

Here we are, now within 100 days of the schedule vote. Maybe. There was an interesting rumour circulating online last week that the Prime Minister could opt to hold off on the vote for another year. A few governments in deep trouble have delayed calling an election until their five-year term is almost up in the hope (usually against hope) that their fortunes will improve. The punishment from voters is usually severe, but the rationale is 'what do we have to lose?'

While the polls continue to show a tight three-way race, the Liberals continuing to languish in third place, the Tories' core stubbornly keeping them in contention and the NDP, for reasons even they can't grasp, holding on to the gains from their recent surge. It remains to be seen if the volatility of recent months has run its course.

One recent survey by Forum Research suggests that the quality of thinking invested in the Liberal plan for families - the income tax break and the Canada Child Care benefit - may be generating some positive traction. Almost half of the 1200 people surveyed said the income-tested Liberal plan was superior to the Conservatives' Universal Child Care Benefit and the Child Tax credit, the same program that the NDP has adopted. According to Forum, "It appears that voters see that giving a universal child care benefit even to those who don't need it doesn't make sense, but they are also distrustful of a proposal which promises day care at the bargain basement price of \$15 a day."

Meanwhile, the election gravy train is rolling out. On July 20th, government cheques for the Tories' \$2.5 billion Universal Child Care Benefit and the Canada Child Tax Benefit programs will begin arriving in mailboxes. As well, a flurry of infrastructure announcements are forthcoming. While Employment Minister Pierre Poilievre says this will boost the economy (that would be the same Canadian economy that the Conservatives deny is in much trouble), Queen's University professor Don Drummond, a former senior Finance Canada official, told Canadian Press recently that the UCCB will have some effect on the economy but "not an awful lot." Meanwhile, he said, major infrastructure projects have a bigger and more long-term effect on the Canadian economy. Unfortunately, the projects the government's announced have been smaller ones that don't have long-term effects.

You may recall Justin Trudeau's speech to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities received a warm welcome to delegates in Edmonton by acknowledging that Canada's cities need reliable and predictable, long-term commitments to infrastructure funding. This allows them to plan more effectively and ensure local priorities are being met. Election pork-barreling such as we've seen in the past from all parties and from the Conservatives right now is clearly counterproductive to the good management of Canada's foundation for economic strength and citizens' quality of life.

## **Latest Public Opinion Survey Results:**

Nanos: <http://www.nanosresearch.com/library/polls/Nanos%20Political%20Index%202015-07-03E.pdf>

Ekos: <http://www.ekospolitics.com/index.php/2015/07/race-narrowing-again/>

Forum: <http://poll.forumresearch.com/post/309/new-seat-allocation-favours-conservative-minority-harper-approval-up/>

## **Our messages to the public:**

Justin Trudeau presents plan to deliver fairness for middle class

Under Stephen Harper, middle class Canadians have had to work longer and harder just to make ends meet. They have faced rising debt and unemployment, and this year the Canadian economy shrank in each of the first four months.

Justin Trudeau has a [plan](#) to stand up for the middle class and those working hard to join it.

Middle Class Tax Cut:

A Liberal government will make the tax system fairer and cut the middle class tax rate by seven percent. That's a \$3 billion tax cut for those who need it the most.

We will ask the wealthiest Canadians to pay a little more so the middle class can pay less. Liberals will cancel Mr. Harper's income splitting and other tax breaks for the wealthy. We will introduce a new tax bracket for the top one percent - on incomes over \$200,000.

Canada Child Benefit:

The Liberal plan will also provide one bigger, fair, tax-free, monthly cheque to help families with the high cost of raising their kids.

With the Liberal plan, a typical two parent family, with two kids, earning \$90,000 per year will get \$490 tax-free every month. With Mr. Harper, the same family only receives around \$275 after-tax. That's \$2,500 more help, tax-free, over the course of a year.

With the Liberal plan, a typical one parent family, with one child, earning \$30,000 per year will get \$533 tax-free every month. With Mr. Harper, the same family only receives around \$440 after-tax.

## Items of interest from the news and the Party:

- The Forum Poll on child care plans :  
<http://poll.forumresearch.com/post/313/garners-twice-the-support-of-conservative-uccb-ndp-child-care-plan/>
- MoneySense Magazine's analysis of child care plans (note that the NDP has promised to maintain the Conservatives program):  
<http://www.moneysense.ca/taxes/the-battle-for-family-tax-dollars/>
- A recession is good news for the Conservatives? Maybe. Or maybe not:  
<http://ottawacitizen.com/news/politics/reid-the-recession-is-an-opportunity-for-the-opposition-if-they-dare>
- So where do you actually land on the political spectrum? This test attempts to chart your position:  
<http://www.celebritytypes.com/chart.php?n1=0>
- The National Post says PM Harper's distaste for the media is at odds with his party's values:  
<http://news.nationalpost.com/full-comment/jen-gerson-stephen-harpers-game-of-dodge-the-press-shows-hes-a-shabby-mascot-of-conservative-values>
- How Harper will win the election (according to the National Observer):  
<http://www.nationalobserver.com/2015/07/07/news/how-harper-will-win-election>

**Looking ahead:** -- BC Events below (you can use the direct links to the event page) -- for details on all scheduled events in Canada, click the 'Events' tab here: <https://www.liberal.ca/get-involved/>

<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Langley-Aldergrove</a>	Jul 13, 2015	Langley
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North-Seymour</a>	Jul 13, 2015	North Va
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North-Seymour</a>	Jul 13, 2015	Burnaby
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep for Chilliwack-Hope</a>	Jul 13, 2015	Hope
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in North Okanagan-Shuswap</a>	Jul 13, 2015	Salmon A

<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver Quadra, Kitsilano</a>	Jul 13, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in North Vancouver</a>	Jul 13, 2015	North Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: House Meeting in Richmond Centre</a>	Jul 13, 2015	Richmond
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver South, East</a>	Jul 13, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver Granville, Oakridge</a>	Jul 13, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Democracy Talks: Fisheries &amp; the Local Economy</a>	Jul 13, 2015	Squamish
<a href="#">Langley-Aldergrove Volunteer Meet and Greet!</a>	Jul 13, 2015	Langley
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Langley-Aldergrove</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Langley
<a href="#">Change on the Doorstep in Aldergrove! - July 14th</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Langley
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North-Seymour</a>	Jul 14, 2015	North Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Chilliwack—Hope</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Rosedale
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Delta</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Tsawwassen
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Coquitlam-Port Coquitlam</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Coquitlam Coquitlam
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in Coquitlam-Port Coquitlam</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Coquitlam Coquitlam
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North-Seymour</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Burnaby

<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver South, Central</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver South, West</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver Granville, Northwest</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver Quadra, UBC</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in Vancouver Quadra</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: House Meeting in South Surrey-White Rock</a>	Jul 14, 2015	Surrey
<a href="#">Wonderful Wednesday with Team BC and Lawrence MacAuley, M.P.</a>	Jul 15, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North-Seymour</a>	Jul 15, 2015	North Vancouver
<a href="#">Meet Cindy Derkaz, Candidate for North Okanagan-Shuswap</a>	Jul 15, 2015	Vernon
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep Chilliwack-Hope</a>	Jul 15, 2015	Chilliwack
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in Richmond Centre</a>	Jul 15, 2015	Richmond
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in Vancouver Granville, Oakridge</a>	Jul 15, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in Vancouver Granville, Northeast</a>	Jul 15, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: House Meeting</a>	Jul 15, 2015	Coquitlam Coquitlam
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North-Seymour</a>	Jul 16, 2015	North Vancouver

<a href="#">Pints &amp; Politics in Nanaimo-Ladysmith</a>	Jul 16, 2015	Nanaimo
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Chilliwack - Hope</a>	Jul 16, 2015	Chilliwack
<a href="#">Dr. Hedy Fry's Annual Patio Mixer</a>	Jul 16, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver Granville, Fairview</a>	Jul 16, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in Vancouver South, West</a>	Jul 16, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in Vancouver Granville, Northwest</a>	Jul 16, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North-Seymour</a>	Jul 16, 2015	Burnaby
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in North Vancouver</a>	Jul 16, 2015	North Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver South, East</a>	Jul 16, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in Vancouver Quadra</a>	Jul 16, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Meeting in North Vancouver</a>	Jul 16, 2015	North Vancouver
<a href="#">Steve Powrie Fundraiser - A Liberal approach to golf!</a>	Jul 17, 2015	Kamloops
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North—Seymour</a>	Jul 17, 2015	North Vancouver
<a href="#">Pints and Politics in Central Okanagan-Similkameen-Nicola</a>	Jul 17, 2015	Peachland
<a href="#">Pints and Politics in Central Okanagan-Similkameen-Nicola</a>	Jul 17, 2015	Kelowna

<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in Delta</a>	Jul 17, 2015	Ladner
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North—Seymour</a>	Jul 17, 2015	Burnaby
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Coquitlam-Port Coquitlam</a>	Jul 18, 2015	Coquitlam Coquitlam
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North—Seymour</a>	Jul 18, 2015	Burnaby
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver Quadra, Dunbar</a>	Jul 18, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Terry Beech Campaign Office Opening and BBQ</a>	Jul 18, 2015	Burnaby
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver Granville, Northeast</a>	Jul 18, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Richmond Centre</a>	Jul 18, 2015	Richmond
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Training in Vancouver South</a>	Jul 18, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: House Meeting in South Surrey-White Rock</a>	Jul 18, 2015	Surrey
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in North Vancouver</a>	Jul 18, 2015	North Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North—Seymour</a>	Jul 18, 2015	Burnaby
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver South</a>	Jul 18, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North—Seymour</a>	Jul 19, 2015	North Vancouver
<a href="#">Champagne &amp; Shortcake</a>	Jul 19, 2015	Chilliwack

<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Burnaby North—Seymour</a>	Jul 19, 2015	Burnaby
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in Vancouver South, Central</a>	Jul 19, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in North Vancouver</a>	Jul 20, 2015	North Vancouver
<a href="#">Pints &amp; Politics in Courtenay-Alberni</a>	Jul 20, 2015	Parksville
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep for Chilliwack-Hope</a>	Jul 20, 2015	Hope
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver Quadra, Kitsilano</a>	Jul 20, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Calling for Change in North Okanagan-Shuswap</a>	Jul 20, 2015	Salmon Arm
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver Granville, Oakridge</a>	Jul 20, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: Change on the Doorstep in Vancouver South, East</a>	Jul 20, 2015	Vancouver
<a href="#">Team Trudeau: House Meeting in Vancouver Granville, Northeast</a>	Jul 20, 2015	Vancouver

### **Finally:**

Keep up to date on the activities of the major ABC groups:

- [C.R.U.S.H.](#)
- [Council of Canadians](#)
- [Canadians Deserve Better](#)
- [Operation Maple](#)
- [Lead Now](#)
- [Anything But Conservative in 2015](#)



Feel free to share these weekly updates with your riding executive and others who are following the issues. If you have outreach ideas or photos of events, pass them along!

Have a great week!