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For Immediate Release

Atlantic Canadians Do Not Favour Status Quo for Senate

HALIFAX: A plurality of Atlantic Canadians would prefer to abolish the Senate, according to the latest survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.** When Atlantic Canadian residents were asked which three positions comes closest to their own, having an elected Senate, abolishing the Senate or no changes to the Senate, four in ten (40%) residents believe the Senate should be abolished, while three in ten (30%) are in favour of having an elected Senate. Meanwhile, two in ten (19%) believe the Senate should remain as is, while just over one in ten (12%) are not sure or do not offer an opinion.

“Perhaps not surprising given the recent Senate scandal, few Atlantic Canadians believe that the Senate should remain as it is,” according to Don Mills, Chairman and CEO of Corporate Research Associates. “A substantial minority prefer that the Senate be abolished. This is a message to the Senate underscoring the need for reform.”

Across the region, residents in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Labrador are most likely to favour the removal of the Senate, while Nova Scotia residents are equally likely to support having an elected Senate or to abolish the Senate.

These results are part of the **CRA Atlantic Quarterly**[®], an independent, quarterly survey of Atlantic Canadians, and are based on a telephone sample of 1500 adult Atlantic Canadians, conducted from August 7 to September 1, 2013, with overall results accurate to within ± 2.5 percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.

For more information, please contact:

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

Margaret Brigley, President and COO at (902) 493-3830



CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – Summer 2013
Atlantic Canada Results

Sample: 1500 Atlantic Canadians (18 years plus)
Interview Dates: August 7 to September 1, 2013
Overall Margin of Sampling Error: ± 2.5 percentage points (95% confidence level)

Some people say that an elected Senate will improve the quality of government in Ottawa. Others say that the Senate should not be elected, it should instead be abolished. Still others prefer the status quo, that is, no changes to the existing arrangements concerning the Senate. Which one of these three positions comes closest to your own?

	Atlantic Canada	Province			
		New Brunswick	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	Newfoundland & Labrador
Have an elected Senate	30%	27%	28%	33%	28%
Abolish the Senate	40%	42%	47%	35%	43%
No changes to the Senate	19%	21%	12%	19%	16%
Don't know/ No answer	12%	10%	13%	13%	12%