

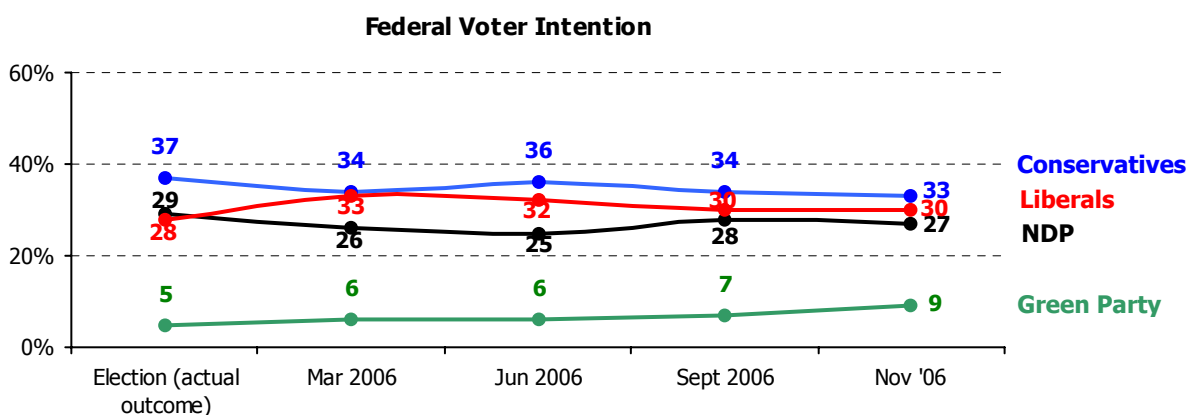


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

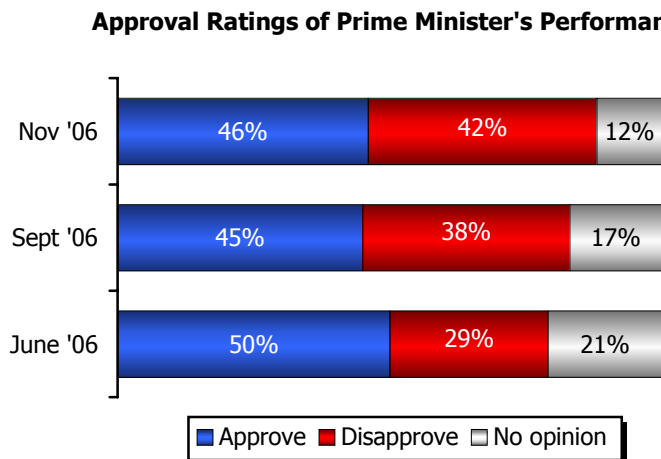
Date: November 22, 2006

Re: Gap Closes between Federal Conservatives and Liberals

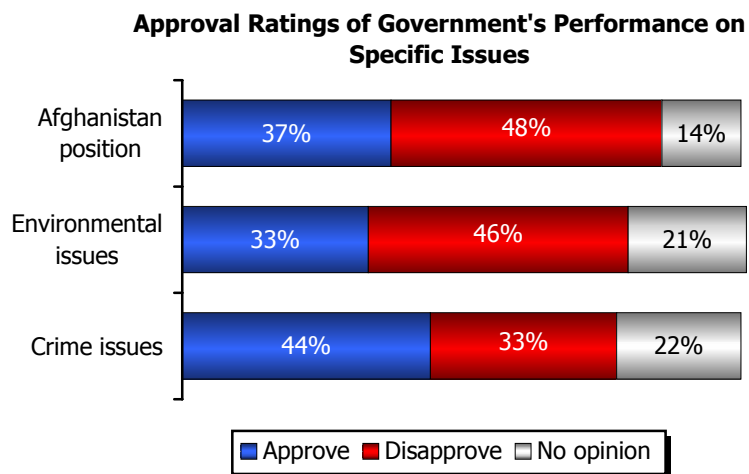
A Mustel Group poll taken earlier this month among a random sample of 502 B.C. adults shows only a three percentage point gap between the federal Conservative Party and Liberal Party, essentially a statistical tie. If an election was held tomorrow, the Conservatives would garner 33% of the decided vote and the Liberals 30%. The NDP are close behind at 27%. The NDP are close behind at 27%.



Approval ratings of Stephen Harper's performance as Prime Minister continue to weaken. A total of 46% approve (similar to the 45% rating in September) but 42% now disapprove, up from 38% in September and from 29% in June. Probing of reasons reveals that opposition to the Afghanistan mission, position on Kyoto, and changes to income trust funds, among other issues, are impacting approval levels.



The research also measured approval ratings of the performance of the federal government on specific issues. The findings reveal that BC residents tend to disapprove of the government's position on Afghanistan and on environmental issues, but approves of their performance on crime issues.



Mustel Group is a Vancouver-based market research firm with a 25 year history and enviable record of accuracy for political polling. For our 'Proven Record of Accuracy' go to our website at: www.mustelgroup.com/accuracy.asp.

Survey conducted: November 1-9, 2006
Methodology: Random sample of 502 BC adults, 18 years of age and over
Margin of error: ±4.4% at the 95% confidence level; Undecided: 9%
Sponsored by: Mustel Group Market Research
Contact: Evi Mustel: 604-742-2240