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Conservatives lead by 12 points. Party standings largely unchanged from election night 2008.

OTTAWA: The voting preferences of Canadians remain remarkably similar to the results of the October 2008 election held almost exactly one year ago. The governing Conservatives find themselves with a 12-point lead over the opposition Liberals, according to the latest Environics Research Group survey of 2,000 Canadians, conducted in October 2009.

Party Support. Among decided Canadian voters, 38 percent say they would vote for the Conservative Party in an election, compared to 26 percent who would vote for the Liberal Party, 16 percent who would support the NDP and 10 percent who would support the Green Party. Support for the Bloc Québécois stands at eight percent nationally and this represents 36 percent support in Quebec.

It is notable that a particularly high three in ten (29%) eligible voters are undecided about which party to vote for, would not vote at all or refuse to say who they would vote for.

Federal Vote Intention <i>(Percentage of Decided Voters)</i> Sample: 1,351 Eligible and Decided Voters <i>(Sampling error: +/-2.6%)</i>		
	October 2008 Election Results	October 15 – 21, 2009
Conservative	38	38
Liberal	26	26
New Democratic	18	16
Green	7	10
Bloc Québécois	10	8
Other	1	2

Regional Patterns. At the regional level it is apparent that many of the regional cleavages that characterize Canadian politics have been maintained and even accentuated since the last election. The Conservatives dominance in the Prairie Provinces is greater than ever, while they continue to show even more weakness in Quebec, where the Bloc Quebecois remains dominant. In Ontario, Conservative support is virtually unchanged from last election while both the Liberal and NDP have lost some ground to the Green party. Atlantic Canada remains very much a three-way race as it was in the last election. British Columbia is the one place where there appears to have been a significant change in party support since the last election with Conservative support down significantly putting them into a statistical tie with the NDP.

Federal Vote Intention, October 2009 – by Region*					
	CON	LIB	NDP	BQ	Green
CANADA	38 (-)	26 (-)	16 (-2)	8 (-2)	10 (+3)
Atlantic	31 (+2)	31 (-4)	26 (-1)	–	9 (+3)
Quebec	19 (-3)	24 (-)	10 (-2)	36 (-2)	7 (+4)
Ontario	40 (+1)	32 (-2)	15 (-3)	–	11 (+3)
Prairies	62 (+3)	16 (+2)	12 (-5)	–	9 (+2)
British Columbia	34 (-10)	24 (+5)	29 (+3)	–	13 (+4)

*numbers in brackets indicate change since October 2008 election

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Sample Size and Sampling Precision		
By Region		
	# of Interviews	+/- %*
CANADA	2,000	2.2
Atlantic Canada	250	6.2
Quebec	500	4.4
Ontario	500	4.4
Prairies	500	6.2
British Columbia	250	6.2

*at the 95% confidence level

Methodology

These results are taken from an Environics survey of 2,000 Canadians aged 18 and older, conducted in English and French between October 15 and 21, 2009. On a national basis, these results are accurate to within +/-2.2 percentage points, in 95 out of 100 samples.

Questions (English):

If a Canadian federal election were held today, which one of the following parties would you vote for? [ROTATE PARTIES] the Liberal Party, the Conservative Party, the New Democratic Party, [Quebec Only] the Bloc Québécois, or the Green Party?

[If "Undecided" ask] Perhaps you have not yet made up your mind; is there nevertheless a party you might be inclined to support?