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National

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Tories and Liberals neck and neck: poll

Posted By Christina Spencer, Sun Media

Posted 16 hours ago

OTTAWA — Call it a case of "Grit-lock."

The federal Conservatives, chomping at the bit for an election, can't shake off the Liberals. And the Liberals can't seem to pull away from the Tories.

The latest Nanos Research poll for Sun Media shows national support for the Liberals at 35 per cent, and for the Conservatives at 33 per cent, virtually no shift from the last time the pollster asked Canadians which federal party they would consider voting for.

In fact, there has been very little change in support for the two major parties since late 2007.

The NDP stands at 17 per cent and the Greens at seven per cent.

The poll was conducted during the period in which Prime Minister Stephen Harper publicly floated the idea that he might pull the plug on his own minority government despite having passed a law setting the next election date in October 2009.

"If you look at the numbers, they really should not be having an election," said Nik Nanos, president and CEO of the polling firm.

Harper has not been able to move the electorate in large numbers toward his party, and Liberal Leader Stephane Dion remains a question mark for voters, Nanos said.

Please see Poll page A7

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