

# NEWS RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Liberals hold steady lead in Newfoundland and Labrador**

### **NDP loses share in final poll**

TORONTO November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken the day before the provincial election by the Forum Poll™, among 1014 Newfoundland and Labrador voters, just more than one half will vote Liberal (54%), while 3-in-10 (31%) will vote for the Progressive Conservatives. The NDP vote is common to one sixth (15%). This stands in comparison to 5 days ago, when the Liberals had a lead of 23 points (November 24, Liberals - 52%, Progressive Conservatives - 29%). In that poll, the NDP had one fifth of the vote (19%).

### **McCurdy's favourables down**

While Dwight Ball has seen his approval hold steady (44% this week, 45% last), as has Paul Davis (40% now, 39% on November 24), Earle McCurdy has seen his approval drop from 3-in-10 (30%) to just more than a quarter (27%).

### **Dwight Ball with slim lead for best Premier**

Dwight Ball (35%) and Paul Davis (33%) are almost tied for who would make the best Premier, but Earle McCurdy is not competitive (11%).

"While a vote share of more than half the province is impressive, it may not be enough to propel the Liberals into a government with no opposition, which appeared to be the case at the beginning of the campaign. We project the Liberals to win 34 seats to 5 for the Progressive Conservatives and one for the NDP," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at [lbozinoff@forumresearch.com](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com) or at (416) 960-9603.

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### **TORONTO**

**November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Just more than one half will vote Liberal (54%), while 3-in-10 (31%) will vote for the Progressive Conservatives.
- While Dwight Ball has seen his approval hold steady (44% this week, 45% last), as has Paul Davis (40% now, 39% on November 24), Earle McCurdy has seen his approval drop from 3-in-10 (30%) to just more than a quarter (27%).
- Dwight Ball (35%) and Paul Davis (33%) are almost tied for who would make the best Premier, but Earle McCurdy is not competitive (11%).
- "While a vote share of more than half the province is impressive, it may not be enough to propel the Liberals into a government with no opposition, which appeared to be the case at the beginning of the campaign. We project the Liberals to win 34 seats to 5 for the Progressive Conservatives and one for the NDP," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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**November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

### **Methodology**

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1014 randomly selected Newfoundland and Labrador voters. The poll was conducted on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3%, 19 times out of 20. Subsample results will be less accurate. Margins of error for subsample (such as age, gender) results are available at [www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp](http://www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp)

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted by age, region, and other variables to ensure that the sample reflects the actual population according to the latest Census data.

This research is not necessarily predictive of future outcomes, but rather, captures opinion at one point in time. Electoral outcome depends on the success of the parties at getting out the vote. Forum Research conducted this poll as a public service and to demonstrate our survey research capabilities. Forum houses its poll results in the Data Library of the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

With offices across Canada and around the world, 100% Canadian-owned Forum Research is one of the country's leading survey research firms. This Forum Poll™ and other polls may be found at Forum's poll archive at [www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp](http://www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp)

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## TORONTO

November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### Provincial Party Preference – Trending

%	Nov. 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
Sample	967	790	733
Progressive Conservative	31	29	21
Liberal	54	52	65
New Democratic Party	15	19	13
Other Parties	0	0	1

### Paul Davis Approval – Trending

%	Nov. 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
Sample	1014	842	766
Approve	40	39	34
Disapprove	42	43	43
Don't know	18	18	23

### Dwight Ball Approval – Trending

%	Nov. 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
Sample	1014	842	766
Approve	44	45	46
Disapprove	35	33	24
Don't know	20	22	31

### Earle McCurdy Approval – Trending

%	Nov. 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
Sample	1014	842	766
Approve	27	30	30
Disapprove	46	47	34
Don't know	27	23	35

### Best Premier of NL – Trending

%	Nov. 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
Sample	1014	842	766
Paul Davis	33	30	25
Dwight Ball	35	34	37
Earle McCurdy	11	10	10
None of these	13	15	14
Don't know	9	10	15

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**TORONTO**

**November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Current Provincial Party Preference**

*‘In the provincial election called for November 30, which party are you most likely to vote for or have you voted for already?’ + ‘Even though you may not have made up your mind, which party are you leaning towards at this time?’*

*[Decided/Leaning]*

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	967	187	124	193	240	223	529	438
Progressive Conservative	31	25	28	34	28	34	30	31
Liberal	54	55	43	50	62	58	57	53
New Democratic Party	15	20	29	15	11	8	14	16
Other Parties	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Region**

%	Total	St John’s and the Avalon Peninsula	Grand Falls-Windsor and Central Newfoundland	Corner Brook and Western Newfoundland	Labrador
Sample	967	702	120	118	27
Progressive Conservative	31	34	34	17	18
Liberal	54	50	54	71	54
New Democratic Party	15	17	12	11	28
Other Parties	0	0	0	0	0

**Past Provincial Party Preference**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Other parties
Sample	967	384	237	177	13
Progressive Conservative	31	49	13	21	15
Liberal	54	40	81	40	72
New Democratic Party	15	12	7	40	13
Other Parties	0	0	0	0	0

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## ***Paul Davis Approval***

*'Do you approve or disapprove of Paul Davis of the Progressive Conservatives?'*

*[All Respondents]*

### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1014	206	127	204	246	231	562	452
Approve	40	31	39	45	47	43	37	43
Disapprove	42	38	40	49	41	45	47	37
Don't know	18	31	21	6	12	12	16	20

### **Region**

%	Total	St John's and the Avalon Peninsula	Grand Falls-Windsor and Central Newfoundland	Corner Brook and Western Newfoundland	Labrador
Sample	1014	736	125	121	32
Approve	40	42	40	33	36
Disapprove	42	43	41	47	29
Don't know	18	15	19	20	34

### **Provincial Party Preference**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Other parties
Sample	1014	295	494	160	18
Approve	40	88	20	28	24
Disapprove	42	7	61	54	28
Don't know	18	4	20	17	48

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### *Dwight Ball Approval*

*'Do you approve or disapprove of Dwight Ball of the Liberals?'*

*[All Respondents]*

#### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1014	206	127	204	246	231	562	452
Approve	44	37	46	41	53	51	45	44
Disapprove	35	33	35	44	33	31	35	35
Don't know	20	30	19	15	14	17	19	21

#### **Region**

%	Total	St John's and the Avalon Peninsula	Grand Falls-Windsor and Central Newfoundland	Corner Brook and Western Newfoundland	Labrador
Sample	1014	736	125	121	32
Approve	44	41	42	59	48
Disapprove	35	42	33	20	29
Don't know	20	17	25	21	22

#### **Provincial Party Preference**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Other parties
Sample	1014	295	494	160	18
Approve	44	11	74	25	17
Disapprove	35	76	10	51	35
Don't know	20	13	16	24	48

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**Earle McCurdy Approval**

*‘Do you approve or disapprove of Earle McCurdy of the NDP?’*

*[All Respondents]*

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1014	206	127	204	246	231	562	452
Approve	27	26	31	30	26	25	29	26
Disapprove	46	37	41	54	52	51	48	44
Don't know	27	38	28	16	22	25	23	31

**Region**

%	Total	St John's and the Avalon Peninsula	Grand Falls-Windsor and Central Newfoundland	Corner Brook and Western Newfoundland	Labrador
Sample	1014	736	125	121	32
Approve	27	30	28	21	19
Disapprove	46	48	45	41	38
Don't know	27	22	27	38	43

**Provincial Party Preference**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Other parties
Sample	1014	295	494	160	18
Approve	27	19	23	64	0
Disapprove	46	61	50	16	42
Don't know	27	20	28	19	58

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**November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Best Premier of NL**

*‘Regardless of which party you would vote for, who do you think would make the best Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador?’*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1014	206	127	204	246	231	562	452
Paul Davis	33	28	31	37	36	37	30	36
Dwight Ball	35	24	35	33	47	41	36	33
Earle McCurdy	11	11	13	15	6	8	12	10
None of these	13	19	12	10	9	11	15	10
Don't know	9	18	9	5	3	4	7	11

**Region**

%	Total	St John's and the Avalon Peninsula	Grand Falls-Windsor and Central Newfoundland	Corner Brook and Western Newfoundland	Labrador
Sample	1014	736	125	121	32
Paul Davis	33	35	34	27	32
Dwight Ball	35	32	33	46	31
Earle McCurdy	11	12	11	7	7
None of these	13	13	11	11	19
Don't know	9	8	9	8	11

**Provincial Party Preference**

%	Total	Progressive Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Other parties
Sample	1014	295	494	160	18
Paul Davis	33	84	14	14	17
Dwight Ball	35	4	63	15	4
Earle McCurdy	11	4	4	45	0
None of these	13	7	12	11	58
Don't know	9	1	7	15	20

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