

## **Election 2013 Question**

British Columbia has experienced major unintended consequences resulting from marijuana prohibition including the proliferation of illegal marijuana grow ops and related organized crime concerns. Researchers in B.C. are interested to apply for an exemption under Section 56 (s. 56) of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, which would allow for a federally approved scientific evaluation of piloting a regulated market for adult recreational marijuana use. The small study would be ethically approved and would assess if a strictly regulated (i.e. legal) system for adult marijuana purchases could cut profits to organized crime, raise tax revenue and better protect young people from the free availability of marijuana that exists under prohibition. The study would involve a pilot site in one community requiring key stakeholder support, and would be halted if unanticipated harms emerged.

**If your party forms government, would you prevent a small-scale research trial involving an s. 56 exemption and examining if a strictly regulated (i.e. legal) system for adult marijuana purchases could cut profits to organized crime, raise tax revenue and better protect young people from the free availability of marijuana that exists under prohibition?**