

**MEDIA RELEASE: June 7, 2012**

**For Immediate Release**

## **Nova Scotia NDP and Liberals in Statistical Tie in Voter Support**

**HALIFAX:** Satisfaction with the provincial government decreased again this quarter, according to the most recent survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.** Presently, four in ten Nova Scotia residents are satisfied with the overall performance of the Dexter government (41%, down from 48% in February 2012 and 55% in November 2011). Just over one-half are dissatisfied (52%, up from 42%), while eight percent (compared with 10%) do not offer a definite opinion.

In terms of voting intentions, support for the governing NDP also declined significantly, with 35 percent of decided voters backing the NDP (down from 44% three months ago). Meanwhile, support for the Liberal Party increased (33%, up from 27%). Support for the PC Party stands at 28 percent (compared to 25%). Four percent prefer the Green Party (compared with 3%). Under four in ten are undecided, do not plan to vote, or did not offer a response (36%, down from 44%).

Premier Darrell Dexter's personal popularity also decreased this quarter, with under one-quarter preferring Dexter for Premier (23%, down from 29%). Support for Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party increased (27%, up from 21%), while support for Jamie Baillie of the PC Party is unchanged (21%, compared with 22%). Preference for John Percy of the Green Party stands at five percent (compared with 3%), while preference for Jonathan Dean of the Atlantica Party remains unchanged at one percent. Over one in ten Nova Scotians (14%, down from 17%) are undecided in terms of leader preference, while the remainder prefer none of these leaders (9%, compared with 7%).

These results are part of the **CRA Atlantic Quarterly**<sup>®</sup>, an independent, quarterly survey of Atlantic Canadians, and are based on a sample of 808 adult Nova Scotians, conducted from May 7 to June 4, 2012, with overall results accurate to within  $\pm 3.4$  percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.

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**CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – Spring 2012**  
**Nova Scotia Political Results**

Sample: 808 Nova Scotians (18 years plus)

Interview Dates: May 7 to June 4, 2012

Overall Margin of Sampling Error: ± 3.4 percentage points (95% confidence level)

<i>How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the provincial government led by Premier Darrell Dexter?</i>					
	<b>May 2011</b>	<b>August 2011</b>	<b>November 2011</b>	<b>February 2012</b>	<b>May 2012</b>
Completely satisfied	1%	3%	5%	3%	<b>2%</b>
Mostly satisfied	46%	46%	50%	45%	<b>39%</b>
Mostly dissatisfied	28%	28%	23%	30%	<b>33%</b>
Completely dissatisfied	11%	11%	13%	12%	<b>19%</b>
Don't know/No answer/Neither	13%	11%	9%	10%	<b>8%</b>

<i>If a provincial election were held today in Nova Scotia, for which party would you vote?</i>					
<b>Party</b>	<b>May 2011</b>	<b>August 2011</b>	<b>November 2011</b>	<b>February 2012</b>	<b>May 2012</b>
NDP	42%	41%	45%	44%	<b>35%</b>
Liberal Party	22%	26%	22%	27%	<b>33%</b>
PC Party	31%	30%	29%	25%	<b>28%</b>
Green Party	4%	4%	4%	3%	<b>4%</b>
Atlantica Party*	0%	0%	0%	0%	<b>0%</b>
Other	1%	0%	0%	0%	<b>1%</b>
<b>TOTAL DECIDED VOTE</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>101%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>101%</b>
Undecided/Don't know/No answer/ Do not plan to vote/Refused	41%	40%	40%	44%	<b>36%</b>

<i>Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Nova Scotia?</i>					
<b>Leader</b>	<b>May 2011</b>	<b>August 2011</b>	<b>November 2011</b>	<b>February 2012</b>	<b>May 2012</b>
Darrell Dexter of the NDP	28%	31%	36%	29%	<b>23%</b>
Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party	20%	23%	22%	21%	<b>27%</b>
Jamie Baillie of the PC Party	21%	17%	18%	22%	<b>21%</b>
John Percy of the Green Party	3%	5%	5%	3%	<b>5%</b>
Jonathan Dean of the Atlantica Party*	0%	0%	1%	1%	<b>1%</b>
None	5%	6%	5%	7%	<b>9%</b>
Don't know/No answer	17%	18%	14%	17%	<b>14%</b>

\*The Atlantica Party was deregistered as of June 5, 2012