?

Yes, definitely voted

Probably voted

Maybe not/Can't recall

No, did not vote in that election

[ASK IF VOTED – DEFINITELY/PROBABLY/MAYBE NOT AT 27:]

28. Which party did you vote for in the last BC election, held in May of 2013?

[SINGLE CHOICE – RANDOMIZE FIRST THREE]

BC Liberals

BC New Democratic Party (NDP)

Greens of BC

[FIX POSITION] BC Conservative Party

[FIX POSITION] Other/Independent

[FIX POSITION] Don't remember

[FIX POSITION] Did not vote

29. Finally, which party did you vote for in the last federal election, held in October of 2015?

[SINGLE CHOICE – RANDOMIZE]

I did not vote

Conservative Party of Canada

Liberal Party of Canada

New Democratic Party of Canada (NDP)

Bloc Quebecois

Green Party

Other Party
Rather not say/Can't remember