

CBC Radio-Canada Probe Research Inc. News Release

MANITOBANS AND THE 'MANTARIO' QUESTION

Release Date: TBD

This province-wide Omnibus survey was designed and conducted for CBC Radio-Canada by Probe Research Inc. via telephone interviews conducted between March 1st and March 13th, 2006 among a random and representative sampling of 1,000 Manitoba adults.

With a sample of 1,000 one can say with 95 percent certainty that the results are within +/- 3.1 percentage points of what they would have been if the entire adult population of Manitoba had been interviewed. The margin-of-error is higher within each of the survey's population sub-groups.

Modified random-digit dialling was used to ensure that all Manitoba adults would have an equal opportunity to participate in this Probe Research survey. Minor statistical weighting has been applied to this sample to ensure that the age and gender balance correspond with the province as a whole.

MANITOBANS AND THE 'MANTARIO' QUESTION

Winnipeg, Manitoba – A solid majority of Manitobans say they would support the idea of Northwestern Ontario becoming part of Manitoba if the residents of that area – stretching from Kenora to Thunder Bay – clearly indicated a will to secede and join its neighbour to the west. These findings emerge from a survey of a random and representative sampling of 1,000 Manitobans taken for CBC Radio-Canada by Probe Research between March 1st and March 13th, 2006.

Most Manitobans Would Welcome Northwest Ontarians

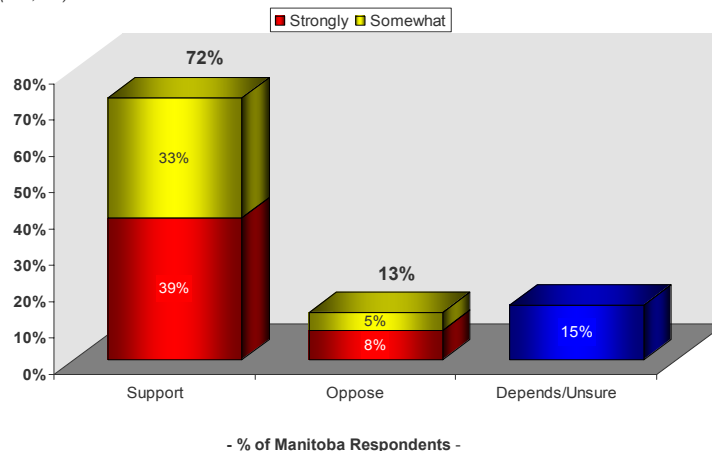
Fully three-quarters of Manitobans (72%, including 39% who express “strong” support) indicate that they would support Northwestern Ontario becoming part of Manitoba if the residents of that region, extending from Kenora to Thunder Bay, expressed an unequivocal wish to join this province. A mere one-in-ten Manitobans would oppose this initiative (13%, including 8% who are “strongly opposed”) while the balance remain undecided on this matter.

Support for Northwestern Ontario becoming part of Manitoba was consistent across all population subgroups. Differences between these subgroups are not considered statistically significant.



Support for Northwestern Ontario Joining Manitoba

SRC1. “As you may know, some elected officials in Northwestern Ontario are studying the idea of separating from Ontario and becoming part of Manitoba. If the people of Northwestern Ontario – that is, the part of Ontario stretching from Thunder Bay to Kenora – clearly indicated that they wanted to join Manitoba, would you support or oppose that region becoming part of Manitoba?” (n=1,000)



For more information on this survey, please contact:

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