



BC FACT SHEET

May 2004

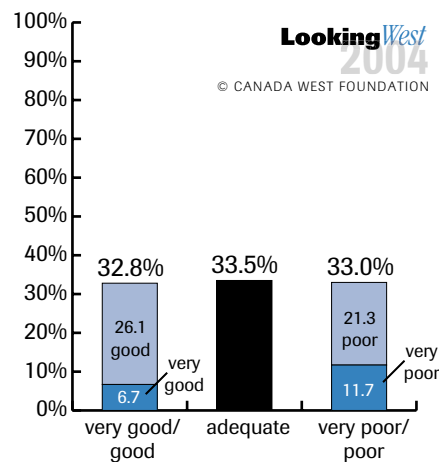
Environment

The Looking West 2004 policy priorities data demonstrate almost two-thirds (65.5%) of British Columbians feel that protecting the environment is a high priority for long-term provincial prosperity and quality of life, while almost three in ten (27.6%) feel it is a medium priority. Less than one in ten feels it is either a low priority (6.1%) or not a priority (0.6%).

To further probe attitudes about the environment, Looking West 2004 survey respondents were asked two questions specific to environmental stewardship, defined to respondents as “the long-term management of our land, water and other natural resources.” First, respondents were asked, “How would you rate the [province] government’s performance in the area of environmental stewardship? Very good; good; adequate; poor; very poor.” Second, respondents were asked, “How would you rate the federal government’s performance in the area of environmental stewardship? Very good; good; adequate; poor; very poor.”

British Columbians do not have overwhelmingly positive opinions about how governments are handling environmental stewardship, but clearly see the provincial government in a better light. Just one-third (32.8%) rates the BC government’s performance as good or very good, while one-third (33.0%) rates it as poor or very poor. The final third (33.5%) states that the BC government’s performance is adequate.

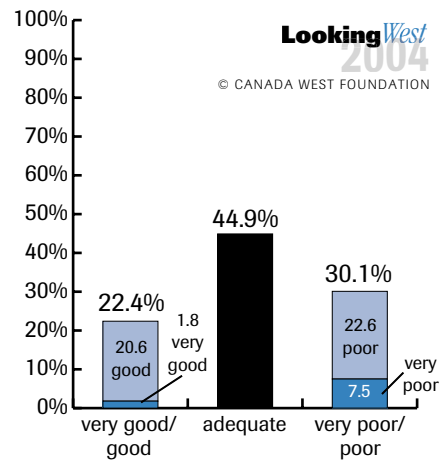
Figure 1:
Provincial Government Environmental Stewardship -
BC Respondents, 2004



How would you rate the [province] government’s performance in the area of environmental stewardship? Very good; good; adequate; poor; very poor.

The federal government fares worse, with less than one-quarter (22.4%) rating its performance on environmental stewardship as good or very good, and three in ten (30.1%) rating it as poor or very poor. The plurality (44.9%) rates the federal government's performance as adequate. There is a ten percentage point gap between the number of British Columbians who rate the BC government's performance as good or very good and the number who rate the federal government's performance as good or very good.

Figure 2:
Federal Government Environmental Stewardship -
BC Respondents



How would you rate the federal government's performance in the area of environmental stewardship? Very good; good; adequate; poor; very poor.



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