

**AN OVERVIEW OF BRITISH COLUMBIAN
ATTITUDES TOWARDS NATIVE
LAND CLAIMS**

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Decima Research

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Prepared by:

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I INTRODUCTION

This is the final report of an analysis prepared for the BC Comprehensive Claims Office of previous public opinion research conducted on behalf of or purchased by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Decima very much appreciates this opportunity to work with the Comprehensive Claims Office. The four studies analyzed in this report include the following:

- * A Marktrend custom survey conducted for FPRO in August of 1992 with a proportional sample of 800 British Columbians. The margin of error for the province is +/- 3.5%, 19 times out of 20.
- * The 1992 Angus Reid "Canadians and Aboriginal Peoples" syndicated survey conducted at the end of May 1992 with a proportional sample of 300 British Columbians. The margin of error for the province is 5.8%, 19 times out of 20.
- * The 1990 Angus Reid "Canadians and Aboriginal Peoples" syndicated survey conducted in September 1990 with a proportional sample of 300 British Columbians. The margin of error for the province is 5.8%, 19 times out of 20.
- * A Marktrend study conducted for DIAND in September 1989 consisting of a general public survey with a sample of 611 and an opinion leader survey with a sample of 200. The margin of error for the public survey is +/- 4%, 19 times out of 20. It is not possible to establish a margin of error for the opinion leaders survey.

This report focuses primarily on trends over time using comparable questions from all four surveys. A secondary focus is a comparison between BC and Canada.

II. KEY FINDINGS:

There are four key features in BC attitudes towards land claims:

- * There is a broad pool of public sympathy for native concerns in British Columbia that has grown over the past few years. While native issues have declined as a top-of-mind concern since the days of Oka, British Columbians are twice as likely as the rest of Canada to mention them. British Columbians are more likely than Canadians overall to fit into Angus Reid's sympathetic psychographic segments. Marktrend show an increasing sense of urgency in British Columbian's assessment of the need to deal with native concerns.
- * British Columbians support the idea of land claims negotiations and attribute at least some credibility to native Indian land claims. Support is much more tentative on the specific issue of comprehensive claims.
- * There is no blank cheque for the settlement of land claims. British Columbians hold contradictory views with regards to the level of control that should be vested in native government. Majorities of British Columbians see the settlement of land claims and self-government as ending aboriginal entitlements and special privileges.
- * Stakeholder assessments have changed significantly over the past several years. The federal government is clearly seen as having the main responsibility to settle the land claims. It receives mixed marks on the job it is doing in fulfilling those responsibilities with gains in the Reid study and a slight decline in the Marktrend material. Satisfaction with the provincial government has grown since the change in government and is now right around the national average. The media has seen a significant decline while the public has shown consistently high levels of confidence in native leaders.

III. DETAILED FINDINGS:

A. The Pool of Support

Top-of-Mind Concern

While native issues do not enjoy the high profile they garnered during the Oka crisis, British Columbians mention native issues more than twice as frequently (13%) as the national average (6%) (Table 1 - Top-of-Mind Concern - Angus Reid).

Level of Concern/Urgency

There is a 14 percentage point increase in the number of British Columbians who report being very concerned about Native Indian land claims in B.C. (Table 2 - Level of Concern - Marktrend). This increase in concern is mirrored in an increase in the degree of urgency BCers place upon the settlement of Native Indian land claims (Table 3 - Degree of Urgency - Marktrends). Although the scale of urgency changes between the surveys, there appears to be a dramatic increase in those who believe land claims must be settled within the next few years.

Psychographic Segmentation

The Angus Reid surveys include a psychographic segmentation of respondents which varies somewhat in each survey. This process involved clustering people according to their attitudes in three distinct areas; their general values towards life, their attitudes towards native and related issues and their position on a number of land claims and self-government policy issues.

BC is more sympathetic to aboriginal peoples and their concerns than the country as a whole. A majority of British Columbians fit into Reid's Progressive Advocate or Pragmatic Allies psychographic segments. However, it is also important to note that BC is almost at the national average in numbers of Unsympathetic Traditionalists (Table 4 - Psychographic Segments - Angus Reid).

Within this general sympathy for natives, BC has seen several key attitudes towards native improve. There has been significant increases in both those who believe Aboriginal are hard-working and in those who believe Native Indian land was stolen from them.

Similarly, when asked how reasonable native peoples have been in their land claims, British Columbia has moved from a small majority (52%) saying they have been unreasonable to a close to even split between reasonable (46%) and unreasonable (47%) (Table 5 - How Reasonable are Natives in Their Land Claims - Angus Reid).

Special Rights

Although there has been a slight decline over the past two years, over 3 out of every 4 British Columbians believe the government of Canada has a special trust with native peoples (Table 6 - Special Trust - Angus Reid).

There has also been a major jump in support for providing the special privileges accorded to natives to the various different groups of natives. BC shows particularly strong support for providing these privileges to non-status Indians and Status Indians living off-reserve (Table 7 - Who Should Receive Special Status - Angus Reid).

Self-government

The Angus Reid material shows an overwhelming movement towards many elements of the native position of self-government. To begin with, there has been a significant decrease in those who believe aboriginal peoples have no more right to self-government than other ethnic groups in Canada, down from 44% in 1990 to 34% in 1992 (Table 8 - Right To Self-Government - Angus Reid).

There has been a massive shift in the amount of power British Columbians would invest in aboriginal governments. Of the seven areas examined in 1990, only one had more than 40% of British Columbians support aboriginal governments having at least provincial powers. Now, a majority support a provincial-level of power in every one of those same areas (Table 9 - Level of Jurisdiction for Self-Government - Angus Reid).

A similar shift is seen in the amount of control of natural resources British Columbians are willing to place in the hands of aboriginal governments. Of the six resource areas tested, no less than 58% are in favour of majority control of the aboriginal governments (Table 10 - Control of Natural Resources - Angus Reid).

Government Services

Another measurement of the growth in support for natives is in satisfaction with the current level of federal government support. Once again, all six areas tested show movement towards the native position. In this case, all areas examined show an increase in those who say the federal government is doing too little. In no case did fewer than 41% say the government is doing too little (Table 11 - Federal Government Effort - Angus Reid).

Impact of Events

Respondents report that events over the past few years have left them feeling more sympathetic, echoing the trend of improvement we see in the other results. Forty-one (41%) say events have made them more sympathetic and 24% less sympathetic compared to an even split (34% to 33%) on a comparable table in 1990 (Table 12 - Impact of Events).

B. The Land Claims Process

While native land claims is the second most frequent response (19%) to the question "What do you feel are the most serious issues or problems facing Canada's aboriginal peoples today?", there has been a significant decline since 1989 when it was the most important issue with 32% of the mentions. However, the decline in mentions in BC is less than the decline seen in the country overall (38% to 14%) (Table 13 - Most Serious Issue Facing Natives - Angus Reid).

British Columbians overwhelmingly believe that the land claims of aboriginal peoples are legitimate and that they are entitled to at least some degree of compensation for those claims (Table 14 - Legitimacy of Claims - Reid/Marktrend).

Angus Reid investigated the perceived scope of the land claims in both of their studies. British Columbians believe the claims involve less land now (40% of the province) than they did two years ago (45%). However, respondents remain consistent over the period in their assessment of how much land should be handed over to the natives (20% in both 1990 and 1992). Roughly consistent with the two previous questions, British Columbians believe an average of 43% of Native Indian land claims are legitimate (Table 16 - Scope of Land Claims - Angus Reid).

British Columbians are divided on the issue of comprehensive claims although more support the concept now than two years ago. While a bare majority opposed comprehensive claims in 1990 (50% to 44%), now a small plurality support the concept (48% to 44%) (Table 17 - Comprehensive Claims - Angus Reid).

C. The Limits of Support

Despite the broad sympathy for aboriginal peoples and support for land claims negotiations in general, there are some ominous storm clouds on the horizon.

Tax Exemptions

Table 18, a comparison of the rights natives are perceived to have with the rights respondents think they should have show that the public has very strong concerns about the tax exemptions Status Indians on reserves enjoy.

Costs of Negotiations

A much smaller concern is the cost of negotiations. The idea that the Canadian government should pay the full costs of negotiations is the only general attitudinal statement to show movement away from the position most favourable to aboriginal. This result conflicts with Table 11. It may turn out this result is just a one-time accident or it may be a harbinger of a developing trend (Table 18 - Cost of Negotiations - Angus Reid)/

Where Should Self-Government Apply

The vast majority of British Columbians (69%) believe self-government should only apply to reserves and aboriginal communities rather than where ever they live (27%) (Table 19 - Scope of Self-Government - Angus Reid)

Who Owns Natural Resources On Native Land

While British Columbians believe Native Indians should own the resources on their land, they also believe they should pay royalties the same way a company must (57%). Only 18% believe natives should have complete ownership and keep all the proceeds from natural resources on their land (Table 20 - Ownership of Natural Resources - Angus Reid).

D. Stakeholders

The Federal Government is clearly seen as responsible both for land claims overall as well as the costs of compensation. In both questions, the percentages identifying the Federal Government as primarily responsible has remained stable over the last two years (Table 21 - Who is Responsible - Marktrend)

While the Federal Government is seen as primarily responsible, a majority (57%) of British Columbians agree that progress on land claims should wait until a cost-sharing agreement is worked out (Table 22 - Cost Sharing - Marktrend).

Results are mixed on Federal Government approval. The Reid numbers show significant improvement for the Federal Government over the past few years. The government is seen both as more reasonable and as more fair in its response to native land claims (Table 23 - Federal Reasonableness - Reid/Table 24 - Federal Performance - Marktrend).

However, the Marktrend performance rating shows a slight but significant decline in the public assessment. This difference in results may, in part, be due to the impact of Oka on the 1990 Angus Reid results. The difference may also be a result of the different wording.

The provincial government and Premier have shown significant gains in the Reid and Marktrend surveys. While assessments across the country have been stable, the B.C. government has shown a 10% shift towards the more favourable ratings over the past two years as has the Premier (Table 25 - Provincial Performance - Reid/Marktrend).

The media has seen an equally significant decline in the Reid results. Those who have a lot or a fair amount of confidence in the media have dropped from 47% to 39% (Table 26 - Media - Reid).

The wording of questions measuring the confidence in native leaders has changed in the Reid Survey but the results remain in the same magnitude. In 1990, 72% of British Columbians had at least a fair amount of confidence in native leaders. In 1992, 78% had at least some confidence in the chiefs of large bands while the same amount had at least some confidence in Ovide Mercredi (Table 27 - Natives - Reid).

E. Conclusion

While British Columbians show a great deal of public sympathy towards native peoples and their causes, that sympathy does not translate into broad support for the mandate of the B.C. Comprehensive Claims Office. Of most concern to the B.C. Claims Office is the polarization of British Columbians on the concept of comprehensive claims. The Angus Reid surveys ask the question:

"Some current land claims cover land that the natives historically occupied or used, and never gave up in any treaty. Today, aboriginal groups want to reach comprehensive settlements on land that was never formally turned over in a treaty. Generally speaking, do you support or oppose the concept of aboriginal groups seeking compensation for land never signed away in a treaty."

As mentioned previously, a majority opposed this concept two years ago while a plurality support it now. While the trend is improving, 44% of the province still oppose the concept and it has yet to become a major top-of-mind issue.

It is also important to note that British Columbians are not offering native peoples an open check book. There are very real limits to the ongoing benefits and rights British Columbians are prepared to offer once land claims and self-government have been settled.

The referendum experience suggests that the favourable tone of these results overall may be the high water mark of public sympathy to native Indians. The decline in support for aboriginal self-government over the course of the referendum campaign suggests that support for specific land claims settlements may also decline as more attention becomes focused on the issue.

The conflicting attitudes in the public create a situation in which individuals are cross-pressured. This type of situation is often characterized by volatile shifts in public opinion. To respond to this situation, BCCO will need to a flexible and responsive communications strategy. Although there is no need to repeat all of these questions every few months, there will be a need for ongoing tracking of key attitudinal and communications variables. It will also be important to examine the public opinion dynamic in the first areas to be involved in comprehensive land claims negotiations to assess the impact of the practical realities of negotiations against the general sentiment in favour of the goals.

The bottomline is clear. BCCO must be careful not to assume the broad pool of public sympathy towards natives in general will translate into support for the negotiations process or a specific settlement.



PRESENTATION TABLES



TABLE 1

Top-of-Mind Concern

To begin with, thinking of the issues presently confronting Canada, which one do you feel should receive the greatest attention from Canada's leaders? (Total mentions)

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
Economy - general/recession	11	6	44	43
Constitution	2	1	28	28
National Unity/Canada's Future	2	2	25	25
Jobs/Unemployment	2	1	24	17
Environment	5	6	11	11
Deficit/Government Spending	5	8	7	7
Free Trade	1	0	6	6
Native Issues	10	13	5	11
Taxes/GST	21	26	2	2
Mohawks/Oka	19	13		
Native Land Claims	3	7	1	2

Angus Reid



TABLE 2

Level of Concern

How Concerned Are You About Native Indian Land Claims In B.C.

	<i>Opinion Leaders 1989</i>	<i>Public 1989</i>	<i>Public 1992</i>
Very Concerned	36	23	37
Somewhat Concerned	46	51	48
Not Very Concerned	14	18	10
Not Concerned At All	3	5	4

Marktrend Research



TABLE 3

Degree of Urgency

What Degree of Urgency Do You Think The Government Should Place
On The Settlement Of Indian Land Claims

	<i>Opinion Leaders 1989</i>	<i>Public 1989</i>	<i>Public 1992</i>
They should be resolved as soon as possible	na	na	47
They should be resolved in the next few years	42	48	37
They should be resolved in the next ten years	21	17	15
They should be resolved as feasible, with no specific time frame	35	33	na

Marktrend Research



TABLE 4
Psychographic Segments

	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
Progressive Advocates	20	24
Pragmatic Allies	25	28
Anxious Bystanders	20	17
Confident Rivals	13	11
Unsympathetic Traditionalists	22	21

Angus Reid



TABLE 5

How Reasonable Are Natives In Their Land Claims

Generally speaking, do you think Canada's native people are being reasonable or unreasonable in terms of their current land claims?

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
Reasonable	46	41	45	46
Unreasonable	47	52	47	47
DK	7	6	8	7

Angus Reid



TABLE 6

Special Trust

In your view, do you think the government of Canada has any specific responsibilities, or a special trust, concerning aboriginal people?

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
Yes	77	85	78	78
No	20	13	18	18
DK	3	2	4	3

Angus Reid



TABLE 7

Who Should Receive Special Status

Thinking of the unique rights that aboriginal peoples might be entitled to in Canada, do you think they should apply to?

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
Status Indians living on reserves	76	70	96	95
Non-status Indians living in a city	28	27	61	69
Inuit people living in the Arctic	71	72	95	94
Metis people	55	55	82	85
Status Indians off reserve	35	37	70	80

Angus Reid



TABLE 8

Right to Self-Government

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
No matter what the government does to settle native land claims, native people will always demand more	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.1
The most important expression of Canadian culture is found in Indian and Inuit art	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.5
It just isn't right for natives to have special rights that other Canadians don't	na	na	4.3	4.1

Angus Reid



TABLE 9

Level of Jurisdiction For Self-Government

What kind of jurisdiction or control do you think aboriginal or native people should have on their own lands in each of the following areas?

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
EDUCATION				
Sovereign	13	7	17	15
Provincial Powers	36	31	45	41
Municipal Control	38	48	27	35
Little Authority	12	13	9	7
DK	1	1	1	2
HOUSING				
Sovereign	15	10	21	25
Provincial Powers	28	22	37	29
Municipal Control	47	58	33	38
Little Authority	9	8	7	5
DK	2	2	2	3
HEALTH CARE				
Sovereign	11	7	14	16
Provincial Powers	38	32	48	43
Municipal Control	34	40	24	29
Little Authority	15	19	12	12
DK	2	2	2	1



TABLE 9 (continued)
DECIMA

	1990		1992	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
POLICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT				
Sovereign	13	7	18	16
Provincial Powers	29	23	38	36
Municipal Control	41	51	31	35
Little Authority	15	18	11	12
DK	1	2	1	1
CHILD WELFARE SERVICES				
Sovereign	12	8	18	18
Provincial Powers	33	28	43	40
Municipal Control	38	44	28	32
Little Authority	14	17	9	9
DK	3	2	2	1
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION				
Sovereign	18	14	23	23
Provincial Powers	35	29	43	41
Municipal Control	32	42	25	27
Little Authority	12	13	9	9
DK	3	2	1	1
COURTS AND JUSTICE SYSTEM				
Sovereign	11	8	14	13
Provincial Powers	32	29	45	42
Municipal Control	31	32	25	29
Little Authority	23	30	14	15
DK	2	1	2	1
CULTURE AND LANGUAGE				
Sovereign	na	na	45	50
Provincial Powers	na	na	33	30
Municipal Control	na	na	16	16
Little Authority	na	na	4	4
DK	na	na	1	1



TABLE 10

Control of Natural Resources

In your opinion, should natives have full 100% control, majority control, minority control or non control over the use of the following natural resources on native reserve lands?

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
FARMING				
100%	43	44	43	46
Majority	37	40	38	41
Minority	15	11	14	10
No Control	4	3	4	1
FORESTRY				
100%	31	28	33	31
Majority	37	39	37	45
Minority	26	25	22	20
No Control	5	7	5	2
MINING				
100%	26	25	29	30
Majority	33	35	33	40
Minority	30	27	28	23
No Control	9	11	8	4



TABLE 10 (continued)
DECIMA

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
HUNTING AND FISHING				
100%	40	35	41	40
Majority	39	40	37	40
Minority	16	18	17	16
No Control	4	5	4	3
OIL AND GAS				
100%	21	24	25	26
Majority	29	31	30	36
Minority	34	31	32	26
No Control	13	12	11	9
DAMS AND HYDRO DEVELOPMENT				
100%	18	18	21	20
Majority	28	26	30	38
Minority	38	38	34	29
No Control	15	18	12	10

Angus Reid



TABLE 11

Satisfaction With Federal Government Level of Effort

Do you feel the Federal Government is doing too little, the right amount or too much for aboriginal peoples in the following areas:

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
PROVIDE ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR NATIVES ON RESERVES				
Too Little	36	32	40	41
Right Amount	41	45	40	41
Too Much	15	19	12	14
DK	8	4	7	4
PROVIDING QUALITY HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE TO NATIVE PEOPLE ON RESERVES				
Too Little	33	32	43	41
Right Amount	51	53	44	48
Too Much	8	8	3	4
DK	9	8	10	7
ADDRESSING THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF CANADA'S ABORIGINAL PEOPLES				
Too Little	50	51	52	55
Right Amount	36	37	37	36
Too Much	9	7	4	4
DK	5	4	7	5



TABLE 11 (continued)
DECIMA

	1990		1992	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
PROVIDING SHELTERS FOR NATIVE VICTIMS OF WIFE AND CHILD ABUSE				
Too Little	59	61	65	75
Right Amount	25	29	32	30
Too Much	7	5	5	5
DK	6	2	7	3
PROVIDING SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR NATIVE OFFENDERS IN FEDERAL PRISONS				
Too Little	41	44	41	55
Right Amount	35	35	31	25
Too Much	7	6	6	5
DK	18	15	22	16
CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT TRAINING FOR ABORIGINAL PEOPLES				
Too Little	52	53	57	61
Right Amount	34	39	32	30
Too Much	7	5	5	5
DK	6	2	7	3

Angus Reid



TABLE 12

Impact Of Events

Have the events of the past couple of years as far as this whole native issue is concerned made you more sympathetic towards aboriginal people's concerns, have they made you less sympathetic, or have recent events not really changed the way you feel about aboriginal people's concerns.

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
More sympathetic	31	34	38	41
Less sympathetic	34	33	26	24
No change	34	34	35	34

Angus Reid



TABLE 13

Most Serious Native Issue

Most Serious Issue Facing Natives (Total Mentions)

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
Education - illiteracy	14	17	16	22
Land Claims	38	32	14	19
Self Government	7	7	17	18
Alcoholism/Drugs	15	17	15	17
Racism	14	17	14	15
Unemployment/Jobs	11	10	14	14
Self Esteem/Pride	9	14	7	12
Integration/Assimilation/Adapting	12	12	12	11
White Society's Attitudes	11	9	11	11
Poverty	6	7	9	10
Culture/Tradition/Way of Life	9	7	10	9
Lack of Incentive	9	11	5	4
Treaty Rights	8	6	3	2

Angus Reid



TABLE 14

Legitimacy of Claims

Which of the Following Best Describes Your Views on the Settlement of Land Claims in B.C.

MARKTREND

	<i>Opinion Leaders 1989</i>	<i>Public 1989</i>	<i>Public 1992</i>
Indians have no legitimate claim to the land and no settlement should be made	12	16	6
Indians have a legitimate claim and there should be some degree of compensation	62	57	63
Indians have a legitimate claim and they should be granted either ownership or be fully compensated	22	23	29

ANGUS REID

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
Aboriginal people have no legitimate claim to any more land in Canada and no new settlements should be made	12	13	13	11
Aboriginal people have some legitimate land claims that should be settled with some degree of compensation	62	71	63	69
Aboriginal peoples land claims are legitimate and they should be fully compensated in land, money or both	25	16	22	20



TABLE 15

Negotiations or Court

Do you think that Indian Land Claims would be best resolved by means of negotiations between Indian Groups and government, or would it be better to let the courts decide on the settlements?

	<i>Opinion Leaders 1989</i>	<i>Public 1989</i>	<i>Public 1992</i>
Negotiations	74	60	66
Courts	16	30	29

Marktrend Research



TABLE 16

Extend of Land Claims

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
What percent of the total land in your province do you think is currently claimed by aboriginal or native people?	30	45	33	45
And what percent of the total land in your province do you think you should be turned over in response to aboriginal or native land claims?	21	20	20	20
Thinking about all outstanding aboriginal or native land claims, what proportion would you say are legitimate - that is, of all the land native people are claiming, what percent do you think is actually rightfully theirs?	46	42	44	43

Angus Reid



TABLE 17

Comprehensive Land Claims

Some current native land claims cover land that the natives never gave up in any treaty. Today, aboriginal groups want to reach settlements on land that was never turned over in a treaty. Do you support or oppose of aboriginal groups seeking compensation for land that was never signed away?

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
Support	51	44	46	48
Oppose	44	50	48	44
DK	5	6	6	8

Angus Reid



TABLE 18

Native Rights

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
WHAT RIGHTS DO NATIVES CURRENTLY HAVE?				
Fully paid post-secondary education	62	62	51	57
Exemption from GST and PST	63	55	68	65
Hunting, fishing and trapping rights	86	95	88	93
Tax free incomes on reserves	61	60	56	64
WHAT RIGHTS SHOULD NATIVES CURRENTLY HAVE?				
Fully paid post-secondary education	55	51	56	57
Exemption from GST and PST	33	26	32	27
Hunting, fishing and trapping rights	72	67	72	69
Tax free incomes on reserves	41	34	36	34

Angus Reid



TABLE 19

Scope of Self-Government

What do you think about the concept of native self-government, do you feel it should apply to aboriginal people no matter where they live, or do you think it should be limited only to natives living on reserves and in other aboriginal communities?

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
No matter where they live	na	na	24	27
Reserves and native areas only	na	na	73	69
DK	na	na	3	4

Angus Reid



TABLE 20

Ownership of Natural Resources

Thinking about the use of natural resources such as forestry, fisheries and oil on Indian land reserves, do you think...?

	<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
Natives should have complete ownership and be able to keep all proceeds from commercial resource exploitation	15	18
Natives should have ownership, but should be required to pay royalties to the government for the resources, the same way a company has to	54	57
Natives should not have ownership of the resources, but should be paid royalties from the proceeds of commercial resource activities	22	16
Natives should not have ownership and should not be paid any royalties for the use of natural resources on Indian land reserves	7	4



TABLE 21

Who is Responsible

	<i>Opinion Leaders</i> 1989	<i>Public</i> 1989	<i>Public</i> 1992
WHO SHOULD BE PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR RESOLVING INDIAN LAND CLAIMS			
Federal Government	37	41	40
Provincial Government	15	18	13
Fed/Prov Equally	37	18	12
Other	8	17	25
WHO SHOULD BEAR THE COST OF COMPENSATION TO INDIANS FOR SETTLING LAND CLAIMS			
Federal Government	26	33	32
Provincial Government	5	9	7
Fed/Prov Equally	38	19	14
Taxpayers	12	17	17
Other	11	18	20

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TABLE 22

Cost Sharing

Do you agree or disagree that progress on BC native land claims should wait until the federal and provincial governments decide who is going to pay for it?

	<i>Opinion Leaders</i> <i>1989</i>	<i>Public</i> <i>1989</i>	<i>Public</i> <i>1992</i>
Strongly Agree	na	na	32
Somewhat Agree	na	na	25
Somewhat Disagree	na	na	18
Strongly Disagree	na	na	19

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TABLE 23

Federal Government Reasonableness

Generally speaking, do you think the Federal Government is being reasonable or unreasonable in terms of their current handling of native land claims?

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
Reasonable	34	31	43	45
Unreasonable	59	63	46	47
DK	7	6	11	8

Generally speaking, do you feel the Federal Government has been too generous, generous, fair, unfair, or very unfair in their response to native land claims?

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
Too generous	7	7	8	10
Generous	10	6	10	7
Fair	36	36	42	42
Unfair	35	41	31	34
Very Unfair	9	9	5	4
DK	3	2	4	3

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TABLE 24

Federal Government Performance

Overall, how would you rate the Federal Government's jobs performance regarding Indian Land Claims?

	<i>Opinion Leaders 1989</i>	<i>Public 1989</i>	<i>Public 1992</i>
Very Good	1	2	2
Quite Good	8	8	6
Just Satisfactory	35	32	30
Quite Poor	30	31	33
Very Poor	17	19	25
DK	7	8	4

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TABLE 25

Provincial Government Performance

	<i>Opinion Leaders</i>	<i>Public</i>	<i>Public</i>
Very Good	3	2	2
Quite Good	3	6	8
Just Satisfactory	24	25	34
Quite Poor	25	33	30
Very Poor	30	24	18

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Thinking about the whole native issue, I'd like you to tell me how much confidence you have in each of the following, in terms of the role they might play in working towards some solutions to aboriginal peoples' concerns. What about ...

	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
Your provincial government				
A lot or a fair amount	51	43	52	53
Not much or none	46	56	na	na
Your provincial Premier				
A lot or a fair amount	49	34	48	45
Not much or none	45	64	49	50

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TABLE 26

Media Confidence

Thinking about the whole native issue, I'd like you to tell me how much confidence you have in each of the following, in terms of the role they might play in working towards some solutions to aboriginal peoples' concerns. What about ...

The News Media	<i>1990</i>		<i>1992</i>	
	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>BC</i>
A lot or a fair amount	51	47	44	39
Not much or none	49	52	na	na

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TABLE 27

Confidence in Native Leaders

Thinking about the whole native issue, I'd like you to tell me how much confidence you have in each of the following, in terms of the role they might play in working towards some solutions to aboriginal peoples' concerns. What about ...

Native Leaders	1990		1992	
	Can	BC	Can	BC
A lot or a fair amount	70	72	na	na
Not much or none	29	27	na	na
Chiefs of Large Bands				
A lot or a fair amount	na	na	71	78
Not much or none	na	na	na	na
Ovide Mercredi				
A lot or a fair amount	na	na	69	78
Not much or none	na	na	20	11

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