

## **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 September 8, 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, nearly six in ten decided voters support the Liberal Party (56%, compared with 59% in May 2016). Meanwhile, preference for the Progressive Conservative Party rests at 22 percent (compared with 21%), while two in ten prefer the New Democratic Party (19%, compared with 18%). Finally, two percent prefer the Green Party (consistent with last quarter).

The number of Nova Scotians who are undecided rests at 28 percent (compared with 31%), while seven percent refuse to state a preference (compared with 6%), and three percent either support none of these parties or do not plan to vote (compared with 6%).

Satisfaction with the performance of Stephen McNeil's Liberal Government currently stands at 58 percent (compared with 55% in May 2016), while over three in ten Nova Scotians are dissatisfied (35%, consistent with last quarter). Meanwhile, seven percent (compared with 9%) do not offer a definite opinion.

In terms of leader preference, over four in ten support Premier Stephen McNeil (43%, compared to 41% three months ago), while two in ten prefer Jamie Baillie of the PC Party (18%, compared with 19%). Preference for Gary Burrill of the NDP rests at 14 percent (compared with 11%), while preference for interim leader Thomas Trappenberg of the Green Party stands at two percent (compared to 3%). Meanwhile, one in six (16%, compared with 21%) are undecided in terms of leader preference, while seven percent prefer none of these leaders (compared with 5%).

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 802 adult Nova Scotians, conducted from August 4 to August 31, 2016 with overall results accurate to within  $\pm 3.5$  percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.

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## CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – Summer 2016

### Nova Scotia Political Results

Sample: 802 Nova Scotians (18 years plus)  
 Interview Dates: August 4 to August 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>August 2015</b>	<b>November 2015</b>	<b>February 2016</b>	<b>May 2016</b>	<b>August 2016</b>
Completely satisfied	3%	2%	3%	3%	<b>5%</b>
Mostly satisfied	51%	53%	51%	52%	<b>53%</b>
Mostly dissatisfied	25%	27%	26%	27%	<b>26%</b>
Completely dissatisfied	11%	10%	13%	8%	<b>9%</b>
Don't know/No answer/Neither	9%	8%	7%	9%	<b>7%</b>

Current overall margin of error is ± 3.5 percentage points based on a sample size of 802.

<i>If a provincial election were held today in Nova Scotia, for which party would you vote?</i>					
<b>Party</b>	<b>August 2015</b>	<b>November 2015</b>	<b>February 2016</b>	<b>May 2016</b>	<b>August 2016</b>
Liberal Party	50%	64%	56%	59%	<b>56%</b>
Progressive Conservative Party	20%	17%	23%	21%	<b>22%</b>
New Democratic Party	28%	17%	16%	18%	<b>19%</b>
Green Party	2%	2%	5%	2%	<b>2%</b>
Other	-	1%	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL DECIDED VOTE</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>101%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>99%</b>
None/Do not plan to vote	5%	4%	5%	6%	<b>3%</b>
Refused to state	6%	7%	4%	6%	<b>7%</b>
Don't know/Undecided	31%	24%	27%	31%	<b>28%</b>

Current margin of error for decided voters is ± 4.4 percentage points based on a sample size of 494.

<i>Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Nova Scotia?</i>					
<b>Leader</b>	<b>August 2015</b>	<b>November 2015</b>	<b>February 2016</b>	<b>May 2016</b>	<b>August 2016</b>
Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party (Elected Premier in October 2013)	37%	45%	41%	41%	<b>43%</b>
Jamie Baillie of the PC Party	12%	15%	15%	19%	<b>18%</b>
Gary Burrill of the NDP	20%	17%	15%	11%	<b>14%</b>
Interim leader Thomas Trappenberg of the Green Party	3%	2%	6%	3%	<b>2%</b>
None	8%	5%	6%	5%	<b>7%</b>
Don't know/No answer/Other	20%	17%	17%	21%	<b>16%</b>

Current overall margin of error is ± 3.5 percentage points based on a sample size of 802.