



MEMBER RELEASE

April 28, 2011

TO: Mayor and Council; Chair and Board
FROM: Barbara Steele, President
RE: **Federal Party Survey Results**

Earlier this month, I wrote to you to suggest some questions for local candidates in the federal election. Given the state of the negotiations for a new RCMP contract, as well as commitments related to infrastructure that were included in the 2011 federal budget, I felt that we should ask all candidates to clarify their position on these issues.

At a recent UBCM Executive meeting, we decided to survey the four major federal parties on a similar set of questions. I am pleased to share the results of this survey with you today (*see page 2*). Of the four parties we contacted, only the Conservative Party of Canada was unable to provide a response by the deadline indicated.

The issues related to policing costs, infrastructure and local government finance require ongoing, sustained advocacy by UBCM and local governments directly. Once the results of the election are known, I encourage you to speak with MPs in your area to ensure that the concerns of local government are known and understood.

Election 2011: Federal Party Survey Results

Question	Conservative	Green Party	NDP	Liberal
In the next Parliament, will your MPs work to ensure that effective cost containment provisions are included in the next RCMP contract?	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Will your party ensure that federal negotiators remain at the table until a cost base for RCMP contract that is satisfactory to local governments has been identified?	-	Yes	Yes	Yes ¹
In light of Alberta's separate RCMP agreement, does your party support the negotiation of a customized RCMP contract for BC communities?	-	Yes	Yes	[No response]
Does your party support the development of a long-term federal plan for infrastructure that includes all levels of government?	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Does your party support the enactment of legislation to make the Gas Tax Fund permanent?	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Does your party support the provision of new revenue sources for local government?	-	Yes	Yes	Yes ²

¹ "We believe it is essential that the national contract deal with the RCMP strikes a balance between ensuring community safety and making sure that municipalities are getting the best service at a manageable cost."

² "In particular we are committed to providing funding under a next generation of infrastructure programming and funding for affordable housing. A new Transportation and Infrastructure Strategy will underpin a next generation of programming."