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## A Report To The Globe and Mail and CTV

2008 Federal Pre-Election: How do  
the Federal Political Parties Stand?

**February 20, 2008**

# Introduction and Methodology

- ◆ *The Strategic Counsel* is pleased to present findings of a national survey of 1000 Canadians.
- ◆ Results are based on tracking among a proportionate national sample of Canadians 18 years of age or older.
- ◆ Interviews were conducted between February 14<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008.
- ◆ The following table outlines the sample distribution and associated margin of error.
- ◆ Note: Proportions may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

# Sample Distribution and Margin of Error

	<b>February 14-17, 2008</b>	
<b>National Sample Regions</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>Margin of Error (±)</b>
Canada	1000	3.1%
Quebec	243	6.3%
Rest of Canada	757	3.6%
Ontario	383	5.0%
West	300	5.7%

## Key Conclusions

## Conservatives have established the largest lead over the Liberals since the 2006 election. A clear majority thinks that Canada is headed in the right direction.

- ◆ The Federal Conservatives (39%) now hold a significant 12 point advantage over the Liberals (27%). Since December, the Conservatives have climbed seven points. Most of the Conservatives gains have occurred in Ontario. While the sample size is too small to report, the Conservatives may be making gains in BC as well.
- ◆ The Conservatives are enjoying particularly strong support from their traditional coalition of men, adults over the age of 35, those with incomes over \$50k, Anglophones, residents of communities with populations less than 1 million, born-again Christians, and those Canadians who think the country is on the “right track”.
- ◆ Conservatives’ current advantage is based on a broad consensus that Canada is heading in the right direction (60%), just 28% think it is headed in the wrong direction. On the eve of the 2006 election, Canadians were much more divided on this question: only 47% felt Canada was headed in the right direction, while 43% thought it was headed in the wrong direction.
- ◆ It is worth noting that Conservatives’ vote remains much firmer than their rivals. Moreover, the pool of Liberal-Conservatives switchers remains much larger than the pool of Liberal-NDP switchers.
- ◆ This poll also continues to show that the NDP continues to struggle – the NDP (12%) tied with the Green Party (12%).
- ◆ Notwithstanding this shift to the Conservatives, Canadians are still somewhat ambivalent about which party is gaining popularity and gaining momentum: 30% cited the Conservatives as being on the move, while 25% thought the Liberals have the momentum.

## Conservatives have also made significant gains on key issues.

- ◆ The Conservatives now hold a significant advantage over the Liberals:
  - Ability to manage the economy if there is an economic slowdown
  - Best plan for Canada's military and defence
  - Managing US-Canada relations
  - Spending taxpayers' money most wisely
  - Having the best team
  - Best able to manage Canada's mission in Afghanistan
- ◆ In addition, the Conservatives enjoy a modest advantage over the Liberals on health care, ethics and honesty, values that most reflect Canadians, and best new ideas.
- ◆ Historically, the Liberals have enjoyed a significant advantage over the Conservatives in dealing with Quebec and national unity. Our most recent poll suggests that the Liberals have also experienced a significant loss in this advantage in dealing with Quebec and national unity. Liberals now have a slight four-point advantage over the Conservatives on this file.
- ◆ Even though the Liberal leader has sought to differentiate his party from the Conservatives on the dealing with the environment and climate change, Canadians are no more likely to trust the Liberals than the Conservatives on this file. Not surprisingly, the Green Party continues to be trusted most on this issue.
- ◆ One key weakness the Conservatives have is the perception that they have a hidden agenda. The salience of this weakness will depend on the Liberal' capability of exploiting this perception of the Conservative government.

## Liberals triggering a federal election would be ‘a big roll of the dice’.

- ◆ This is the biggest lead the Conservatives have had over the Liberals since last election. In particular, the Conservatives have a solid lead in Ontario for the first time.
- ◆ Once again, Conservatives are flirting with majority territory. In the past, whenever they got this close, Canadians have stepped back. This time can they sustain it for more than a month?
- ◆ The strength of the Conservatives is founded on Canadians’ optimism about the state of the country, even though there is evidence that some pessimism about the economy is starting to mount.
- ◆ A modest majority of Canadians are more or less comfortable with the idea of Stephen Harper leading a majority government. In fact, they are more comfortable about Harper having a majority than Dion.
- ◆ However, these results suggest that triggering an election now would be highly risky – almost like a ‘big role of the dice’ -- for the Liberals.
- ◆ While a majority of Canadians oppose the Afghanistan mission, they don’t want to see the government defeated over it. What’s more, they trust the Conservatives more on the issue than they do the Liberals.
- ◆ It is important to note that these findings show how things look at the starting gate, not at the finish line. As shown in recent elections, campaigns matter and impact on election outcomes.

Detailed Tables



# Is Canada on the right track?

	Canada				Region															
					Quebec				Rest of Canada*				Ontario				West			
	May 15 2005	Nov 28 2005	Aug 9-12 2007	Feb 14-17 2008	May 15 2005	Nov 28 2005	Aug 9-12 2007	Feb 14-17 2008	May 15 2005	Nov 28 2005	Aug 9-12 2007	Feb 14-17 2008	May 15 2005	Nov 28 2005	Aug 9-12 2007	Feb 14-17 2008	May 15 2005	Nov 28 2005	Aug 9-12 2007	Feb 14-17 2008
n=	1500	1500	1000	1000	370	370	247	243	1130	1130	753	757	569	569	379	383	445	446	297	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
On the right track	38	47	57	60	29	47	59	60	41	47	57	60	39	46	56	60	43	48	60	60
On the wrong track	49	43	31	28	65	47	33	34	44	42	30	26	46	44	33	25	42	41	25	27
DK/NA/Ref	13	10	12	13	6	6	8	7	15	11	13	14	15	11	11	15	15	11	15	13

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Right now, do you think that overall the country is on the right track or the wrong track?

Base: Total Sample

# What is the most important issue in the next election?

	Canada		Region			
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Quebec Feb 14-17	Rest of Canada* Feb 14-17	Ontario Feb 14-17	West Feb 14-17
n=	1500	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Health Care	20	17	11	19	17	21
The Afghanistan Mission	-	14	18	12	12	12
The Economy	7	13	14	13	13	15
The Environment/Global Warming/Energy Use	3	12	14	12	13	11
Taxes	5	5	1	6	7	5
Social Issues	9	4	4	4	4	5
Government Leadership	6	4	6	3	3	2
Education	5	3	3	3	3	4
Law and Order Issues	-	3	1	3	3	5
Terrorism/War in Iraq/World Peace	<1	2	2	2	3	2
Unemployment	2	2	2	2	3	1
Majority/Minority	-	1	4	<1	<1	<1
Government Spending	6	1	1	1	<1	1
Sponsorship Scandal	13	-	-	-	-	-
Other	9	4	4	4	5	5
None	4	4	2	5	7	3
DK/NA/Ref	11	11	15	9	9	9

Q. As you may know there has been considerable discussion about the possibility of a federal election in the near future. In your view what is the most important issue in the next election – that is, the one about which you are most concerned?

Base: All respondents

# Which Party has the most momentum towards a federal election?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
Conservative Party	30	27	30	29	33
Liberal Party	25	29	23	27	18
NDP	6	10	5	4	6
Bloc Quebecois	3	11	-	-	-
Green Party	2	2	2	3	1
None	7	8	7	7	7
Other	1	1	<1	1	<1
DK/NA/Ref	27	12	32	29	36

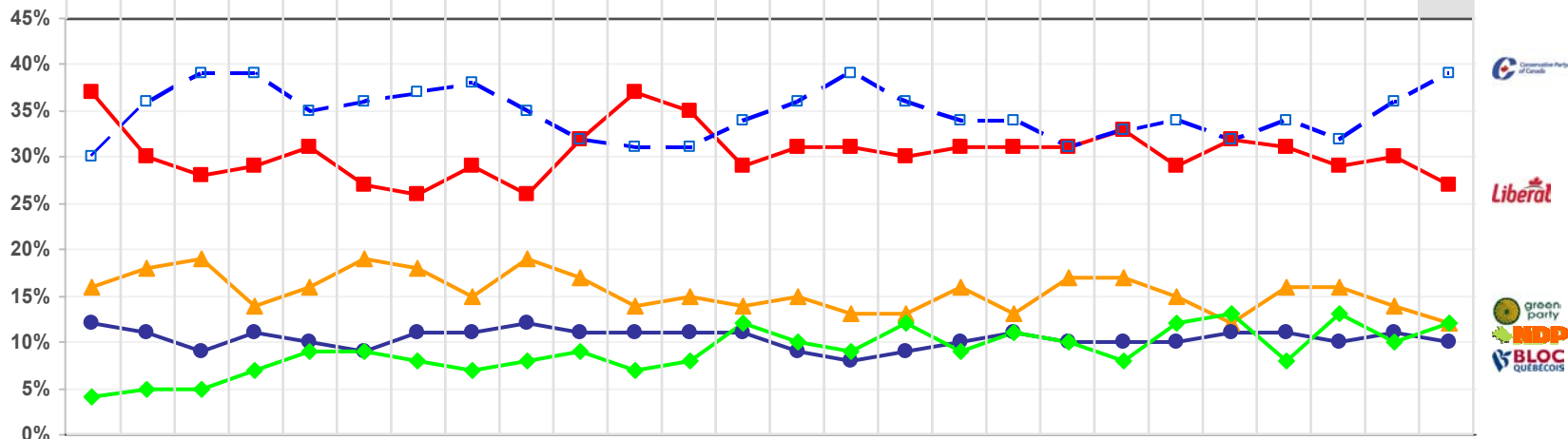
\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. From what you can tell, which party, if any, is gaining the most popularity and momentum leading up to a possible federal election?

Base: All respondents

# How would Canadians vote today?

		Canada																								
		2006									2007									2008						
2004	2006	Feb 16-19	Apr 6-9	May 3-4	Jun 7-8	Jul 12-15	Jul 27-30	Sep 14-17	Oct 12-15	Dec 3	Jan 11-14	Feb 15-18	Mar 10-13	Mar 20-21	Apr 21-24	May 14-17	Jun 8-11	Jul 12-15	Aug 10-12	Oct 11-14	Nov 8-11	Nov 12-13	Dec 6-9	Jan 10-13	Feb 14-17	
		1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservative candidate	30	36	39	39	35	36	37	38	35	32	31	31	34	36	39	36	34	34	31	33	34	32	34	32	36	39
Liberal candidate	37	30	28	29	31	27	26	29	26	32	37	35	29	31	31	30	31	31	33	29	32	31	29	30	27	
NDP candidate	16	18	19	14	16	19	18	15	19	17	14	15	14	13	13	16	13	17	17	15	12	16	16	14	12	
Bloc Quebecois candidate	12	11	9	11	10	9	11	11	12	11	11	11	9	8	9	10	11	10	10	10	11	11	10	11	10	
Green Party candidate	4	5	5	7	9	9	8	7	8	9	7	8	12	9	12	9	11	10	8	12	13	8	13	10	12	



Q. If the federal election was being held tomorrow, do you think you'd be supporting the (ROTATE LIST) Liberal candidate in your area, Conservative candidate in your area, the NDP candidate in your area, or the Green Party candidate in your area or (QUEBEC ONLY) Bloc Quebecois candidate in your area?

Q. In that case, which party's candidate in your local area would you be leaning towards at this time? Would it be the (ROTATE LIST) Liberal candidate in your area, Conservative candidate in your area, the NDP candidate in your area, Green Party candidate in your area or (QUEBEC ONLY) Bloc Quebecois candidate in your area?

Base: Total sample

# How would Canadians vote today?

		Canada																									
		2006										2007										2008					
n=	2004	2006	Feb 16-19	Apr 6-9	May 3-4	June 7-8	July 12-15	July 27-30	Sep 14-17	Oct 12-15	Dec 3	Jan 11-14	Feb 15-18	Mar 10-13	Mar 20-21	Apr 21-24	May 14-17	Jun 8-11	July 12-15	Aug 10-12	Oct 11-14	Nov 8-11	Nov 12-13	Dec 6-9	Jan 10-13	Feb 14-17	
			1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
	Conservative candidate	30	36	39	39	35	36	37	38	35	32	31	31	34	36	39	36	34	34	31	33	34	32	34	32	36	39
	Liberal candidate	37	30	28	29	31	27	26	29	26	32	37	35	29	31	31	30	31	31	31	33	29	32	31	29	30	27
	NDP candidate	16	18	19	14	16	19	18	15	19	17	14	15	14	15	13	13	16	13	17	17	15	12	16	16	14	12
	Bloc Quebecois candidate	12	11	9	11	10	9	11	11	12	11	11	11	11	9	8	9	10	11	10	10	10	11	10	11	10	
	Green Party candidate	4	5	5	7	9	9	8	7	8	9	7	8	12	10	9	12	9	11	10	8	12	13	8	13	10	12

		Quebec																									
		2006										2007										2008					
n=	2004	2006	Feb 16-19	Apr 6-9	May 3-4	June 7-8	July 12-15	July 27-30	Sep 14-17	Oct 12-15	Dec 3	Jan 11-14	Feb 15-18	Mar 10-13	Mar 20-21	Apr 21-24	May 14-17	Jun 8-11	July 12-15	Aug 10-12	Oct 11-14	Nov 8-11	Nov 12-13	Dec 6-9	Jan 10-13	Feb 14-17	
			247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
	Conservative candidate	9	25	31	29	30	25	24	23	16	16	16	15	18	26	24	21	20	16	16	21	26	23	25	18	24	22
	Liberal candidate	34	21	19	19	16	17	16	21	18	28	28	25	22	22	24	19	24	23	25	24	17	18	16	20	19	19
	NDP candidate	5	8	10	4	6	12	5	6	11	6	6	9	8	9	8	9	6	6	10	9	9	7	8	11	8	5
	Bloc Quebecois candidate	49	42	37	42	40	39	50	43	48	44	44	46	43	36	33	39	41	45	40	37	37	42	43	40	44	40
	Green Party candidate	3	4	3	5	8	7	6	8	7	6	6	5	9	7	11	12	9	10	9	9	12	10	8	11	5	14

		Rest of Canada*																									
		2006										2007										2008					
n=	2004	2006	Feb 16-19	Apr 6-9	May 3-4	June 7-8	July 12-15	July 27-30	Sep 14-17	Oct 12-15	Dec 3	Jan 11-14	Feb 15-18	Mar 10-13	Mar 20-21	Apr 21-24	May 14-17	Jun 8-11	July 12-15	Aug 10-12	Oct 11-14	Nov 8-11	Nov 12-13	Dec 6-9	Jan 10-13	Feb 14-17	
			753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753	753
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
	Conservative candidate	37	40	41	43	36	39	41	43	41	37	36	36	40	39	43	40	39	40	36	36	37	36	37	37	40	45
	Liberal candidate	38	33	31	33	35	30	29	32	29	33	40	38	31	33	34	34	33	34	33	36	34	37	36	32	34	30
	NDP candidate	19	21	22	17	19	21	22	18	21	20	17	17	16	17	14	15	19	15	20	19	17	14	18	18	15	13
	Bloc Quebecois candidate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Green Party candidate	5	5	6	7	10	10	8	7	9	10	7	9	13	11	9	11	9	11	11	9	12	14	8	13	11	12

Q. If the federal election was being held tomorrow, do you think you'd be supporting the (ROTATE LIST) Liberal candidate in your area, Conservative candidate in your area, the NDP candidate in your area, or the Green Party candidate in your area or (QUEBEC ONLY) Bloc Quebecois candidate in your area?

Q. In that case, which party's candidate in your local area would you be leaning towards at this time? Would it be the (ROTATE LIST) Liberal candidate in your area, Conservative candidate in your area, the NDP candidate in your area, Green Party candidate in your area or (QUEBEC ONLY) Bloc Quebecois candidate in your area?

Base: Total sample

# How would Canadians vote today? (cont'd)

		Ontario																								
		2006										2007										2008				
n=	2004	2006	Feb 16-19	Apr 6-9	May 3-4	June 7-8	July 12-15	July 27-30	Sep 14-17	Oct 12-15	Dec 3	Jan 11-14	Feb 15-18	Mar 10-13	Mar 20-21	Apr 21-24	May 14-17	Jun 8-11	July 12-15	Aug 10-12	Oct 11-14	Nov 8-11	Nov 12-13	Dec 6-9	Jan 10-13	Feb 14-17
			379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservative candidate		32	35	36	36	34	36	34	41	35	33	32	34	34	40	33	37	35	34	35	33	29	30	33	37	42
Liberal candidate		45	40	38	40	42	35	36	39	37	36	45	39	41	40	41	40	42	41	40	40	47	44	37	39	34
NDP candidate		18	20	20	15	16	20	21	16	19	19	14	14	15	13	16	15	11	13	17	14	12	17	17	12	11
Bloc Quebecois candidate		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green Party candidate		4	5	6	9	9	9	9	5	9	11	5	9	13	10	7	11	9	12	12	8	14	12	9	13	12

		West																									
		2006										2007										2008					
n=	2004	2006	Feb 16-19	Apr 6-9	May 3-4	June 7-8	July 12-15	July 27-30	Sep 14-17	Oct 12-15	Dec 3	Jan 11-14	Feb 15-18	Mar 10-13	Mar 20-21	Apr 21-24	May 14-17	Jun 8-11	July 12-15	Aug 10-12	Oct 11-14	Nov 8-11	Nov 12-13	Dec 6-9	Jan 10-13	Feb 14-17	
			297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297	297
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Conservative candidate		46	49	49	53	42	45	51	50	50	42	45	42	48	50	50	50	42	44	40	46	41	43	48	41	42	49
Liberal candidate		27	23	21	20	25	23	21	20	17	27	28	26	21	19	24	23	22	22	25	25	27	24	26	26	29	23
NDP candidate		20	22	25	19	21	22	20	20	23	22	18	23	18	18	14	14	26	21	24	21	21	16	20	17	16	
Bloc Quebecois candidate		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Green Party candidate		5	5	5	8	12	10	8	10	10	10	9	9	13	13	12	13	10	13	11	8	12	18	6	16	11	

Q. If the federal election was being held tomorrow, do you think you'd be supporting the (ROTATE LIST) Liberal candidate in your area, Conservative candidate in your area, the NDP candidate in your area, or the Green Party candidate in your area or (QUEBEC ONLY) Bloc Quebecois candidate in your area?

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Base: Total sample

# Which one of the political parties do you think ...

		Canada		Region							
				Quebec		Rest of Canada*		Ontario		West	
		Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
n=		1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Is best able to manage the economy if there is an economic slowdown*	Conservatives	26	38	13	33	31	40	30	38	33	45
	Liberals	36	25	33	26	37	24	36	27	37	21
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>-10</b>	<b>+13</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>+7</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>+16</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>+24</b>
Is best able to manage health care	Conservatives	21	26	11	19	24	28	23	28	24	30
	Liberals	29	21	28	23	29	20	31	22	24	16
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>+5</b>	<b>-17</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>+8</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>+6</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>+14</b>
Has the best plan for Canada's military and defence	Conservatives	23	37	16	34	26	38	25	36	28	43
	Liberals	29	19	37	24	27	18	27	19	23	14
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>+18</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>+10</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>+20</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>+17</b>	<b>+5</b>	<b>+29</b>
Is best able to deal with US-Canada relations	Conservatives	25	41	16	38	28	42	26	41	30	46
	Liberals	42	24	44	29	41	23	45	24	36	20
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>-17</b>	<b>+17</b>	<b>-28</b>	<b>+9</b>	<b>-13</b>	<b>+19</b>	<b>-19</b>	<b>+17</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>+26</b>
Is best able to deal with Quebec-Canada relations and national unity	Conservatives	16	27	12	26	18	27	16	28	19	29
	Liberals	42	31	32	26	45	33	47	35	40	31
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>-26</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>-27</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>-31</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>-2</b>
Would spend the taxpayers' money most wisely	Conservatives	25	32	15	22	28	35	27	32	30	43
	Liberals	21	14	20	15	21	13	21	16	19	10
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>+4</b>	<b>+18</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>+7</b>	<b>+7</b>	<b>+22</b>	<b>+6</b>	<b>+16</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>+33</b>

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which one of the political parties do you think ...?

Base: All respondents

\* Modified question – “if there is an economic slowdown” added in 2008

# Which one of the political parties do you think ...

		Canada		Region							
				Quebec		Rest of Canada*		Ontario		West	
		Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
n=		1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Has the highest standards of ethics and honesty	Conservatives	19	22	10	15	22	24	20	23	25	29
	Liberals	12	10	11	10	12	10	13	12	10	7
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>+7</b>	<b>+12</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>+5</b>	<b>+10</b>	<b>+14</b>	<b>+7</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>+15</b>	<b>+22</b>
Has a hidden agenda	Conservatives	25	27	12	30	29	25	28	27	28	23
	Liberals	33	20	48	20	28	19	27	18	28	24
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>+7</b>	<b>-36</b>	<b>+10</b>	<b>+1</b>	<b>+6</b>	<b>+1</b>	<b>+9</b>	--	<b>-1</b>
Has values that most reflect your own	Conservatives	24	28	8	16	30	32	27	29	33	38
	Liberals	27	21	24	16	28	23	30	26	24	20
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>+7</b>	<b>-16</b>	--	<b>+2</b>	<b>+9</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>+3</b>	<b>+9</b>	<b>+18</b>
Has the best team	Conservatives	19	33	6	32	23	34	20	32	25	39
	Liberals	33	20	30	22	35	19	38	22	29	15
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>-14</b>	<b>+13</b>	<b>-24</b>	<b>+10</b>	<b>-12</b>	<b>+15</b>	<b>-18</b>	<b>+10</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>+24</b>
Has the best new ideas for Canada	Conservatives	21	24	12	19	25	25	21	24	28	28
	Liberals	19	13	21	15	19	13	19	15	16	10
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>-9</b>	<b>+4</b>	<b>+6</b>	<b>+12</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>+9</b>	<b>+12</b>	<b>+18</b>

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which one of the political parties do you think ...?

Base: All respondents



# Which one of the political parties do you think ...

		Canada		Region							
				Quebec		Rest of Canada*		Ontario		West	
		Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
n=		n/a	1000	n/a	243	n/a	757	n/a	383	n/a	300
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Is best able to deal with the environment and climate change	Conservatives	n/a	16	n/a	11	n/a	18	n/a	17	n/a	21
	Liberals	n/a	17	n/a	24	n/a	15	n/a	17	n/a	13
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>-13</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>+3</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>+8</b>
Is best able to manage Canada's mission in Afghanistan	Conservatives	n/a	36	n/a	25	n/a	39	n/a	36	n/a	45
	Liberals	n/a	21	n/a	31	n/a	18	n/a	22	n/a	13
	<b>GAP</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>+15</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>+21</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>+14</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>+32</b>

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which one of the political parties do you think ...?

Base: All respondents

# Which one of the political parties do you think ...

**... is best able to manage the economy if there is an economic slowdown**

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservatives	26	38	13	33	31	40	30	38	33	45
Liberals	36	25	33	26	37	24	36	27	37	21
NDP	9	5	8	4	10	5	10	5	9	5
Green Party	1	2	<1	<1	2	2	1	3	2	2
Bloc Quebecois	7	3	29	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
None of them	10	6	9	11	10	4	10	5	9	3
Other/DK/Ref	10	22	8	17	11	24	14	23	9	25

**... is best able to manage health care**

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservatives	21	26	11	19	24	28	23	28	24	30
Liberals	29	21	28	23	29	20	31	22	24	16
NDP	19	12	10	7	22	14	21	13	24	18
Green Party	1	2	<1	1	1	3	1	2	2	3
Bloc Quebecois	7	4	27	17	-	-	-	-	-	-
None of them	10	10	12	15	10	8	9	8	10	9
Other/DK/Ref	14	25	11	19	15	27	15	26	16	24

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which one of the political parties do you think ... ?

Base: Total Sample

# Which one of the political parties do you think ...

**... has the best plan for Canada's military and defence**

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
% %		% %		% %		% %		% %		
Conservatives	23	37	16	34	26	38	25	36	28	43
Liberals	29	19	37	24	27	18	27	19	23	14
NDP	5	5	4	4	5	5	5	6	5	5
Green Party	1	2	<1	2	1	2	2	3	1	2
Bloc Quebecois	2	2	10	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
None of them	10	6	10	8	10	6	13	7	7	5
Other/DK/Ref	29	29	23	21	31	31	28	31	35	31

**... is best able to deal with US-Canada relations**

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
% %		% %		% %		% %		% %		
Conservatives	25	41	16	38	28	42	26	41	30	46
Liberals	42	24	44	29	41	23	45	24	36	20
NDP	7	4	5	4	8	4	7	5	8	3
Green Party	1	2	<1	1	1	2	1	2	1	3
Bloc Quebecois	4	2	17	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
None of them	8	5	8	5	8	5	7	5	9	4
Other/DK/Ref	13	22	10	17	14	24	14	23	16	25

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which one of the political parties do you think ... ?

Base: Total Sample

# Which one of the political parties do you think ...

**... is best able to deal with Quebec-Canada relations and national unity**

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservatives	16	27	12	26	18	27	16	28	19	29
Liberals	42	31	32	26	45	33	47	35	40	31
NDP	8	3	8	3	8	4	9	2	7	5
Green Party	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	3	1	3
Bloc Quebecois	9	6	37	26	-	-	-	-	-	-
None of them	9	6	7	6	10	6	9	6	11	4
Other/DK/Ref	15	24	4	13	18	28	18	26	22	29

**... would spend the taxpayers' money most wisely**

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservatives	25	32	15	22	28	35	27	32	30	43
Liberals	21	14	20	15	21	13	21	16	19	10
NDP	15	9	13	10	15	9	15	8	14	9
Green Party	3	6	1	4	4	7	4	8	4	7
Bloc Quebecois	8	4	30	16	-	-	-	-	-	-
None of them	18	12	15	14	19	11	20	12	17	9
Other/DK/Ref	12	23	6	19	14	24	12	25	16	22

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which one of the political parties do you think ... ?

Base: Total Sample

# Which one of the political parties do you think ...

**... has the highest standards of ethics and honesty**

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservatives	19	22	10	15	22	24	20	23	25	29
Liberals	12	10	11	10	12	10	13	12	10	7
NDP	19	13	10	13	22	13	23	10	21	15
Green Party	5	10	2	9	6	10	6	11	7	10
Bloc Quebecois	10	5	39	19	-	-	-	-	-	-
None of them	23	18	19	17	25	18	26	19	23	17
Other/DK/Ref	12	23	8	18	13	25	13	25	15	23

**... has a hidden agenda**

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservatives	25	27	12	30	29	25	28	27	28	23
Liberals	33	20	48	20	28	19	27	18	28	24
NDP	7	7	4	1	8	9	8	10	8	9
Green Party	1	1	<1	1	2	1	1	2	2	1
Bloc Quebecois	3	2	12	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
None of them	6	7	4	7	7	7	8	7	6	6
Other/DK/Ref	26	36	20	31	28	38	28	36	28	38

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which one of the political parties do you think ... ?

Base: Total Sample

# Which one of the political parties do you think ...

... has values that most reflect your own

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservatives	24	28	8	16	30	32	27	29	33	38
Liberals	27	21	24	16	28	23	30	26	24	20
NDP	18	11	9	8	20	12	20	11	20	13
Green Party	4	8	2	7	4	8	3	9	5	9
Bloc Quebecois	11	8	45	33	-	-	-	-	-	-
None of them	9	7	9	9	9	7	10	8	8	4
Other/DK/Ref	8	16	3	12	10	18	10	17	10	17

... has the best team

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservatives	19	33	6	32	23	34	20	32	25	39
Liberals	33	20	30	22	35	19	38	22	29	15
NDP	10	7	4	4	13	7	13	8	13	7
Green Party	1	3	1	3	2	3	1	2	3	4
Bloc Quebecois	10	3	40	14	-	-	-	-	-	-
None of them	9	6	8	6	10	6	9	7	10	6
Other/DK/Ref	17	28	11	18	19	31	19	29	21	30

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which one of the political parties do you think ... ?

Base: Total Sample

# Which one of the political parties do you think ...

**... has the best new ideas for Canada**

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	1500	1000	370	243	1130	757	569	383	445	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservatives	21	24	12	19	25	25	21	24	28	28
Liberals	19	13	21	15	19	13	19	15	16	10
NDP	20	12	17	16	21	11	22	11	20	10
Green Party	5	12	3	6	5	13	6	14	6	14
Bloc Quebecois	6	2	23	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
None of them	12	10	13	12	12	9	13	9	11	9
Other/DK/Ref	17	27	12	22	19	29	19	27	20	29

**... is best able to deal with the environment and climate change**

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	n/a	1000	n/a	243	n/a	757	n/a	383	n/a	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservatives	n/a	16	n/a	11	n/a	18	n/a	17	n/a	21
Liberals	n/a	17	n/a	24	n/a	15	n/a	17	n/a	13
NDP	n/a	10	n/a	14	n/a	9	n/a	8	n/a	10
Green Party	n/a	30	n/a	28	n/a	31	n/a	33	n/a	31
Bloc Quebecois	n/a	2	n/a	9	n/a	-	n/a	-	n/a	-
None of them	n/a	6	n/a	6	n/a	6	n/a	5	n/a	5
Other/DK/Ref	n/a	19	n/a	9	n/a	22	n/a	20	n/a	20

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which one of the political parties do you think ... ?

Base: Total Sample

# Which one of the political parties do you think ...

**... is best able to manage  
Canada's mission in  
Afghanistan**

	Region									
	Canada		Quebec		R.O.C.*		Ontario		West	
	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 28 2005	Feb 14-17 2008
	n/a	1000	n/a	243	n/a	757	n/a	383	n/a	300
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Conservatives	n/a	36	n/a	25	n/a	39	n/a	36	n/a	45
Liberals	n/a	21	n/a	31	n/a	18	n/a	22	n/a	13
NDP	n/a	6	n/a	6	n/a	6	n/a	6	n/a	7
Green Party	n/a	2	n/a	1	n/a	2	n/a	3	n/a	2
Bloc Quebecois	n/a	2	n/a	8	n/a	-	n/a	-	n/a	-
None of them	n/a	7	n/a	9	n/a	6	n/a	7	n/a	5
Other/DK/Ref	n/a	26	n/a	20	n/a	28	n/a	26	n/a	29

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which one of the political parties do you think ... ?  
Base: Total Sample



# Which Party Leader do Canadians trust most to be Prime Minister?

	Canada		Region							
			Quebec		Rest of Canada*		Ontario		West	
	Jan 12-15 2006	Feb 14-17 2008	Jan 12-15 2006	Feb 14-17 2008	Jan 12-15 2006	Feb 14-17 2008	Jan 12-15 2006	Feb 14-17 2008	Jan 12-15 2006	Feb 14-17 2008
n=	1000	1000	247	243	753	757	379	383	297	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Stephen Harper	33	40	30	28	34	43	30	40	40	50
Stephane Dion	n/a	15	n/a	16	n/a	15	n/a	17	n/a	13
Jack Layton	18	13	14	18	19	12	21	13	18	11
Gilles Duceppe	6	5	24	19	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elizabeth May	n/a	4	n/a	4	n/a	5	n/a	5	n/a	4
None/Other	13	9	12	9	13	9	13	10	12	5
DK/NA/Ref	5	14	4	7	6	17	5	16	7	18

Q. And which one would you trust most to be the Prime Minister of Canada?

Base: Total sample

# How much would Canadians trust Stephen Harper with a majority government?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
<b>TOTAL Trust A Lot/Somewhat</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>59</b>
Trust a lot	20	13	22	23	25
Trust somewhat	34	39	32	30	34
Not too much	18	24	17	16	16
Not at all	24	23	24	26	20
<b>TOTAL Not Too Much/Not At All</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>36</b>
DK/NA/Ref	4	1	5	5	5

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. How much would you trust Conservative leader Stephen Harper with a majority government? Would you trust him a lot, somewhat, not too much or not at all?  
 Base: All respondents

# How much would Canadians trust Stephane Dion with a majority government?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
<b>TOTAL Trust A Lot/Somewhat</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>42</b>
Trust a lot	8	11	7	8	7
Trust somewhat	37	35	37	37	35
Not too much	23	28	22	20	25
Not at all	25	24	25	27	25
<b>TOTAL Not Too Much/Not At All</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>50</b>
DK/NA/Ref	7	2	9	8	8

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. How much would you trust Liberal leader Stephane Dion with a majority government? Would you trust him a lot, somewhat, not too much or not at all?

Base: All respondents

# Direction of the Economy

	Canada			Region											
				Quebec			Rest of Canada*			Ontario			West		
	Nov 8-11 2007	Jan 10-13 2008	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 8-11 2007	Jan 10-13 2008	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 8-11 2007	Jan 10-13 2008	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 8-11 2007	Jan 10-13 2008	Feb 14-17 2008	Nov 8-11 2007	Jan 10-13 2008	Feb 14-17 2008
n=	1000	1000	1000	247	247	243	753	753	757	379	379	383	297	297	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Getting stronger</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>
Staying the same	43	51	50	50	63	47	41	47	51	38	46	48	45	50	54
Getting worse	22	28	29	23	21	34	21	30	27	27	36	31	14	24	21
DK/NA/Ref	5	4	3	4	1	2	5	4	3	4	5	4	6	3	3

Q. In the coming months, do you see the Canadian economy getting stronger, getting worse or staying the same?

Base: Total sample

# Do Canadians support extending Canada's combat mission in Afghanistan beyond 2009?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
<b>TOTAL Support</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>
Strongly support	14	3	18	18	19
Somewhat support	21	17	22	23	22
Somewhat oppose	21	24	19	17	21
Strongly oppose	40	55	36	36	35
<b>TOTAL Oppose</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>56</b>
DK/NA/Ref	4	1	5	6	4

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Do you support or oppose the government's proposal to extend Canada's combat mission in Afghanistan beyond 2009? Is that strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose?

Base: All respondents

# Do Canadians support the Opposition defeating the government and triggering a federal election over the government's position to extend Canada's mission to Afghanistan beyond 2009?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
<b>TOTAL Support</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>33</b>
Strongly support	14	18	13	12	14
Somewhat support	20	28	18	18	19
Somewhat oppose	23	26	22	22	21
Strongly oppose	34	25	37	39	35
<b>TOTAL Oppose</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>56</b>
DK/NA/Ref	9	4	10	10	11

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Do you support or oppose the Opposition defeating the government and triggering a federal election over the government's position to extend Canada's mission to Afghanistan beyond 2009?

Base: All respondents

# Do Canadians support extending Canada's combat mission in Afghanistan beyond 2009 if other NATO countries provided additional troops?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
<b>TOTAL Support</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>61</b>
Strongly support	23	10	28	28	30
Somewhat support	28	24	29	27	31
Somewhat oppose	15	23	12	11	13
Strongly oppose	30	42	26	30	22
<b>TOTAL Oppose</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>35</b>
DK/NA/Ref	4	1	5	4	4

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. As you may know, Canada has 2,500 troops deployed in Kandahar, Afghanistan on a combat mission that is currently schedule to end in February 2009. The so-called Manley Report on Canada's role in Afghanistan has recommended that Canada extend its combat mission in Afghanistan beyond 2009 only if it can receive reinforcements of 1,000 additional troops from other NATO countries. Would you support or oppose extending Canada's combat role in Afghanistan if other NATO countries provided 1,000 additional troops to serve alongside Canadian soldiers?

Base: All respondents

# Which country would Canadians most prefer contribute the additional troops?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
Britain	33	26	35	34	37
United States	25	29	24	24	23
France	17	27	13	13	12
None	18	13	20	22	20
DK/NA/Ref	7	5	8	8	8

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which one of the following countries would you most prefer contributed additional troops to serve alongside Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan?

Base: All respondents



# Which Party would Canadians never vote for?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
Green Party	30	38	28	25	29
NDP	27	16	31	33	31
Conservative Party	21	22	21	22	20
Liberal Party	16	19	15	15	16
Bloc Quebecois	1	3	-	-	-
DK/NA/Ref	18	17	18	18	17

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which political party would you never vote for in the federal election?

Base: All respondents

# Which political party do Canadians most identify themselves with?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17	Feb 14-17
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
Conservative	32	17	36	34	42
Liberal	28	22	30	35	23
New Democrat	11	7	13	11	15
Block Quebecois	8	32	-	-	-
Something else	2	1	2	2	3
None	13	17	11	12	9
DK/NA/Ref	7	5	8	6	8

\*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Thing about Federal politics in Canada, generally speaking do you usually think of yourself as ... ?

Base: All respondents