

Satisfaction and support for the NL Liberal Party has improved in past quarter

- Support for the Liberals has increased, while support for the NDP has decreased
- A majority of residents continue to be dissatisfied with the performance of the Liberal government, although to a considerably lesser degree than three months ago
- Support for Premier Dwight Ball has increased this quarter, while preference for NDP leader Earl McCurdy has decreased

HALIFAX, NS December 7 2016: Despite low performance approval ratings, the Liberals are currently the most preferred provincial political party in Newfoundland and Labrador, according to the most recent survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.**

Specifically, four in ten decided voters back the governing Newfoundland and Labrador Liberal Party (42%, up from 34% in August 2016), while one-third support the Progressive Conservative Party (34%, compared with 33%), and one-quarter prefer the New Democratic Party (23%, down from 32%).

Three in ten residents are undecided (28%, up from 23%), while one percent refuse to state a preference (compared with 2%), and five percent either support none of the parties or do not plan to vote (compared with 7%).

Satisfaction with the performance of the Liberal government has improved and currently stands at 33 percent (up from 17% three months ago), while six in ten are dissatisfied (59%, down from 81%), and six percent do not offer a definite opinion (compared with 2%).

With regards to leader preference, support for Premier Dwight Ball has improved and currently stands at 27 percent (up from 17% three months ago), while one-third of residents support Paul Davis of the PC Party (35%, compared with 32%). Preference for NDP leader Earle McCurdy has declined and currently stands at 17 percent (down from 24%). Meanwhile, one in ten prefer none of these leaders (10%, compared with 13%), and another one in ten have no definite opinion at this time (11%, compared with 14%).

These results are part of the **CRA Atlantic Quarterly**[®], an independent telephone survey of Atlantic Canadians, and are based on a sample of 803 adult Newfoundland and Labrador residents. The survey was conducted from November 4 to December 1, 2016, with overall results for the province accurate to within ± 3.5 percentage points in 95 out of 100 samples.

Corporate Research Associates (CRA), 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® Autumn 2016 Newfoundland and Labrador Political Results

Sample: 803 Newfoundland and Labrador Residents (18 years plus)

Interview Dates: November 4 to December 1, 2016

Overall Margin of Sampling Error: ± 3.5 percentage points (95% confidence level)

Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

<i>How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the provincial government led by....</i>					
	<i>Premier Paul Davis?</i>	<i>Premier Dwight Ball?</i>			
	November 2015	February 2016	May 2016	August 2016	November 2016
Completely satisfied	6%	7%	1%	2%	2%
Mostly satisfied	44%	57%	20%	15%	31%
Mostly dissatisfied	29%	19%	27%	37%	36%
Completely dissatisfied	13%	7%	48%	44%	23%
Don't know/No answer/Neither	8%	8%	3%	2%	6%
Too soon to tell	-	3%	1%	-	-

Current overall margin of error is ± 3.5 percentage points based on a sample size of 803.

<i>If a provincial election were held today in Newfoundland and Labrador, for which party would you vote?</i>					
Party	November 2015	February 2016	May 2016	August 2016	November 2016
Liberal Party	67%	66%	27%	34%	42%
Progressive Conservative Party	22%	23%	34%	33%	34%
New Democratic Party	10%	11%	38%	32%	23%
Green Party	0%	0%	2%	0%	1%
Other	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%
TOTAL DECIDED VOTE	100%	100%	101%	100%	100%
None/Do not plan to vote	3%	3%	8%	7%	5%
Refused to state	3%	3%	3%	2%	1%
Don't know/Undecided	23%	21%	25%	23%	28%

Current margin of error for decided voters is ±4.2 percentage points based on a sample size of 531.

<i>Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador?</i>					
Leader	November 2015	February 2016	May 2016	August 2016	November 2016
Dwight Ball of the Liberal Party (Elected Premier in November 2015)	50%	53%	18%	17%	27%
Paul Davis of the PC Party	27%	29%	35%	32%	35%
Earle McCurdy of the NDP	11%	8%	22%	24%	17%
None of the above/Other	3%	5%	17%	13%	10%
Don't know/No answer	8%	6%	8%	14%	11%

Current overall margin of error is ± 3.5 percentage points based on a sample size of 803.