REST OF CANADA ON CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE AND PRIDE IN COUNTRY: FIFTY YEARS AFTER DE GAULLE

JACK JEDWAB

PRESIDENT OF,

ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN STUDIES AND CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF IDENTITIES AND MIGRATION

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DE GAULLE FIFTY YEARS LATER

- On 24 July 1967, during a state visit to Expo '67, General Charles de Gaulle, president of France proclaimed : "Vive le Québec libre." from the balcony of Montréal's City Hall a sentence that had a profound impact on the future of Canada. By repeating the slogan of the Québec independence movement de Gaulle lent international credibility to the Québec independence movement.
- He also provoked a diplomatic incident that resulted in the cancellation of the President's visit and was regarded as a singular important example of French interference in the domestic affairs of Canada
- Some Fifty years later the independence movement appears at low point in terms of support. But the issue is not definitely resolved
- Quebec's Premier is in the process of selling a new constitutional proposal to get Quebecers signature on the 1982 Constitution.



THE STATE OF THE UNION: MEASURES AND METHODOLOGY

- That which follows looks at the state of the Canadian Union a half century after De Gaulle's declaration. We look specifically at how Canada outside of Quebec sees the issues with a focus on
- Whether the Rest of Canada believes that Quebecers can ever be satisfied with constitutional changes
- The extent to which they think the unique character of Quebec should be recognized in the Constitution
- Attachment and Pride in Canada
- Some 1700 persons surveyed via web panel in the Leger poll for the Association for Canadian Studies between June 16 and June 20, 2017 with a probabilistic margin of error for the nation sample of 3.9 percent 19 times out of 20



CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE AND RECOGNITION



NEARLY SIX IN TEN CANADIANS INCLUDING QUEBECERS DON'T THINK THERE MAJORITY OF QUEBECERS WILL EVER BE SATISFIED WITH CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

| | Agree |
|------------------|-------|
| Alberta | 57.2% |
| British Columbia | 55.1% |
| Manitoba | 61.3% |
| New Brunswick | 48.8% |
| Newfoundland | 65.5% |
| Nova Scotia | 72.4% |
| Ontario | 58.3% |
| Quebec | 64.4% |
| Saskatchewan | 67.3% |
| Total | 60.2% |





ONE IN THREE IN REST OF CANADA (ROCERS)

| I agree that it is important to modify the Canadian constitution in such a way that enables recognition of the unique characteristic of Quebec | | |
|--|-------|--|
| Alberta | 36% | |
| British Columbia | 35.2% | |
| Manitoba | 27.5% | |
| New Brunswick | 36.8% | |
| Newfoundland | 28.6% | |
| Nova Scotia | 27.7% | |
| Ontario | 37.6% | |
| Quebec | 59.2% | |
| Saskatchewan | 32.1% | |
| Total | 41.2% | |





MAJORITIES THINK IT'S UNFORTUNATE THAT IN 1982 QUEBEC DID NOT SIGN THE CONSTITUTION

| ACS Leger June 2017 | lt's unfortunate that in 1982 Quebec did not sign the Canadian Constitution | | |
|------------------------|--|----------|------------|
| | Agree | Disagree | Don't know |
| Alberta | 62,1% | 11.9% | 25.9% |
| British Columbia | 65.2% | 9.3% | 25.4% |
| Manitoba | 73.8% | 4,9% | 21.3% |
| New Brunswick | 56.4% | 5.1% | 38.5% |
| Newfoundland | 75.6% | 10.3% | 13.8% |
| Nova Scotia | 59.6% | 19.1% | 21.3% |
| Ontario | 66.9% | 9.5% | 23.7% |
| Quebec | 52.0% | 22.4% | 25.6% |
| Saskatchewan | 81.2% | 3.8% | 15.1% |
| Canada | 63.0% | 12.6% | 24.4% |





CANADIANS DIVIDED OVER THE EXTENT TO WHICH THEY AGREE IT IS IMPORTANT FOR QUEBECERS TO SIGN CONSTITUTION AS IMPORTANT SHARE DON'T KNOW

| ACS Leger June 2017 | It is personally important to me that Quebec signs the Canadian Constitution | | |
|------------------------|--|----------|------------|
| | Agree | Disagree | Don't know |
| Alberta | 35.5% | 38.2% | 26.3% |
| British Columbia | 40.2% | 29.0% | 30.8% |
| Manitoba | 50.0% | 24.2% | 25.8% |
| New Brunswick | 43.6% | 23.1% | 33.3% |
| Newfoundland | 41.3% | 37.9% | 20.7% |
| Nova Scotia | 40.4% | 34.0% | 25.5% |
| Ontario | 49.4% | 26.2% | 24.4% |
| Quebec | 48.2% | 26.3% | 25.6% |
| Saskatchewan | 42.3% | 40.4% | 17.3% |
| Canada | 45.6% | 28.5% | 25.8% |





THOSE MOST LIKELY TO AGREE THAT NO CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE THAT WILL EVER SATISFY MOST QUEBECERS MOST LIKELY TO OPPOSE RECOGNITION OF QUEBEC UNIQUENESS

| | There are no constitutional changes that can ever satisfy the majority of Quebecers | | | |
|--|---|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | Strongly Agree | Somewhat Agree | Somewhat Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
| I agree that it is important to modify the Canadian constitution in such a way that enables recognition of the unique characteristic of Quebec | 29.4% | 49 .7% | 59.8% | 50% |



PRIDE AND ATTACHMENT TO CANADA



NEARLY EIGHT IN TENTHINK CANADA IS THE BEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD

| | Agree that Canada is the best country in the world | |
|------------------|--|--|
| Alberta | 81.7% | |
| British Columbia | 81.2% | |
| Manitoba | 79.0% | |
| New Brunswick | 82.0% | |
| Newfoundland | 93.1% | |
| Nova Scotia | 73.9% | |
| Ontario | 85.6% | |
| Quebec | 70.9% | |
| Saskatchewan | 90.6% | |
| CANADA | 80.7% | |

| Agree That Canada is the best country in the world | | |
|--|-------|--|
| Between 18 and 24 | 69.0% | |
| Between 25 and 34 | 73.2% | |
| Between 35 and 44 | 80.8% | |
| Between 45 and 54 | 82.4% | |
| Between 55 and 64 | 87.9% | |
| Between 65 and 74 | 87.7% | |
| 75 or older | 84.8% | |
| Total | 80.8% | |





ATTACHMENT TO CANADA INCREASES SIGNIFICANTLY WITH AGE

| | Canada | | |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| | Very attached | Somewhat attached | |
| Alberta | 72.0% | 19.4% | |
| British Columbia | 63.6% | 27.6% | |
| Manitoba | 63.9% | 27.9% | |
| New Brunswick | 53.8% | 23.1% | |
| Newfoundland | 69.0% | 31.0% | |
| Nova Scotia | 78.7% | 14.9% | |
| Ontario | 70.5% | 21.7% | |
| Quebec | 31.2% | 42.6% | |
| Saskatchewan | 71.2% | 25.0% | |
| Total | 60.0% | 27.6% | |

| | Canada | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| | Very attached | Somewhat attached | |
| Between 18 and 24 | 47.7% | 35.5% | |
| Between 25 and 34 | 52.5% | 27.0% | |
| Between 35 and 44 | 56.4% | 31.4% | |
| Between 45 and 54 | 58.9% | 30.5% | |
| Between 55 and 64 | 65.1% | 24.9% | |
| Between 65 and 74 | 73.4% | 18.6% | |
| 75 or older | 74.7% | 19.0% | |
| Total | 59.9% | 27.5% | |
| Saskatchewan | 71.2% | 25.0% | |
| Total | 60.0% | 27.6% | |





FLAG DISPLAY SOMEWHAT MORE LIKELY THAN ANTHEM TO INSTILL PRIDE BUT BOTH HAVE IMPACT

| | I am proud when I see the display of the Canadian flag in public | Singing the national anthem gives me a sense of pride in Canada |
|------------------|--|--|
| Alberta | 89.2% | 82.2% |
| British Columbia | 87.1% | 79.5% |
| Manitoba | 81.9% | 82.0% |
| New Brunswick | 69.2% | 63.1% |
| Newfoundland | 96.5% | 93.1% |
| Nova Scotia | 82.6% | 82.9% |
| Ontario | 90.8% | 85.5% |
| Quebec | 64.1% | 56.2% |
| Saskatchewan | 92.4% | 83.1% |
| Total | 83.2% | 76.8% |



FLAG AND ANTHEM PRIDE RISE CONSIDERABLY WITH AGE

| | I am proud when I see the display of the Canadian flag in public | |
|-------------------|---|----------|
| | Strongly | Somewhat |
| Between 18 and 24 | 42.9% | 36.2% |
| Between 25 and 34 | 44.2% | 35.5% |
| Between 35 and 44 | 53.0% | 28.2% |
| Between 45 and 54 | 54.1% | 28.8% |
| Between 55 and 64 | 56.2% | 30.6% |
| Between 65 and 74 | 63.7% | 23.2% |
| 75 or older | 72.5% | 18.8% |
| Total | 53.6% | 29.7% |

| | Singing the national anthem gives me a sense of pride in Canada | |
|-------------------|---|----------|
| | Strongly | Somewhat |
| Between 18 and 24 | 28.4% | 37.6% |
| Between 25 and 34 | 34.2% | 40.6% |
| Between 35 and 44 | 43.8% | 30.9% |
| Between 45 and 54 | 41.5% | 34.5% |
| Between 55 and 64 | 43.1% | 35.6% |
| Between 65 and 74 | 56.5% | 28.3% |
| 75 or older | 65.0% | 20.0% |
| Total | 42.6% | 33.9% |







Jack Jedwab | Rest of Canada on Constitutional Change and Pride in Country: Fifty Years after De Gaulle

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