

G8 / G20 SUMMITS

High Security Cost for G8 and G20 Summits Unjustified for Most Canadians

Three-in-four respondents say the upcoming summits are not important to them personally.

[VANCOUVER – Jun. 16, 2010] – Canadians are not particularly interested in the upcoming G8 and G20 summits, but are critical of the high cost of security for these two meetings of international leaders, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,007 Canadian adults, only 20 per cent of respondents say the G8 and G20 summits are "very important" or "moderately important" to them personally, while three-in-four (74%) brand the meetings as "not too important" or "not important at all."

Canadians are also concerned over the cost of security, with 78 per cent claiming that the expected expenditure of \$1 billion is unjustified. Quebecers (86%) are more critical than respondents in all other provinces on this particular issue.

Protest Activity

There has been a lot of talk recently on the way law enforcement officers should deal with the people and groups who are planning to stage protests during the G8 and G20 summits.

Three-in-ten Canadians (31%) believe there should be no restrictions on protests during the summits, while two-in-five (42%) would allow protests only in certain places and times.

KEY FINDINGS

- **20% say the upcoming G8 and G20 summits are "very important" or "moderately important" to them personally**
- **78% claim that the expected expenditure of \$1 billion is unjustified**
- **31% think there should be no restrictions on protests during the summits; 42% would allow protests only in certain places and times**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

From June 11 to June 12, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,007 randomly selected Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%, 19 times out of 20. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Public Affairs, 877-730-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com

One-in-twenty Canadians (5%) believe the protests should only be allowed if they have been approved by summit organizers, and 13 per cent would ban all protests during the summits.

Provincial Breakdowns

The question related to protest activity shows some staggering differences across the country. A majority of Albertans (58%) voice support to limiting the protests to certain places and times during the summits, while two-in-five British Columbians (43%) would place no restrictions on protests.

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G8 / G20 Summits

As you may know, Canada will host both the G8 and G20 summits this month. How important are these summits to you personally?

| | Region | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| | Total | BC | AB | MB/SK | ON | PQ | ATL |
| Very important | 4% | 5% | 2% | 1% | 4% | 6% | 5% |
| Moderately important | 16% | 18% | 20% | 24% | 18% | 10% | 8% |
| Not too important | 32% | 29% | 40% | 31% | 28% | 37% | 21% |
| Not important at all | 42% | 43% | 36% | 41% | 44% | 39% | 49% |
| Not sure | 4% | 5% | 2% | 1% | 4% | 6% | 5% |

G8 / G20 Summits

The cost of security for the G8 and G20 summits is expected to surpass \$1 billion. All things considered, do you think this expenditure is justified or unjustified?

| | Region | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| | Total | BC | AB | MB/SK | ON | PQ | ATL |
| Justified | 11% | 13% | 14% | 22% | 14% | 4% | 7% |
| Unjustified | 78% | 77% | 76% | 73% | 75% | 86% | 72% |
| Not sure | 11% | 10% | 10% | 5% | 11% | 10% | 20% |

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G8 / G20 Summits

Some people and groups are planning to stage protests during the G8 and G20 summits. Thinking about this, which of these statements comes closest to your own point of view?

| | Region | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Total | BC | AB | MB/SK | ON | PQ | ATL |
| There should be no restrictions on protests during the summits | 31% | 43% | 27% | 20% | 29% | 33% | 38% |
| Protests should only be allowed in certain places and times during the summits | 42% | 48% | 58% | 43% | 46% | 34% | 22% |
| Protests should only be allowed if they have been approved by the summit organizers | 5% | 4% | 1% | 4% | 5% | 6% | 3% |
| Protests should not be allowed at all during the summits | 13% | 2% | 9% | 24% | 11% | 18% | 18% |
| Not sure | 9% | 3% | 5% | 10% | 10% | 9% | 19% |

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Angus Reid Public Opinion is a practice of Vision Critical—a global research and technology company specializing in custom online panels, private communities, and innovative online methods. Vision Critical is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Public Opinion team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995

Vision Critical is now one of the largest market research enterprises in the world. In addition to its five offices in Canada—located in Vancouver, Calgary, Regina, Toronto, and Montreal—the firm also has offices in San Francisco, Chicago, New York, London, Paris and Sydney. Its team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research, and currently serves over 200 international clients.

Angus Reid Public Opinion polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum (www.angusreidforum.com), Springboard America (www.springboardamerica.com) and Springboard UK (www.springboarduk.com) online panels, which are recruited via an industry-leading process that incorporates a high-quality, multi-streamed approach and an in-depth screening procedure.

The panels are highly engaged communities with industry leading response rates and are researched with state-of-the-art sampling techniques, combined with deep profiling on demographic, behavioural and attitudinal characteristics. These premier online survey platforms present respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses. Each survey is actively sampled and weighted to model that characteristics of the universe required and employs the latest in quality control techniques to ensure data validity.

Since 2006, Angus Reid has covered eight provincial elections in Canada—more than any other pollster in the country—and the results have accurately predicted the outcome of each of these democratic processes.

Angus Reid, the only public opinion firm to exclusively use online methods to follow the views of the electorate during the 2008 federal campaign, offered the most accurate prediction of the results of Canada's 40th election. More information on our electoral record can be found at:

<http://www.visioncritical.com/record-of-accuracy>

More information on the way Angus Reid conducts public opinion research can be found at <http://www.visioncritical.com/what-we-do/practices/angus-reid-public-opinion/>

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**For more information, please contact
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

**Copies of this poll are available on our website:
<http://www.visioncritical.com/category/global-opinions-and-trends>**

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