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# Harper Still leading in Leadership... Ignatieff still sliding

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THUNDER BAY - Nik Nanos says, "The longitudinal tracking on the leadership index shows that Harper still has a comfortable lead but that his leadership numbers have slid, as have Ignatieff's. Even with the drop in ballot box support for the Conservatives over the past month, Harper still maintains a comfortable lead over the other federal party leaders. Also of note, Layton (52.2) has momentarily surpassed Ignatieff (40.3) on the index.

"Both Harper and Ignatieff are likely dealing with a residual drag from previous controversial political decisions. For Harper, it was the prorogation of parliament. For Ignatieff, it's likely his previous strategy to provoke an election this past fall. Moreover Ignatieff's relatively low profile has meant there have been few opportunities to move the numbers," adds Nanos.

So what does it all mean? Nanos concludes, "The upcoming session of Parliament will be critical for both Harper and Ignatieff. For Harper, he needs to put behind him the controversy related to prorogation. For Ignatieff, it is a key opportunity to jump-start his profile and personal definition among Canadians".

The Nanos Leadership Index demonstrates perhaps that while the Liberals have gained in recent polls, that perceived weakness on the part of their leader continue to challenge the party.

Here are the questions, and the results from the latest polling:

Best PM: As you may know, [Rotate] Michael Ignatieff is the leader of the federal Liberal Party, Stephen Harper is the leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, Jack Layton is the leader of the federal NDP, Gilles Duceppe is leader of the Bloc Quebecois and Elizabeth May is the leader of the federal Green Party. Of the following individuals, who do you think would make the best Prime Minister?

The numbers in parenthesis denote the change from the Nanos National Omnibus survey completed between December 10th and December 13th 2009.  
National (n=1,001)

- The Best PM
- Stephen Harper: 32.0% (-2.8)
  - Jack Layton: 18.1% (+3.2)
  - Michael Ignatieff: 16.1% (-1.6)
  - Elizabeth May: 6.9% (+2.4)
  - Gilles Duceppe: 5.8% (-0.7)
  - None of them: 11.7% (-2.7)
  - Unsure: 9.4% (-3.2)

Leadership Index Questions: As you may know, [Rotate] Michael Ignatieff is the leader of the federal Liberal Party, Stephen Harper is the leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, Jack Layton is the leader of the federal NDP, Gilles Duceppe is leader of the Bloc Quebecois and Elizabeth May is the leader of the federal Green Party. Which of the federal leaders would you best describe as:

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<b>Boise Inc.</b> 4.71	▼ 0.13 (-2.69%)
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<b>Domtar</b> CA\$53.53	▲ 0.78 (1.48%)

The numbers in parenthesis denote the change from the Nanos National Omnibus survey completed between December 10th and December 13th 2009.

National (n=1,001)

The most trustworthy leader

Stephen Harper: 25.0% (-4.3)

Jack Layton: 20.8% (+4.4)

Michael Ignatieff: 10.4% (-0.5)

Elizabeth May: 9.8% (+5.2)

Gilles Duceppe: 7.8% (+1.5)

None of them/Undecided: 26.2% (-6.4)

The most competent leader

Stephen Harper: 33.6% (-1.7)

Jack Layton: 14.2% (+3.4)

Michael Ignatieff: 13.9% (+0.6)

Gilles Duceppe: 6.5% (+0.8)

Elizabeth May: 3.4% (+1.1)

None of them/Undecided: 28.4% (-4.2)

The leader with the best vision for Canada's future

Stephen Harper: 26.8% (-3.2)

Jack Layton: 17.2% (+3.2)

Michael Ignatieff: 16.0% (+1.2)

Elizabeth May: 6.4% (+3.6)

Gilles Duceppe: 2.9% (-0.5)

None of them/Undecided: 30.7% (-4.2)

Leadership Index Score

Stephen Harper: 85.4 (-9.2)

Jack Layton: 52.2 (+11.0)

Michael Ignatieff: 40.3 (+1.3)

Elizabeth May: 19.6 (+9.9)

Gilles Duceppe: 17.2 (+1.8)

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### Lakehead University Welcomes New President

Lakehead University is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Brian J. R. Stevenson as president and vice-chancellor for a five-year term, commencing August 1, 2010. The announcement follows a year-long international search by the Lakehead Board of Governors to replace Dr. Frederick Gilbert, who will retire this summer after twelve years of service to the University... [view more](#) ▶

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I'd like to take this opportunity to THANK ALL my valued CLIENTS, FRIENDS, FAMILY, and COLLEAGUES who have supported me in the last two and a half years. In only my second year in business, your support has helped me attain the MLS TOP 10 REALTOR AWARD for 2009. I am greatly appreciative and humbled by this complement. Without YOU, this could not have been possible! In 2010 and on, I will continue to prove your trust and support of me in the real estate world.



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