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## Poll Watch

Vancouver Sun

Published: Monday, October 06, 2008

After weeks of steady but small gains, the ruling Conservatives are weakening in the polls. The latest polls, unlike ones a week ago, suggest Prime Minister Stephen Harper will not get the majority government he is yearning for.

Blame it on the flagging support for the Conservatives in Quebec, and the spread of the "Anything but Harper" campaign of Newfoundland's Conservative premier.

Ipsos Reid, pollster for Canwest News Service and Global National, put the Conservatives at 37 per cent against 23 per cent for the Liberals. Sunday's CPAC-Nanos tracking poll put the Conservatives nationally at 35 per cent, down from a recent high of 40 per cent. The Liberals were at 28 per cent, the NDP 19 per cent, the Bloc Quebecois 10 per cent and the Green party eight per cent.

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All the surveys revealed a sharp decline for Harper in Quebec, where Harper's cutting of arts funding and his announcements about getting tough on youth crime are not popular.

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