

Poll: Main Canadian parties in dead heat

by UPI

OTTAWA - Canada's two largest federal political parties are virtually tied for support in a poll published Wednesday by the Ottawa Citizen. The Ipsos Reid survey of 1,000 adults March 18-19 found support for Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Conservatives remained unchanged with 35 percent support. The Liberals, led by Stephane Dion, gained 2 percentage points since a poll conducted two weeks earlier and registered 33 percent support. However, that's within the poll's 3-percentage-point margin of error, Canwest News Service reported. The socialist New Democratic Party lost 2 points to 13 percent, while the Green Party lost 1 point to garner 8 percent support, the report said. Harper has a minority government that the Liberals have chosen not to target for early elections so far this year. Recent by-elections saw the Liberals gain one seat in Vancouver and two in Ontario, while the Conservatives gained one in Saskatchewan.

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