

SNAPSHOT OF METROPOLITAN CANADA

CONSERVATIVES STILL STRUGGLE IN CITIES

[OTTAWA – October 13, 2008] – The Conservatives may well win the election tomorrow, but they are likely to win again without much support in the most economically and socially dynamic places in Canada: the big cities.

"If, as seems most likely, the Conservatives win a second minority government, an additional challenge they will face is that they seem out of step with Canada's biggest cities – the places that connect this trading nation par excellence to the rest of the world," said Frank Graves, President of EKOS Research Associates.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **While the Conservatives will likely win the election tomorrow, they will do so without much support from Canada's largest cities.**

Please note that the methodology and detailed tables of these and other results discussed in this release are provided at the end of this document.

In the last election, the Tories were shut out of Vancouver, Toronto, and Montreal. In this election they might do marginally better than that, but their weakness in the big cities remains painfully clear.

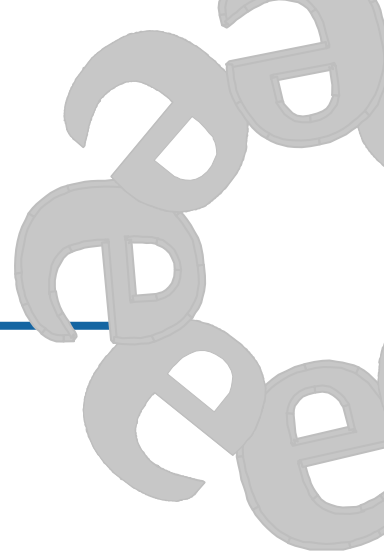
Although Ontario as a whole has witnessed a see-saw battle between the Liberals and Conservatives, in Toronto there has never really been a contest. In our latest roll-up of results from Toronto, the Liberals have a huge lead over the other parties: 41% to just 21% for the Conservatives and 23% for the NDP.

Where the battle is truly joined between the Liberals and Conservatives is in the suburban area that surrounds Toronto proper.

Similarly, in Montreal, the closer you get to the centre of the city, the less likely the Tories are to be viable. In Montreal proper, the Bloc is ahead, with the Liberals not too far behind, followed by the NDP. The Conservatives trail a weak fourth – not too far ahead of the Greens. You need to get well clear of the metropolis before the Conservatives get competitive in Quebec.

The Conservatives' best big-city prospects are in the Vancouver-Burnaby area, where they are in a three-way race with the Liberals and New Democrats, though seemingly the third of three in recent days. They do show themselves much, much more strongly in the suburban communities outside this central area.






"After the last election, the Conservatives had to poach an MP from the Liberals (David Emerson) and appoint a minister to the Senate (Michael Fortier) to acquire at least some big city representation in cabinet," said Graves. "Stephen Harper might well find himself in a similar situation again this time – particularly in Toronto and Montreal."



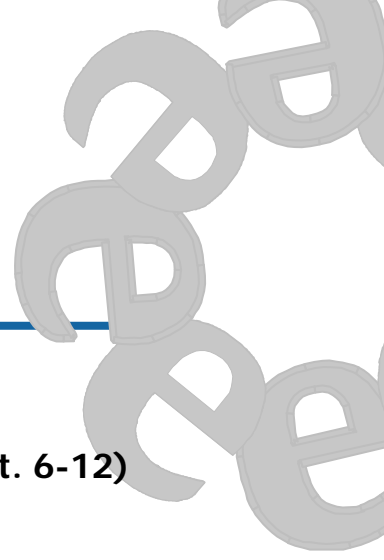
Detailed Tables:

Roll-Up of Federal Vote Intention (Oct. 6-12)¹

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?





BASE: Decided Voters n=	British Columbia			Ontario			Quebec	
	Van./ Bur.	Sub Urban	Rest of BC	Tor.	Sub Urban	Rest of ON	Mtl.	Rest of QC
	25	44	38	21	38	38	15	21
	31	22	18	41	36	29	28	17
	33	20	25	23	13	20	15	12
	12	14	18	14	13	13	7	5
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¹ The data presented in this chart is based on decided voters only. Our survey also finds that 6% of those living in British Columbia and Ontario and 7% in Quebec are undecided, and 2% in each of the aforementioned provinces say they will not vote.

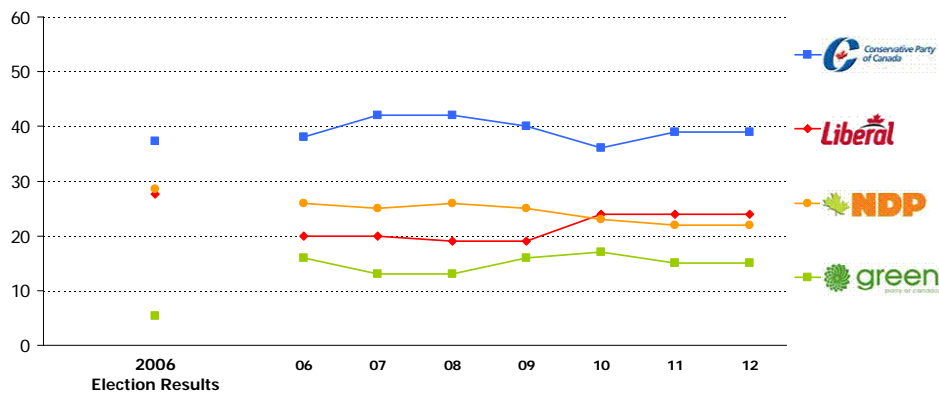


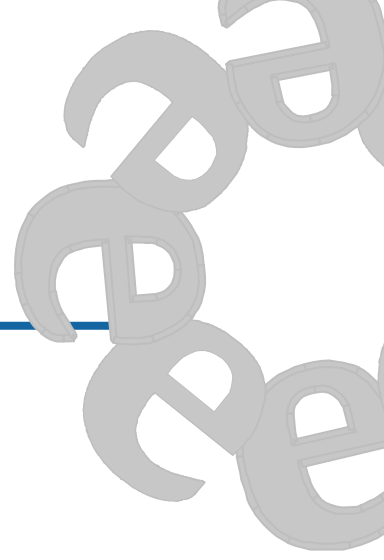
Roll-Up of Federal Vote Intention in British Columbia (Oct. 6-12)

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

BASE: Decided Voters in British Columbia	Overall	Sex		Age				Income		
		M	F	<25	25-44	45-64	65+	<\$40K	\$40-80K	+\$80K
	38	41	34	23	34	38	52	34	38	41
	23	23	24	23	23	24	21	21	21	27
	24	23	26	29	25	25	20	28	26	20
	15	13	16	26	18	13	7	17	16	12





Tracking Federal Vote Intention in British Columbia (Last Week of the Campaign)



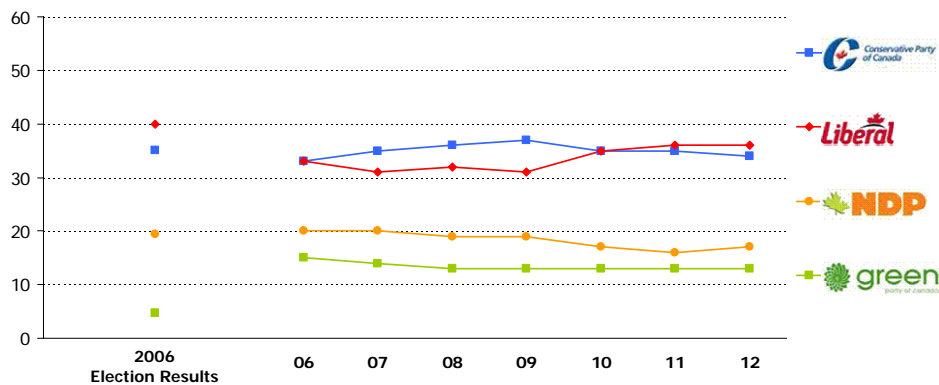


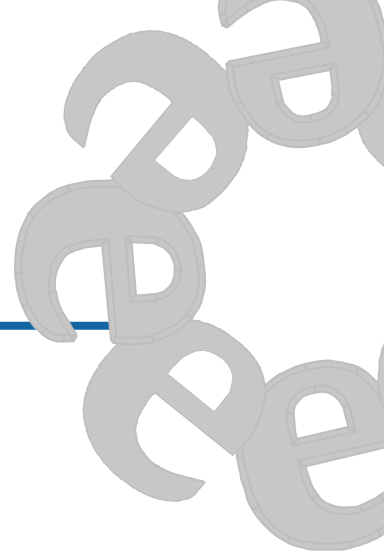
Roll-Up of Federal Vote Intention in Ontario (Oct. 6-12)

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

BASE: Decided Voters in Ontario	Overall	Sex		Age				Income		
		M	F	<25	25-44	45-64	65+	<\$40K	\$40-80K	+\$80K
	34	36	32	28	31	36	39	32	33	36
	34	36	33	26	33	36	39	27	34	40
	18	15	21	25	21	16	13	25	20	12
	13	13	14	20	16	12	8	16	13	12

Tracking Federal Vote Intention in Ontario (Last Week of the Campaign)



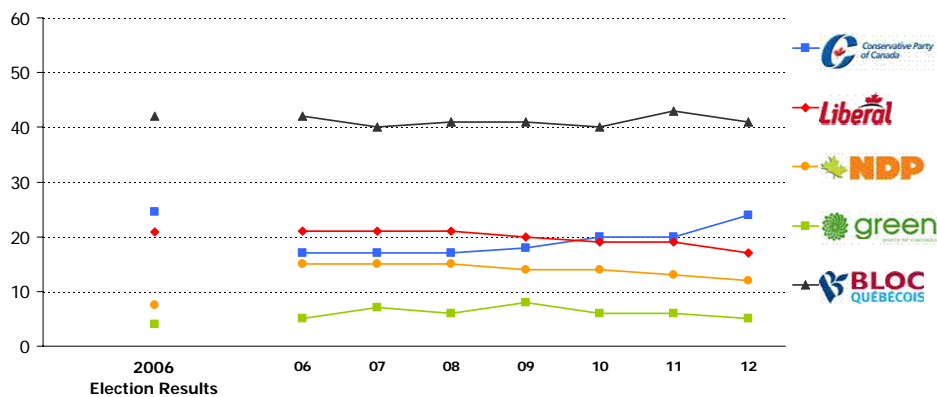


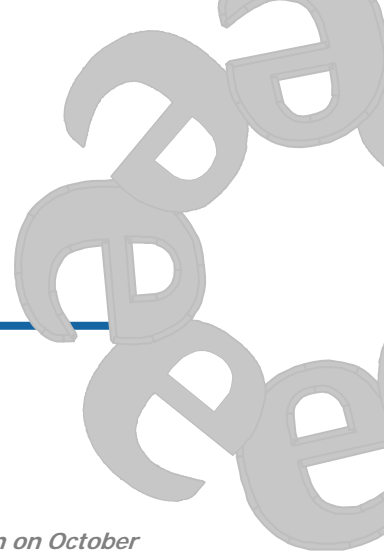
Roll-Up of Federal Vote Intention in Quebec (Oct. 6-12)

Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

BASE: Decided Voters in Quebec	Overall	Sex		Age				Income		
		M	F	<25	25-44	45-64	65+	<\$40K	\$40-80K	+\$80K
	18	23	14	10	15	20	28	19	18	16
	21	21	22	16	19	20	31	21	19	27
	13	13	14	22	13	13	10	12	16	11
	6	6	6	14	6	4	3	6	6	5
	41	37	44	37	47	43	28	42	40	40

Tracking Federal Vote Intention in Quebec (Last Week of the Campaign)





Likelihood of Changing Vote Intention (Oct. 6-12)

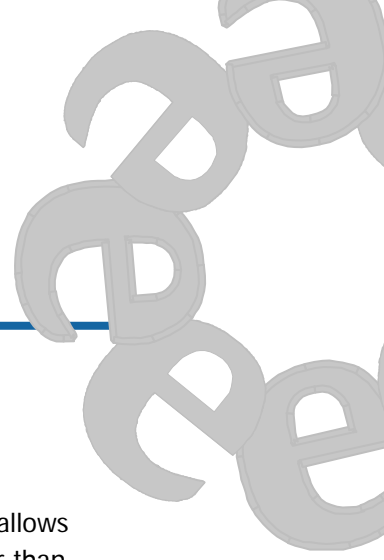
Q. How likely is it that you will change your mind between now and the federal election on October 14?

BASE: Decided Voters	British Columbia			Ontario			Quebec	
	Van.	Ex/Sub Urban	Rest of BC	Tor.	Ex/Sub Urban	Rest of ON	Mtl.	Rest of QC
Not likely (1-3)	83	79	83	82	80	81	78	77
Somewhat likely (4)	6	7	6	5	6	7	5	6
Likely (5-7)	11	13	11	13	14	12	17	18

Second Choice (Oct. 6-12)

Q. What party would be your second choice?

BASE: Decided Voters	British Columbia			Ontario			Quebec	
	Van. / Bur.	Sub Urban	Rest of BC	Tor.	Sub Urban	Rest of ON	Mtl.	Rest of QC
	7	8	8	10	12	6	6	7
	21	20	17	23	21	15	21	17
	21	19	16	18	17	24	19	17
	25	20	21	20	18	18	12	12
	--	--	--	--	--	--	12	11
No second choice	21	31	36	26	30	37	29	36



Methodology:

This poll was conducted using Interactive Voice Recognition (IVR) technology, which allows respondents to enter their preferences by punching the keypad on their phone, rather than telling them to an operator.

The field dates for the survey results presented in this analysis are October 6 to October 12, 2008. The margin of error associated with each of the regions discussed in this release is provided in the following table. Please note that the margin of error increases when the results are sub-divided further (i.e., error margins for sub-groups such as sex, age, income).

	British Columbia			Ontario			Quebec	
BASE: Decided Voters	Van. / Bur.	Sub-Urban	Rest of BC	Tor.	Sub-Urban	Rest of ON	Mtl.	Rest of QC
Sample size	389	822	422	400	591	720	685	1027
Margin of error (+/-)	4.9	3.4	4.8	4.9	4.0	3.6	3.7	3.1

All the data were statistically weighted to ensure the samples composition reflects that of the actual population of Canada according to Census data.