

No big blast of wind to explain a day's delay, nor the enticement of a Holiday Monday...rather, your writer was out on the campaign trail yesterday, knocking on doors and meeting the good people of Fleetwood-Port Kells. At the doorstep, on the telephones, in the media and via the polls, the trend locally and nationally is positive. One interesting anecdote is the number of times we've heard people in our riding talking about 'sending cheques to millionaires'...they don't seem to care much for this.

The NDP appears to have hit a plateau, the Conservatives have faded into third place and the Liberals have had a mostly steady rise over the past few weeks. Liberal announcements in the latter half of August have differentiated significantly us from the other two parties, giving something very clear for people to support or oppose. While the NDP continues to make spending announcements, they are like Hansel and Gretel's trail of bread crumbs as they head off into a dark forest of uncertainty as to how their plans sync with the promise to balance the budget. The dark heart of today's Conservative Party was revealed with their response to the heartbreaking story of Syrian refugees and the antics of two now-former candidates.

Just as Mr. Mulcair continues to draw questions about his habit of saying different things to different people on issues and the growing multi-billion dollar gap between revenues and his spending plan, questions about the once-invincible Conservative election machine are starting to gnaw away at the confidence of those working in their campaign. Further, there now seems to be some structural damage to Mr. Harper's core vote, and his comment yesterday that he would resign if the Conservatives lost even one seat from their total in the last parliament might be viewed with hope by those in their party hoping for a chance to replace him.

Today, Justin Trudeau announced changes to Employment Insurance that represent what he heard in his travels across Canada last summer. It was an investment of time that drew criticism then due to his lower profile in the House of Commons but continues to pay major dividends in the form of well-designed policies that reflect the issues that Canadians feel need attention from their government.

Many people predicted that all of the activities in August were just the prelude to the 'real' campaign that starts now.

Latest Public Opinion Survey Results:

Nanos: <http://www.nanosresearch.com/library/polls/20150906%20Ballot%20TrackingE.pdf> - Nanos will now be doing daily tracking using a three-day rolling average.

Forum: <http://poll.forumresearch.com/post/1370/minority-government-with-liberal-opposition-seen/>

Ekos: <http://www.ekospolitics.com/index.php/2015/09/three-way-tie-as-voters-try-and-sort-out-who-can-solve-the-economy/>

Our messages to the public:

Now that we are into the most dynamic stretch of the campaign, the Party HQ has launched its Social Media Red Team - fast breaking information and messages that we can use in our networks.

Our Seniors' Commission release on Voter ID information has been sent to all senior Liberals in BC, with a request to share with neighbours, family and friends who may need to take extra steps in order to vote. The details are here: <http://federalslcbc.ca/voter-info/>

Sign up to get the latest campaign bulletins here: <https://www.liberal.ca/rr-opt-in/>

Items of interest from the news and the Party:

-From the Party, a backgrounder on today's EI announcement:

https://www.liberal.ca/files/2015/09/150907_Backgrounder_Employment-Insurance_EN.pdf

-So what happens the day after the election? Andrew Coyne speculates - National Post:

<http://news.nationalpost.com/full-comment/andrew-coyne-it-isnt-just-the-results-on-election-night-that-are-impossible-to-predict-its-what-happens-after>

-This headline in the Globe & Mail sums up the growing mood:

http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/canadians-want-a-new-pm-poll-suggests/article26230989/?cmpid=rss1&click=sf_globe

-As they have done on other files, the Conservatives opt for deception on the issue of accepting refugees - The Tyee:

<http://thetyee.ca/Opinion/2015/09/08/Canada-Refugee-System-Myths/>

-Liberal wisdom from Jean Chretien on Canada's proper role in the Middle East - Globe & Mail:

http://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-debate/canadas-true-role-in-the-mideast-conflict/article21138349/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=Referrer%3A+Social+Network+%2F+Media&utm_campaign=Shared+Web+Article+Links

Looking ahead: --

Click here: <http://event.liberal.ca/#/en/events> enter your riding name and find an event near you. This is the time when your effort to show up at an event will give

volunteers and candidates the boost they need, better yet if you're able to volunteer yourself!

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](#)

A reminder that all of these weekly updates now appear on the BC Seniors Commission website: www.federalslcbc.ca

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!