

SELINGER BESTS OPPOSITION ON LEADERSHIP

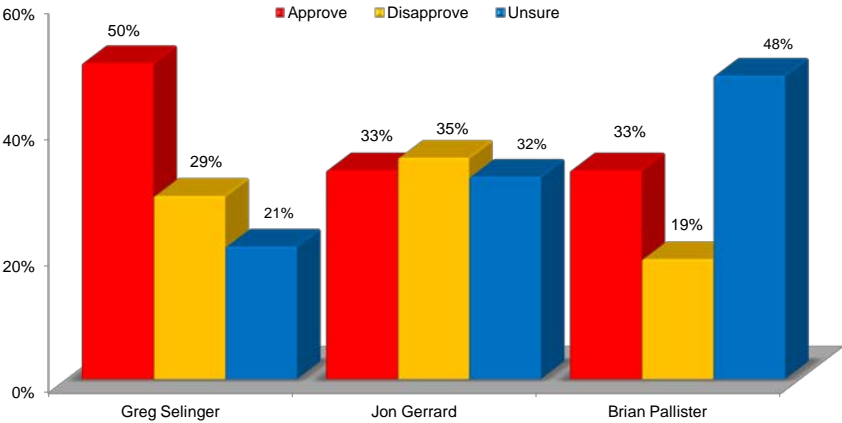
-Voting Scene Shows NDP On Top-

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Winnipeg – Manitoba’s Premier, Greg Selinger, receives a solid nod of approval for his performance in office, while newly acclaimed PC leader Brian Pallister has yet to be recognized by many voters. These findings emerged from a *Winnipeg Free Press/Probe Research Inc.* survey of 1,000 voters contacted by telephone earlier this month. Other survey findings reveal the governing New Democrats remain Manitoba’s most popular party.

Selinger Receives High Marks – PC Leader Is “Brian Who?”

A majority of Manitoba adults (50%) approve of the performance of Premier Greg Selinger. Thirteen percent of those surveyed “strongly approve” of Mr. Selinger’s performance while 37 percent expressed more muted approval. Three-in-ten (29%) disapproved of Mr. Selinger’s performance (including 15% who “strongly” disapproved) while 21 percent were either unwilling or unable to comment on Mr. Selinger’s work in the province’s highest political office.



Similar to larger patterns of party support, Mr. Selinger receives disproportionate levels of approval from residents of Winnipeg and also from post-secondary graduates (54% in each case) and higher income earners (58% among households earning over \$100K annually).

New Progressive Conservative leader Brian Pallister receives job approval ratings of only 33 percent, trailing his party's generic support level of 38 percent. Only eight percent expressed strong approval of the new Tory leader's work to date. Importantly, nearly one-half of Manitoba adults (48%, rising to 52% in Winnipeg) were either unfamiliar with Mr. Pallister or felt they needed more time to fully assess his performance. Nineteen percent disapproved of Mr. Pallister so far – a figure far lower than the 29 percent who voiced negative impressions of Mr. Selinger.

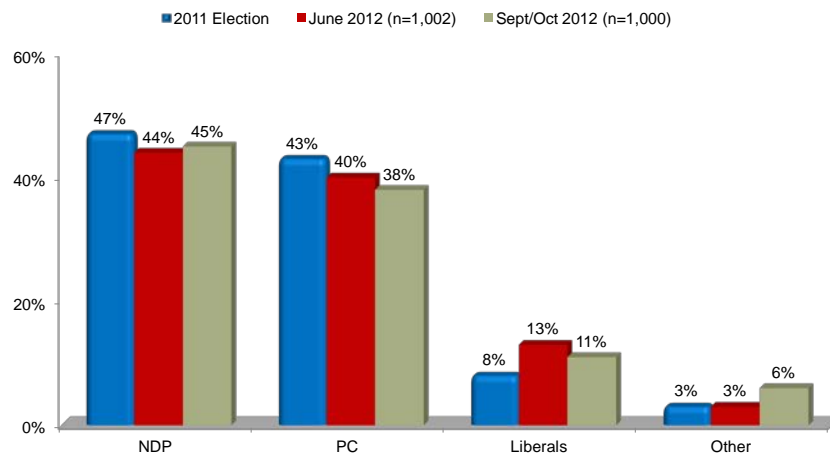
For his part, outgoing Liberal leader Dr. Jon Gerrard, receives mixed reviews with 33 percent offering job approval and 35 percent voicing disapproval. Interestingly, despite his 14 years at the helm of the provincial Liberal Party, Dr. Gerrard also suffers from profile limitations, as three-in-ten citizens (32%) chose not to offer a view on his performance.

Province's Voters Staying Put For Now

In a hypothetical election held tomorrow, 45 percent of adults would cast ballots for NDP candidates (compared with 47% in the October 2011 general election), 38 percent would support the Progressive Conservatives (compared to 43% at the ballot box) and the Liberals would win 11 percent of ballots cast (compared with their 8% election showing).

Provincial Party Support

"If a provincial election were held tomorrow, which party's candidate would you be most likely to support?"



Base: Decided Voters

True to long-standing patterns of party support, the NDP continues to dominate in popularity in Winnipeg (52% NDP vs only 32% PC), while the Conservatives remain well out front of the NDP outside of Winnipeg (46% PC vs 35% NDP).

**PROVINCIAL PARTY STANDINGS
AMONG SELECTED SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS
-- Sept/Oct 2012 --
Net Voting Intentions Among Decided Voters**

"If a provincial election were held tomorrow, which party's candidate would you be most likely to support?"

	Total	Gender		Age			
		Men	Women	18-34	35-54	55+	
(Base)	(1,000) (%)	(484) (%)	(516) (%)	(310) (%)	(349) (%)	(277) (%)	
NDP	45	43	47	47	47	46	
PC	38	39	37	32	38	43	
Liberal	11	12	10	11	11	8	
Other	6	6	6	10	4	3	
	HS or Less	Education		Income			
		Some Post-Sec.	Post-Sec. Grad	<\$30K	\$30K-\$59K	\$60K-\$99K	\$100K+
(Base)	(325) (%)	(194) (%)	(470) (%)	(116) (%)	(246) (%)	(272) (%)	(180) (%)
NDP	40	51	47	54	42	55	46
PC	42	31	38	26	38	35	40
Liberal	12	11	10	12	14	8	7
Other	6	7	5	8	6	2	7
	Total	Region					
		Winnipeg (600)	Rest of Manitoba (400)				
(Base)							
NDP	45	52	35				
PC	38	32	46				
Liberal	11	11	10				
Other	6	4	9				

This province-wide survey was designed and conducted by Probe Research Inc. via telephone interviews conducted between September 19 and October 14, 2012 among a random and representative sampling of 1,000 Manitoba adults. With a sample of 1,000, one can say with 95 percent certainty that the results are within +/- 3.1 percentage points of what they would have been if the entire adult population of Manitoba had been interviewed. The margin-of-error is higher within each of the survey's population sub-groups. Modified random-digit dialing was used to ensure that all Manitoba adults would have an equal opportunity to participate in this Probe Research survey. Minor statistical weighting has been applied to this sample to ensure that the age and gender balance correspond with the province as a whole.

For more information on this survey, please contact:

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