



MEDIA RELEASE: September 4, 2013

For Immediate Release

NS Liberals Still Ahead Although Gap Narrows

HALIFAX: The provincial Liberals continue to lead in terms of voter support this quarter although the gap has narrowed, according to the most recent survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.** Three in ten Nova Scotians support the NDP (31%, compared with 26% in May 2013), while support for the Liberal Party rests at 41 percent (compared with 45%). Support among decided voters for the PC Party is stable at 25 percent (compared with 26%), while three percent prefer the Green Party (unchanged) and less than one percent prefer another party other than the above mentioned (unchanged). The number of Nova Scotians who are undecided rests at 41 percent (compared with 43%), while seven percent refuse to state a preference (compared with 6%), and five percent support none of the parties or do not plan to vote (compared with 6%).

In terms of government satisfaction, just over four in ten Nova Scotia residents are satisfied with the overall performance of the Dexter government (42%, compared with 40% in May 2013). Under one-half of Nova Scotians are dissatisfied with the performance of the NDP Government (45%, down from 49%) while 13 percent (compared with 11%) do not offer a definite opinion.

Premier Darrell Dexter's personal popularity is stable, resting at 19 percent (compared with 18% three months ago). Support for Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party stands at 30 percent (compared with 31%), while two in ten back Jamie Baillie of the PC Party (19%, compared with 18%). Preference for John Percy of the Green Party stands at four percent (compared with 2%). Nearly one-quarter of Nova Scotians (23%, unchanged) are undecided in terms of leader preference, while six percent prefer none of these leaders (compared with 8%).

These results are part of the **CRA Atlantic Quarterly**[®], an independent, quarterly survey of Atlantic Canadians, and are based on a sample of 1601 adult Nova Scotians, conducted from August 8 to August 31, 2013, with overall results accurate to within ± 2.4 percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.

For more information, please contact:

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CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – Summer 2013
Nova Scotia Political Results

Sample: 1601 Nova Scotians (18 years plus)
Interview Dates: August 8 to August 31, 2013
Overall Margin of Sampling Error: ± 2.4 percentage points (95% confidence level)

How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the provincial government led by Premier Darrell Dexter?					
	August 2012	November 2012	February 2013	May 2013	August 2013
Completely satisfied	2%	3%	3%	2%	3%
Mostly satisfied	35%	39%	37%	38%	39%
Mostly dissatisfied	32%	34%	34%	31%	29%
Completely dissatisfied	22%	16%	17%	18%	16%
Don't know/No answer/Neither	9%	7%	10%	11%	13%

If a provincial election were held today in Nova Scotia, for which party would you vote?					
Party	August 2012	November 2012	February 2013	May 2013	August 2013
NDP	31%	29%	32%	26%	31%
Liberal Party	41%	41%	39%	45%	41%
PC Party	22%	27%	24%	26%	25%
Green Party	5%	3%	5%	3%	3%
Other	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
TOTAL DECIDED VOTE	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
None/Do not plan to vote	6%	6%	8%	6%	5%
Refused to state	6%	6%	7%	6%	7%
Don't know/Undecided	32%	28%	34%	43%	41%

Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding. Margin of error for decided voters is ± 3.6% based on a sample size of 745.

Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Nova Scotia?					
Leader	August 2012	November 2012	February 2013	May 2013	August 2013
Darrell Dexter of the NDP (Elected June, 2009)	23%	26%	21%	18%	19%
Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party	35%	33%	26%	31%	30%
Jamie Baillie of the PC Party	17%	17%	20%	18%	19%
John Percy of the Green Party	3%	3%	4%	2%	4%
None	7%	4%	6%	8%	6%
Don't know/No answer	16%	17%	23%	23%	23%

Margin of error is ± 4.9% based on a sample size of 400