JOY'S LEAD CONFIRMED IN QC POLLS

By Maricel V. Cruz and Joel E. Zurbano

WITH only two weeks to go before the elections, mayoralty candidate Joy Belmonte has cemented a strong lead in Quezon City in the most recent non-commissioned survey among local voters.

The three-term vice mayor garnered 63 percent in voter preference, while rivals Rep. Vincent Crisologo and Ismael "Chuck" Mathay III trail with 32 percent and three percent, respectively, in the poll conducted by iSurvey, an independent research and data analytics company.

The city-wide survey was conducted between April 19 to 25 with 15,000 registered voters 18 years and older from across all districts of Quezon City.

Belmonte is also the preferred candidate in the May 13 elections based on the latest survey released by the RP-Mission and Development Foundation Inc.

Dubbed the "Halalan 2019 NCR Survey," RPMDinc's tally saw Belmonte garner 62 percent of the votes compared to the 36 percent and one percent obtained, respectively, by Crisologo and former lawmaker Chuck Mathay. The non-commissioned survey was conducted last April 1 to 8.

The iSurvey poll was "conducted amidst a background of contrasting platforms from the two main candidates."

Poll leader Belmonte is campaigning on a "progressive platform" centered on providing affordable housing to informal settler families, improving benefits for health and education in the city, providing social services for all, and ensuring peace and order.

Meanwhile, Crisologo has focused on allocating a big portion of Quezon City's budget to social services. The incumbent 1st District Congressman has also been campaigning to remove tax discounts given to senior citizens, solo parents, and people with disabilities to uniformly tax all sectors in the city.