

NS Liberals remain the preferred party by a comfortable margin

- NS Liberals continue to be the preferred party by a comfortable margin
- Satisfaction with the performance of the provincial government is down slightly this quarter
- Premier McNeil continues to be the preferred party leader by a comfortable yet smaller margin

HALIFAX, NS December 6, 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%, unchanged from August 2016). Meanwhile, preference for the Progressive Conservative Party rests at 20 percent (compared with 22%), two in ten prefer the New Democratic Party (19%, unchanged), and four percent support the Green Party (compared with 2%).

The number of Nova Scotians who are undecided rests at 29 percent (compared with 28%), while five percent refuse to state a preference (compared with 7%), and three percent either support none of these parties or do not plan to vote (unchanged).

Just over one-half of Nova Scotians are satisfied with the performance of Stephen McNeil's Liberal government, down from three months ago (53%, down from 58% in August 2016), while four in ten Nova Scotians are dissatisfied (39%, compared with 35% last quarter). Meanwhile, eight percent (compared with 7%) do not offer a definite opinion.

In terms of leader preference, four in ten support Premier Stephen McNeil, down from three months ago (38%, down from 43%), while two in ten prefer Jamie Baillie of the PC Party (20%, compared with 18%). Support for Gary Burrill of the NDP rests at 11 percent (compared with 14%), while preference for Thomas Trappenberg of the Green Party stands at five percent (compared with 2%). Meanwhile, two in ten (20%, compared with 16%) do not offer a definite opinion, and four percent prefer none of these leaders (compared with 7%).

These results are part of the **CRA Atlantic Quarterly**[®], an independent, quarterly telephone survey of Atlantic Canadians, and are based on a sample of 801 adult Nova Scotians, conducted from November 3 to November 29, 2016 with overall results accurate to within ± 3.5 percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.

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CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – Autumn 2016

Nova Scotia Political Results

Sample: 801 Nova Scotians (18 years plus)
 Interview Dates: November 3 to November 29, 2016
 Overall Margin of Sampling Error: ± 3.5 percentage points (95% confidence level);
 Percentages may not equal 100 percent due to rounding

How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the provincial government led by Premier Stephen McNeil?					
	November 2015	February 2016	May 2016	August 2016	November 2016
Completely satisfied	2%	3%	3%	5%	3%
Mostly satisfied	53%	51%	52%	53%	50%
Mostly dissatisfied	27%	26%	27%	26%	24%
Completely dissatisfied	10%	13%	8%	9%	15%
Don't know/No answer/Neither	8%	7%	9%	7%	8%

Current overall margin of error is ± 3.5 percentage points based on a sample size of 801.

If a provincial election were held today in Nova Scotia, for which party would you vote?					
Party	November 2015	February 2016	May 2016	August 2016	November 2016
Liberal Party	64%	56%	59%	56%	56%
Progressive Conservative Party	17%	23%	21%	22%	20%
New Democratic Party	17%	16%	18%	19%	19%
Green Party	2%	5%	2%	2%	4%
Other	1%	-	-	-	-
TOTAL DECIDED VOTE	101%	100%	100%	99%	99%
None/Do not plan to vote	4%	5%	6%	3%	3%
Refused to state	7%	4%	6%	7%	5%
Don't know/Undecided	24%	27%	31%	28%	29%

Current margin of error for decided voters is ± 4.4 percentage points based on a sample size of 497.

Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Nova Scotia?					
Leader	November 2015	February 2016	May 2016	August 2016	November 2016
Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party (Elected Premier in October 2013)	45%	41%	41%	43%	38%
Jamie Baillie of the PC Party	15%	15%	19%	18%	20%
Gary Burrill of the NDP	17%	15%	11%	14%	11%
Thomas Trappenberg of the Green Party	2%	6%	3%	2%	5%
None	5%	6%	5%	7%	4%
Don't know/No answer/Other	17%	17%	21%	16%	21%

Current overall margin of error is ± 3.5 percentage points based on a sample size of 801.