

JACK LAYTON

Canadians Remember Layton Fondly, Support State Funeral to Honour Him

Two thirds of Canadians think the NDP will not be able to find a new leader as strong as Layton.

[VANCOUVER – Aug. 27, 2011] – A large majority of Canadians agree with the idea of holding a state funeral to honour Jack Layton, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,002 Canadian adults, two thirds of respondents (67%) say Layton will be remembered for his role in the NDP becoming the Official Opposition earlier this year.

A majority of Canadians (55%) think Layton showed that politicians can have the common touch, and almost half (48%) think he will be lauded for his ability to engage with young Canadians.

Across the country, one-in-five Canadians (20%) think the NDP will be able to find a new leader as strong as Jack Layton, while two thirds (66%) disagree. However, 34 per cent of Quebecers—and 25 per cent of NDP voters--do expect the party to find a leader as strong as Layton.

Four-in-five Canadians (81%) think holding a state funeral for Layton is justified, including a majority of respondents in every region. At least seven-in-ten Canadians who voted for parties other than the NDP in the last federal election believe Layton deserves this honour.

Layton was the only federal leader to post an [approval rating of 50 per cent](#) during the last federal electoral campaign, and the effect his leadership had on his party's fortunes cannot be underestimated.

KEY FINDINGS

- **67% say Layton will be remembered for his role in the NDP achieving Official Opposition status; 55% say he showed that politicians can have the common touch**
- **66% think the NDP will not be able to find a new leader as strong as Layton**
- **81% think holding a state funeral for Layton is justified**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

From August 25 to August 26, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,005 randomly selected Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%, 19 times out of 20. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

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Respondents who voted in the 2011 federal election were asked how much of a role did three factors play in their decision to support one party over another by allocating a percentage to each factor.

NDP voters were far more likely to say that the party's leader played a role in their decision (43.7%), considerably more than those who voted for the Bloc Québécois (32.4%), the Conservative Party (32.4%) or the Liberal Party (28.9%).

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About Angus Reid Public Opinion

[Angus Reid Public Opinion](#) is a public affairs practice headed by Dr. Angus Reid: an industry visionary who has spent more than four decades asking questions to figure out what people feel, how they think and who they will vote for. A team of talented and experienced practitioners with a unique and profound understanding of global issues conduct high quality research throughout the world on a daily basis for corporations, governments, academic researchers, and non-profit organizations.

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**For more information, please contact
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Jack Layton

All things considered, how do you think Jack Layton will be remembered by Canadians?

| | Total | BC | AB | MB/SK | ONT | PQ | ATL |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| For his role in the NDP becoming the Official Opposition in 2011 | 67% | 71% | 64% | 66% | 68% | 63% | 70% |
| For showing that politicians can have the common touch | 55% | 56% | 52% | 47% | 57% | 54% | 50% |
| For his ability to engage with young Canadians | 48% | 58% | 35% | 50% | 48% | 50% | 48% |
| For his policies | 30% | 36% | 24% | 24% | 33% | 29% | 27% |
| For his performance in televised debates | 26% | 31% | 12% | 28% | 31% | 23% | 23% |
| None of these / Jack Layton will not be remembered by Canadians | 3% | 1% | 8% | 4% | 3% | 1% | 1% |
| Not sure | 7% | 4% | 7% | 6% | 9% | 7% | 7% |

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Jack Layton

All things considered, do you think the federal New Democratic Party (NDP) will be able to find a new leader as strong as Jack Layton?

| | Total | BC | AB | MB/SK | ONT | PQ | ATL |
|----------------------------|-------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| Definitely will | 3% | 5% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 5% | 1% |
| Probably will | 17% | 10% | 9% | 21% | 14% | 29% | 15% |
| Probably will not | 48% | 49% | 55% | 38% | 48% | 44% | 53% |
| Definitely will not | 18% | 16% | 21% | 23% | 22% | 11% | 16% |
| Not sure | 14% | 20% | 14% | 17% | 14% | 11% | 15% |

Jack Layton

All things considered, do you think the federal New Democratic Party (NDP) will be able to find a new leader as strong as Jack Layton?

| | | Party supported in the 2011 federal election | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|--|---------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| | Total | Conservative Party | Liberal Party | New Democratic Party (NDP) | Bloc Québécois | Green Party |
| Definitely will | 3% | 1% | 2% | 7% | 3% | 4% |
| Probably will | 17% | 12% | 20% | 18% | 24% | 7% |
| Probably will not | 48% | 49% | 56% | 46% | 53% | 66% |
| Definitely will not | 18% | 30% | 11% | 11% | 10% | 10% |
| Not sure | 14% | 8% | 12% | 18% | 9% | 13% |

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Jack Layton

As you may know, a state funeral has been planned for Jack Layton. All things considered, do you think a state funeral is justified or unjustified in this case?

| | Total | BC | AB | MB/SK | ONT | PQ | ATL |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Completely justified | 56% | 56% | 53% | 45% | 52% | 69% | 50% |
| Moderately justified | 25% | 22% | 21% | 21% | 28% | 23% | 24% |
| Moderately unjustified | 7% | 10% | 10% | 8% | 8% | 2% | 15% |
| Completely unjustified | 6% | 10% | 12% | 9% | 6% | 2% | 1% |
| Not sure | 6% | 4% | 5% | 16% | 6% | 3% | 11% |

Jack Layton

As you may know, a state funeral has been planned for Jack Layton. All things considered, do you think a state funeral is justified or unjustified in this case?

| | | Party supported in the 2011 federal election | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|--|---------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| | Total | Conservative Party | Liberal Party | New Democratic Party (NDP) | Bloc Québécois | Green Party |
| Completely justified | 56% | 40% | 57% | 81% | 66% | 76% |
| Moderately justified | 25% | 30% | 26% | 13% | 27% | 12% |
| Moderately unjustified | 7% | 13% | 9% | 1% | 0% | 3% |
| Completely unjustified | 6% | 11% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 2% |
| Not sure | 6% | 6% | 6% | 2% | 3% | 8% |

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To respondents who voted in the 2011 federal election – There are many factors that affect the way people vote. Thinking about the party you voted for in the last federal election, how much of a role did each of the following factors play when you made your choice? Please allocate a percentage to each factor.

| | Party supported in the 2011 federal election | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------|---------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| | All Canadian Voters | Conservative Party | Liberal Party | New Democratic Party (NDP) | Bloc Québécois | Green Party |
| The party's policies | 46.7% | 49.6% | 49.9% | 40.5% | 47.0% | 42.4% |
| The party's leader | 35.4% | 32.4% | 28.9% | 43.7% | 32.8% | 48.0% |
| The party's candidate in my riding | 17.9% | 18.0% | 21.1% | 15.7% | 20.2% | 9.5% |

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