

PEI Greens and Liberals neck-and-neck in voter support heading into election year

- Green Party maintaining 2018 support, but not widening gap with Liberals.
- More than half of Islanders are satisfied with performance of government under Premier MacLauchlan.
- Green leader Peter Bevan-Baker holds edge in leadership preference.

December 11, 2018: Four months after vaulting narrowly ahead of Prince Edward Island's Liberals, the Green Party remains in a statistical tie with the governing party heading into an election year on the Island, according to the most recent survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.**

Among decided voters, 37% would vote for the Greens if an election were held today (compared to 38% in August 2018 and 33% in May 2018). The Liberal Party has 36% support (compared with 35% in August and 34% in May). At the end of 2017, the Liberals stood at 37% while the Greens enjoyed only 25% support – illustrating the growth in Green popularity over the past 12 months. The PEI Progressive Conservatives remain at 20% support today (compared to 20% in August and 26% in May), while the NDP have 6% support (compared to 7% in both August and May).

Nearly one-quarter of Island voters remain undecided (23%, compared to 20% in August), while 6% refuse to state a preference and 3% either support none of the listed parties, or do not plan to vote.

The Liberals under Premier Wade MacLauchlan enjoy majority support in terms of government satisfaction, with 57% of Islanders saying they are satisfied with the performance of the MacLauchlan regime (up from 49% three months ago). Only 38% say they are dissatisfied, down from 48% in August.

However, Green leader Peter Bevan-Baker enjoys a considerable edge over MacLauchlan in terms of leadership, with 37% preferring Bevan-Baker as premier (compared with 38% in August) and 24% preferring MacLauchlan (25% in August). NDP leader Joe Byrne is preferred by 4% (5% in August). The PCs are currently without an elected leader, after James Aylward stepped down in September. Two in 10 Islanders (18%) don't know which leader they prefer, while 4% won't endorse any of the listed options.

These results are part of the **CRA Atlantic Quarterly**[®], an independent telephone survey of Atlantic Canadians, and are based on a sample of 604 adult Prince Edward Islanders, conducted from November 2 to 19, 2018, with overall results accurate to within ± 4.0 percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.

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CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – November 2018 Prince Edward Island Political Results

Sample: 604 Prince Edward Islanders (18 years plus)

Interview Dates: November 2 to 19, 2018

Overall Margin of Sampling Error: ± 4.0 percentage points (95% confidence level)

Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

| How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the provincial government led by Premier Wade MacLauchlan? | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| | November 2017 | February 2018 | May 2018 | August 2018 | November 2018 |
| Completely satisfied | 5% | 3% | 4% | 3% | 6% |
| Mostly satisfied | 44% | 48% | 48% | 46% | 51% |
| Mostly dissatisfied | 26% | 30% | 26% | 28% | 25% |
| Completely dissatisfied | 15% | 17% | 16% | 20% | 13% |
| Don't know/No answer/Neither | 11% | 2% | 7% | 2% | 6% |

Current overall margin of error is ± 4.0 percentage points based on a sample size of 604.

| If an election were held today on Prince Edward Island, for which party would you vote? | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Party | November 2017 | February 2018 | May 2018 | August 2018 | November 2018 |
| Liberal Party | 37% | 42% | 34% | 35% | 36% |
| Green Party | 25% | 34% | 33% | 38% | 37% |
| Progressive Conservative Party | 28% | 17% | 26% | 20% | 20% |
| New Democratic Party | 11% | 6% | 7% | 7% | 6% |
| Other | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| TOTAL DECIDED VOTE | 101% | 99% | 100% | 100% | 99% |
| None/Do not plan to vote | 4% | 3% | 4% | 2% | 3% |
| Refused to state | 6% | 6% | 5% | 6% | 6% |
| Don't know/Undecided | 27% | 20% | 23% | 20% | 23% |

Current overall margin of error for decided voters is ± 6.7 percentage points based on a sample size of 421.

| Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Prince Edward Island? | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Leader | November 2017 | February 2018 | May 2018 | August 2018 | November 2018 |
| Wade MacLauchlan of the Liberal Party | 27% | 26% | 24% | 25% | 24% |
| Peter Bevan-Baker of the Green Party | 33% | 37% | 39% | 38% | 37% |
| James Aylward of the PC Party | 14% | 16% | 17% | 16% | 12% |
| Mike Redmond/the next leader/Joe Byrne of the NDP | 6% | 3% | 4% | 5% | 4% |
| None of the above/Other | 4% | 4% | 3% | 5% | 4% |
| Don't know/No answer | 18% | 15% | 13% | 11% | 18% |

Current overall margin of error is ± 4.0 percentage points based on a sample size of 604