



**MEDIA RELEASE: September 3, 2014**

**For Immediate Release**

## **Honeymoon with McNeil Liberals Continues**

**HALIFAX:** The NS Liberals maintain a wide lead over other parties in terms of voting intentions, according to the most recent survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.** Specifically, over six in ten NS residents support the Liberal Party (63%, compared with 57% in May 2014). Two in ten Nova Scotians support the PC Party (20%, compared with 21%), while 14 percent of residents support the NDP (down from 19%). Three percent prefer the Green Party (unchanged). The number of Nova Scotians who are undecided rests at 28 percent (compared with 31%), while five percent refuse to state a preference (compared with 6%), and six percent either support none of the parties or do not plan to vote (unchanged).

Nova Scotians continue to be satisfied with the performance of their provincial government. Six in ten residents are satisfied with the overall performance of the McNeil government (61%, compared with 62% three months ago), while one-quarter of Nova Scotians are dissatisfied (24%, compared with 25%). Meanwhile, 15 percent (compared with 11%) do not offer a definite opinion, while one percent say it is too soon to tell (compared with 2%).

When considering leader preference, support for Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party stands at 48 percent (compared with 45% three months ago), while two in ten prefer Jamie Baillie of the PC Party (19%, compared with 18%). Preference for acting leader Maureen MacDonald of the NDP rests at nine percent (compared with 13%), while preference for John Percy of the Green Party stands at three percent (compared with 2%). Over one in ten (13%, compared with 15%) are undecided in terms of leader preference, while seven percent prefer none of these leaders (unchanged).

These results are part of the **CRA Atlantic Quarterly**<sup>®</sup>, an independent, quarterly telephone survey of Atlantic Canadians, and are based on a sample of 803 adult Nova Scotians, conducted from August 7 to September 1, 2014 with overall results accurate to within  $\pm 3.5$  percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.

**For more information, please contact:**

Don Mills, Chairman and CEO, at (902) 493-3838



## CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – Summer 2014

### Nova Scotia Political Results

Sample: 803 Nova Scotians (18 years plus)

Interview Dates: August 7 to September 1, 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?			
	August 2013	November 2013	February 2014	May 2014	August 2014
Completely satisfied	3%	7%	3%	4%	4%
Mostly satisfied	39%	43%	55%	58%	57%
Mostly dissatisfied	29%	8%	16%	19%	17%
Completely dissatisfied	16%	4%	4%	6%	7%
Don't know/No answer/Neither	13%	14%	14%	11%	15%
Too soon to tell	-	25%	8%	2%	1%

<i>If a provincial election were held today in Nova Scotia, for which party would you vote?</i>					
Party	August 2013	November 2013	February 2014	May 2014	August 2014*
Liberal Party	41%	58%	60%	57%	63%
PC Party	25%	19%	20%	21%	20%
NDP	31%	19%	18%	19%	14%
Green Party	3%	3%	2%	3%	3%
Other	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
<b>TOTAL DECIDED VOTE</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
None/Do not plan to vote	5%	5%	7%	6%	6%
Refused to state	7%	6%	4%	6%	5%
Don't know/Undecided	41%	22%	27%	31%	28%

\*Margin of error for decided voters is ± 4.5% based on a sample size of 482.

<i>Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Nova Scotia?</i>					
Leader	August 2013	November 2013**	February 2014	May 2014	August 2014
Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party (Became Premier in October 2013)	30%	46%	50%	45%	48%
Jamie Baillie of the PC Party	19%	17%	15%	18%	19%
Darrell Dexter/Acting Leader	19%	15%	12%	13%	9%
Maureen MacDonald of the NDP					
John Percy of the Green Party	4%	3%	2%	2%	3%
None	6%	3%	6%	7%	7%
Don't know/No answer/Other	23%	16%	15%	15%	13%

\*\* Results for November 2013 were collected up until November 23, 2013 when Darrell Dexter stepped down as NDP leader. Current margin of error is ± 4.9% based on a sample size of 402.