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Slight lead for Tories

570 News - with files from 680 News 2011/04/06

Fresh polling by 570 News sister station in Toronto - 680 News - and Maclean's magazine found the gap is closing between the Liberals and Conservatives in Ontario.

According to the survey, done by Innovative Research Group, the Tories have a slight lead over the Liberals in Ontario among decided voters -- 39 per cent to 35 per cent, respectively.

However, Conservative Leader Stephen Harper is still viewed as "scary", although not as much as he was at the last election or the one before that.

"It tells us that he hasn't softened that much, he has yet to really connect, in terms of the human side," Innovative Research Group pollster Greg Lyle said.

At the same time, Harper is seen as best suited to lead the country by about the same number who felt that way at the end of the last election.

"The good news for him is that even though he is not connecting, in terms of being particularly likeable, he's still seen as best as prime minister, by quite a wide margin, over Michael Ignatieff," Lyle said.

The Liberal leader's likability rating is slightly higher than Stephen Dion's was at this stage of the last campaign.

Most also agree that this is a two-horse race between the Liberals and the Conservatives.



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