

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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TORONTO

January 18th, 2011

HIGHLIGHTS:

- It was found that if a provincial election were held today, most Albertans would back the Progressive Conservative party (38%, unchanged from December 15th, 2011).
- Taking in to account margin for error, these voting intention results—if they hold on Election Day—would yield 57 seats for the Conservatives (down from 72 in 2008), 17 for the Wildrose Party (up from 0), 5 for the NDP (up from 2), and 4 for the Liberals (down from 9). These results are subject to the usual margins of error.
- Alberta Premier Alison Redford is facing public opposition to her performance with fewer than four of 10 Albertans approving of the job she is doing as premier (39%, down from 38% on December 15th, 2011).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Conservatives continued to lead in the polls; Wildrose up since last month

Smith and Redford in statistical dead heat for highest approval rating among leaders

Toronto, January 18th, 2011 – In a recent survey conducted by Forum Research among Alberta residents 18 years or older, it was found that if a provincial election were held today, most Albertans would back the Progressive Conservative party (38%, unchanged from December 15th, 2011), followed by the Wildrose Alliance Party (29%, up from 23%), the New Democratic Party (13%, unchanged), the Liberals (14%, up from 12%), and Alberta party (3%, down from 6%) with 4% yet to make up their mind (down from 9%). Support for the Wildrose Party was found to be higher among older Albertans (21% 18-34, 28% 35-44, 29% 45-54, 35% 55-64, and 31% 65+) while support for the Conservative party was found to be significantly higher among female voters (45%, compared to 32% among males). On a regional level, support for the Wildrose Party was strongest amongst voters residing in Calgary, Alberta North & South (35%, 33%, 30% respectively), while support for the NDP and Liberal parties was strongest in Edmonton (22%, 19%, respectively).

Conservatives on track for strong majority; Wildrose to form opposition

Taking in to account margin for error, these voting intention results—if they hold on Election Day—would yield 57 seats for the Conservatives (down from 72 in 2008), 17 for the Wildrose Party (up from 0), 5 for the NDP (up from 2), and 4 for the Liberals (down from 9). These results are subject to the usual margins of error.

Fewer than four of 10 Albertans approve of the job Alison Redford is doing as Premier

Alberta Premier Alison Redford is facing public opposition to her performance with fewer than four of 10 Albertans approving of the job she is doing as premier (39%, down from 38% on December 15th, 2011). Approval was found to be highest among female voters (48%; compared to 29% of males) and among older Albertans (33% 18-34, 35% 35-44, 36% 45-54, 46% 55-64, and 56% 65+) and among current Conservative supporters (66%; compared to 38% NDP, 35% Liberal, 23% Alberta Party, 19% Wildrose Party, and 13% other).

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Just fewer than one in three approve of the job Raj Sherman is doing as Leader of the Opposition

Raj Sherman continues to face stiffer opposition than Redford with less than one in three approving of his job performance as Leader of the Opposition (30%, up from 24% on December 15th, 2011). It was found that males were significantly more likely to disapprove of the job being done by Sherman (39%; compared to 25% of females) and among current Liberal supporters (61%; compared to 42% NDP, 33% Alberta Party, 24% Wildrose Party, and 22% Conservative).

Four of ten Albertans approve of Danielle Smith's performance as leader of the Wildrose Alliance Party

Danielle Smith is faring better than both Sherman and Redford with one of four Albertans approving of the job Smith is doing as leader of the Wildrose Party (40%, up from 35% on December 15th, 2011), with support significantly higher among males (47%; compared to 34% of females). Residents of Edmonton were significantly more likely to disapprove of the job Danielle Smith is doing when compared to residents of all other regions in the province (25%; compared to 52% Alberta North, 41% Alberta South, and 41% Calgary,). As would be expected, approval of Smith was significantly higher among current Wildrose Party supporters (87%; compared to 46% Alberta Party, 28% Conservative, 26% Liberal, 23% NDP).

"These findings show that the Progressive Conservative party is maintaining a strong base of support among Albertans," said Forum Research president Dr. Lorne Bozinoff. "Despite the strong support base, Premier Redford's approval rating remains low, while Smith and the Wildrose Party appear to be gaining some traction. It will be interesting to see if this trend continues in the months to come."

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- Raj Sherman continues to face stiffer opposition than Redford with less than one in three approving of his job performance as Leader of the Opposition (30%, up from 24%).
- Danielle Smith is faring better than both Sherman and Redford with one of four Albertans approving of the job Smith is doing as leader of the Wildrose Party (40%, up from 35%).
- "These findings show that the Progressive Conservative party is maintaining a strong base of support among Albertans," said Forum Research president Dr. Lorne Bozinoff. "Despite the strong support base, Premier Redford's approval rating remains low, while Smith and the Wildrose Party appear to be gaining some traction. It will be interesting to see if this trend continues in the months to come."

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TORONTO**January 18th, 2011****Methodology**

The poll was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1,077 randomly selected residents of Alberta aged 18 or older. The poll was conducted on January 17th, 2011.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3.0%, 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.

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Seat Distribution

	Jan 17 th , 2012
Conservative	57
Wildrose Party	17
NDP	5
Liberal	4
Alberta Party	0
Other Parties	0

Provincial Election Voting Preference Trending

[Decided / Leading]

%	Sample	Con	Wildrose	NDP	Alb	Lib	Other
Dec 15 th , 2011	1015	38	23	13	6	12	9
Jan 17 th , 2012	1000	38	29	13	3	14	4

Alberta Leader Approval Rating Trending (% Approve)

[All Respondents]

%	Sample	Redford	Sherman	Smith
Dec 15 th , 2011	1072	38	24	35
Jan 17 th , 2012	1077	39	30	40

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Provincial Election Voting Preference

'If a provincial election were held today, which party would you be 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	1000	133	116	223	264	264	471	529
Conservative	38	34	36	42	36	42	32	45
Wildrose Party	29	21	28	29	35	31	38	20
NDP	13	21	13	8	11	9	12	14
Alberta Party	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	3
Liberal	14	17	14	14	13	14	13	15
Other Parties	4	5	6	3	3	1	3	4

Region

%	Total	Calgary	Edmonton	Alberta North	Alberta South
sample	1000	217	285	236	262
Conservative	38	38	33	39	44
Wildrose Party	29	35	18	33	30
NDP	13	8	22	10	9
Alberta Party	3	3	3	3	2
Liberal	14	13	19	13	11
Other Parties	4	3	4	2	4

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Alison Redford Approval Rating as Premier

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Alison Redford is doing as premier?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
sample	1077	141	132	248	278	278	499	578
Approve	39	33	35	36	46	56	29	48
Disapprove	38	42	41	36	38	24	50	26
Don't know	24	25	24	28	16	20	21	27

Region

%	Total	Calgary	Edmonton	Alberta North	Alberta South
sample	1077	231	314	252	280
Approve	39	41	38	38	37
Disapprove	38	40	35	40	34
Don't know	24	19	28	22	29

Current Vote Preference

%	Total	Con	Wildrose	NDP	Alb	Lib	Other
sample	1077	377	285	119	37	142	40
Approve	39	66	19	38	23	35	13
Disapprove	38	14	66	37	44	36	40
Don't know	24	20	15	25	34	29	47

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Raj Sherman Approval Rating as Leader of the Opposition

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Raj Sherman is doing as Leader of the Opposition?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
sample	1077	141	132	248	278	278	499	578
Approve	30	31	24	29	28	34	31	28
Disapprove	32	30	36	29	36	31	39	25
Don't know	38	38	40	41	35	35	30	47

Region

%	Total	Calgary	Edmonton	Alberta North	Alberta South
sample	1077	231	314	252	280
Approve	30	31	31	30	26
Disapprove	32	29	32	34	33
Don't know	38	40	37	35	41

Current Vote Preference

%	Total	Con	Wildrose	NDP	Alb	Lib	Other
sample	1077	377	285	119	37	142	40
Approve	30	22	24	42	33	61	22
Disapprove	32	31	45	29	45	15	31
Don't know	38	47	31	29	22	24	47

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Danielle Smith Approval Rating as Leader of the Wildrose Party

'Do you approve or disapprove of the job Danielle Smith is doing as Leader of the Wildrose Party?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
sample	1077	141	132	248	278	278	499	578
Approve	40	37	36	43	46	44	47	34
Disapprove	27	25	28	25	31	28	28	25
Don't know	33	37	37	32	23	28	25	41

Region

%	Total	Calgary	Edmonton	Alberta North	Alberta South
sample	1077	231	314	252	280
Approve	40	41	25	52	41
Disapprove	27	30	35	19	23
Don't know	33	29	40	29	36

Current Vote Preference

%	Total	Con	Wildrose	NDP	Alb	Lib	Other
sample	1077	377	285	119	37	142	40
Approve	40	28	87	23	46	26	28
Disapprove	27	30	4	40	37	38	30
Don't know	33	42	9	37	16	37	42

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