

Western Canada – Issues, Opinions and Options
A Special National Study from the Angus Reid Institute
– Final Questionnaire – December 14, 2018 –

Introduction/Warm-up

Today's survey looks at some different issues in Canada and [Province] today. Remember that there are no right or wrong answers; as always, we're really just interested in everyone's opinions. The survey will only take 10 or 15 minutes. Remember, if you need to, you can leave the survey and come back to complete it.

Q1a. What would you say are the most important issues facing the province of [Province] today? (Select your top two from the list below or choose Other if your big issue isn't there.)
[Randomize presentation of issue blocks and issues within blocks]

Economy

Taxes

Cost of living

Health Care

Education

Social services (elderly/daycare/etc)

Poverty/Homelessness

Drugs/Addiction

Housing

Environment/Pollution

Crime/Public Safety

Energy/Resources/Pipelines

Leadership/Politics

Infrastructure -- Roads/Bridges

Transportation/Traffic/Transit

Other

Q1b. What is the other important issue?

Q2a) Overall, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in [Province] today?

b) And, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in Canada today?

[Programmer, for additional clarity add emoji faces for response options]

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
[Province]				
Canada				

The Economy

Q3. Here are some of the different economic sectors in Canada.

a) If you had to choose, what 2 or 3 of these would you say are most critical to Canada?

b) Are there any of these economic sectors that you think should be getting more attention and support from the federal government? (Select up to 2 or 3)

[Randomize]	a) Most Critical to Canada	b) Should be getting more attention and support from the federal gov't
Auto manufacturing		
Oil and gas		
Agriculture		
Tourism		
Technology/IT		
Banking and Finance		
Forestry and Mining		
		(None should get more) [Anchor]

Q11. In fact, roughly 32% of Canada's population lives in western Canada today, almost 12 million people. For reference, that's roughly 3 million more people than Quebec and just over 2 million fewer than Ontario.

Given this and your own perspective on its current recognition and influence in the country as a whole, would you say western Canada today has too much, too little or about the right amount of:

	West has too much	West has too little	About right
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a) Economic influence in Canada			
b) Political power in Canada			

Canada/Confederation/the state of the nation

Let's turn our attention to the country as a whole now.

T – 1991 West. (Q 5.3 Helped -- 5%, Hurt – 58%, No diff – 34%)

Q13. Over the past couple of years, do you think the policies of the federal government have helped your province's economy, hurt your province's economy, or have not made much difference to the overall health of your province's economy?

Helped

Hurt

No difference

Focus on Energy/Pipelines/Carbon

Now, a few questions on the subject of oil pipelines, and specifically about recent debate regarding building new pipeline capacity for moving more Canadian oil, at a higher price, to export markets. Canada's oil pipeline capacity has not been substantially expanded for several years now and, as you may know, some recent pipeline projects have been cancelled or put on hold.

Q21a. Some people are calling the lack of new pipeline capacity a crisis. They say Canada not having better access to buyers in overseas markets is severely damaging the country's economy.

Other people say the situation is not a crisis -- this is simply a matter of some regions and the oil industry wanting their own way and blowing things out of proportion.

Do you think the lack of new oil pipeline capacity is a crisis, or not?

Yes, it's a crisis

No, not a crisis

Q22. Suppose pipeline expansions continue to be delayed and there are no new pipeline projects underway in Canada for at least a few years. What kind of impact, if any, would no new oil pipeline capacity have on:

You own province's economy
 You and your household, personally
 The Canadian economy as a whole

Major impact
 Considerable impact
 Only a little
 No impact at all

Q23a. Let's focus for a moment on two different pipeline projects.

[Rotate]

The TransMountain pipeline would twin an existing pipeline running from northern Alberta to Metro Vancouver for export by oil tanker from there. The federal government bought this western pipeline earlier this year from the company who started it, and it is currently on hold pending court-ordered further review and consultation.

The Energy East pipeline would use an existing natural gas pipeline right of way to take oil from Alberta through Ontario and Quebec to a port and refinery in Saint John, New Brunswick. This eastern pipeline was actually cancelled a couple of years ago by the original company, but there has been talk about re-considering it.

What is your overall view on these two pipelines? Do you:

[Present middle two options same order as descriptions above]

Support both of these pipelines
 Support TransMountain only, and oppose Energy East
 Support Energy East only, and oppose TransMountain
 Oppose both of these pipelines
 Really don't know/Can't say

Q23b. Suppose one of these pipelines -- and only one -- goes ahead in the end. Which would be your choice? (Whether you support both pipelines or oppose both, please choose the ONE you would prefer to go ahead if you had to choose one.)

TransMountain to the BC coast

Energy East to New Brunswick

Q24. Thinking about the actions and approach to the pipeline issue taken by the federal government under Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, would you say it has been:

[This order]

Doing too little to build new pipeline capacity

Pushing too hard to build more pipeline capacity

Or, has their approach been about right overall

Q25. As you may know, there has been some vocal regional opposition to both these pipelines – particularly from the Vancouver area in the case of TransMountain and from Quebec in the case of Energy East, with politicians and people protesting new pipeline capacity coming through their area. As far as you're concerned, should this kind of local opposition carry:

No weight at all – local opposition should not be able to block

A little weight

A lot of weight

All the weight – local areas should be able to veto

