

## NEWS &amp; COMMENTARY: REGIONS

Top Worldwide

Regions

Asia

Australia &amp; New Zealand

Canada

Europe

Germany

Japan

Latin America

U.K.

U.S.

Markets

Economy/Politics

Commentary

Sports

## RESOURCES:

Bloomberg TV

Bloomberg Radio

Markets

## Canada

E-Mail This Story Printer-Friendly Format

## Canada's Liberals Lead With 34% Support in SES Poll (Update1)

June 22 (Bloomberg) -- Canada's Liberal Party regained its lead in the race for votes in the June 28 federal election as the Conservative Party stumbled and lost support, according to a daily poll by SES Research.

Prime Minister Paul Martin's Liberals, campaigning on a promise to spend more on hospitals, were supported by 34 percent of the 600 decided voters surveyed June 19-21, compared with 31 percent for Stephen Harper's Conservatives, who promise tax cuts, SES reported on its Web site. The parties were tied at 33 percent yesterday after the Conservatives led last week.

"It's not what the Liberals have done, it's what the Conservatives have done to themselves," SES Chief Executive Nikita Nanos said in an interview. "The Conservatives just had a couple bad days."

Friday, Harper's staff sent and then retracted an e-mail to reporters titled "Paul Martin Supports Child Pornography?" The Liberals last week began airing new "attack ads" portraying Harper as a "risky choice," Nanos said.

Martin's lead over Harper widened when voters were asked "who would make the best prime minister." Harper was chosen as the leader who would make the best prime minister by 22 percent of voters compared with 28 percent for Martin, while 24 percent of those asked were undecided.

No Majority

The lead is probably still too small to get the Liberals a majority in the House of Commons. The Liberals and Conservatives may have each won 110 seats in the House of Commons if an election were held over the weekend, The Globe and Mail newspaper said today, citing a projection done by Ipsos-Reid. The polling company found 34 percent of Canadians support the Liberals and 28 percent favor the Conservatives, based on a survey of 1,000 Canadians that is accurate within 3.1 points 19 times out of 20.

If no party wins the 155 seats in the 308-seat House of Commons needed to pass laws on its own, the Liberals would probably seek an alliance with the New Democratic Party, political scientists including Nelson Wiseman at the University of Toronto have said.

The NDP, led by former Toronto city councilor Jack Layton, had 21 percent support, up 3 points from yesterday. Ten percent of voters say he would make the best prime minister.

The SES polls having a margin of error of plus or minus 4.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

## MORE NEWS

**Molson Deputy Chairman Quits in Family Dispute That May Spur Company Sale**

**Canadian Inflation Accelerated to 2.5 Percent in May on Gasoline Prices**

**Canada's Dollar Rises on Faster Inflation, Gain in Leading Indicators**

To contact the reporter on this story:  
Greg Quinn in Ottawa at [gquinn1@bloomberg.net](mailto:gquinn1@bloomberg.net).

To contact the editor responsible for this story:  
Erik Schatzker at [eschatzker@bloomberg.net](mailto:eschatzker@bloomberg.net)

*Last Updated: June 22, 2004 16:26 EDT*

©2004 Bloomberg L.P. All rights reserved. [Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Trademarks](#)  
[Site Map](#) [Help](#) [Feedback](#) [About Bloomberg](#) [Log In/Register](#) [Advertising](#) 