



**MEDIA RELEASE: December 8, 2014**

**For Immediate Release**

## **PEI Liberals Maintain Lead Amidst Ghiz Resignation**

**HALIFAX:** According to the most recent survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.**, the PEI Liberal Party has maintained its lead over other provincial parties despite the recent announcement that Robert Ghiz will be stepping down as Premier of Prince Edward Island. Specifically, one-half of residents support the Liberals this quarter (50%, compared with 48% in August 2014), while backing for the PCs stands at 23 percent (compared with 28%). Support for the NDP stands at 15 percent (compared with 16%), while support for the Green Party rests at 11 percent (compared with 7%). The number of Islanders who are undecided rests at 26 percent (compared with 25%), while five percent refuse to state a preference (compared with 8%), and four percent either support none of the parties or do not plan to vote (compared with 5%).

With regards to government satisfaction, over one-half of PEI residents (54%, compared with 52% three months ago) are satisfied, while four in ten (39%, compared with 41%) are dissatisfied. The number of residents who do not offer a definite opinion stands at eight percent (compared with 6% three months ago).

Liberal leader Robert Ghiz's personal popularity is stable this quarter (Premier Ghiz announced his resignation on November 13<sup>th</sup> while this survey was being conducted). Presently, four in ten residents (41%, compared with 36%) prefer Ghiz for Premier. Meanwhile, approximately one in seven Islanders (13%, compared with 14%) prefer Interim Leader Steven Myers of the PC Party, while under two in ten (17%, compared with 18%) back Mike Redmond of the NDP. Support for Peter Bevan-Baker of the Green Party stands at five percent (unchanged). One in ten (10%, compared with 9%) prefer none of these leaders, while one in seven (14%, compared with 17%) are undecided or do not offer an opinion.

These results are part of the **CRA Atlantic Quarterly**<sup>®</sup>, an independent telephone survey of Atlantic Canadians, and are based on a sample of 300 adult Prince Edward Islanders, conducted from November 5 to November 25, 2014 with overall results accurate to within  $\pm 5.7$  percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.

**For more information, please contact:**

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## CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – Autumn 2014

### Prince Edward Island Political Results

Sample: 300 Prince Edward Islanders (18 years plus)

Interview Dates: November 5 to November 25, 2014

Overall Margin of Sampling Error: ± 5.7 percentage points (95% confidence level)

<i>How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the provincial government led by Premier Robert Ghiz?</i>					
	November 2013	February 2014	May 2014	August 2014	November 2014
Completely satisfied	3%	2%	4%	3%	6%
Mostly satisfied	47%	41%	51%	49%	48%
Mostly dissatisfied	32%	34%	26%	25%	24%
Completely dissatisfied	16%	17%	15%	16%	15%
Don't know/No answer/Neither	3%	6%	5%	6%	8%

<i>If an election were held today on Prince Edward Island, for which party would you vote?</i>					
Party	November 2013	February 2014	May 2014	August 2014*	November 2014*
Liberal Party	49%	53%	53%	48%	50%
Progressive Conservative Party	17%	17%	23%	28%	23%
New Democratic Party	26%	22%	21%	16%	15%
Green Party	7%	7%	3%	7%	11%
Other	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
<b>TOTAL DECIDED VOTE</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>99%</b>
None/Do not plan to vote	6%	7%	6%	5%	4%
Refused to state	5%	5%	8%	8%	5%
Don't know/Undecided	29%	27%	25%	25%	26%

Current margin of error for decided voters is ± 7.1% based on a sample size of 189

\* Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

<i>Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Prince Edward Island?</i>					
Leader	November 2013	February 2014	May 2014	August 2014	November 2014
Robert Ghiz of the Liberal Party (Elected June 2007)	35%	35%	39%	36%	41%
Interim leader Steven Myers of the Progressive Conservative Party	12%	9%	12%	14%	13%
Mike Redmond of the New Democratic Party	25%	19%	17%	18%	17%
Peter Bevan-Baker of the Green Party	6%	7%	6%	5%	5%
The next leader of the Island Party of PEI	1%	1%	1%	1%	N/A
None of the above/Other	11%	10%	8%	9%	10%
Don't know/No answer	11%	18%	18%	17%	14%