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Poll shows Tories are gaining ground

By **KATHLEEN HARRIS, OTTAWA BUREAU**

Federal Tories are gaining ground across the country -- especially in the rough-and-tumble battleground of Ontario, a new poll has found.

A nationwide SES Research/Sun Media survey shows that 18% of decided Canadian voters now support the Progressive Conservatives, up 2% from just 90 days earlier.

While the Liberals lead in all regions, Conservatives are closing the gap in Ontario and Atlantic Canada. Tories have 26% of support of Ontarians, compared to 55% for Liberals, 11% for the NDP and 7% for the Alliance.

"What we may see in the next election is a fight between the Liberals and the NDP in Toronto and other urban areas, and then when we get outside the high-density urban areas, we'll see a fight between the Liberals and the PCs," said SES president Nik Nanos.

The survey of 1,000 Canadians by SES Canada Research Inc. between May 13-23 is considered accurate to within 3.1%, 19 times out of 20.

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