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## Canada

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### Martin's Support Falls Among Canadian Voters in Poll (Update1)

April 27 (Bloomberg) -- Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin's support among voters has fallen 17 percentage points to 33 percent since February, when the government's auditor said C\$100 million (\$74 million) of advertising funds couldn't be accounted for, according to pollster SES Research Inc.

A third of respondents said the performance of Martin's governing Liberal Party was "somewhat poor" or "very poor," compared with 13 percent two months ago, Toronto-based SES said in the survey commissioned by Quebecor Inc.'s Sun Media unit.

#### RESOURCES:

📺 Bloomberg TV

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Martin, 65, is weighing whether to call an election before the November 2005 deadline to secure his own mandate with voters after replacing Jean Chretien as Liberal leader in December.

Back then, one of every two voters said he would make the best leader, according to SES and other pollsters. That popularity has diminished with the



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release of the auditor general's findings that ad **or 13 Cents a Share**  
agencies got millions in commissions for little or no  
work during Chretien's tenure. Martin was his finance minister for nine of 10 years.

Martin remains the most popular choice to lead the country, according to the SES poll. Stephen Harper, who was selected leader of the Conservative Party last month, doubled his support to 16 percent. Jack Layton, the leader of the socialist New Democratic Party, had 7 percent.

SES said it phoned 1,000 voters between April 20 and April 25. The results are accurate within 3.1 percentage points higher or lower, 19 times out of 20.

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