



FOR RELEASE ON: MARCH 8, 2011

NDP SUPPORT ERODES

HALIFAX: Support for the NDP declined this quarter, and the gap between the Liberals and NDP tightens, according to the most recent survey conducted by **Corporate Research Associates Inc.** Currently, one-third of decided voters prefer the NDP (34%, down from 38% in November 2010), while support for the Liberal Party increased (35%, up from 31%). Support for the PC Party is unchanged at 26 percent, while four percent prefer the Green Party (unchanged). Those with no stated preference included those who were undecided (33%), do not plan to vote (6%), or refuse to state a preference (6%).

Satisfaction with the government declined slightly, with over four in ten Nova Scotia residents satisfied with the overall performance of the Dexter government (44%, down from 48%). A similar number are dissatisfied (45%, compared with 43%), while one in ten (11%, compared with 9%) do not offer an opinion.

Premier Darrell Dexter's personal popularity has also declined compared with three months ago, with over two in ten residents preferring Dexter for Premier (23%, down from 31%). Support for Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party is stable (26%, compared with 27%), while support for Jamie Baillie of the PC Party decreased and rests at 13 percent (compared with 17%). Preference for John Percy of the Green Party is stable at two percent (compared with 4%), while Jonathan Dean of the Atlantica Party is not preferred by any residents (0%, compared with 1%). Just under three in ten Nova Scotians (27%, up from 14%) are undecided in terms of leader preference, while the remainder prefer none of these leaders (8%, compared with 6%).

These results are part of the **CRA Atlantic Quarterly**[®], an independent, quarterly survey of Atlantic Canadians, and are based on a sample of 804 adult Nova Scotians, conducted from February 7 to March 3, 2011, with results accurate to within ± 3.4 percentage points, 95 out of 100 times.

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CRA Atlantic Quarterly® – Winter 2011

Nova Scotia Political Results

Sample: 804 Nova Scotians (18 years plus)

Interview Dates: February 7 to March 3, 2011

Margin of Sampling Error: ± 3.4 percentage points (95% confidence level)

How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the provincial government led by Premier Darrell Dexter?					
	February 2010	May 2010	August 2010	November 2010	February 2011
Completely satisfied	3%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Mostly satisfied	46%	41%	40%	45%	42%
Mostly dissatisfied	28%	30%	33%	28%	32%
Completely dissatisfied	13%	18%	14%	15%	13%
Too soon to tell	0%	-	-	-	-
Don't know/No answer/Neither	10%	10%	10%	9%	11%

If a provincial election were held today in Nova Scotia, for which party would you vote?					
Party	February 2010	May 2010	August 2010	November 2010	February 2011
NDP	46%	37%	37%	38%	34%
Liberal Party	26%	35%	35%	31%	35%
PC Party	22%	24%	21%	26%	26%
Green Party	5%	4%	7%	4%	4%
Atlantica Party	-	-	0%	0%	0%
Other	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%
TOTAL DECIDED VOTE	99%	101%	100%	100%	99%
Undecided/Don't know/No answer/ Do not plan to vote/Refused	40%	43%	42%	42%	45%

Which one of the following individuals would you most prefer as Premier of Nova Scotia?					
Leader	February 2010	May 2010	August 2010	November 2010	February 2011
Darrell Dexter of the NDP	35%	24%	27%	31%	23%
Stephen McNeil of the Liberal Party	26%	29%	31%	27%	26%
Next leader of the PC Party/ Jamie Baillie	11%	18%	16%	17%	13%
John Percy of the Green Party	2%	2%	5%	4%	2%
Jonathan Dean of the Atlantica Party	-	-	1%	1%	0%
None	9%	10%	6%	6%	8%
Don't know/No answer	17%	17%	15%	14%	27%

