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A Report To The Globe and Mail and CTV

Party Vote, Economy, and the Impact
of Cadman and NAFTA Leak on the
Harper Government

March 17, 2008

Introduction and Methodology

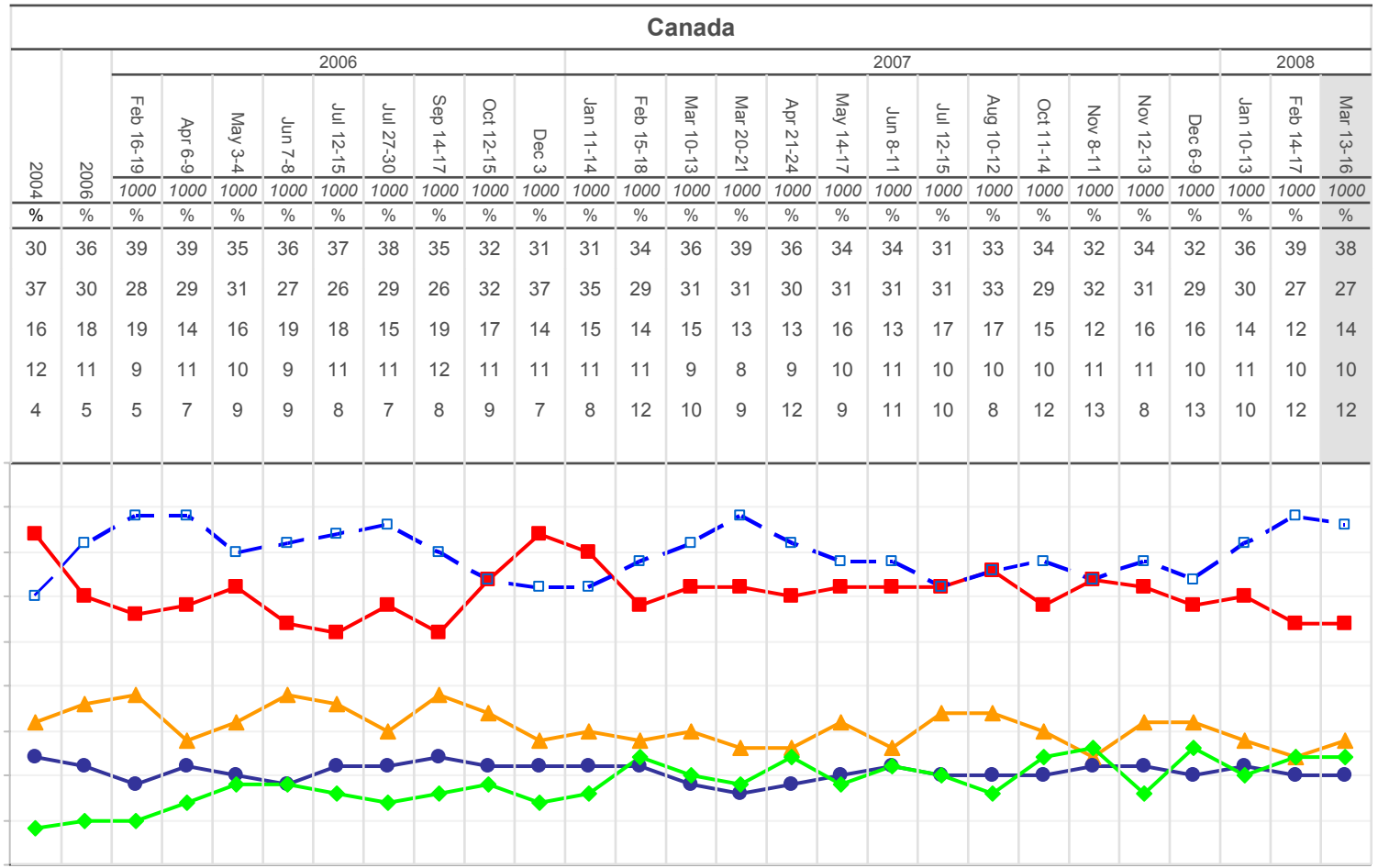
- ◆ *The Strategic Counsel* is pleased to present findings of a national survey of 1000 Canadians.
- ◆ Results are based on tracking among a proportionate national sample of Canadians 18 years of age or older.
- ◆ Interviews were conducted between March 13th and 16th, 2008.
- ◆ The following table outlines the sample distribution and associated margin of error.
- ◆ Note: Proportions may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Sample Distribution and Margin of Error

	March 13-16, 2008	
National Sample Regions	Sample Size	Margin of Error (±)
Canada	1000	3.1%
Quebec	243	6.3%
Rest of Canada	757	3.6%
Ontario	383	5.0%
West	300	5.7%

Detailed Tables

How would Canadians vote today?



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	Mar 13-16	
			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	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	38
	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	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	14	12	14	
	Bloc Quebecois candidate	12	11	9	11	10	9	11	11	12	11	11	11	11	9	8	9	10	11	10	10	11	11	10	11	10	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	Mar 13-16	
			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	243
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
	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	20
	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	23
	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	6
	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	41
	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	11

		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	Mar 13-16	
			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	757
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
	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	44
	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	28
	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	15	13	17	
	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	Mar 13-16	
			379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	379	383
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
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	37	
Liberal candidate		45	40	38	40	42	35	36	39	37	36	48	45	39	41	40	41	40	42	41	40	40	47	44	37	39	34	34
NDP candidate		18	20	20	15	16	20	21	16	19	19	15	14	14	15	13	16	15	11	13	17	14	12	17	12	11	16	
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	13	

		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	Mar 13-16	
			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	300
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Conservative candidate		46	49	49	53	42	45	51	50	50	42	42	48	50	50	50	42	44	40	46	41	43	48	41	42	49	53	
Liberal candidate		27	23	21	20	25	23	21	20	17	27	26	21	19	24	23	22	22	25	25	27	24	26	26	29	23	19	
NDP candidate		20	22	25	19	21	22	20	20	23	22	18	18	18	14	14	26	21	24	21	21	16	20	17	17	16	18	
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	12	10

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

Direction of the Economy

	Canada			Region											
				Quebec			Rest of Canada*			Ontario			West		
	Nov 8-11 2007	Jan 10-13 2008	Mar 13-16 2008	Nov 8-11 2007	Jan 10-13 2008	Mar 13-16 2008	Nov 8-11 2007	Jan 10-13 2008	Mar 13-16 2008	Nov 8-11 2007	Jan 10-13 2008	Mar 13-16 2008	Nov 8-11 2007	Jan 10-13 2008	Mar 13-16 2008
n=	1000	1000	1000	247	247	243	753	753	757	379	379	383	297	297	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Getting stronger	31	18	17	24	15	17	33	19	17	32	13	17	35	23	16
Staying the same	43	51	48	50	63	52	41	47	47	38	46	44	45	50	52
Getting worse	22	28	31	23	21	29	21	30	32	27	36	34	14	24	29
DK/NA/Ref	5	4	3	4	1	3	5	4	4	4	5	5	6	3	3

Q. I'd like to ask you a few questions about the economy. In the coming months, do you see the Canadian economy getting stronger, getting worse or staying the same?
 Base: Total sample

	Total Sample											US Poll** Jan 9-12 2008 %
	1989 %	1991 %	1998 %	2001 %	2002 %	2004 %	2005 %	2006 %	Nov 8-11 2007* %	Jan 10-13 2008* %	Mar 13-16 2008* %	
Improvement (*getting stronger)	15	3	24	10	22	24	22	16	31	18	17	4
Stay the same	17	4	27	29	42	43	57	49	43	51	48	33
Recession (*getting worse)	58	90	43	58	29	26	16	29	22	28	31	62
DK/NA/REF	10	3	6	3	7	7	5	6	5	4	3	1

Asked 1989 to 2006: Q. Would you say the economy is heading into a period of improvement, into a recession, or is it going to stay the same?

Base: Total sample

Source: 1989-2002 Macleans Magazine

* Q. I'd like to ask you a few questions about the economy. In the coming months, do you see the Canadian economy getting stronger, getting worse or staying the same?

** Source: The New York Times/CBS News Poll, January 9-12 2008, n=1000. Q.: Do you think the economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

What do Canadians think is more important to the Canadian economy?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
Natural Resources	55	54	56	47	66
Services	13	14	13	12	13
Manufacturing	26	28	26	35	16
DK/NA/Ref	5	4	6	6	6

*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. Which of the following do you think is more important to the Canadian economy, is it natural resources, services (such as banking, insurance, transportation) or manufacturing?

Base: All respondents

What do Canadians will be more important to the Canadian economy over the next 10 years?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
Natural Resources	52	50	53	48	58
Services	20	23	19	20	18
Manufacturing	22	24	22	25	17
DK/NA/Ref	5	3	6	6	6

*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. And looking forward over the next 10 years, which do you think will be more important to the health of the Canadian economy, natural resources, services (such as banking, insurance, transportation) or manufacturing?

Base: All respondents

If a recession occurs in the next 12 months, what would be the primary reason for it happening?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
Slowdown in the US economy	50	44	52	52	52
Slowdown in the global economy	14	18	12	12	13
Canadian businesses not being competitive enough	10	11	9	11	7
Poor economic management by the Canadian government	20	26	19	17	19
DK/NA/Ref	7	2	8	8	8

*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. If Canada experiences a recession in the next 12 months, what would be the primary reason causing this to occur ... a slowdown in the US economy, a slowdown in the global economy, Canadian businesses not being competitive enough, or the poor economic management by the Canadian government?

Base: All respondents

How closely are Canadians following the US presidential race?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL Very/Somewhat Closely	53	38	58	60	57
Very closely	14	4	17	19	16
Somewhat closely	39	34	41	41	41
Not too closely	27	37	24	24	25
Not closely at all	19	23	18	16	18
TOTAL Not Too Closely/Not Closely At All	46	60	42	40	43
DK/NA/Ref	1	2	<1	<1	<1

*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. How closely have you been following the US presidential race? Have you been following it very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not closely at all?
Base: All respondents

Who would Canadians like to see as the Democratic party presidential candidate?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
Barack Obama	38	41	37	35	40
Hillary Clinton	38	37	38	40	34
Doesn't matter/either (vol.)	10	10	10	10	11
DK/NA/Ref	14	12	15	15	16

*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. As you may know, Senator Barack Obama and Senator Hillary Clinton are competing to represent the Democratic party in the US presidential election in November. Which of these two candidates would you like to see be the Democratic candidate? Would it be (READ and ROTATE) Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton?

Base: All respondents

In the last month, have Canadians changed their views about which federal political party they might vote for?

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	13	16	12	13	9
No	81	77	82	80	86
DK/NA/Ref	6	8	6	7	5

*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. In the last month, have you considered or changed your views about which federal political party that you might vote for in a national election?

Base: All respondents

How much influence has the following had on Canadian's views about Stephen Harper and the Conservative government?

The allegation that Stephen Harper was aware of the financial incentives being offered to an independent MP, Chuck Cadman, to persuade him to vote for the defeat of the Paul Martin government in June 2005.

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL Good Deal/Some Influence	32	29	33	35	29
A good deal of influence	11	9	11	12	9
Some influence	21	20	22	23	20
Not too much influence	22	22	22	19	24
No influence at all	39	45	37	37	38
TOTAL Not Too Much/No Influence	61	67	59	56	62
DK/NA/Ref	7	4	8	9	9

*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. How much influence, if any, have each of the following had on your views about Stephen Harper and the Conservative government. Has it had a good deal of influence, some influence, not too much influence, or no influence at all on your views?

Base: All respondents

How much influence has the following had on Canadian's views about Stephen Harper and the Conservative government?

The allegation that the Canadian government leaked confidential information about Barack Obama's real views on NAFTA which were harmful to the Obama primary election campaign in the US presidential elections.

	Canada	Region			
		Quebec	Rest of Canada*	Ontario	West
	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16	Mar 13-16
n=	1000	243	757	383	300
	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL	27	24	28	30	25
A good deal of influence	9	9	9	9	8
Some influence	18	15	19	21	17
Not too much influence	23	27	21	20	21
No influence at all	41	44	41	39	45
TOTAL	64	71	62	59	66
DK/NA/Ref	9	5	10	11	9

*Note: Rest of Canada includes all provinces except Quebec

Q. How much influence, if any, have each of the following had on your views about Stephen Harper and the Conservative government. Has it had a good deal of influence, some influence, not too much influence, or no influence at all on your views?

Base: All respondents