

# ONTARIO'S POLITICAL LANDSCAPE: CONSERVATIVES (40%, +3 POINTS) HAVE CLOSE EDGE ON GOVERNING LIBERALS (37%, UNCHANGED)

*But, Dalton McGuinty's Approval Rating As Premier Of Ontario  
Rises 4 Points To 57%*



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**Toronto, ON** – According to a new Ipsos Reid survey of 770 Ontarians, conducted on behalf of Global News and CFRB, the John Tory led Progressive Conservatives (40%, +3 points from a February Ipsos Reid survey) have gained a slight edge on the current ruling Dalton McGuinty led Liberal Party (37%, unchanged).

Howard Hampton and the NDP trail further back of the pack with 17% support (-1 point), and Frank de Jong and the Green Party continue to garner a modest percentage of total votes (5%, -2 points).

*Thinking of how you feel right now, if a PROVINCIAL election were held tomorrow, which of the following parties' candidates would you, yourself, be most likely to support ?*

	Oct-05	Feb-06	May-06	Change
The Ontario Progressive Conservatives (PC), led by John Tory	38%	37%	40%	+3%
The Ontario Liberals, led by Dalton McGuinty	37%	37%	37%	0
The Ontario New Democratic Party (NDP), LED BY Howard Hampton	17%	18%	17%	-1%
The Ontario Green Party, led by Frank de Jong	7%	7%	5%	-2%

- Support for the Progressive Conservatives is strongest among those in Eastern Ontario (48%).
- Support for the Liberal Party is strongest among those in Northern Ontario (42%).



## ***Premier's Approval Rating Up To 57% (+4 Points From February)...***

Dalton McGuinty's approval rating as Premier of Ontario crept up 4 points to 57% (8% "strongly approve"). Thirty-nine percent disapprove of his performance (20% "strongly disapprove"), and the remaining 4% "don't know".

- Approval for Premier McGuinty is highest in the Northern Ontario (62%) and the GTA (61%); while
- Disapproval is highest in Eastern Ontario (47%) and Central Ontario (41%).

*These are the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted for CanWest/Global and CFRB from May 23-25<sup>th</sup>, 2006. For the survey, a representative randomly selected sample of 770 adult residents of Ontario were interviewed by telephone. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate to within  $\pm 3.5$  percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult population of Ontario been polled. The margin of error will be larger within regions and for other sub-groupings of the survey population. These data were weighted to ensure the sample's regional and age/sex composition reflects that of the actual population of Ontario according to the 2001 Census data.*

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