



EYE ON ALBERTA

DECEMBER 2012

Alberta's Public Affairs Monitor

- THINKHQ CALGARY HERALD GUEST COLUMN EXCERPTS -

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RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

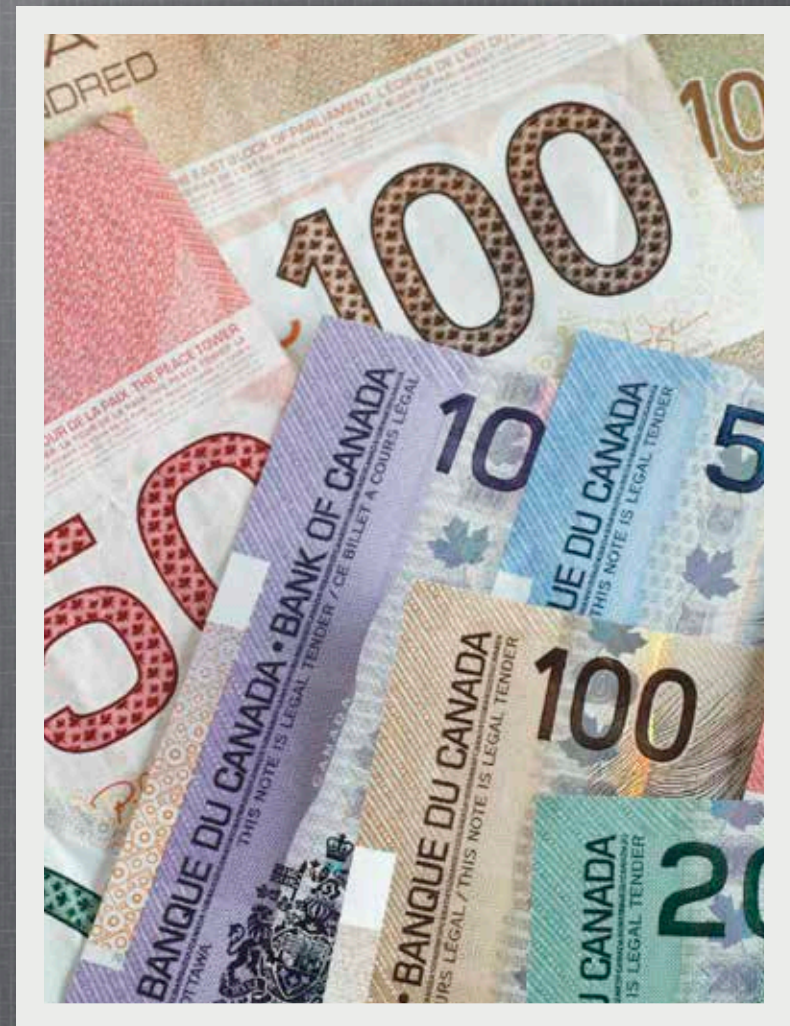
- Study fielded via online research panel
 - Field Dates: December 10 - 15, 2012
 - Panel Source: Voice of Alberta
- n=1310
- Weighted to reflect gender, age, region of Alberta population according to Stats Canada
- Sample of 1310, margin of error, which measures sampling variability, is +/- 2.7%
- Margin of error larger & varies for subsamples

REGIONAL SAMPLE SIZES & MARGINS OF ERROR

	Total Interviews (Unweighted) (n)	Total Interviews (Weighted) (n)	Margin of Error
ALBERTA TOTAL	1310	1310	+/- 2.7
Calgary CMA	429	439	+/- 4.7
Edmonton CMA	377	400	+/- 4.9
North	137	170	+/- 7.5
Central	193	158	+/- 7.8
South	172	144	+/- 8.2

POLITICAL ISSUE PROBE

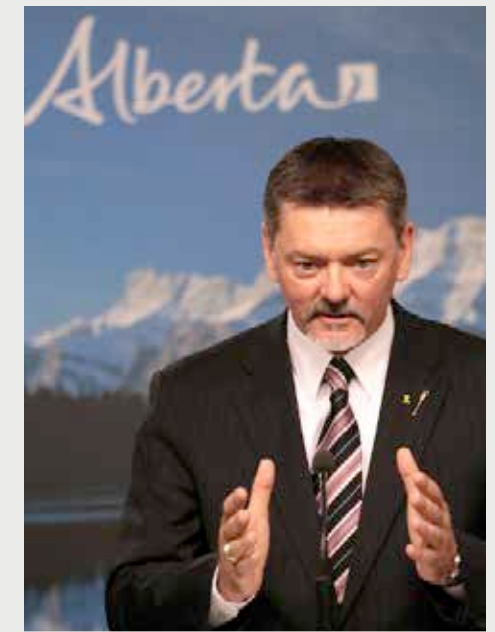
Public Views on the
Provincial Budget



PROVINCIAL BUDGET

- A DIFFICULT SPRING SESSION AHEAD -

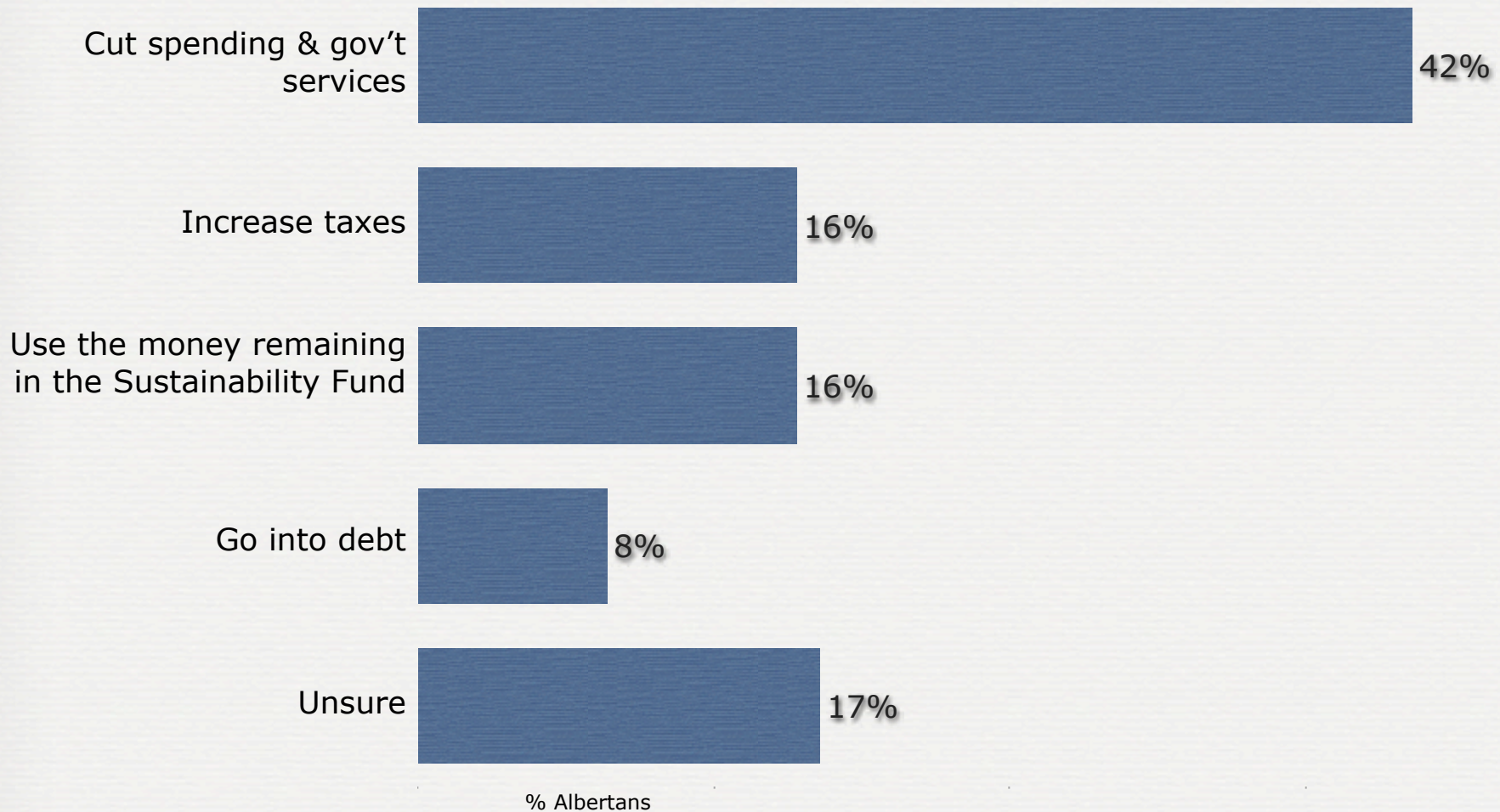
- ◉ The Spring Session will be a major challenge for the Tories
 - ◉ Public sentiment calls for spending cuts to balance the budget
 - ◉ Government has done little to condition electorate for “smart debt” policy
 - ◉ Budget issues have few political upsides for the Tories: galvanizes WR supporters, splits PC voters



PC government has pricey promises to keep & a serious budget problem ahead: Aspirations to channel Lougheed, but government runs the risk of acquiring a Getty reputation

PUBLIC VIEWS ON ADDRESSING PROVINCIAL DEFICIT

"In its second-quarter financial update, the Province of Alberta indicated that the Provincial budget deficit, originally projected to be roughly \$900 Million this year, is now expected to be a shortfall of between \$2.5 - \$3 Billion. Knowing this, what course of action would you prefer the Government of Alberta take in relation to its budget?"



PUBLIC VIEWS ON ADDRESSING PROVINCIAL DEFICIT

- BY PROVINCIAL VOTE INTENTION -

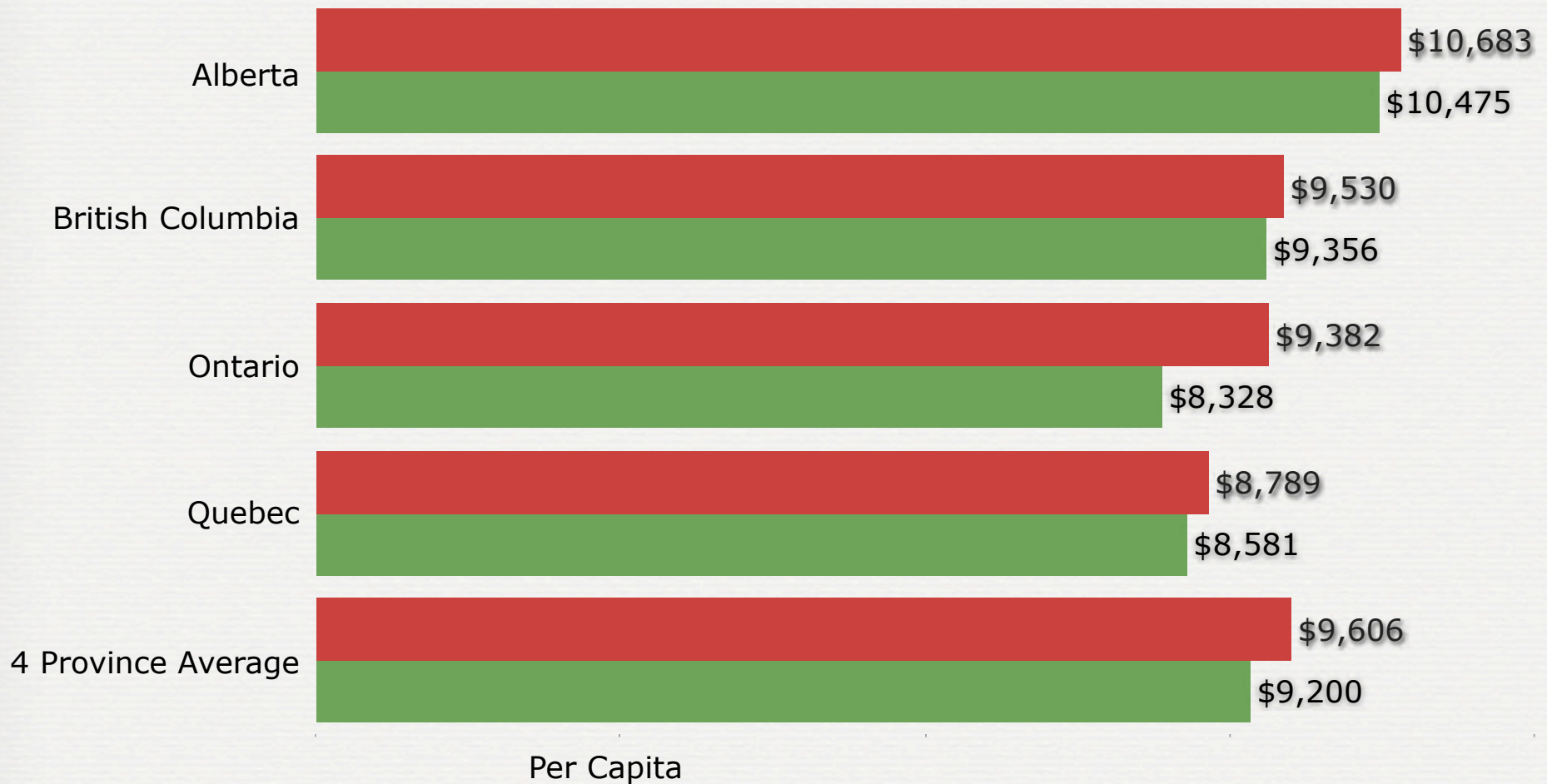
"In its second-quarter financial update, the Province of Alberta indicated that the Provincial budget deficit, originally projected to be roughly \$900 Million this year, is now expected to be a shortfall of between \$2.5 - \$3 Billion. Knowing this, what course of action would you prefer the Government of Alberta take in relation to its budget?"

	TOTAL (1310)	PC (337)	Wildrose (390)	Liberal (130)	NDP (173)	Undecided (171)
Cut government spending and services	42%	41%	67%	22%	20%	40%
Increase taxes	16%	10%	7%	18%	37%	16%
Use the money remaining in the Sustainability Fund	16%	20%	13%	21%	17%	12%
Go into debt	8%	12%	3%	18%	12%	3%
Unsure	17%	18%	10%	20%	15%	29%

COMPARING PROVINCIAL BUDGETS 2012-13

- CANADA'S 4 LARGEST PROVINCES -

■ Expenditure ■ Revenue



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Sources: AB, ON, BC Provincial 2012-13 Budget Documents; PQ 2013-14 Budget Documents (2012-13 actuals)
Stats Canada 2012 Population Estimates



ALBERTA PROVINCIAL REVENUES

- PER CAPITA "WHAT IF" SCENARIOS -

	TOTAL REVENUE	TOTAL REVENUE PER CAPITA
Budget 2012-13 Forecast	\$40.3 Billion	\$10,475
Revenues Fall by ~\$3 Billion	\$37.0 Billion	\$9,617
Revenues Fall by ~\$5 Billion	\$35.0 Billion	\$9,097
Revenues Fall by ~\$8 Billion	\$32.0 Billion	\$8,317

PROVINCIAL REVENUE
COMPARISONS
2012-13
(Per Capita)

B.C.
\$9,356

ONTARIO
\$8,328

QUEBEC
\$8,581

Sources: AB, ON, BC Provincial 2012-13 Budget Documents; PQ 2013-14 Budget Documents (2012-13 actuals)
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