Progress Summit 2017: Progress in the Age of Trump

Polling Presentation for the Broadbent Institute

April 7th, 2017

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The Broadbent Institute commissioned Stratcom to research:

- Current Canadian political attitudes,
- Attitudes of Canadians in relation to Trump Presidency,
- Issues of income inequality and economic security, and
- Support/opposition to range of progressive (and not-so progressive) policy proposals.

Methods:

- Fielded online in French and English, March 15 - 17, 2017.
- 2,029 responses nationally, data weighted by 2011 census on gender, age, education and region.
- Margin of Error does not apply to online methodologies, a probability sample of this size would be +/- 2.2, 19 times out 20.
Political Landscape
Impressions of Political Leaders

For each, please indicate if you have a strongly favourable, somewhat favourable, somewhat unfavourable, or strongly unfavourable opinion of them?

David Suzuki
- Strongly Favourable: 28%
- Somewhat Favourable: 31%
- Not Familiar: 16%
- Somewhat Unfavourable: 11%
- Strongly Unfavourable: 14%
- Net Favourable: 59%

Justin Trudeau
- Strongly Favourable: 20%
- Somewhat Favourable: 37%
- Not Familiar: 3%
- Somewhat Unfavourable: 18%
- Strongly Unfavourable: 22%
- Net Favourable: 57%

Tom Mulcair
- Strongly Favourable: 6%
- Somewhat Favourable: 32%
- Not Familiar: 19%
- Somewhat Unfavourable: 27%
- Strongly Unfavourable: 16%

Rona Ambrose
- Strongly Favourable: 7%
- Somewhat Favourable: 20%
- Not Familiar: 45%
- Somewhat Unfavourable: 17%
- Strongly Unfavourable: 11%

Kellie Leitch
- Strongly Favourable: 7%
- Somewhat Favourable: 54%
- Not Familiar: 12%
- Somewhat Unfavourable: 24%
- Strongly Unfavourable: 36%

Kevin O'Leary
- Strongly Favourable: 5%
- Somewhat Favourable: 17%
- Not Familiar: 25%
- Somewhat Unfavourable: 19%
- Strongly Unfavourable: 34%
- Net Unfavourable: 53%

Donald Trump
- Strongly Favourable: 6%
- Somewhat Favourable: 13%
- Not Familiar: 4%
- Somewhat Unfavourable: 11%
- Strongly Unfavourable: 66%
- Net Unfavourable: 77%
If a federal election were held today, which party would you be most likely to vote for?

- **Liberal**: 44%
- **Conservative**: 29%
- **NDP**: 16%
- **Green**: 6%
- **Bloc Québécois**: 4%
- **Other**: 1%

23% undecided
Prime Minister Job Performance on…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Excellent/Good</th>
<th>Only Fair/Poor/Terrible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dealing with Trump</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Policy</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure Spending</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economy</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivering on Promises to First Nations</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing Finances/ Budget</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivering on Promises</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reforming Healthcare</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Affordability</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral Reform</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How would you rate the job Prime Minister Trudeau is doing when it comes to...
Thinking about the issues that affect Canada and the global community, how would you rate the job US president Donald Trump is doing on these issues?
Fill in the Blank. Donald Trump is ______

What are the words or phrases that come to mind when you think about US President Donald Trump?
Canadians’ Perception of Trump?

8% He is an honest person who speaks his mind.

26% He is honest most of the time, but sometimes exaggerates.

66% He is a perpetual liar.
Overall, thinking about the next four years with Donald Trump as US President, would you describe yourself as...
How would you rate the job Prime Minister Trudeau is doing dealing with US President Donald Trump?
Which of the following comes closest to your own point of view: PM should take a more vocal stance in opposing DT’s policies, particularly with regards to issues like trade, climate change, and immigration; PM should seek a middle ground in his discussions with DT; or PM should support DT in a number of areas including renegotiating the terms of NAFTA...
Confidence in Future Negotiations

How confident are you in the ability of the Canadian government to effectively represent Canada’s interests in future dealings with the Trump administration?
Priorities for the Canadian Government
# Priorities for Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Top Priority</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Not High or Low</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of living</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growing gap between the rich and everyone else</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balancing the budget</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing affordability</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thinking about all of the issues federal government needs to address, please indicate how important of a priority each should be for the federal government in the coming year. **TOP TIER RESPONSES.**
Have things been better or worse economically for you and your family in the last two years? AND Thinking ahead to the next two years, do you think things will get better or worse for your family? AND When you think about your own personal finances over the next few months do you feel confident or uneasy?
### Who Benefits from Today’s Economy?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Group</th>
<th>MUCH BETTER</th>
<th>SOMEWHAT</th>
<th>NEITHER</th>
<th>SOMEWHAT/ MUCH WORSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The wealthiest Canadians</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Better: 67%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Worse: 4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Those with above average incomes</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Better: 45%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Worse: 17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The middle class</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Better: 11%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Worse: 57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-income Canadians</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Better: 11%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Worse: 63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the current economy, do you think things have gotten better or worse for the following income groups?
Over the last 10 years, do you think the gap between the rich and everyone else in Canada has increased, decreased, or stayed the same?
Do you think the gap between the rich and everyone else in Canada is a very big problem, somewhat of a problem, a small problem, or not a problem?
What is to Blame for Income Inequality?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A tax system that benefits richer Canadians</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gov. policies that support big business at others expense</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too much power in the hands of Big Banks</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of manufacturing</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declining social services</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The global financial crisis of 2008</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weakening of labour union</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Financial and Tax Reform Policies

**Close corporate tax loopholes and cut down on tax shelters**
- STRONGLY SUPPORT: 61%
- SOMEWHAT: 23%
- DK: 8%
-反对: 6%

**Introduce a new tax bracket for high income earners**
- STRONGLY SUPPORT: 51%
- SOMEWHAT: 30%
- DK: 9%
-反对: 7%

**Close the loophole that gives special tax treatment to dividend income**
- STRONGLY SUPPORT: 47%
- SOMEWHAT: 27%
- DK: 10%
-反对: 9%

**Return to more progressive income tax rates**
- STRONGLY SUPPORT: 38%
- SOMEWHAT: 37%
- DK: 9%
-反对: 12%
### Financial and Tax Reform Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>STRONGLY SUPPORT</th>
<th>SOMEWHAT</th>
<th>DK</th>
<th>STRONGLY OPPOSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase corporate tax rates back to pre-2008 levels</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax capital gains and stock options at the same rate as income from wages</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease personal income tax rates for individuals with incomes above $150K</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease corporate tax rates</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Please indicate whether you support or oppose each.**
Labour Rights and Reform

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Percentage Distribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guaranteeing equal pay for equal work</td>
<td>69% STRONGLY SUPPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revise NAFTA to better protect Canadian workers and interests</td>
<td>37% STRONGLY SUPPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raise the minimum wage to $15 per hour in every province</td>
<td>39% STRONGLY SUPPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raise the level of EI benefits</td>
<td>27% STRONGLY SUPPORT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Labour/Jobs...Please indicate whether you support or oppose each.
Healthcare and Social Assistance

- **Create a universal Pharmacare program**
  - STRONGLY SUPPORT: 48%
  - SOMEWHAT: 38%
  - DK: 7%

- **Work with govs. to ensure access to public dental services for all Canadians**
  - STRONGLY SUPPORT: 45%
  - SOMEWHAT: 40%
  - DK: 5%

- **Boost income assistance programs to ensure they are in line with a living wage**
  - STRONGLY SUPPORT: 36%
  - SOMEWHAT: 40%
  - DK: 5%

- **Develop a publicly funded national childcare system that ensures affordable access to childcare**
  - STRONGLY SUPPORT: 30%
  - SOMEWHAT: 38%
  - STRONGLY OPPOSE: 11%
  - DK: 6%

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Social Assistance/Healthcare...Please indicate whether you support or oppose each.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>STRONGLY SUPPORT</th>
<th>SOMEWHAT SUPPORT</th>
<th>DK</th>
<th>SOMEWHAT OPPOSE</th>
<th>STRONGLY OPPOSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Screen immigrants for Canadian values as a condition of entry</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have stricter rules on immigrations that allow in fewer immigrants,</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and emphasize proven job qualifications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streamline processes for private refugee sponsorship programs</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allow refugees who flee the US for Canada to remain in the country</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
US President Donald Trump has said he will reduce the number of refugees and immigrants the U.S. accepts every year. Given these actions, what would you like to see Canada do?
In 2015 Canada and 194 countries, including the US, signed the Paris climate change agreement to cut greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change. Suppose the US decides to reduce its commitment or to withdraw altogether. If that were the case, what you like to see Canada do?
Please indicate how likely you would be to take each of the following actions in response to an issue that is important to you.

- **Vote in most elections**: 84%
- **Sign a petition (online)**: 60%
- **Sign a petition (offline)**: 60%
- **Contribute money to a cause I support**: 40%
- **Email or write an elected official**: 33%
- **Post to your social media**: 27%
- **Attend a town hall**: 26%
- **Call an elected official**: 21%
- **Attend a rally or public protest**: 20%
- **Write a letter to the editor**: 17%
- **Participate in act of civil disobedience**: 14%
Conclusions

- Federal government remains popular, but there are serious chinks in the armour on several issues, including dealing with Donald Trump.
- The government wants to put on hold a number of fiscal/tax policies, awaiting US policy decisions. This potential move to the right to line up with “competitive challenges” would be out of step with Canadian public opinion (with the exception of immigration).
- Canadians overwhelming believe income inequality is an issue and problem for Canada.
- They are united in their support of policies which would address the growing gap like closing tax loopholes and raising the minimum wage.
- How does the Trudeau government square these? That may be up to all of us.
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