

Medias poll gives Fedeli commanding lead in race for mayor

by Ken Pagan
The Nugget

Vic Fedeli has a commanding lead in the North Bay mayoral race, a recent media poll indicates. The Oracle Research poll, conducted for MCTV, shows Fedeli is the choice of 71.6 per cent of the decided respondents, while deputy mayor Lynne Bennett has the support of 22.7 per cent. Jeff Marceau and Tim Wright share the remaining 5.7 per cent. The poll was based on a survey of 301 North Bay residents prior to Oct. 20, with 24.2 per cent stating they were undecided. There is a margin of error of plus or minus 5.6 per cent, 19 times out of 20.

Fedeli dismissed the poll's results. "While I am grateful to the media for their diligence, the only poll I intend to respond to is the one on Monday, Nov. 10," he said.

Bennett said she was aware of the poll, and she "will continue with my campaign as I normally would." Wright and Marceau could not be reached for comment. All four mayoral candidates will take part in a North Bay and District Chamber of Commerce candidates' forum tonight at 6 p.m. at Clarion Resort Pinewood Park. In addition to speeches and responses to prepared question, the mayoral candidates will take questions from the public.

Advance polls open Thursday and continue through Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at city hall. The advance polls will remain open from Monday to Friday next week. Including landowners who live outside the city, there are 41,178 registered voters for the Nov. 10 municipal election, said Cathy Conrad, North Bay city clerk. The number will be closer to 42,000 as new voters continue to register, she said.