

Media Release Backgrounder

April 21, 2010

Question 1:

Preamble: The provincial government has made decisions that increase the cost of running public schools, for example, increasing MSP premiums. Some school boards say they must cut services to students to pay for these and other cost increases.

Thinking about this, do you agree or disagree that the province needs to do more to protect public education?

**Please note all numbers are percentages*

Total Province

Total BC	Male	Female	Have children under 18	No children under 18	Under \$50K	\$50 - \$99K	Over \$100K	Total
Strongly agree	50	65	62	56	67	56	48	58
Moderately agree	28	19	21	24	19	23	30	23
Moderately disagree	10	6	6	9	4	10	9	8
Strongly disagree	7	5	7	6	6	7	8	6
Not sure	5	5	4	5	5	3	5	5

Region

By Region	GVRD	Vancouver Island	Southern Interior	Northern Interior
Strongly agree	55	61	63	54
Moderately agree	26	18	19	31
Moderately disagree	9	9	7	6
Strongly disagree	4	9	7	6
Not sure	7	3	4	3

	Vancouver City	Other BC
Strongly agree	60	58
Moderately agree	25	23
Moderately disagree	6	8
Strongly disagree	4	6
Not sure	4	5

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Question 2:

Preamble: The provincial government has made decisions that increase the cost of running public schools, for example, increasing MSP premiums. Some school boards say they must cut services to students to pay for these and other cost increases.

Thinking about this, do you agree or disagree that the province should increase funding to public education?

** Please note all numbers are percentages*

Total Province

Total BC	Male	Female	Has children under 18	No children under 18	Under \$50K	\$50 - \$99K	Over \$100K	Total
Strongly agree	44	54	55	47	60	47	43	49
Moderately agree	33	26	28	30	25	33	36	30
Moderately disagree	12	11	10	11	8	12	14	11
Strongly disagree	7	2	4	5	4	5	5	5
Not sure	4	6	2	6	4	4	2	5

Region

By Region	GVRD	Vancouver Island	Southern Interior	Northern Interior
Strongly agree	45	53	56	50
Moderately agree	31	32	24	33
Moderately disagree	13	9	8	12
Strongly disagree	4	4	7	2
Not sure	8	2	4	3

	Vancouver City	Other BC
Strongly agree	56	49
Moderately agree	27	30
Moderately disagree	4	12
Strongly disagree	6	5
Not sure	8	5

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Question 3:

Preamble: More than 85 per cent of private schools in B.C. receive funding from the provincial government. These schools receive between 35 and 50 percent of the per-pupil grant given to public schools.

Thinking about this, do you agree or disagree that the provincial government should continue to use public funds to support private schools?

**Please note all numbers are percentages*

Total Province

Total BC	Male	Female	Has children under 18	No children	Under \$50K	\$50 - \$99K	Over \$100K	Total
Strongly agree	15	10	14	12	11	12	18	12
Moderately agree	17	19	18	18	15	22	19	18
Moderately disagree	26	25	30	25	26	25	25	26
Strongly disagree	38	40	35	40	44	37	34	39
Not sure	4	6	3	5	5	3	3	5

Region

By Region	GVRD	Vancouver Island	Southern Interior	Northern Interior
Strongly agree	10	14	16	12
Moderately agree	17	17	19	26
Moderately disagree	28	23	23	25
Strongly disagree	39	41	40	37
Not sure	6	5	1	0

	Vancouver City	Other BC
Strongly agree	9	13
Moderately agree	15	18
Moderately disagree	31	25
Strongly disagree	37	39
Not sure	8	4

For information and to arrange an interview contact:
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