

THE VANCOUVER SUN

www.vancouversun.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2002

FINAL

Call us undecided, Vancouver city voters tell pollster

Campbell: 19%
Clarke: 13%
Don't know: 53%

By KARENN KRANGLE

More than 50 per cent of Vancouver voters have no idea who to choose as mayor in next month's civic election, but for those who do, Larry Campbell of the Coalition of Progressive Electors is the clear first choice, according to a MarkTrend poll.

CIVIC ELECTIONS

MORE ON POLL: Majority backs Olympic bid A2

While the poll, released Wednesday, was based on only a tiny sample of voters — 159 Vancouverites who said they intend to cast ballots on Nov. 16 — it showed that Campbell, at 19 per cent, had as many votes as his two main contenders combined: Jennifer Clarke of the Non-Partisan Association, received 13 per cent and Valerie MacLean, of vcaTEAM, took six per cent.

One per cent said they'll vote for someone else (there are 13 other mayoral candidates, including Marc Emery of the Marijuana Party) and 53 per cent said they don't know who they'll vote for. Eight per cent refused to respond.

The poll was conducted between Sept. 27 and Oct. 7 for MarkTrend's own purposes, rather than for a client, pollster Julie Winram said. It was done as a "sub-sample" of a larger, B.C.-wide survey of opinion about the 2010 Olympics bid (story, A2.)

The margin of error on the mayoral poll was plus or minus 7.8 per cent.

Campbell, who met with *The Vancouver Sun's* editorial board Wednesday, said that because the sample was so small, he's "not going to sleep any easier tonight" over the results.

"Obviously, I've got a lot of work to do if 53 per cent [of voters] are undecided," the former chief coroner and one-time RCMP officer said. "I think this is a watershed election and people are really just beginning to look at it and deciding what to do."

Clarke, who is completing a third term on city council, agreed: "I think that the issue of whether or not people have made a decision [about who to vote for] is typical at this stage of the campaign. Many people are just becoming aware that there is a municipal election."

She didn't have any comments on her standing in the poll.

MacLean, who is head of the Better Business Bureau and also a former Mountie, said she's not concerned about her third-place standing because MarkTrend's polling was done a couple of weeks ago.

"It's early in the campaign," she said. "We're getting out more now, and we are just a new party."

MacLean said she's more heartened by the numbers in the NPA's internal poll, which was completed more recently and, she has heard, shows she has strength in some areas around town. She said she has not seen the actual numbers.

See **EARLY POLL** A2

Kamloops slaughter was over in two minutes



Dick Anderson, 55, was the regional manager of the pollution prevention branch.



Both Surrey resident Jim McCracken (top) and David Mardon of Kamloops were 54 and good men. See page A5.

Shooter had been given disciplinary note earlier that day

By PETTI FONG and GLENN BOHN

KAMLOOPS — At 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, several hours after he was disciplined for reasons that are still unclear, Richard Glenn Anderson entered the government office where he worked, pulled out a 9-mm handgun and began shooting.

It was over in two minutes. Kamloops RCMP received the first 911 call at 2:39 p.m. and were on the scene in five minutes, but it was too late.

Inside a building housing offices of the water, land and air protection ministry, three people were dead: Anderson, 55, a regional manager, and two other ministry employees, David Humphrey Mardon of Kamloops and Surrey resident James William McCracken.

Police admitted Wednesday they will likely never know what occurred between the three men. Mardon and McCracken, both 54, were killed inside one room. Anderson left that room and took his own life in another area.

"At no time was anyone held hostage," said Constable Mike Pears with the Kamloops RCMP. "Exactly what transpired in that initial room can only truly be known by the three individuals who are now deceased."

An unspecified number of ministry employees escaped from the building, while a couple remained hidden inside, according to police.

The two-minute shooting spree first appeared to be a hostage-taking. An emergency-response team was assembled but did not enter the building for four hours, after misinterpreting the incident as a standoff in which employees were being held at gunpoint.

Anderson, a Kamloops resident, was under some stress over fears of layoffs to his staff. He was Mardon's supervisor.

McCracken was the Lower Mainland regional manager of the provincial government ministry responsible for enforcing pollution laws and environmental protection programs.

Anderson was the senior official in the region who ensured that local pulp mills and other industries, businesses and local governments were not dumping more pollutants than legally allowed.

Late Wednesday afternoon, the RCMP confirmed a number of

See **'THE LAST PERSON'** A4

Shooter felt employer treated him unfairly

Neighbours say Anderson was resigned to his situation at work

By YVONNE ZACHARIAS

KAMLOOPS — On the surface, Dick Anderson seemed a contented man.

He lived in one of this Interior city's finest neighbourhoods in a house on a quarter-acre lot that he and his wife Lynn bought in 1996.

A stone's throw from a golf course, the neighbourhood has a breathtaking view of the surrounding hills and homes with double-car garages, poodle-size dogs for pets and owners who post cute, colourful little welcome signs near their front doors.

Yet the 55-year-old Anderson, the regional manager of the pollution prevention branch for the provincial ministry of water, land and air protection who was

paid \$75,403 during the last fiscal year, had long harboured a feeling that his employer had not treated him fairly.

Retired RCMP officer Ken Watson saw this both first- and second-hand.

Watson said Anderson complained to him on a number of occasions that he did not get what he had been promised when he transferred from Smithers or Terrace — Watson wasn't sure which — about six years ago.

"He was supposed to get the head honcho job here, but someone else got it instead," said the affable retiree while out walking his dog in the neighbourhood. "He said he wouldn't have bought a house here if he had known things would turn out this way."

Watson said, however, that instead of being angry, Anderson seemed somewhat resigned to his situation. "He just said that's the way government operates."

But perhaps Anderson, who killed two ministry employees and then himself in a tense drama in a government office building here Tuesday, wasn't as calm about his situation as he appeared. Perhaps getting a disciplinary letter from a supervisor earlier in the day was the last straw.

Kamloops RCMP say that after getting the letter, he became very upset, returned to the office with a 9-mm handgun registered in his name, shot ministry employees David Mardon and Jim McCracken, a visiting

See **THERE WERE** A5

INSIDE

- How it unfolded, A4
- Victim Mardon lived for his music, A5
- Victim McCracken was devoted family man, A5

QUEUE

A NIGHT WITH DAME EDNA
The stylish starlet graces Vancouver with her presence — and what a presence



Sunny
Full report, C21

Births & Deaths C10	Lotteries A2
Bridge C12	Deidre McMurdy C5
Paula Brook C2	Gary Mason B11
Business C1	Movies D26
Charles Campbell B9	Music D14
Michael Campbell C3	Vaughn Palmer A22
Classified C11	Malcolm Parry B3
Comics/Kids C23	Queue D1
Crossword C15, C17	Mike Sages C7
Editorials A22	Sports B11
Horoscope C14	TV C22
Insight A21	Theatre D11
Letters A23	Barbara Yaffe A22

* * * *
70 CENTS RETAIL
75 CENTS COIN BOX
\$1 MINIMUM OUTSIDE
LOWER MAINLAND



canada.com

FLOORWIDE SALE

Carpets / Area Rugs / Hardwood
Vinyls / Ceramics / Laminates

25%-50% OFF

JORDANS
A FAMILY TRADITION SINCE 1929

• BROADWAY AT GRANVILLE 1470 W. Broadway 733-1174
• WEST VANCOUVER North Mall, Park Royal 922-9305
• COQUITLAM Pacific Reach 1539 United Blvd. 522-9855

• LANGLEY 200th St. 1 Bldg. S. of BYPASS 534-6550
• RICHMOND WAREHOUSE OUTLET (Behind Ikea) 3320 Jacobs 273-3876
• SURREY WAREHOUSE OUTLET 7615 King George at 76th Ave. 591-7884

www.jordans

ELECTION COVERAGE

- Squamish, Pemberton, Lions Bay area, **B1, B7 and B8**
- Charles Campbell, **B9**
- Election letters, **B9**