



MEDIA RELEASE: March 5, 2014

For Immediate Release

Satisfaction with NS Government Increases

HALIFAX: Satisfaction with the performance of the NS provincial government is increasing, according to the most recent survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.** Specifically, six in ten Nova Scotia residents are satisfied with the overall performance of the new McNeil government (58%, up from 50% in November 2013), while two in ten Nova Scotians are dissatisfied (20%, up from 12%). Meanwhile, 14 percent (unchanged) do not offer a definite opinion, while one in ten say it is too soon to tell (8%, down from 25%).

In terms of voter intentions, six in ten NS residents support the Liberal Party (60%, compared with 58% in November 2013). Two in ten Nova Scotians support the PC Party (20%, compared with 19%), while 18 percent of residents support the NDP (compared with 19%). Two percent prefer the Green Party (compared with 3%) and less than one percent prefer a party other than the above mentioned (compared with 1%). The number of Nova Scotians who are undecided rests at 27 percent (up from 22%), while four percent refuse to state a preference (compared with 6%), and seven percent either support none of the parties or do not plan to vote (compared with 5%).

Support for Premier Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party stands at 50 percent (compared with 46%), while under two in ten back Jamie Baillie of the PC Party (15%, compared with 17%). Preference for acting Leader Maureen MacDonald of the NDP rests at 12 percent (compared with 15% three months ago), while preference for John Percy of the Green Party stands at two percent (compared with 3%). Nearly one in six Nova Scotians (15%, compared with 16%) are undecided in terms of leader preference, while six percent prefer none of these leaders (up from 3%).

These results are part of the **CRA Atlantic Quarterly**[®], an independent, quarterly telephone survey of Atlantic Canadians, and are based on a sample of 801 adult Nova Scotians, conducted from February 10 to February 28, 2014, with overall results accurate to within ± 3.5 percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.

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CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – Winter 2014

Nova Scotia Political Results

Sample: 801 Nova Scotians (18 years plus)

Interview Dates: February 10 to February 28, 2014

Overall Margin of Sampling Error: ± 3.5 percentage points (95% confidence level)

<i>How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the provincial government led by ...</i>					
	Premier Darrell Dexter?			Premier Stephen McNeil?	
	February 2013	May 2013	August 2013	November 2013	February 2014
Completely satisfied	3%	2%	3%	7%	3%
Mostly satisfied	37%	38%	39%	43%	55%
Mostly dissatisfied	34%	31%	29%	8%	16%
Completely dissatisfied	17%	18%	16%	4%	4%
Don't know/No answer/Neither	10%	11%	13%	14%	14%
Too soon to tell	-	-	-	25%	8%

<i>If a provincial election were held today in Nova Scotia, for which party would you vote?</i>					
Party	February 2013	May 2013	August 2013	November 2013*	February 2014
Liberal Party	39%	45%	41%	58%	60%
PC Party	24%	26%	25%	19%	20%
NDP	32%	26%	31%	19%	18%
Green Party	5%	3%	3%	3%	2%
Other	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
TOTAL DECIDED VOTE	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
None/Do not plan to vote	8%	6%	5%	5%	7%
Refused to state	7%	6%	7%	6%	4%
Don't know/Undecided	34%	43%	41%	22%	27%

Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding. Margin of error for decided voters is ± 4.4% based on a sample size of 498.

<i>Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Nova Scotia?</i>					
Leader	February 2013	May 2013	August 2013	November 2013*	February 2014
Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party (Became Premier in October 2013)	26%	31%	30%	46%	50%
Jamie Baillie of the PC Party	20%	18%	19%	17%	15%
Darrell Dexter/Acting Leader Maureen MacDonald of the NDP	21%	18%	19%	15%	12%
John Percy of the Green Party	4%	2%	4%	3%	2%
None	6%	8%	6%	3%	6%
Don't know/No answer/Other	23%	23%	23%	16%	15%

* Results for November 2013 were collected up until November 23, 2013 when Darrell Dexter stepped down as NDP leader. Margin of error is ± 4.9% based on a sample size of 401.