



Learn how eBay works

How do I buy? | How do I sell? | Join Now!

The
Edmonton

SUN

SECTIONS

Home

News

Sports

Automotive

Find a business

Type or Name

City

Province

AB

Find it »

Find A Person

Powered by

SUPERPAGES.CA
Your Phone Book Online

Business

Entertainment

Classifieds



NEWS

Mon, February 2, 2004

Martin gov't not so hot

BILL RODGERS and [STEPHANIE RUBEC](#), SUN OTTAWA BUREAU

OTTAWA -- Canadians give Paul Martin's government an average grade, but their love affair with the Liberals continues unabated, according to a SES Research/Sun Media poll. The survey of 1,000 Canadians taken January 26-29 shows 35% rate the new Martin government performance as average, while another 23% are undecided.

"Half of Canadians aren't really hot on this government," said SES president Nik Nanos. He believes it could be a vulnerability as the Martin Grits head into an election later this year.

"People like Paul Martin and people like the Liberals compared to the Conservative party, at least at this point, but they're not as thrilled about the actual performance of the Liberal government."

Nanos said it is critical for Martin to tackle the issue during the new session of Parliament. "This Throne Speech (today) is very important for Paul Martin in regards to turning around the performance numbers."

With little time before an expected spring election, and very little cash to spend, Martin is expected to spread his priorities over years instead of a parliamentary session.

And don't expect Gov. Gen. Adrienne Clarkson to delve into details when she delivers the speech. Canadians will have to wait for Martin to put the meat on the bones when he addresses the Commons for the first time as PM tomorrow.

That's when he'll lay out exactly how he'll bring about promises expected to include policies that will reduce child poverty, improve living conditions for aboriginals and provide a much-awaited new deal for cities.

As for the exact cost of the programs and how Martin will pay for what he has dubbed a "very, very ambitious



Product

[MCCARTY](#)
[Red Wings CCM](#)
[nhl Hockey Je](#)
[rsey MED](#)
Price **C**
\$104.67
[LEETCH New Yor](#)
[k RANGERS nhl](#)
[Hockey Jersey XL](#)
Price **C**
\$119.25
[Jacques Plante Mini-](#)
[Mask + Sealed](#)
[Hockey Box](#)
Price **C**
\$74.93
[BOUCHER Phoeni](#)
[x COYOTES nhl](#)
[Hockey Jersey LG](#)
Price **C**
\$117.92
[Philadelphia Flyers](#)
[Hockey Jersey,](#)
[YOUTH L/XL](#)
Price **C**
\$17.89
[NYR New York](#)
[Rangers Hockey](#)
[Shirt / Jersey](#)
Price **C**
\$30.20

OPINION



Paul Whitney
Lies, damned lies and
er, more lies

Editorial

Court gets it right

Columnists' Page

Read all columns

Editorial Cartoon

Fred Curatolo

Letters

Read today's letters

RELATED ON CANOE

CNEWS
MONEY
C*HEALTHSLAM! Sports
JAM! Showbiz
LIFEWISE

FAVES



Comics
Lotteries
Crossword
Horoscopes
TV Listings
Weather
Tech News

Oilers
Eskimos
Trappers
Max Haines
Classifieds
Personals

NEWSPAPERS/MAGAZINES



Sun Media Newspapers

FEEDBACK & SERVICES

Letters to the Editor Send a letter	Contact the Sun E-mail directory
About the SUN Loyal to Edmonton	Circulation Circulation dept.
Classifieds Information on Classified ads	Advertising Information on Display advertising
Employment Job opportunities	

agenda," a high-ranking official in the PMO said Canadians will have to wait for a federal budget.

The SES/Sun Media poll showed only 6% of Canadians believe the government is doing a very good job - 24% said the performance was somewhat good and 13% rated the government's performance as poor or very poor.

When asked who would make the best prime minister, the survey put Paul Martin at the top of the list by a whopping 50%. Lagging far behind at 8% was Conservative leadership candidate Stephen Harper and NDP leader Jack Layton was at 5%.

Another 26% of the electorate was undecided and 6% didn't like any of the current political leaders.

The poll indicates that, if an election were held today, the Grits would take 48% of popular support, the Conservatives have jumped to 23% and the New Democrats are at 15%. The separatist Bloc Quebecois is at 11% nationally based on its support in Quebec and the Green party picks up 3%.

Martin's Liberals lead their political opponents across all regions of the country including the West, where all three parties show some strength. The Liberals are at 41%, the Conservatives at 33% and the NDP is running at 22%.

The SES/Sun Media poll is accurate to within 3.1 percentage points, plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.



PRINTER-FRIENDLY VERSION



E-MAIL TO A FRIEND



CNEWS Headlines

CANADA | [Groundhogs: Six more weeks of winter](#)

WORLD | [BBC: N. Korea gassed prisoners](#)

TECH NEWS | [Hacker hero demands compensation](#)

[F360 NHL Pittsburgh Penguins hockey jersey](#)

Price **C \$10.59**

[View all 2654 items on eBay](#)