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Sat, January 24, 2004

Dalton paying for fibs in poll

By Antonella Artuso

While the provincial Liberal government continues to enjoy a honeymoon with Ontario voters, a new poll suggests Premier Dalton McGuinty isn't so lucky. SES Research found that 27% of Ontarians polled cited "broken promises" as their numberone beef with the new premier.

Asked what they liked about McGuinty, 22% said "nothing," 7% called him a "nice man," 3% considered him a "strong leader" and 2% said they liked that he was "not a Tory."

Thirty-four per cent of those polled rated his performance as "average."

BROKEN VOWS

SES president Nikita Nanos said the "broken promises" comment is particularly compelling because it was unprompted by the pollster. "In my personal experience, I've never seen an unprompted negative that large for anyone," Nanos said.

"There's been no honeymoon for Dalton McGuinty personally."

However, the Liberal government has increased its support to 49% since the provincial election, the Tories have dropped to 29% and the NDP is up to 19%.

The Tories are down five points since the election.

SES Research polled 500 people between Jan.

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