

Despite low satisfaction ratings, Liberals maintain lead as most preferred political party in NL

- The NL Liberal Party remains the most preferred political party in terms of voter support
- A majority of residents remain dissatisfied with the performance of the Liberal government this quarter
- Leadership preference is stable this quarter, with Premier Dwight Ball and PC Party leader Paul Davis equally preferred

HALIFAX, NS March 6, 2018: 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, four in ten decided voters back the governing Newfoundland and Labrador Liberal Party (41%, compared with 44% in November 2017), while one-third support the Progressive Conservative Party (33%, unchanged), and one-quarter prefer the New Democratic Party (24%, compared with 19%).

One-quarter of residents are undecided (25%, compared with 29%), while nine percent either support none of these parties or do not plan to vote (compared with 7%), and one percent refuse to state a preference (unchanged).

Satisfaction with the performance of the Liberal government is consistent with recent findings. Specifically, one-third of residents (35%, compared with 33% three months ago) are satisfied, while six in ten (61%, compared with 63%) continue to be dissatisfied. Five percent of residents do not offer a definite opinion on the matter (compared with 4%).

With regards to leader preference, support for Premier Dwight Ball is stable and currently stands at 28 percent (compared with 31% in November 2017), while a similar number of residents support Paul Davis of the PC Party (27%, compared with 31%). Preference for interim NDP leader Lorraine Michael is consistent with last quarter and currently rests at 23 percent (compared with 19%). Meanwhile, one in ten prefer none of these leaders (11%, compared with 10%), and a similar number of residents have no definite opinion at this time (11%, compared with 10%).

These results are part of the **CRA Atlantic Quarterly**[®], an independent telephone survey of Atlantic Canadians, and are based on a sample of 415 adult Newfoundland and Labrador residents. The survey was conducted from February 5 to 28, 2018, with overall results for the province accurate to within ± 4.8 percentage points in 95 out of 100 samples.

Corporate Research Associates (CRA), www.cra.ca, is one of Canada's leading public opinion and market research companies. Founded in 1978, CRA is dedicated to providing clients with state-of-the-art research and strategic consulting services. CRA is a **Certified Gold Seal Member** of the Marketing Research and Intelligence Association (MRIA), which sets stringent standards as a condition of membership, and enforces those standards through independent audits. Follow us on Twitter [@CRAInsight](https://twitter.com/CRAInsight).

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CRA Atlantic Quarterly® Winter 2018 Newfoundland and Labrador Political Results

Sample: 415 Newfoundland and Labrador Residents (18 years plus)

Interview Dates: February 5 to 28, 2018

Overall Margin of Sampling Error: ± 4.8 percentage points (95% confidence level)

Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

<i>How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the provincial government led by Premier Dwight Ball?</i>					
	February 2017	May 2017	August 2017	November 2017	February 2018
Completely satisfied	3%	2%	3%	3%	4%
Mostly satisfied	23%	26%	27%	30%	31%
Mostly dissatisfied	36%	37%	38%	38%	40%
Completely dissatisfied	35%	28%	26%	25%	21%
Don't know/No answer/Neither	2%	7%	6%	4%	5%

Current overall margin of error is ± 4.8 percentage points based on a sample size of 415.

<i>If a provincial election were held today in Newfoundland and Labrador, for which party would you vote?</i>					
Party	February 2017	May 2017	August 2017	November 2017	February 2018
Liberal Party	33%	34%	40%	44%	41%
Progressive Conservative Party	39%	40%	33%	33%	33%
New Democratic Party	26%	24%	24%	19%	24%
Other	1%	2%	3%	3%	2%
TOTAL DECIDED VOTE	99%	100%	100%	99%	100%
None/Do not plan to vote	5%	5%	5%	5%	8%
Refused to state	1%	2%	3%	1%	1%
Don't know/Undecided	24%	32%	35%	29%	25%

Current margin of error for decided voters is ± 5.8 percentage points based on a sample size of 283.

<i>Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador?</i>					
Leader	February 2017	May 2017	August 2017	November 2017	February 2018
Dwight Ball of the Liberal Party	21%	23%	23%	31%	28%
Paul Davis of the PC Party	33%	36%	29%	31%	27%
Earle McCurdy/Interim leader Lorraine Michael of the NDP	23%	16%	18%	19%	23%
None of the above/Other	14%	13%	15%	10%	11%
Don't know/No answer	9%	12%	15%	10%	11%

Current overall margin of error is ± 4.8 percentage points based on a sample size of 415.