

## PEI third party support rises post-election

- Support for Green Party and its leader surge.
- One-half of Islanders are satisfied with the performance of the provincial government.
- Support for Premier MacLauchlan down from last quarter; still the preferred party leader.

**HALIFAX, NS June 8, 2015:** The PE Liberals maintain a comfortable lead although third party support has surged, according to the most recent survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.**

Four in ten decided voters support the Liberals this quarter (40%, down from 58% in February 2015), while backing for the PCs stands at 24 percent (compared with 26%). Support for the NDP stands at 19 percent (compared with 12%), while 17 percent prefer the Green Party (up from 4%). The number of Islanders who are undecided rests at nine percent (down from 32%), while nine percent refuse to state a preference (compared with 7%), and three percent either support none of the parties or do not plan to vote (compared with 2%). A CRA poll commissioned by The Guardian just prior to the election showed that 44 percent of decided and leaning voters supported the Liberal Party, 35 percent the PCs, 15 percent the NDP, and six percent Green Party.

With regards to government satisfaction, one-half of PEI residents (50%, compared with 44% three months ago) are satisfied, while one-quarter (26%, compared with 30%) are dissatisfied. The number of residents who do not offer a definite opinion has declined post-election and stands at one in ten (11%, down from 26%), while 15 percent indicate it is too soon to tell.

One-third of PEI residents offer their support for newly elected Premier Wade MacLauchlan this quarter (32%, down from 42% in February, and compared with 38% in The Guardian-commissioned CRA poll). Meanwhile, Rob Lantz of the PC Party is preferred by 15 percent of residents (compared with 10% for the interim PC leader last quarter, and down from 28% in The Guardian-commissioned CRA poll), while one in ten (9%, down from 14%, and compared with 10% in The Guardian-commissioned CRA poll) back Mike Redmond of the NDP. Support for Peter Bevan-Baker of the Green Party increased dramatically to 28 percent (up from 5%, and 9% in The Guardian-commissioned CRA poll). Meanwhile four percent

(compared with 6%) prefer none of these leaders, while one in ten (11%, down from 23%) 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 May 11 to May 28, 2015 with overall results accurate to within  $\pm 5.7$  percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.

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## CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – Spring 2015

### Prince Edward Island Political Results

Sample: 300 Prince Edward Islanders (18 years plus)

Interview Dates: May 11 to May 28, 2015

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...</i>					
	<i>Premier Robert Ghiz?</i>			<i>Premier Wade MacLauchlan?</i>	
	<b>May 2014*</b>	<b>August 2014*</b>	<b>November 2014*</b>	<b>February 2015</b>	<b>May 2015*</b>
Completely satisfied	4%	3%	6%	7%	<b>6%</b>
Mostly satisfied	51%	49%	48%	37%	<b>44%</b>
Mostly dissatisfied	26%	25%	24%	21%	<b>21%</b>
Completely dissatisfied	15%	16%	15%	9%	<b>5%</b>
Don't know/No answer/Neither	5%	6%	8%	26%	<b>11%</b>
Too soon to tell	-	-	-	-	<b>15%</b>

<i>If an election were held today on Prince Edward Island, for which party would you vote?</i>						
<i>*April 2015 includes decided and leaning voters</i>						
<b>Party</b>	<b>May 2014</b>	<b>August 2014*</b>	<b>November 2014*</b>	<b>February 2015</b>	<b>April 2015* (CRA/The Guardian)</b>	<b>May 2015</b>
Liberal Party	53%	48%	50%	58%	<b>44%</b>	<b>40%</b>
Progressive Conservative Party	23%	28%	23%	26%	<b>35%</b>	<b>24%</b>
New Democratic Party	21%	16%	15%	12%	<b>15%</b>	<b>19%</b>
Green Party	3%	7%	11%	4%	<b>6%</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>TOTAL DECIDED VOTE</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
None/Do not plan to vote	6%	5%	4%	2%	<b>3%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Refused to state	8%	8%	5%	7%	<b>4%</b>	<b>9%</b>
Don't know/Undecided	25%	25%	26%	32%	<b>31%</b>	<b>9%</b>

Current margin of error for decided voters is ± 6.4% based on a sample size of 232

<b>Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Prince Edward Island?</b>						
<b>Leader</b>	<b>May 2014*</b>	<b>August 2014</b>	<b>November 2014</b>	<b>February 2015</b>	<b>April 2015 (CRA/The Guardian)</b>	<b>May 2015*</b>
Robert Ghiz/Wade MacLauchlan of the Liberal Party (Sworn in as Premier on February 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2015)	39%	36%	41%	42%	38%	32%
Interim leader Steven Myers/Rob Lantz of the Progressive Conservative Party	12%	14%	13%	10%	28%	15%
Mike Redmond of the New Democratic Party	17%	18%	17%	14%	10%	9%
Peter Bevan-Baker of the Green Party	6%	5%	5%	5%	9%	28%
The next leader of the Island Party of PEI	1%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
None of the above/Other	8%	9%	10%	6%	2%	4%
Don't know/No answer	18%	17%	14%	23%	13%	11%

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