

## **Majority of Nova Scotians continue to be satisfied with the performance of the Liberal Government**

- NS Liberals remain the preferred party by a comfortable margin
- Residents continue to be satisfied with the performance of the provincial government
- Premier McNeil continues to be the preferred party leader by a wide margin

**HALIFAX, NS June 9, 2016:** The Nova Scotia Liberal Party continues to be the preferred party in the province, according to the most recent survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.** Specifically, six in ten decided voters support the Liberal Party (59%, compared with 56% in February 2016). Meanwhile, preference for the New Democratic Party stands at 18 percent (compared with 16%), while two in ten prefer the Progressive Conservative Party (21%, compared with 23%). Finally, two percent prefer the Green Party (down from 5%).

The number of Nova Scotians who are undecided rests at 31 percent (compared with 27%), while six percent refuse to state a preference (compared with 4%), and a similar number either support none of these parties or do not plan to vote (6%, compared with 5%).

Satisfaction with the performance of Stephen McNeil's Liberal Government is stable and currently stands at 55 percent (compared with 54% in February 2016), while over three in ten Nova Scotians are dissatisfied (35%, compared with 39%). Meanwhile, nine percent (compared with 7%) do not offer a definite opinion.

In terms of leader preference, four in ten support Premier Stephen McNeil (41%, unchanged from three months ago), while two in ten prefer Jamie Baillie of the PC Party (19%, compared with 15%). Preference for Gary Burrill of the NDP rests at 11 percent (compared with 15%), while preference for the next leader of the Green Party stands at three percent (down from 6%). Meanwhile, two in ten (21%, compared with 17%) are undecided in terms of leader preference, while five percent prefer none of these leaders (compared with 6%).

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 800 adult Nova Scotians, conducted from May 9 to May 31, 2016 with overall results accurate to within  $\pm 3.5$  percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.

Corporate Research Associates (CRA), [www.cra.ca](http://www.cra.ca), is one of Canada's leading public opinion and market research companies. Founded in 1978, CRA is dedicated to providing clients with state-of-the-art research and strategic consulting services. CRA is a **Certified Gold Seal** Member of the Marketing Research and Intelligence Association (MRIA), which sets stringent standards as a condition of membership, and enforces those standards through independent audits. Follow us on Twitter [@CRAInsight](https://twitter.com/CRAInsight).

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## CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – Spring 2016 Nova Scotia Political Results

Sample: 800 Nova Scotians (18 years plus)  
Interview Dates: May 9 to May 31, 2016  
Overall Margin of Sampling Error: ± 3.5 percentage points (95% confidence level);  
Percentages may not equal 100 percent due to rounding

<i>How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the provincial government led by Premier Stephen McNeil?</i>					
	<b>May 2015</b>	<b>August 2015</b>	<b>November 2015</b>	<b>February 2016</b>	<b>May 2016</b>
Completely satisfied	3%	3%	2%	3%	<b>3%</b>
Mostly satisfied	47%	51%	53%	51%	<b>52%</b>
Mostly dissatisfied	28%	25%	27%	26%	<b>27%</b>
Completely dissatisfied	13%	11%	10%	13%	<b>8%</b>
Don't know/No answer/Neither	10%	9%	8%	7%	<b>9%</b>

Current overall margin of error is ± 4.9 percentage points based on a sample size of 400.

<i>If a provincial election were held today in Nova Scotia, for which party would you vote?</i>					
<b>Party</b>	<b>May 2015</b>	<b>August 2015</b>	<b>November 2015</b>	<b>February 2016</b>	<b>May 2016</b>
Liberal Party	50%	50%	64%	56%	<b>59%</b>
Progressive Conservative Party	19%	20%	17%	23%	<b>21%</b>
New Democratic Party	27%	28%	17%	16%	<b>18%</b>
Green Party	3%	2%	2%	5%	<b>2%</b>
Other	-	-	1%	-	-
<b>TOTAL DECIDED VOTE</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>101%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
None/Do not plan to vote	6%	5%	4%	5%	<b>6%</b>
Refused to state	6%	6%	7%	4%	<b>6%</b>
Don't know/Undecided	33%	31%	24%	27%	<b>31%</b>

Current overall margin of error for decided voters is ± 4.6 percentage points based on a sample size of 457.

<i>Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Nova Scotia?</i>					
<b>Leader</b>	<b>May 2015</b>	<b>August 2015</b>	<b>November 2015</b>	<b>February 2016</b>	<b>May 2016</b>
Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party (Elected Premier in October 2013)	35%	37%	45%	41%	<b>41%</b>
Jamie Baillie of the PC Party	18%	12%	15%	15%	<b>19%</b>
Acting leader Maureen MacDonald/ Gary Burrill of the NDP	20%	20%	17%	15%	<b>11%</b>
The next leader of the Green Party	4%	3%	2%	6%	<b>3%</b>
None	6%	8%	5%	6%	<b>5%</b>
Don't know/No answer/Other	17%	20%	17%	17%	<b>21%</b>

Current overall margin of error is ± 4.9 percentage points based on a sample size of 400.