

LIBERALS (32%) AND TORIES (31%) VIRTUALLY TIED NATION-WIDE -- BUT GRITS TAKE STRONG 11-POINT LEAD IN SEAT RICH ONTARIO (44% VS. 33%)

***Majority (58%) Believe Conservatives' Motive For Election Is
Power Lust – Not Sincere Belief That They Can No Longer
Support "Corrupt" Government (37%)***



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Lust – Not Sincere Belief That They Can No Longer Support
“Corrupt” Government (37%)***

Toronto, ON – According to an Ipsos-Reid national survey of 1000 Canadians conducted from May 3rd to May 5th, 2005 and provided exclusively to CanWest/Global, the national Federal political horserace remains tightly contested between the Liberals (32%, up 2 points) and the Conservatives (31%, down 2 points) compared to a poll released exactly a week ago. However, it would appear that the Liberals have benefited the most in the past week as they have vaunted to take a commanding 11-point lead in the seat-rich and volatile province of Ontario (44% vs. 33%).

There also appears to be a dynamic among Canadians concerning why they think Mr. Harper and his party are committed to defeating the government and sending voters to the polls as soon as they can: Fifty-eight percent believe the Conservatives “just want to be in power” compared to four in ten (37%) who think the Conservatives want to pull the election trigger because “they sincerely believe that they can no longer support a Liberal government that is corrupt”.

As for the other parties, if a Federal election were held today, 16% of voters would support the NDP (down 1 point), and 5% would support the Green Party (unchanged).

In Quebec, the Bloc Quebecois sits at 50% support (up 2 points) and holds a 30-point lead over their next closest challenger in this province, the Liberals (20%, down 1 point).



These are the findings of an Ipsos-Reid poll provided exclusively to CanWest/Global and conducted from May 3rd to May 5th, 2005. For the survey, a representative randomly selected sample of 1002 adult Canadians were interviewed by telephone. With a sample of this size, the aggregate results are considered accurate to within ± 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult Canadian population been polled. The margin of error will be larger within each sub-grouping of the survey population. These data were weighted to ensure the sample's regional and age/sex composition reflects that of the actual Canadian population according to the 2001 Census data.

The National Vote...

According the most recent Ipsos-Reid survey, if a Federal election were held today, 32% of decided voters would support the Liberals (up 2 points), 31% would support the Conservatives (down 2 points), 16% would support the NDP (down 1 point), and 5% would support the Green Party (unchanged).

In Quebec, the Bloc Quebecois sits at 50% support (up 2 points) and holds a 30-point lead over their next closest challenger in this province, the Liberals (20%, down 1 point).

Among all Canadians, 14% are undecided, refused to say whom they would vote for, or would not vote if a Federal election were held tomorrow.

Parties	Election Results						Movement From Last Poll	Since 2004 Election
	June 28, 2004	April 12- 14, 2005	April 19- 21, 2005	April 22- 24, 2005	April 26- 28, 2005	May 3-5, 2005		
The Conservative Party	30%	36%	35%	34%	33%	31%	-2%	+1%
The Liberals	37%	27%	30%	31%	30%	32%	+2%	-5%
The New Democratic Party	16%	15%	18%	18%	17%	16%	-1%	0%
The Bloc Quebecois	12%	10%	12%	11%	12%	12%	0%	0%
The Green Party	4%	7%	5%	5%	5%	5%	0%	+1%



Regional Highlights...

- In Ontario, the Liberals (44%, up 4 points) have widened their lead to 11-points over the Conservatives (33%, unchanged). The NDP (17%, down 2 points) battles for votes in the third position, while the Green Party (4%, down 1 point) registers lowly.
- In Quebec, the Bloc Quebecois (50%, up 2 points) have a 30-point lead over the Liberals (20%, down 1 point), as the NDP (12%, up 4 points) and the Conservatives (11%, down 5 points) contest for the third spot. Four percent of the votes are given to the Green Party (up 1 point).
- In British Columbia, the Liberals (30%, up 2 points) now have a slim lead over the Conservatives (27%, down 7 points) and the NDP (25%, up 2 points). The Green Party (15%, up 5 points) continues to trail.
- In Alberta, the Conservatives (63%, down 4 points) rule the Federal political landscape, as the Liberals (20%, up 2 points), the Green Party (6%, up 1 point) and the NDP (5%, down 1 point) trail distantly.
- In Saskatchewan/Manitoba, the Conservatives (52%, up 8 points) dominate, and currently garner more support than the NDP (23%, up 3 points), the Liberals (21%, down 9 points), and the Green Party (1%, unchanged) combined.
- In Atlantic Canada, the Liberals (45%, up 9 points) currently have the lead, followed by the Conservatives (32%, up 5 points), the NDP (17%, down 15 points), and the Green Party (3%, up 2 points).



Majority (58%) Believe Conservatives' Motive For Election Is Power Lust – Not Sincere Belief That They Can No Longer Support “Corrupt” Government (37%)...

When Canadians are asked to speculate as to why they think Stephen Harper and the Conservatives want to force an election now, the majority (58%) say it is because “they just want to be in power”, while 37% believe it is because “they sincerely believe they can no longer support a Liberal government that is corrupt”. Five percent say they “don’t know” why they are calling an election.

- Residents of Ontario (63%) and Atlantic Canada (63%) are the most likely to believe Mr. Harper and the Conservatives “just want to be in power”, followed by residents of British Columbia (61%).
- Residents of Alberta (56%) are the most inclined to think that Stephen Harper and the Conservatives are calling the election because they can no longer support a “corrupt” government, followed by residents of Saskatchewan/Manitoba (44%) and Quebec (39%).

	National	Region						Vote Support				
		BC	ALB	SK/MN	ONT	QUE	ATL	Cons	Libs	NDPs	BQs	Green*
They sincerely believe that they can no longer support a Liberal government that is corrupt	37%	34%	56%	44%	32%	39%	30%	72%	15%	21%	51%	39%
They just want to be in power	58%	61%	42%	49%	63%	55%	63%	27%	83%	76%	47%	57%

**Small base size*



Please Refer To The Tables Below To Review Vote Support By Region:

Parties	Ontario		
	April 26-28, 2005	May 3-5, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	33%	33%	0
The Liberals	40%	44%	+4
The NDP	19%	17%	-2
The Green Party	5%	4%	-1

Parties	Quebec		
	April 26-28, 2005	May 3-5, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	16%	11%	-5
The Liberals	21%	20%	-1
The NDP	8%	12%	+4
The Bloc Quebecois	48%	50%	+2
The Green Party	3%	4%	+1

Parties	British Columbia		
	April 26-28, 2005	May 3-5, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	34%	27%	-7
The Liberals	28%	30%	+2
The NDP	23%	25%	+2
The Green Party	10%	15%	+5



Parties	Alberta		
	April 26-28, 2005	May 3-5, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	67%	63%	-4
The Liberals	18%	20%	+2
The NDP	6%	5%	-1
The Green Party	5%	6%	+1

Parties	Saskatchewan/Manitoba		
	April 22-24, 2005	May 3-5, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	44%	52%	+8
The Liberals	30%	21%	-9
The NDP	20%	23%	+3
The Green Party	1%	1%	0

Parties	Atlantic Canada		
	April 26-28, 2005	May 3-5, 2005	Change
The Conservative Party	27%	32%	+5
The Liberals	36%	45%	+9
The NDP	32%	17%	-15
The Green Party	1%	3%	+2

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