

# NEWS RELEASE



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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Chong Favoured in Conservative Leadership Contest**

#### **Chong and Raitt favoured among party members, Half want "someone else"**

TORONTO December 8<sup>th</sup> – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll among 1304 Canadian voters, Michael Chong leads preference for a Conservative leader among the general public (10%), followed by Lisa Raitt (8%), Kellie Leitch (7%), Chris Alexander (6%) and Maxime Bernier (5%) and Steve Blaney (5%). Andrew Scheer (3%) and Brad Trost (2%) have less support. Other candidates were excluded for brevity.

It must be pointed out that fully half the sample opts for "someone else" (53%), other than the 8 candidates listed.

Among Conservative voters, there is no clear favourite, and Chris Alexander (8%), Steve Blaney (9%), Michael Chong (8%) and Lisa Raitt (8%) are evenly matched. One half choose "someone else".

Among a very small sample of Conservative Party members (n=65), Raitt (12%) and Chong (10%) are tied, and followed by Chris Alexander (9%) and Kellie Leitch (8%). One half want "someone else" (48%).

"We are drawing closer to the Leadership Convention, and interested voters have had the chance to see two debates now. Yet, Conservatives still haven't seen the candidate they want, and one half won't support any of the people running," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at [lbozinoff@forumresearch.com](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com) or at (416) 960-9603.

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#### **TORONTO**

**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

#### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Michael Chong leads preference for a Conservative leader among the general public (10%), followed by Lisa Raitt (8%), Kellie Leitch (7%), Chris Alexander (6%) and Maxime Bernier (5%) and Steve Blaney (5%)
- "We are drawing closer to the Leadership Convention, and interested voters have had the chance to see two debates now. Yet, Conservatives still haven't seen the candidate they want, and one half won't support any of the people running," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff

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## **Methodology**

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1304 randomly selected Canadian Voters. The poll was conducted on December 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3%, 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](http://www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp)

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted by age, region, and other variables 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. Forum houses its poll results in the Data Library of the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

With offices across Canada and around the world, 100% Canadian-owned Forum Research is one of the country's leading survey research firms. This Forum Poll™ and other polls may be found at Forum's poll archive at [www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp](http://www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp)

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**Best Conservative Party Leader**

*Which of the following would make the best permanent leader of the federal Conservative Party?*

*[All Respondents]*

**Age/Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1304</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>594</b>
Maxime Bernier (Max-EEM BAIR-nyay)	5	6	5	5	4	7	5	6
Michael Chong	10	12	10	7	12	8	12	8
Lisa Raitt	8	8	6	8	8	9	8	8
Kellie Leitch	7	6	6	7	8	8	6	8
Steven Blaney	5	4	5	6	8	4	7	4
Brad Trost	2	2	3	3	1	1	3	2
Andrew Scheer	3	2	3	3	3	4	4	2
Chris Alexander	6	4	6	6	7	9	7	5
Someone else	53	55	56	54	49	50	49	57

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
<b>Sample</b>	<b>1304</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>217</b>
Maxime Bernier (Max-EEM BAIR-nyay)	5	5	7	7	6	7	2
Michael Chong	10	11	7	10	12	8	14
Lisa Raitt	8	8	6	9	7	12	5
Kellie Leitch	7	7	7	9	8	5	7
Steven Blaney	5	4	4	7	7	6	6
Brad Trost	2	1	4	3	4	1	2
Andrew Scheer	3	1	4	2	4	3	3
Chris Alexander	6	8	6	5	7	4	6
Someone else	53	54	55	47	46	54	54

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**Region / Language**

%	Total	Atl	Que	ON	Man/Sask	AB	BC	English	French
Sample	1304	92	269	482	118	136	207	1044	260
Maxime Bernier (Max-EEM BAIR-nyay)	5	9	9	4	3	2	4	4	10
Michael Chong	10	6	21	6	7	6	9	7	20
Lisa Raitt	8	10	2	9	8	15	7	9	3
Kellie Leitch	7	14	6	10	6	4	3	8	6
Steven Blaney	5	4	9	4	6	4	2	4	10
Brad Trost	2	1	2	2	6	2	1	2	3
Andrew Scheer	3	3	1	2	12	4	4	4	1
Chris Alexander	6	6	6	6	10	1	10	6	6
Someone else	53	48	45	57	42	62	59	57	42

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**Current Federal Vote Preference**

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	New Democratic	Green	Bloc Quebecois	Other Parties
Sample	1304	415	464	165	101	52	49
Maxime Bernier (Max-EEM BAIR-nyay)	5	4	5	8	2	25	0
Michael Chong	10	8	13	13	10	10	2
Lisa Raitt	8	8	7	9	4	3	14
Kellie Leitch	7	6	7	11	5	0	14
Steven Blaney	5	9	4	5	2	8	1
Brad Trost	2	2	2	0	2	6	6
Andrew Scheer	3	5	2	2	4	1	0
Chris Alexander	6	8	5	5	10	10	5
Someone else	53	49	55	48	61	36	58

**Conservative Party Membership**

%	Total	Yes	No
Sample	1304	65	1239
Maxime Bernier (Max-EEM BAIR-nyay)	5	2	5
Michael Chong	10	10	10
Lisa Raitt	8	12	7
Kellie Leitch	7	8	7
Steven Blaney	5	4	5
Brad Trost	2	5	2
Andrew Scheer	3	2	3
Chris Alexander	6	9	6
Someone else	53	48	54

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