

## **Preference for PEI Green Party continues to increase, while Liberals maintain voter support**

- The PEI Liberal Party maintains its position as the preferred party in the province this quarter, despite growing support for the Green Party
- Support for both the PC Party and the NDP is at its lowest level in at least four years
- Satisfaction with the performance of the provincial government is stable
- Preference for Premier Wade MacLauchlan is stable this quarter, however Peter Bevan-Baker of the Green Party continues to be the preferred leader in the province

**HALIFAX, NS March 6, 2018:** The Prince Edward Island Liberal Party remains the preferred party in the province, despite a notable increase in support for the PEI Green Party, according to the most recent survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.** Specifically, four in ten decided voters support the PEI Liberal Party this quarter (42%, compared with 37% in November 2017), and one-third back the Green Party (34%, up from 25%). While support for the Green Party has increased, preference for the Progressive Conservative and New Democratic Parties has declined. Currently, one in six support the Progressive Conservative Party (17%, down from 28%), and six percent of PEI residents prefer the New Democratic Party (down from 11%).

Two in ten Islanders are undecided (20%, down from 27% three months ago), while six percent refuse to state a preference (unchanged), and three percent either support none of the parties or do not plan to vote (compared with 4%).

With regards to government satisfaction, one-half of PEI residents are satisfied (51%, compared with 49% three months ago), while nearly one-half of residents are dissatisfied (47%, compared with 41%). The number of residents who do not offer a definite opinion on the matter stands at two percent (down from 11%).

In terms of leader preference, one-quarter of PEI residents express their support for Premier Wade MacLauchlan (26%, compared with 27% in November 2017), while nearly four in ten prefer Peter Bevan-Baker of the Green Party (37%, compared with 33%). Preference for James Aylward of the PC Party is consistent with last quarter (16%, compared with 14%), while three percent plan to back the next leader of NDP (compared with 6% for former leader Mike Redmond three months ago). Finally, four percent prefer none of these leaders (unchanged), and one in seven residents do not offer an opinion on the matter (15%, compared with 18%).

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 300 adult Prince Edward Islanders, conducted from February 2 to 28, 2018, with overall results accurate to within  $\pm 5.7$  percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.



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## CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – Winter 2018 Prince Edward Island Political Results

Sample: 300 Prince Edward Islanders (18 years plus)

Interview Dates: February 2 to 28, 2018

Overall Margin of Sampling Error: ± 5.7 percentage points (95% confidence level)

Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

<b>How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the provincial government led by Premier Wade MacLauchlan?</b>					
	<b>February 2017</b>	<b>May 2017</b>	<b>August 2017</b>	<b>November 2017</b>	<b>February 2018</b>
Completely satisfied	5%	3%	3%	5%	<b>3%</b>
Mostly satisfied	45%	46%	48%	44%	<b>48%</b>
Mostly dissatisfied	31%	32%	32%	26%	<b>30%</b>
Completely dissatisfied	15%	16%	11%	15%	<b>17%</b>
Don't know/No answer/Neither	4%	3%	6%	11%	<b>2%</b>

Current overall margin of error is ± 5.7 percentage points based on a sample size of 300.

<b>If an election were held today on Prince Edward Island, for which party would you vote?</b>					
<b>Party</b>	<b>February 2017</b>	<b>May 2017</b>	<b>August 2017</b>	<b>November 2017</b>	<b>February 2018</b>
Liberal Party	48%	38%	45%	37%	<b>42%</b>
Green Party	26%	26%	18%	25%	<b>34%</b>
Progressive Conservative Party	19%	26%	24%	28%	<b>17%</b>
New Democratic Party	7%	10%	12%	11%	<b>6%</b>
Other	0%	0%	1%	0%	<b>0%</b>
<b>TOTAL DECIDED VOTE</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>101%</b>	<b>99%</b>
None/Do not plan to vote	4%	3%	3%	4%	<b>3%</b>
Refused to state	6%	5%	5%	6%	<b>6%</b>
Don't know/Undecided	24%	25%	26%	27%	<b>20%</b>

Current overall margin of error for decided voters is ± 6.6 percentage points based on a sample size of 221.

<b>Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Prince Edward Island?</b>					
<b>Leader</b>	<b>February 2017</b>	<b>May 2017</b>	<b>August 2017</b>	<b>November 2017</b>	<b>February 2018</b>
Wade MacLauchlan of the Liberal Party	29%	24%	26%	<b>27%</b>	<b>26%</b>
Peter Bevan-Baker of the Green Party	34%	37%	37%	<b>33%</b>	<b>37%</b>
James Aylward/Interim leader Jamie Fox of the PC Party	12%	15%	13%	<b>14%</b>	<b>16%</b>
The next leader/Mike Redmond of the NDP	4%	6%	5%	<b>6%</b>	<b>3%</b>
None of the above/Other	5%	4%	3%	<b>4%</b>	<b>4%</b>
Don't know/No answer	16%	14%	16%	<b>18%</b>	<b>15%</b>

Current overall margin of error is ± 5.7 percentage points based on a sample size of 300.