



***EMBARGOED UNTIL OCTOBER 8, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.**

**CBC - ALBERTA HEALTHCARE POLL:
Albertans support reinstating healthcare premiums**

The majority of Albertans, regardless of age or where they live, support reinstating health care premiums according to a recent poll conducted for CBC Alberta by NRG Research Group. The poll shows that 58% support such a move while 38% oppose it. [See Figure 14]

"To have such widespread support for re-instating healthcare premiums so soon after the Stelmach Government removed them is surprising," said Bruce Cameron, the pollster who designed and analyzed the poll for CBC. "The rising political pressure from some fiscal conservatives to address the billion dollar healthcare deficit will only increase given Albertans' willingness to pay their own health care premiums once again."

The poll was conducted to support a special series "**Stressed Out – a Healthcare Check-up**", which aired Monday, October 5 to Friday, October 9 on **CBC Radio One in Edmonton 93.9FM/740AM**. Tomorrow, CBC will release results on how Albertans rate the government and administrators in dealing with healthcare.

The CBC – Alberta Healthcare survey took place between September 18 and 23, 2009 by telephone utilizing a random digital sample, ensuring all adult Albertans had an equal chance of being selected. This representative cross-section of 804 adult Albertans is accurate to within +/-3.5 percentage points 19 times out of 20.

For complete coverage of the survey, tune in to **CBC Radio One's Edmonton AM with Ron Wilson**, weekdays from 5:30 to 8:30 a.m. and **Radio Active with Peter Brown**, weekdays from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. or visit cbc.ca/edmonton.

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For more information or an interview, contact:

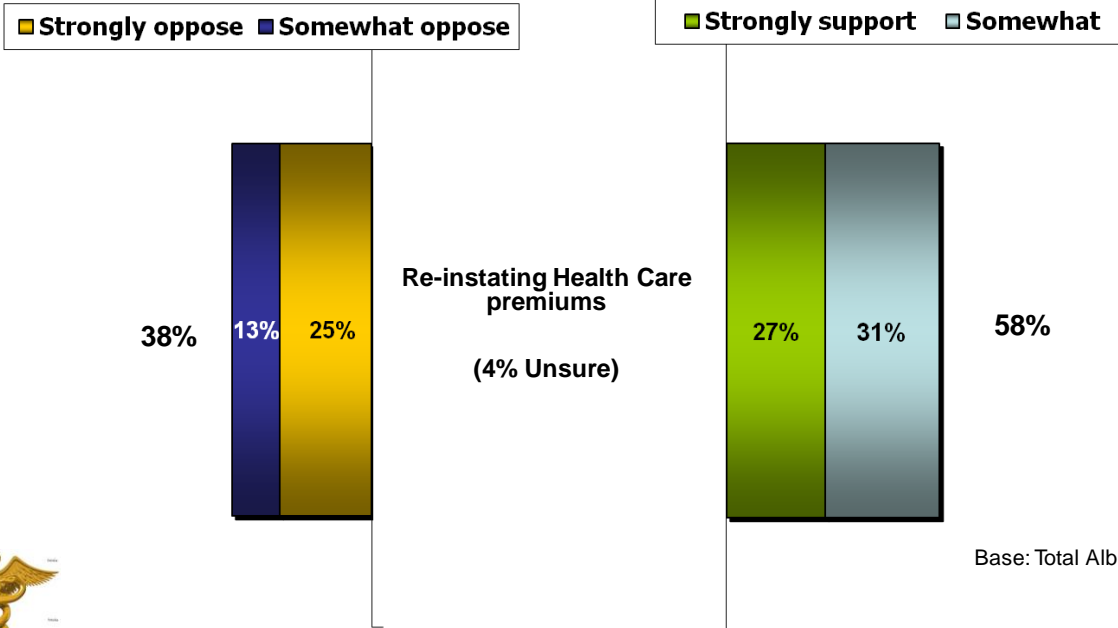
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Figure 14 Support for Re-Instating Healthcare Premiums

"Would you support or oppose the re-introduction of health care premiums in order to help cover the healthcare funding shortfall? Is that strongly or somewhat?"



Base: Total Alberta (804)

