



## **LIBERALS AND GREENS DEAL**

# **CANADIANS REJECT PACT BETWEEN STÉPHANE DION AND ELIZABETH MAY**

**Only 29% of Canadians approve of the recent agreement  
between the Liberal and Green parties**

**Two-in-Five (44%) perceive deal as a sign of weakness**

**If Canadians could vote in Central Nova, Peter MacKay  
would get 35%; May second with 22%**

**Majority of Canadians (52%) reject a  
Liberal / NDP / Green merger**

*From April 19 to 20, 2007, Angus Reid Strategies conducted an online survey among a randomly selected, representative sample of 1,001 adult Canadians. The margin of error for the total sample 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.*

**Public Release:  
National Public Opinion Poll**

[TORONTO - Apr. 24, 2007] – Most Canadians have a negative opinion of a recent agreement reached by Liberal leader Stéphane Dion and the leader of the Green Party, Elizabeth May, a new Angus Reid Strategies poll has found. In the online survey of a representative national sample, 45 per cent of Canadians disapprove of the leaders' decision of not running candidates in each other's ridings in the next federal election, while just 29 per cent approve.

At least four in every ten respondents in each region is against the Dion/May agreement. In Atlantic Canada, the number of people who reject the deal reaches 50 per cent. People in Alberta are the most inclined to reject it (52%), while those in Manitoba and Saskatchewan are the most prone to support it (34%).

Among Liberal voters, 37 per cent disapprove of the pact to support May, while 52 per cent think otherwise.

The controversial deal will not encourage many people to vote for the Liberals in the next election. Two thirds (65%) of respondents say the agreement does not make them more likely to support the Liberals in the future. However, in Atlantic Canada about one-in-five (22%) do say the pact makes them more inclined to vote for the Liberals.

The agreement has not helped the Greens either, with 72 per cent of respondents saying it does not make them more likely to support the ecological party—which currently has no representation in the House of Commons—in the next federal election.

The Dion/May pact is perceived by many Canadians (44%) as a sign of weakness on the part of the Liberals and their leader. Twenty-eight per cent of respondents who voted for the Liberals in the last federal election agree with this perception. Respondents in Atlantic Canada feel particularly strongly about it, with 56 per cent of them saying the deal projects weakness.

Asked who they would vote for in the next federal election if they resided in Nova Scotia's Central Nova riding—where May is to run without Liberal opposition—35 per cent of respondents across Canada say they would support Conservative candidate Peter MacKay. May is second with 22 per cent, followed by NDP candidate Louise Loriface with 16 per cent. Support for MacKay is highest in Alberta (69%), May is popular in Manitoba and Saskatchewan (27%), and Loriface leads in Atlantic Canada, with 30 per cent. Liberal voters would be more likely to support the NDP candidate (53%) in this riding than the Green leader (41%).

Finally, on the wake of the Dion/May agreement, Canadians dislike the idea of a possible merger between the Liberals, the NDP and the Greens. More than half (52%) of respondents think these political parties should not unite.

**Liberals and Greens Deal: Canadians reject the Dion / May agreement**  
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**45% of Canadians Reject the Dion/May deal**

**The Deal**

*Q. As you may know, Liberal Party leader Stéphane Dion and Green Party leader Elizabeth May have announced they are not running candidates in each other's ridings in the next federal election. Do you approve or disapprove of this agreement?*

	Region							Party Affiliation				
	Total	BC	Alberta	MB / SK	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	BQ	Other
Approve (Net)	29%	27%	24%	34%	27%	31%	28%	14%	52%	43%	28%	35%
Disapprove (Net)	45%	45%	52%	39%	45%	41%	50%	73%	37%	40%	53%	43%
Not Sure	27%	28%	24%	27%	27%	28%	22%	14%	11%	17%	18%	21%

**35% of Canadians would vote for Conservative Peter MacKay**

<b>The candidates</b>												
<i>Q. If you were a voter residing in Nova Scotia's Central Nova riding, which of these candidates would you support in the next federal election?</i>												
	<b>Region</b>							<b>Party Affiliation</b>				
	Total	BC	Alberta	MB / SK	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	BQ	Other
<b>Peter MacKay (Con.)</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>Louise Loriface (NDP)</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>Elizabeth May (Grn.)</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>53%</b>
<b>None of these</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>22%</b>

**Low support for “Unite the Left” merger**

<b>A different agreement</b>												
<i>Q. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "The Liberal Party, the New Democratic Party (NDP) and the Green Party should pursue a merger."</i>												
	<b>Region</b>							<b>Party Affiliation</b>				
	Total	BC	Alberta	MB / SK	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	BQ	Other
Agree	20%	21%	8%	24%	21%	22%	20%	11%	34%	16%	25%	23%
Disagree	52%	55%	64%	49%	51%	49%	43%	65%	48%	57%	69%	52%
Not Sure	28%	24%	28%	27%	28%	28%	37%	23%	18%	27%	5%	25%

*The Angus Reid Forum online panel ([www.angusreidforum.com](http://www.angusreidforum.com)) is recruited via an industry-leading process that incorporates a randomized, widespread invitation approach and a triple opt-in screening procedure. The panel is maintained through state-of-the-art sampling techniques and frequent verifications of personal identity, contact information, and demographic characteristics. Moreover, Angus Reid Strategies' premier online survey platform presents respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses.*

*Angus Reid Strategies is a dynamic North American full-service public affairs and market research firm which is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Strategies team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995. Stationed in offices in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, and Montreal, our team of 100 research and operational specialists provide research solutions across every type and sector of research.*

*More information on the way Angus Reid Strategies conducts public opinion research can be found at [http://www.angusreidstrategies.com/uploads/pages/pdfs/ARS.ARF\\_WHITE\\_PAPER.pdf](http://www.angusreidstrategies.com/uploads/pages/pdfs/ARS.ARF_WHITE_PAPER.pdf)*

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**For more information, please contact  
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

**Copies of this poll are available on our website:  
[www.angusreidstrategies.com](http://www.angusreidstrategies.com)**