

Senate/Duffy Trial

1) As you may know, a federal election has been called for October 19th. As it stands today, how *certain* are you about which party's candidate you would support?

Very Certain – I know exactly who I would support

Somewhat Certain – I know who I am leaning towards but I could change my mind

Uncertain – I really don't know who I would support

2) Based on how you feel right now, which party's candidate would you be most likely to support in your own riding on October 19th?

[ROTATE ORDER OF FIRST THREE PARTIES IN ROC AND FIRST FOUR PARTIES IN QC. OTHERS LIST AS BELOW]

Conservative Party

Liberal Party

New Democratic Party (NDP)

Bloc Quebecois [QUEBEC ONLY]

Green Party

Other Party

Not sure/Can't say

[IF NOT SURE/CAN'T SAY]

3) Is there any party you are leaning towards?

[ROTATE ORDER OF FIRST THREE PARTIES IN ROC AND FIRST FOUR PARTIES IN QC. OTHERS LIST AS BELOW.]

Conservative Party

Liberal Party

New Democratic Party (NDP)

Bloc Quebecois [OPTION IN QUEBEC ONLY]

Green Party

Other Party

Not sure/can't say

4) As you may be aware, Senator Mike Duffy is currently on trial, facing 31 charges of fraud, breach of trust and bribery related to a \$90,000 payment from the prime minister's former chief of staff, Nigel Wright, to repay Duffy's ineligible expenses.

How closely are you following this issue?

Following it in the news, and discussing it with friends and family
Seeing some media coverage, and having the odd conversation about it
Just scanning the headlines
Haven't seen or heard anything about it

5) People have differing opinions on this issue. Which of the following broad statements is closest to your own point of view:

[rotate]

Mike Duffy and Nigel Wright are ultimately the ones responsible for this situation. It's distracting from other, more important issues during this election campaign.

The Duffy trial points to a deeper scandal within the Prime Minister's Office. This will be a key issue in this election campaign.

6) The Senate scandal and Duffy affair have been in the news since 2013, and we now have the actual trial underway. Thinking about the trial and the fact that it's happening during a federal election campaign, has this issue improved, worsened or had no impact on YOUR own opinion of each of the following:

[randomize]

[ask Bloc in Quebec only]

Conservative Party and Stephen Harper
Liberal Party and Justin Trudeau
New Democratic Party and Thomas Mulcair
Green Party and Elizabeth May
Bloc Quebecois and Gilles Duceppe

Improved
Worsened
No impact
Not sure

7) Do you yourself believe Stephen Harper's version of events – that he did not know about the decision of his former chief of staff Nigel Wright, to repay Senator Duffy's \$90,000 expense bill?

I do believe Harper
I don't believe Harper
I don't know

7a) For those that don't believe Harper only:

Even if you don't believe Harper's version of events, do other issues outweigh this scandal when thinking about how you'll vote on October 19th?

Yes

No

I don't know