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BC Voters Strongly in Favour of Campaign Finance Reform

Majority in favour of disallowing corporate and union donations, capping individual donations

Toronto, March 3rd – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll[™] among 1,061 British Columbia voters, the majority are strongly supportive of sweeping changes to political campaign finance rules: three quarters are in favour of disallowing corporate donations to political parties (73%), almost seven-in-ten believe unions should be disallowed to donate to political parties (68%), and (71%) believe there should be a limit on the amount private individuals should be allowed to donate to political parties.

Corporate donations strongly opposed

Those most likely to oppose corporate donations include those under the age of 34 (77%), those aged 35-44 (76%), those earning \$60,000-\$80,000 (81%), and the highly educated, with those who completed some college or university (74%), those who have a college or university degree (74%), and those with a post-graduate degree (78%).

NDP (85%) and Green (85%) supporters are most opposed, while just over half (55%) of Liberal supporters, and two-thirds of Conservative (66%) supporters see corporate donations negatively.

Liberal supporters (34%) are most likely to say corporate donations should be allowed.

Union Donations slightly less opposed, but only just

Those most likely to oppose union donations aged 35-44 (71%), 45-54 (72%), 65 and over (72%), those earning \$60,000-\$80,000 (72%) and \$80,000-\$100,000 (71%), and those with a post graduate degree (77%). Green Party (78%) supporters and the residents of Vancouver Island (74%) are also likely to oppose.

Limits needed on individual contributions

Those most likely to support contribution limits for individuals include those aged 35-44 (76%), those earning \$60,000-\$80,000 (79%), \$80,000-\$100,000 (77%), and those with a post graduate degree (81%). Supporters of the NDP (82%) are considerably more likely to see limits imposed than supporters of other parties.

MEDIA INQUIRIES:

Lorne Bozinoff, President lbozinoff@forumresearch.com 416.960.9603

TORONTO March 3rd, 2017

"The recent publicity surrounding BC's campaign finance laws has caught the attention of the province's voters, and it's clear they support comprehensive reform. The overwhelming public opinion on the issue may present an opportunity for the party that takes it up," said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research.

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Those most likely to disagree that individual contributions should be limited include those aged 34 and below (26%), the least wealthy (32%), the least educated (28%), and Conservative supporters (31%).

"The recent publicity surrounding BC's campaign finance laws has caught the attention of the province's voters and it's clear they support comprehensive reform. The overwhelming public opinion on the issue may present an opportunity for the party that takes it up," said Dr. Lorne Bozinoff, President of Forum Research.

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

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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 1,061 randomly selected British Columbia Voters. The poll was conducted on Feb 22-23 2017.

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 <u>www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp</u>

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 <u>www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp</u>

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Corporate Donation Approval

Should corporations be allowed to donate money to political parties?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1061	165	167	173	224	332	530	510
Yes	17	15	16	19	16	20	21	14
No	73	77	76	71	72	66	72	74
Don't know	10	7	8	9	13	14	7	12

Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1061	126	185	133	140	108	187
Yes	17	18	16	16	14	18	22
No	73	64	74	74	81	73	70
Don't know	10	18	10	10	5	8	8

Region

%	Total	Vancouver Lower Mainland	Vancouver Island	Interior North
Sample	1061	738	234	89
Yes	17	17	15	19
No	73	74	74	68
Don't know	10	9	10	14

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Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies	
Sample	1061	170	298	381	212	
Yes	17	21	18	17	13	
No	73	61	74	74	78	
Don't know	10	18	8	9	9	

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Voting Preference

%	Total	Liberal	Conservative New Democra		Green	Another Party
Sample	1061	277	147	386	132	30
Yes	17	34	24	8	8	11
No	73	55	66	85	85	73
Don't know	10	11	10	8	7	16



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Union Donation Approval

Should unions be allowed to donate money to political parties?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1061	165	167	173	224	332	530	510
Yes	21	23	22	20	23	17	24	18
No	68	60	71	72	68	72	68	68
Don't know	11	16	7	8	9	11	8	14

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Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1061	126	185	133	140	108	187
Yes	21	21	22	26	18	19	25
No	68	57	67	68	72	71	68
Don't know	11	23	10	6	10	10	7

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Region

%	Total	Vancouver Lower Mainland	Vancouver Island	Interior North
Sample	1061	738	234	89
Yes	21	22	18	20
No	68	66	74	68
Don't know	11	12	8	12



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Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies	
Sample	1061	170	298	381	212	
Yes	21	26	23	20	17	
No	68	64	62	70	77	
Don't know	11	10	15	11	6	

Voting Preference

%	Total	Liberal	Conservative	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1061	277	147	386	132	30
Yes	21	26	24	24	10	5
No	68	67	67	66	78	66
Don't know	11	7	9	10	12	29

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Individual Contribution Limits

Should there be a limit on the amount private individuals be allowed to donate to political parties?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1061	165	167	173	224	332	530	510
Yes	71	70	76	70	70	69	73	69
No	21	26	16	20	22	19	20	21
Don't know	8	5	8	9	8	12	7	9

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Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1061	126	185	133	140	108	187
Yes	71	57	62	72	79	77	74
No	21	32	25	21	16	18	23
Don't know	8	11	13	7	5	5	2

Region

%	Total	Vancouver Lower Mainland	Vancouver Island	Interior North
Sample	1061	738	234	89
Yes	71	71	70	71
No	21	21	22	20
Don't know	8	8	9	9



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Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	1061	170	298	381	212
Yes	71	58	69	72	81
No	21	28	22	21	13
Don't know	8	14	9	6	6

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Voting Preference

%	Total	Liberal	Conservative	New Democratic	Green	Another Party
Sample	1061	277	147	386	132	30
Yes	71	64	62	82	75	49
No	21	26	31	14	17	32
Don't know	8	9	6	4	9	19

For more information: Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. President Forum Research Inc. Tel: (416) 960-9603 Fax: (416) 960-9602 E-mail: <u>Ibozinoff@forumresearch.com</u>

