



ANGUS REID POLITICAL TRACKER
CONSERVATIVES HOLD 17-POINT LEAD

**Liberals plummet to 22% nationally,
and 11% in Quebec**

Greens reach double digits, overtake Bloc

**PM's approval at 40%, with
huge boost in Quebec (49%)**

**Dion at 18%, best showing
in Atlantic Canada (25%)**

**Harper still preferred PM (41% - 17%),
Canada on the right track for 36%**

From March 20 to 28, 2007, Angus Reid Strategies conducted an online survey among a randomly selected, representative sample of 2,056 adult Canadians. The margin of error for the total sample is +2.2%, 19 times out of 20. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Public Release:
National Public Opinion Poll

[VANCOUVER – Mar. 29, 2007] – The Conservative Party has extended its advantage in Canada’s federal political scene, as the Liberal Party continues to lose support, an Angus Reid Strategies poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample, 39% of decided voters will cast a ballot for the governing Conservatives in the next federal election. The Liberals stand at 22%, followed by the New Democratic Party (NDP) with 17%, the Green Party with 11%, and the Bloc Québécois with 10%.

In Quebec, the Tories are only three points behind the Bloc (36% to 33%), while the Grits have fallen to fourth place with 11%, just a point below the NDP (12%). In Ontario, the Conservatives hold an eight-point advantage (39% to 31%) over the Liberals.

The poll places Prime Minister Stephen Harper with a national approval rating of 40%, with his highest marks coming in Alberta (53%)—down seven points since a survey conducted in early March—and Quebec (44%).

Stéphane Dion holds poorer numbers. Only 18% of respondents believe he is doing a good job as Leader of the Opposition. In Dion's home province of Quebec, 50% of respondents disapprove of his tenure so far. The Liberal leader’s best numbers come in Atlantic Canada (25%) and Ontario (21%).

Harper also extended his lead over Dion as the preferred Prime Minister of Canada. Two-in-five (41%) respondents select the current head of government for the country’s top political job, while only 17% pick Dion. Almost a third of Canadians (32%) still choose neither leader.

Harper clearly enjoyed a significant post-budget boost in Quebec, where 35% of respondents say their opinion of the Prime Minister has improved over the past month. However, 39% of Atlantic Canadians—and a quarter of respondents in British Columbia, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan—now have a worse opinion of Harper.

Dion does not seem to be connecting with the voting public. In the whole country, 11% of respondents say their opinion of the Liberal leader has improved over the past month, while 30% now have a worse opinion of Dion.

In all, 36% of Canadians think the country is on the right track, down seven points since early March. In British Columbia, only 29% of respondents express satisfaction with Canada’s direction.

Provincial breakdown							
<i>Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which one of the following parties would you vote for?</i>							
		Region					
	Total	BC	Alberta	Man/Sask	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic
The Conservative Party, led by Stephen Harper	39%	39%	63%	45%	39%	33%	28%
The Liberal Party, led by Stéphane Dion	22%	23%	12%	17%	31%	11%	38%
The New Democratic Party (NDP), led by Jack Layton	17%	23%	10%	22%	16%	12%	28%
The Green Party, led by Elizabeth May	11%	13%	12%	16%	13%	7%	6%
The Bloc Quebecois (BQ), led by Gilles Duceppe	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%	36%	0%
Or, some other party	1%	2%	3%	1%	1%	0%	0%

Sex and age breakdown						
<i>Q. If a federal election were held tomorrow, which one of the following parties would you vote for?</i>						
		Sex		Age		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+
The Conservative Party, led by Stephen Harper	39%	43%	35%	31%	39%	46%
The Liberal Party, led by Stéphane Dion	22%	23%	22%	20%	21%	27%
The New Democratic Party (NDP), led by Jack Layton	17%	13%	20%	16%	20%	12%
The Green Party, led by Elizabeth May	11%	10%	12%	15%	11%	9%
The Bloc Quebecois (BQ), led by Gilles Duceppe	10%	9%	10%	16%	9%	6%
Or, some other party	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%

Best PM: Dion or Harper?							
<i>Q. Which of these two leaders would make the best Prime Minister of Canada?</i>							
		Region					
	Total	BC	Alberta	Man/ Sask	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic
Stephen Harper	41%	39%	58%	42%	37%	46%	22%
Stephane Dion	17%	23%	10%	15%	20%	10%	25%
Neither	32%	30%	24%	29%	32%	32%	42%
Not sure	11%	9%	8%	14%	11%	12%	11%

How is the country doing?							
<i>Q. Overall, do you think Canada is on the right track, or thw wrong track?</i>							
		Region					
	Total	BC	Alberta	Man/ Sask	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic
Right track	36%	29%	36%	46%	38%	34%	32%
Wrong track	38%	43%	34%	32%	37%	39%	37%
Not sure	26%	28%	30%	22%	24%	27%	31%

Opinion of Harper: better, worse, staying the same?							
<i>Q. Over the course of the past month, would you say your opinion of Stephen Harper has improved, stayed the same or worsened?</i>							
	Region						
	Total	BC	Alberta	Man/Sask	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic
Improved	25%	21%	26%	20%	22%	35%	16%
Stayed the same	49%	50%	54%	53%	51%	47%	40%
Worsened	22%	24%	18%	25%	25%	13%	39%
Not sure	4%	5%	2%	3%	3%	5%	4%

Opinion of Dion: better, worse, staying the same?							
<i>Q. Over the course of the past month, would you say your opinion of Stephane Dion has improved, stayed the same or worsened?</i>							
	Region						
	Total	BC	Alberta	Man/Sask	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic
Improved	11%	10%	5%	10%	14%	10%	15%
Stayed the same	47%	45%	35%	39%	47%	55%	47%
Worsened	30%	31%	43%	32%	29%	26%	23%
Not sure	12%	13%	17%	18%	11%	9%	15%

Angus Reid Strategies is a North American full-service polling and market research firm which is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Strategies team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995. Located in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, and Montreal, our team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research.

Angus Reid Strategies polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum online panel (www.angusreidforum.com), which is recruited via an industry-leading process that incorporates a randomized, widespread invitation approach and a triple opt-in screening procedure. The panel is maintained through state-of-the-art sampling techniques and frequent verifications of personal identity, contact information, and demographic characteristics. This premier online survey platform presents respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses.

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**For more information, please contact
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

**Copies of this poll are available on our website:
www.angusreidstrategies.com**