

## Support for NL Liberals has improved over the past six months

- Support for the NL Liberal Party has increased over the past six months, allowing the party to maintain its lead in terms of voter preference
- A majority of residents remain dissatisfied with the performance of the Liberal government this quarter
- In conjunction with increasing party support, preference for Premier Dwight Ball of the NL Liberal Party has improved this quarter

**HALIFAX, NS December 7, 2017:** With support increasing over the past six months, the Liberal Party remains the most preferred political party in Newfoundland and Labrador, according to the most recent survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.** Specifically, just over four in ten decided voters back the governing Newfoundland and Labrador Liberal Party (44%, compared with 40% in August 2017, and up from 34% in May 2017), while one-third support the Progressive Conservative Party (33%, unchanged), and two in ten prefer the New Democratic Party (19%, compared with 24%).

Three in ten residents are undecided (29%, down from 35%), while seven percent either support none of these parties or do not plan to vote (unchanged), and one percent refuse to state a preference (compared with 3%).

Satisfaction with the performance of the Liberal government is consistent with recent findings. Specifically, one-third of residents (33%, compared with 30% three months ago) are satisfied, while just over six in ten (63%, compared with 64%) continue to be dissatisfied. Four percent of residents do not offer a definite opinion on the matter (compared with 6%).

With regards to leader preference, support for Premier Dwight Ball has improved and currently stands at 31 percent (up from 23% in August 2017), while a similar number of residents support Paul Davis of the PC Party (31%, compared with 29%). Preference for interim NDP leader Lorraine Michael is consistent with support for Earle McCurdy last quarter and currently rests at 19 percent (compared with 18%). Meanwhile, one in ten prefer none of these leaders (10%, down from 15%), and a similar number of residents have no definite opinion at this time (10%, down from 15%).

These results are part of the **CRA Atlantic Quarterly**<sup>®</sup>, an independent telephone survey of Atlantic Canadians, and are based on a sample of 800 adult Newfoundland and Labrador residents. The survey was conducted from November 2 to 30, 2017, with overall results for the province accurate to within  $\pm$  3.5 percentage points in 95 out of 100 samples.

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## CRA Atlantic Quarterly® Autumn 2017 Newfoundland and Labrador Political Results

Sample: 800 Newfoundland and Labrador Residents (18 years plus)

Interview Dates: November 2 to 30 2017

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

Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

<b><i>How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the provincial government led by Premier Dwight Ball?</i></b>					
	<b>November 2016</b>	<b>February 2017</b>	<b>May 2017</b>	<b>August 2017</b>	<b>November 2017</b>
Completely satisfied	2%	3%	2%	3%	<b>3%</b>
Mostly satisfied	31%	23%	26%	27%	<b>30%</b>
Mostly dissatisfied	36%	36%	37%	38%	<b>38%</b>
Completely dissatisfied	23%	35%	28%	26%	<b>25%</b>
Don't know/No answer/Neither	6%	2%	7%	6%	<b>4%</b>

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

<b><i>If a provincial election were held today in Newfoundland and Labrador, for which party would you vote?</i></b>					
<b>Party</b>	<b>November 2016</b>	<b>February 2017</b>	<b>May 2017</b>	<b>August 2017</b>	<b>November 2017</b>
Liberal Party	42%	33%	34%	40%	<b>44%</b>
Progressive Conservative Party	34%	39%	40%	33%	<b>33%</b>
New Democratic Party	23%	26%	24%	24%	<b>19%</b>
Other	1%	1%	2%	3%	<b>3%</b>
<b>TOTAL DECIDED VOTE</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>99%</b>
None/Do not plan to vote	5%	5%	5%	5%	<b>5%</b>
Refused to state	1%	1%	2%	3%	<b>1%</b>
Don't know/Undecided	28%	24%	32%	35%	<b>29%</b>

Current margin of error for decided voters is ± 4.3 percentage points based on a sample size of 527.

<b><i>Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador?</i></b>					
<b>Leader</b>	<b>November 2016</b>	<b>February 2017</b>	<b>May 2017</b>	<b>August 2017</b>	<b>November 2017</b>
Dwight Ball of the Liberal Party	27%	21%	23%	23%	<b>31%</b>
Paul Davis of the PC Party	35%	33%	36%	29%	<b>31%</b>
Earle McCurdy/Interim leader Lorraine Michael of the NDP	17%	23%	16%	18%	<b>19%</b>
None of the above/Other	10%	14%	13%	15%	<b>10%</b>
Don't know/No answer	11%	9%	12%	15%	<b>10%</b>

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