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Continuous Qualitative Data Collection of Canadians' Views – June 2024

Final Report

Prepared for the Privy Council Office

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Canada 

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This public opinion research report presents the results of a series of focus groups conducted by The Strategic Counsel on behalf of the Privy Council Office. The second cycle of the second year of this study included a total of twelve focus groups with Canadian adults (18 years of age and older) conducted between June 4th, 2024, and June 27th, 2024.

Cette publication est aussi disponible en français sous le titre : Rapport final - Collecte continue de données qualitatives sur les opinions des Canadiens – juin 2024.

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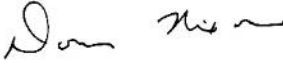
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Political Neutrality Certification

I hereby certify as a Senior Officer of The Strategic Counsel that the deliverables fully comply with the Government of Canada political neutrality requirements outlined in the Policy on Communications and Federal Identity and the Directive on the Management of Communications – Appendix C – Mandatory Procedures for Public Opinion Research.

Specifically, the deliverables do not include information on electoral voting intentions, political party preferences, standings with the electorate, or ratings of the performance of a political party or its leaders.

Signed:  _____

Date: July 29, 2024

Donna Nixon, Partner
The Strategic Counsel

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Executive Summary

Introduction

The Communications and Consultation Secretariat of the Privy Council Office (PCO) commissioned The Strategic Counsel (TSC) to conduct continuous cycles of focus group research across the country with members of the public on key national issues, events, and policy initiatives related to the Government of Canada.

The broad purpose of this ongoing qualitative research program is three-fold: to explore the dimensions and drivers of public opinion on the most important issues facing the country; to assess perceptions and expectations of the federal government's actions and priorities; and, to inform the development of Government of Canada communications so that they continue to be aligned with the perspectives and information needs of Canadians, while remaining both clear and easy-to-understand.

The research is intended to be used by the Communications and Consultation Secretariat within PCO in order to fulfill its mandate of supporting the Prime Minister's Office in coordinating government communications. Specifically, the research will ensure that PCO has an ongoing understanding of Canadians' opinions on macro-level issues of interest to the Government of Canada, as well as emerging trends.

This report includes findings from twelve online focus groups which were conducted between June 4th, 2024, and June 27th, 2024, in multiple locations across the country. Details concerning the locations, recruitment, and composition of the groups are provided in the section below.

The research for this cycle focused largely on housing initiatives and immigration, including discussions related to foreign credential recognition and out-of-status workers. Some groups also engaged in conversations related to health care, pharmacare, capital gains, climate change, electric vehicles (EVs), and clean energy and technology.

Other topics discussed as part of this cycle included what participants had seen, read, or heard about the Government of Canada in recent days, as well as conversations related to participants' news consumption habits and actions that the federal government had taken related to increasing investments towards research and innovation. Participants also shared their perspectives regarding the Government of Canada's management of important priority areas, including the cost of living, agriculture, reconciliation, and issues affecting Southeast Asian Canadians, Arab Canadians, and seniors. Some groups also shared their opinions related to challenges affecting their local communities, the state of diversity, equity and inclusion in Canada, online safety, and creative concepts developed by the Government of Canada pertaining to supplemented foods.

As a note of caution when interpreting the results from this study, findings of qualitative research are directional in nature only and cannot be attributed quantitatively to the overall population under study with any degree of confidence.

Methodology

Overview of Groups

Target audience

- Canadian residents, 18 and older.
- Groups were split primarily by location.
- Some groups focused on specific cohorts of the population, including young women aged 18-34 who identified as heavier social media users, members of the Southeast Asian diaspora, Arab women aged 35-54, seniors aged 65+, renters, and Indigenous peoples.

Detailed Approach

- Twelve groups were conducted across various regions in Canada.
- Six groups were conducted among the general population residing in the Golden Horseshoe region of Ontario, Saskatchewan, the Estrie region of Quebec, Interior British Columbia (B.C.), Quebec City, and Northern Ontario.
- The other six groups were conducted among key subgroups including:
 - Young women aged 18-34, heavier social media users, residing in Atlantic Canada;
- Members of the Southeast Asian diaspora in Calgary and Edmonton;
 - Arab women aged 35-54 in Toronto;
 - Seniors aged 65+ based in Quebec;
 - Renters residing in Vancouver; and,
 - Indigenous peoples based in Winnipeg.
- The three groups based in Quebec were conducted in French. All other groups were conducted in English.
- All groups for this cycle were conducted online.
- A total of 8 participants were recruited for each group, assuming 6 to 8 participants would attend.
- Across all locations, 86 participants attended, in total. Details on attendance numbers by group can be found below.
- Each participant received an honorarium of \$125.

Group Locations and Composition

| LOCATION | GROUP | LANGUAGE | DATE | TIME (ET) | GROUP COMPOSITION | NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS |
|------------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Golden Horseshoe | 1 | EN | Tues, June 4 th | 6:00-8:00 PM | General Population | 8 |
| Saskatchewan | 2 | EN | Wed, June 5 th | 8:00-10:00 PM | General Population | 8 |

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|------------------------------|---------------|---|-----------|
| Atlantic Canada | 3 | EN | Thurs, June 6 th | 5:00-7:00 PM | Young Women, Aged 18-35 Heavier Social Media Users | 8 |
| Calgary & Edmonton | 4 | EN | Tues, June 11 th | 8:00-10:00 PM | Southeast Asian Diaspora | 8 |
| Estrie | 5 | FR | Wed, June 12 th | 6:00-8:00 PM | General Population | 7 |
| British Columbia Interior | 6 | EN | Thurs, June 13 th | 9:00-11:00 PM | General Population | 5 |
| Quebec | 7 | FR | Wed, June 19 th | 6:00-8:00 PM | Seniors, Aged 65+ | 7 |
| Vancouver | 8 | EN | Thurs, June 20 th | 9:00-11:00 PM | Renters | 7 |
| Toronto | 9 | EN | Tues, June 24 th | 6:00-8:00 PM | Arab Women, Aged 35-54 | 8 |
| Northern Ontario | 10 | EN | Tues, June 25 th | 6:00-8:00 PM | General Population | 6 |
| Quebec City | 11 | FR | Wed, June 26 th | 6:00-8:00 PM | General Population | 8 |
| Winnipeg | 12 | EN | Thurs, June 27 th | 7:00-9:00 PM | Indigenous Peoples | 6 |
| Total number of participants | | | | | | 86 |

Key Findings

Government of Canada in the News (All Locations)

Participants in all groups were asked to share what they had seen, read, or heard about the Government of Canada in recent days. A range of announcements and initiatives were recalled, including the decision by the Bank of Canada to lower its policy interest rate to 4.75 per cent, the tabling of a report by the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICOP) that had found that numerous members of Parliament had wittingly assisted foreign state actors, and the announcement by the federal government of a national pharmacare program. Participants also mentioned the recent proposal by the Government of Canada to increase the capital gains inclusion rate, actions taken to make housing more affordable for Canadians, and an announcement by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) that it would be moving to the next phase of debt recovery in terms of collecting individual overpayments for benefit programs related to the COVID-19 pandemic.



News Consumption (Atlantic Canada Younger Woman Heavier Social Media Users, Calgary and Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora, Quebec Seniors, Toronto Arab Women)

Participants in four groups engaged in an additional discussion related to their news consumption habits. Asked to identify the primary sources they use to receive their news, many mentioned television channels such as CBC, CTV, Global News, BBC, and CNN, radio stations such as CBC Radio, Radio Canada and local channels, and legacy news outlets such as the Globe and Mail, La Presse, the New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Guardian. Several also mentioned social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and LinkedIn, as well as other digital platforms such as Google News. Asked whether they felt some news sources were more reliable than others, while a number believed that most television, radio, and legacy news outlets were quite trustworthy, many thought that news found on social media (and in particular on platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and TikTok) should be taken with some degree of skepticism.

Participants in the groups comprised of Arab women residing in Toronto and members of the Southeast Asian diaspora in Calgary and Edmonton, were asked whether they ever sought out news in languages other than English. A number in the group comprised of Arab women reported accessing news from Al Jazeera, often in Arabic, while members of the Southeast Asian diaspora recalled seeking out foreign-language news sources based in countries such as Singapore, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

Discussing where they would likely go to find information and news related to the Government of Canada, most in the groups comprised of Quebec seniors and Arab women in Toronto expected that they would likely rely on official websites run by the federal government, as well as specific agencies such as the CRA and Service Canada.

Research and Innovation (Golden Horseshoe Region Ontario)

Participants residing in the Golden Horseshoe region of Ontario were asked a few additional questions related to research and innovation. Asked whether they had seen, read, or heard about any actions from the federal government on this front, a few recalled hearing about a \$5 billion joint investment it had made (along with the Government of Ontario) towards the building of a new electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing plant in Alliston, Ontario that had been announced by the Honda Motor Company as part of its \$15 billion investment towards EV manufacturing in Canada.

Provided with information related to a number of areas related to research and innovation that the federal government had recently committed to making investments in, most reacted positively, believing that these were important areas for the Government of Canada to be supporting. Several, however, expected that the \$800 million amount would not be enough to sufficiently address all of these priority areas. The view was expressed by some that investments towards areas such as addressing climate change, facilitating learning and training opportunities for post-secondary students, and supporting Indigenous inclusion and research would be especially critical to the long-term success of Canada's research goals going forward.



Government of Canada Priorities and Performance (Golden Horseshoe Region Ontario, Saskatchewan, Calgary and Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora, Estrie Region Quebec, Interior British Columbia, Quebec Seniors, Vancouver Renters, Toronto Arab Women, Northern Ontario, Quebec City, Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples)

Eleven groups engaged in discussions related to the issues currently facing Canadians as well as their perspectives regarding the federal government's management of these priorities. Participants were asked to identify areas in which they felt the Government of Canada was performing well and areas where they felt there was room for improvement.

On a number of issues participants expressed a range of positive and negative views. These included health care, the immigration system, and actions that the Government of Canada had taken related to protecting the environment and mitigating the impacts of climate change. Participants also mentioned a number of areas where they felt that the federal government had performed well, including providing supports and benefits for Canadians, protecting and promoting diversity and multiculturalism, its online services and websites, and humanitarian assistance that it had provided to those in other parts of the world. Additionally, participants identified a range of areas in which they believed the Government of Canada had room for improvement. These included inflation and the cost of living, housing, education (both K-12 and post-secondary), reconciliation, and public safety.

Asked to identify what they viewed as the most important priorities for the federal government to be focusing on, many reiterated the need for a greater emphasis to be placed on addressing the cost of living, including reducing the costs of groceries and housing. A number also felt that more needed to be done related to immigration, including taking steps to ensure that communities had sufficient resources and infrastructure available to accommodate a rising population. Several also mentioned health care, emphasizing the need to address perceived health shortages of doctors and nurses and long wait times for emergency and primary care. Other priority areas identified by participants included climate change and the environment, making post-secondary education more affordable, providing increased supports for seniors, building and repairing vital infrastructure such as highways and bridges, and the need for greater investments towards national security and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF).

Cost of Living (Saskatchewan)

Participants residing in Saskatchewan were asked a few additional questions related to the cost of living. Prompted to identify what they viewed as the biggest challenges related to the cost of living that the Government of Canada should be prioritizing, many believed that a greater focus needed to be placed on increasing the affordability of necessities such as groceries and housing. None felt the Government of Canada was headed in the right direction when it came to addressing the cost of living and all felt that this issue had worsened in recent years.

Asked whether they were aware of any actions from the Government of Canada related to addressing the cost of living, participants recalled initiatives such as the provision of a one-time \$500 top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit for lower-income renters, and the one-time Grocery Rebate provided to



eligible Canadians as a part of their quarterly goods and services tax/harmonized sales tax (GST/HST) credit payment in July 2023. A few also recalled the announcement of the Canada Disability Benefit (CDB) which they viewed as being aimed at making life more affordable for persons living with disabilities.

Questioned how important they felt it was for the federal government to be focused on increasing the affordability of telecommunications (such as mobile phone costs and home internet services), many viewed this as an important priority area. A number were of the impression that Canadians currently paid among the highest rates in the world for mobile phone and internet services and believed that efforts needed to be taken to make these services more affordable for Canadians.

Agriculture (Saskatchewan)

The group based in Saskatchewan also engaged in a brief conversation related to agriculture and actions that the Government of Canada had taken to support this sector. Asked how big of a priority they felt the agriculture sector should be for the federal government, almost all viewed it as a major area for it to be focusing on. It was widely felt that there needed to be an increased focus on recruiting and incentivizing younger Canadians to pursue careers in agriculture, with some believing that the sector was currently experiencing labour shortages in many parts of the country. A number viewed agriculture as being a critical part of Saskatchewan's economy and thought that additional support for this sector from the federal government would have a positive impact on the province as a whole.

Discussing the degree to which they felt climate change was impacting the agriculture sector and the ability of farmers to produce food, several believed that it was having a significant impact, especially in terms of the effects of extreme weather events such as wildfires, flooding, and droughts. Asked how climate change could potentially impact the cost of living, several expected that as food became increasingly difficult to produce, it would ultimately lead to higher grocery costs for consumers.

Reconciliation (Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples)

One group, comprised of Indigenous peoples residing in urban centres in the Prairies, shared their perspectives related to the Government of Canada's progress on reconciliation. Asked to identify what they viewed as the top issues facing Indigenous peoples that the federal government needed to be prioritizing, several felt that greater efforts needed to be taken to ensure that all Indigenous communities had access to clean drinking water, affordable and nutritious food, and essential services such as health care and education. It was also thought that increased resources needed to be devoted towards investigating the disappearances of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) as well as ensuring that existing treaties between the federal government and individual Indigenous nations were being properly upheld.

Questioned whether they felt reconciliation was a priority for the federal government, while a number believed that it was, most did not feel that the prioritization of this issue had led to any tangible improvements in the quality of life for Indigenous peoples and communities. It was widely thought



that while it was important for the Government of Canada to be highlighting Indigenous issues and histories, these efforts needed to be accompanied by clear and measurable actions to better the lives of Indigenous peoples.

Identifying additional areas that they felt the federal government should be prioritizing when it came to better supporting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, a large number felt that more needed to be done to provide mental health support to these communities, and especially those suffering from intergenerational trauma stemming from the historical residential school program. Asked how the Government of Canada could better respond to the needs of Indigenous peoples living in urban areas, several believed that there needed to be more frequent engagement between federal officials and Indigenous leaders and elders.

Asked how they would go about measuring the federal government's progress on reconciliation, a range of metrics were proposed. A number felt that a key focus should be placed on ensuring that Indigenous peoples had the same access to educational and employment opportunities as the rest of Canadians, believing that this would mark a significant step towards achieving reconciliation. Some also suggested tracking and regularly reporting on key statistics (such as the rate of Indigenous home ownership) to ensure that tangible progress was being made on these fronts

Southeast Asian Canadians (Calgary and Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora)

The group composed of members of the Southeast Asian diaspora residing in Calgary and Edmonton shared their perspectives on what they viewed as the most important issues facing Southeast Asian Canadians at present. Asked to identify what they felt to be the top issues impacting their diaspora that required further prioritization from the federal government, participants mentioned a range of concerns. These included challenges faced by immigrants from Southeast Asia in having their professional and educational credentials recognized, difficulties in learning and conversing in English, and not feeling welcomed by others in their communities.

Asked whether the Government of Canada should be prioritizing its relationships with Southeast Asian countries (such as Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, and the Philippines), many felt that it should. A number were of the opinion that, given the perceived growing proportion of Canadian residents who were immigrants from Southeast Asia, it was increasingly important for the federal government to have strong relationships with the region.

Focusing on actions that the Government of Canada could take to improve its engagement with the Southeast Asian diaspora, participants mentioned actions such as a greater inclusion of Southeast Asian countries and peoples during Asian Heritage Month, as well as placing an increased focus on educating Canadians about the region's unique histories and cultures.



Arab Canadians (Toronto Arab Women)

One group, comprised of Arab Women residing in Toronto, shared their perspectives regarding issues impacting Arab Canadians as well as the Government of Canada's international relations with Arab majority countries.

Asked to identify the top issues impacting Arab Canadians that they felt required greater prioritization from the federal government, many shared concerns regarding what they perceived as rising rates of Islamophobia as of late. The view was expressed by several that anti-Arab sentiment had become more prominent in Canada following the October 7th, 2023, attacks perpetrated by the Hamas terrorist organization against Israel, and that this issue had continued to increase in the months that had followed. Several felt that the Government of Canada needed to do more to protect and promote the rights and safety of members of the Arab diaspora in Canada.

Discussing the Government of Canada's management of its international relations with Arab-majority countries, most felt that it was headed in the wrong direction on this front. Many were of the opinion that Arab countries were frequently treated differently by the federal government compared to countries in other parts of the world and believed that immigrants from these countries were often subjected to a greater level of mistrust and discrimination.

Describing actions that the federal government could take to improve its engagement with Arab Canadians, several suggested the need for increased outreach to Arab communities and organizations within Canada. It was felt that this would provide members of the Arab diaspora a greater opportunity to share their perspectives and provide feedback as to how they felt life could be improved for Arab Canadians going forward.

Seniors (Quebec Seniors)

Participants in the group comprised of seniors aged 65+ in Quebec engaged in a discussion related to the issues currently impacting seniors in Canada. Asked to identify what they viewed as the top challenges facing working seniors at present, participants provided a range of responses. A number mentioned the increasing physical limitations that seniors face as they age and felt that this had made it more difficult for them to engage in physical work and had placed them at a disadvantage in the workforce compared to younger workers. Asked whether they viewed the perceived high cost of living at present as a challenge for seniors, several believed that it was. A number were of the impression that, as a result of the high cost of living, an increasing proportion of seniors were now finding it necessary to work on at least a part-time basis in order to supplement the income they had saved for retirement.

Almost all reported having had to re-evaluate their retirement plans to at least some extent due to the high cost of living at present. Several commented that they had found it necessary to continue working to afford their desired lifestyle, including the ability to go on vacation as well as engage in the hobbies and pastimes they enjoyed. A number described having been compelled to make lifestyle



changes due to the high cost of living, such as moving to a different location, which they felt had further complicated their retirement plans.

Asked how important, if at all, they felt government programs such as Old Age Security (OAS), and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) were to making their lives more affordable, all believed that these supports had made a positive impact on their financial wellbeing. Many expressed feeling that these programs had provided them with additional financial security and had helped them in affording the cost of living. Provided with information about these benefits, many were surprised to hear that these amounts were reviewed four times per year, and all believed that this would make it easier for seniors to adjust to higher rates of inflation. A few, however, expressed the opinion that even with more frequent reviews to OAS and GIS benefits, the amounts provided to seniors would likely not be enough to keep pace with rising costs, such as those for groceries and home renovation projects.

Discussing whether the Government of Canada was headed in the right direction when it came to engaging with seniors, almost all felt that it was not. Many were of the opinion that there had been a lack of effective communication and consultation between the federal government and the seniors' community and believed that more needed to be done to establish meaningful dialogues on this front. Participants provided a number of suggestions as to how this relationship could be improved. These included establishing local seniors' representatives with whom official consultations could be organized, distributing informational bulletins regarding actions and initiatives related to seniors, and providing a contact number that seniors could use to obtain information and share their views with the federal government.

Housing (Golden Horseshoe Region Ontario, Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario, Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples)

Four groups took part in conversations related to housing. Those residing in the Golden Horseshoe region of Ontario, Northern Ontario, and Vancouver shared their perspectives regarding a range of housing initiatives recently announced by the federal government, while participants in the group comprised of Indigenous peoples residing in Winnipeg discussed potential actions that could be taken to improve the affordability and availability of housing for Indigenous peoples and communities.

At the outset of their conversations, participants in the groups comprised of renters in Vancouver and individuals living in Northern Ontario were asked how they would describe the current housing situation in their communities. Almost all perceived housing as having become increasingly unaffordable (both to purchase and to rent) in recent years and believed that there was not nearly enough available housing to meet the current level of demand in their areas. Several were of the impression that it had become very difficult for first-time home buyers to enter the housing market and believed that this would have a negative impact on the future financial prospects of younger generations if action was not taken to address this issue. All felt that the housing situation in their communities had worsened in recent years.

Focusing on issues specifically impacting renters, all in the group comprised of renters living in Vancouver described the rental situation in their community as having become drastically unaffordable. Several felt that increasing demand in recent years combined with issues such as real estate speculation and profit-seeking behaviour from landlords had served to significantly increase the rates paid by Vancouver renters. Discussing potential actions that could be taken to assist renters, participants believed that there should be increased taxation and restrictions for those who purchase residential real estate as an investment. A few also felt that more should be done to stabilize rental costs and further limit the amounts by which landlords can increase rent. It was felt that taking this approach would allow renting to become a more viable, long-term option, and would be especially beneficial for those individuals who did not have plans to purchase a home in the foreseeable future.

Housing Initiatives (Golden Horseshoe Region Ontario, Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario)

Three groups engaged in discussions related to a range of housing measures that had recently been announced by the Government of Canada as part of Budget 2024. Asked whether they were aware of any steps that the federal government had taken as of late to increase the affordability and availability of housing for Canadians, participants recalled a number of initiatives. These included agreements reached with municipalities, supported by the Housing Accelerator Fund, to assist in the building of new affordable housing projects, encouraging lenders to consider on-time rent payments when calculating individuals' credit scores, and extending the ban on foreign purchases of Canadian residential housing by an additional two years.

Informed that the Government of Canada had recently introduced a three-part strategy to address the housing crisis, participants in the groups comprised of renters in Vancouver and those residing in the Golden Horseshoe region of Ontario were shown three sets of initiatives that had been announced and were asked to share their perspectives on each.

The first set shown to participants, highlighting some of the measures the Government of Canada was proposing to assist in the building of more homes, received mostly positive reactions among participants. Several, however, questioned whether these actions would be enough to make an impact on increasing the housing supply and making housing more affordable for Canadians. A number expressed the view that the estimated total of 750,000 new housing units expected to be built over the next decade via agreements reached under the Housing Accelerator Fund was too low, especially given what they perceived as high rates of immigration to Canada at present. While participants felt that the action to invest \$15 billion in the Apartment Construction Loan Program would have a positive impact on building more rental homes, a number questioned what regulations would be put into place to ensure that these homes remained affordable for lower- and middle-income Canadians. Participants were mixed in their views regarding the federal government's plan to increase its investments into technology such as prefabricated housing factories and pre-approved home design catalogues. It was felt that while this action could help to accelerate the pace at which new homes are being built, the overall quality, safety, and longevity of prefabricated homes was also a concern for several participants.

The second set of initiatives shown to participants, describing some of the actions that the Government of Canada was proposing to make it easier to purchase or rent a home received widely positive reactions. Many specifically identified the actions to extend the ban on foreign homebuyers by two years and restrict the purchase and acquisition of existing single-family homes by very large, corporate investors as measures they felt would be particularly effective. Participants also spoke positively of the initiative to allow 30-year mortgages for first-time homebuyers purchasing new builds, with a number believing that mortgages of this length should be made available to all prospective homebuyers. While generally supportive of actions to crack down on illegal short-term rentals (such as Airbnb), some questioned how this action would be enforced and what specific regulations would be put into place.

While most felt that the third set of initiatives, highlighting some of the measures that the Government of Canada was proposing to help those who struggle most with the cost of housing, represented a step in the right direction, many felt that they would only have a minor impact on assisting those who are struggling with the cost of housing. While several reacted positively to the initiative to increase funding to support organizations that prevent and reduce homelessness, a number hoped to see more specific details regarding which organizations would be supported and how much financial support would be provided. The opinion was also expressed that, given the perceived size and scope of the housing crisis, an investment of \$1 billion to the Affordable Housing Fund would not be enough to sufficiently address this issue.

Indigenous Housing (Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples)

The group comprised of Indigenous peoples residing in Winnipeg shared their perspectives related to the housing situation for Indigenous peoples and communities, both in Winnipeg as well as throughout Canada more broadly. Asked to identify what they viewed as the biggest challenges related to housing Indigenous peoples in Winnipeg were facing, several mentioned what they perceived as the high cost of purchasing a home at present and the difficulties they had encountered in saving up the amount required for a down payment. A number also described what they viewed as a lack of safe and affordable rental options in Winnipeg, believing that many of the rental units available in their price range were often in poor condition and/or in need of maintenance and repairs. Participants engaged in an exercise where they were presented with a range of measures that had been included as part of the Government of Canada's strategy to address the housing situation and asked to identify which measures they felt would have the greatest impact on Indigenous peoples. On balance, the initiative to increase funding to organizations that prevent and reduce homelessness received the highest level of support among participants. Many felt that homelessness in their community had risen substantially in recent years and believed that a disproportionate number of Indigenous peoples were currently facing issues related to housing insecurity compared to other groups in Canada. The measures to restrict the purchase and acquisition of existing single-family homes by very large corporate investors and to extend the ban on foreign homebuyers by two years also received considerable support. It was felt that these actions would have a positive impact on increasing the supply of affordable housing and discourage behaviours such as real estate speculation that treat housing as an investment commodity rather than as a place to live. Some also spoke



positively of the initiatives to invest \$1 billion to the Affordable Housing Fund to support non-profit, co-operative, and public housing providers, and \$4 billion (over seven years) towards collaborating with Indigenous partners to develop tailored housing solutions for urban, rural, and northern Indigenous communities.

Asked what impacts they expected this strategy could have for Indigenous peoples residing in Winnipeg, several hoped that these actions would help to reduce homelessness and provide more options for shelter for those living in the city. It was hoped that by making housing more affordable, these measures would lead to an overall improvement in the quality of life for Indigenous peoples in Winnipeg. Questioned whether, having been provided with information related to these measures, they felt the Government of Canada was on the right track with its housing strategy, almost all indicated that they did.

Health Care (Interior British Columbia)

Participants residing in Interior British Columbia (B.C.) took part in a conversation related to health care. All viewed health care as a major priority for the Government of Canada to be focusing on, and several described having personally encountered issues on this front, including long wait times at emergency rooms and walk-in clinics, difficulties in obtaining appointments with specialists, and a perceived shortage of health care workers such as doctors and nurses. A few reported that doctors and other health workers had been leaving their communities in increasing numbers in recent years, and that services such as walk-in clinics had closed altogether. Asked to rate the quality of health care in their area, while most believed that health care services and professionals in their region were generally of a high calibre, many reiterated concerns related to the ability to access these services, including the difficulties they believed many faced in obtaining a family doctor.

No participants felt the federal government was on the right track when it came to health care and believed that far more emphasis needed to be placed on improving health care provision in Canada going forward. Discussing potential actions that could be taken, many believed that more should be done to recruit and train more individuals (both from Canada as well as outside the country) to work in the health care sector. It was felt that efforts should also be made to reduce tuition costs for prospective health care workers as well as increase the number of seats available in Canadian medical and nursing programs. Additionally, it was thought that actions should be taken to work to increase the wages received by doctors and nurses, as well as provide better mental health care for health care professionals to better assist them in managing and coping with the stresses of their work.

Pharmacare (Saskatchewan)

Participants residing in Saskatchewan engaged in a conversation regarding pharmacare and recent actions by the Government of Canada to introduce a national pharmacare program. Questioned whether they viewed the cost of prescription medication as a major challenge currently facing Canadians, while almost all believed that it was an important issue, several viewed it as a lower priority



compared to other issues such as health worker shortages and long wait times to access primary and emergency care.

Asked to describe the overall state of prescription drug coverage in Canada, many were of the impression that prescription medications were relatively affordable and accessible for most Canadians. Several, however, expressed the view that if one did not have prescription drug coverage through their insurance or employment benefits, these medications could become very challenging to afford, with potentially life-threatening consequences for those with chronic conditions. Questioned whether they would support a universal pharmacare program where all Canadians would receive coverage for prescription medication, all indicated that they would.

Provided with information related to the first phase of the federal government's recently announced national pharmacare program all reacted positively, with several expressing particular support for the inclusion of diabetes medications in the initial phase of this program. A number reported having friends and family members with diabetes and believed that this would have an immediate positive impact on their quality of life.

Questioned whether they favoured a completely public pharmacare program or a "close the gaps" approach, where public coverage would account for areas not covered by one's private insurance and benefits, most expressed support for the latter approach. It was felt that this would be preferable for most Canadians as it would allow them to continue to utilize their existing benefits programs, while also likely reducing the costs of the national pharmacare program for taxpayers.

Immigration (Calgary and Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora, Estrie Region Quebec, Toronto Arab Women, Northern Ontario, Quebec City)

Five groups engaged in discussions related to immigration in Canada. Asked how they would describe the current state of the Canadian immigration system, many perceived it as experiencing considerable strain at present. The view was expressed by several that the country had taken in more people than it could realistically handle in recent years and that this had negatively impacted the cost of living and availability of housing in many Canadian communities.

Describing what they viewed as the benefits of welcoming new immigrants to Canada, participants identified a range of positive impacts. Several mentioned the role immigrants played in filling existing labour shortages, believing this was especially important given the growing number of Canadians that they expected would be entering into retirement in the coming years. Others felt that immigrants provided considerable cultural enrichment to the country through the sharing of their unique perspectives, practices, and traditions.

Asked what actions the Government of Canada should take to improve the immigration system, participants offered a range of suggestions. These included building more affordable housing projects, streamlining the foreign credential recognition process, subsidizing education and skills training for new immigrants seeking to work in sectors experiencing labour shortages, and providing language training and social supports for immigrants to assist them in acclimatizing to their new



communities. Questioned whether they thought the Government of Canada should increase, decrease, or keep the rate of immigration at about the same level, most felt that the current rate of immigration should be maintained, while a smaller number respectively felt that it should be increased or decreased.

Foreign Credential Recognition (Calgary and Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora)

Participants in the group comprised of members of the Southeast Asian diaspora based in Calgary and Edmonton were asked a few additional questions related to the foreign credential recognition process. Asked how important, if at all, they felt it was for the federal government to address issues related to recognizing foreign credentials, all viewed this as a major priority.

Almost all reported having gone through the foreign credential recognition process themselves or had a friend or family member who had done so. While some had heard that the Government of Canada had recently fast-tracked this process for new arrivals from some countries, it was widely felt that the process of getting one's education and professional credentials recognized continued to be a major challenge for many recent immigrants.

Discussing additional steps that the federal government should take to address this issue participants mentioned a range of potential actions. These included assisting immigrants in getting their credentials recognized prior to arriving in Canada, providing grants and funding for new arrivals to acquire the certifications necessary to work in their fields of expertise, and matching new immigrants with mentors who had previously immigrated to Canada who could assist them in navigating this process.

Out-of-Status Workers (Estrie Region Quebec, Quebec City)

Two groups engaged in discussions related to out-of-status workers. Asked whether they were familiar with the terms "out-of-status" or "undocumented" people, most indicated that they were, with several believing that these terms primarily referred to those living in Canada without legal documentation and/or individuals who had entered the country through non-legitimate pathways.

Prompted to estimate approximately how many out-of-status workers were currently living in Canada, participant responses ranged from 10,000 to upwards of 3 million, with most believing this amount to be somewhere between 100,000 and 300,000. Asked whether they felt out-of-status workers residing in Canada should be provided with a pathway to permanent residency and citizenship, almost all believed that they should. A large number felt that as these workers were already in Canada and contributing to their communities, it was important for them to have access to the same benefits and protections as the rest of Canadians. Among the very small number who felt otherwise, it was thought that as out-of-status workers had not followed the proper immigration practices, it was unfair to provide them with a pathway to citizenship, especially given the perceived long wait times for those seeking to immigrate to Canada via the official channels.



Capital Gains (Quebec Seniors 65+, Vancouver Renters)

Two groups took part in discussions related to proposed changes from the Government of Canada related to the taxation of capital gains. Provided with information related to recent actions from the federal government aimed at changing how capital gains are taxed, most in the group comprised of seniors residing in Quebec were positive in their views, believing that this would serve as an effective way to generate revenue that could be utilized to fund social programs and assist in addressing the national debt. Among those in the group of renters living in Vancouver, many were more neutral or uncertain in their reactions, with several expecting that this action would have little impact on them personally. A small number expressed concern that these actions by the federal government could potentially have a negative impact on investments and economic activity in Canada going forward.

Discussing who they felt would be most impacted by these proposed changes, several in Quebec believed that it would primarily be those in the middle class as well as individuals who were currently approaching retirement. Among these participants, it was felt that these populations typically placed a large portion of their savings into long-term investments that typically produced significant capital gains and, as a result, could be subject to paying increased taxes upon the eventual sale of these investments. Those in Vancouver expected that these changes would primarily impact only the wealthiest of Canadians, believing that most households did not typically have annual capital gains in excess of \$250,000.

Questioned whether they felt this change was an effective way for the federal government to raise revenues to invest in programs related to housing, dental care, pharmacare, health care, and other areas, most believed that it was. Several, however, were of the opinion that any additional revenues collected as a result of these changes should primarily be directed toward housing, which they viewed as the highest priority at present.

Public Sentiment (Toronto Arab Women)

Participants in the group from Toronto, comprised of women who were members of the Arab diaspora in Canada, shared their perspectives related to life in Canada and the current state of equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout the country. Asked what made them feel optimistic about their futures in Canada, a number mentioned the feeling of safety in their communities as well as the freedom they felt to pursue their own goals and passions. Participants widely viewed Canada as a peaceful country where they could expect to experience far less discrimination compared to other parts of the world. Discussing what made them feel concerned about their futures in Canada, many identified the high cost of living, a perceived lack of affordable housing, and what they viewed as a growing lack of safety on public transit. A few also worried about what they viewed as increasing rates of criminal behaviour and addiction in their communities.

Asked to describe the state of diversity, equity, and inclusion in Canada, participants were mixed in their opinions. While several felt that Canada had performed better on these fronts compared to most other countries, it was thought there was still room for improvement. A number were of the impression that the level of support for diversity-focused initiatives varied throughout the country,

believing that these values were protected and promoted to a greater extent in major urban centres compared to more rural communities.

Climate Change Impacts (Interior British Columbia)

Participants residing in Interior British Columbia (B.C.) engaged in a discussion about climate change and actions that the Government of Canada was taking to address its impacts. Asked how worried they were about the potential impacts of climate change, all viewed this as major area of concern. Many described what they perceived as a significant increase in uncontrolled wildfires across Canada in recent years, believing this to be an impact of climate change that was already being felt. Others were of the impression that weather patterns had become far less predictable as of late and believed that issues such as extreme heat and drought had begun to negatively impact the ability of farmers to produce food.

All expected that their communities would be at greater risk of experiencing the impacts of climate change in the decades to come. Several recounted instances in recent years where wildfires had come very close to damaging their communities and believed that it was only a matter of time before they would be forced to evacuate. Provided with information related to actions that the Government of Canada was taking to manage wildfires and support communities in preparing for and responding to these events, participants were mostly positive in their reactions. Several viewed the initiative to train 1,000 additional wildland firefighters as being particularly promising.

Asked if they felt the federal government was doing enough to help communities affected by wildfires, a number felt that it was not. Asked what more the federal government could be doing on this front, participants suggested actions such as providing funding to create paid firefighter roles where there are currently volunteer fire services, increasing the recruitment of firefighters from other provinces or countries, and allocating greater investments towards the rebuilding of communities destroyed by wildfires and other extreme weather events.

Clean Energy and Technology (Saskatchewan)

Participants residing in Saskatchewan shared their perspectives related to clean energy and technologies, as well as the investments that the federal government had recently made towards these areas. Informed that the Government of Canada was investing in clean energy and clean technologies as a part of its efforts to decrease emissions, participants were asked what came to mind when they thought of clean energy and clean tech. Several mentioned renewable forms of energy such as solar, wind, and hydroelectricity, while others thought of green technology such as electric vehicles (EVs) and electric scooters. Asked whether they felt the Government of Canada should be making investments towards these areas, all believed that it should.

Discussing the potential benefits of the Government of Canada encouraging investments towards clean energy and clean technology, several expected that this would have a positive impact on reducing emissions and mitigating the impacts of climate change. Questioned whether they thought



that the increased use of clean electricity and clean technology would lead to more, fewer, or have no impact on the risks of power outages, most believed that it would not have much of an impact. A few felt differently, believing that an increased incorporation of clean energy sources into the power grid would likely strengthen its overall capacity and result in a reduced risk of power outages.

Focusing on the potential impact that the development of the clean energy sector could have on Saskatchewan (including for workers in the province), while a few expressed concerns about potential job losses in the oil and gas sector, a greater number believed that it would have an overall positive impact. Among these participants, it was believed that investments towards clean energy would lead to the creation of a large number of well-paying jobs in the sector, providing an overall benefit to the province's economy and the financial wellbeing of its residents.

Electric Vehicle Manufacturing (Golden Horseshoe Region Ontario)

One group, comprised of residents of the Golden Horseshoe region of Ontario, took part in a brief discussion related to the manufacturing of electric vehicles (EVs). Asked whether they felt the Government of Canada was generally headed in the right direction when it came to supporting the automotive industry a larger number were uncertain or neutral in their views compared to those who felt it was on the wrong track. No participants felt that the federal government was on the right track in this regard.

Provided with information related to a recent \$15 billion investment that Honda Canada was making alongside the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario to increase the manufacturing of EVs and EV batteries in the province, most reacted positively and believed that these investments would lead to the creation of many high paying jobs in their area, stimulate the province's manufacturing industry, and benefit the environment due to the increased production of clean technology such as EVs. A few, however, expressed concerns regarding the potential negative environmental impacts of increased EV production, focusing particularly on the raw materials required to be mined in order to manufacture EV batteries as well as the perceived difficulties in recycling these batteries at the end of their lifespans.

Public Transit (Golden Horseshoe Region Ontario)

Participants residing in the Golden Horseshoe Region of Ontario engaged in a discussion regarding the federal government's role in providing public transportation for Canadians. To begin, participants were asked whether they felt investing in public transit should be a priority for the Government of Canada. While most felt that public transportation was an important priority, several were of the impression that this was primarily a provincial and municipal responsibility and did not believe that the federal government should be directly involved in this area. A number expressed the view that while the federal government should provide funding to provincial and municipal governments to support public transportation projects, they did not feel it should be directly involved in the creation, development, or construction of these systems.

Asked to describe what they felt were the most important objectives for the Government of Canada to be focusing on related to public transit, many felt that it should primarily be focused on ensuring that public transportation systems in Canada were environmentally friendly and helping in the fight against climate change. Discussing specific actions that could be taken by the federal government in this regard, participants suggested making efforts to electrify public transit vehicles, assisting public transit agencies in transitioning to clean energy sources, and reducing the overall emissions of public transit systems across Canada.

All reacted positively when provided with information related to the Zero Emission Transit Fund (ZETF) and the Government of Canada's commitment to investing \$2.75 billion over five years to help public transit operators plan for electrification by supporting the acquisition of zero-emissions buses, new charging stations, and facility upgrades. Many expected that this support would assist municipalities with managing the high costs of reducing or eliminating emissions from their public transit systems and would be instrumental in increasing the sustainability of public transportation vehicles and infrastructure in many Canadian communities.

Online Safety (Atlantic Canada Young Women Heavier Media Users)

One group, comprised of young women in Atlantic Canada who identified as heavier media users, took part in a discussion related to online safety and actions that the Government of Canada was taking to combat hateful content and the proliferation of misinformation and disinformation in online spaces. Asked to identify what positive impacts, if any, they felt the internet was having on society today, participants provided a range of responses. These included the ability to connect with family and friends across the world, finding communities and discovering passions, engaging with global issues, accessing information and entertainment through streaming services, and providing a greater number of individuals with the ability to work remotely.

Participants also identified a number of ways in which they felt that the internet had negatively impacted society. These included a perceived reduction in the frequency of individuals engaging in in-person social interactions, negative effects on the social development of children, increased feelings of depression and anxiety due to the prevalence of negative content online, and harmful online behaviours such as cyberbullying and harassment.

All believed that harmful online content was an issue at present. Asked what constituted harmful content, most believed that this term was somewhat subjective and largely dependent on the individual viewing the content. Describing examples of harmful content, participants mentioned violent online videos, behaviours such as "catfishing", and digital scams designed to steal money and/or personal information. Several also expressed concerns regarding content that was designed to evoke extreme or distressing emotions, or which encouraged viewers (and youth especially) to engage in risky behaviours or challenges.

Questioned whether, to the best of their knowledge, there were currently protections in place to keep Canadians safe on the internet, many believed that companies such as Google and Meta had filters

and parental controls available to prevent children from accessing inappropriate content. Many, however, expressed that they were not very confident in the measures that were in place to reduce the exposure of harmful content to Canadians. Asked whether they believed that social media companies were accountable for the impact on users of the harmful content posted on their platforms, all felt that they were. The view was expressed that as profit-driven businesses, platforms should be required to take responsibility for this aspect of their services, particularly regarding how it impacts children's profiles and their exposure to exploitative content.

No participants were aware of any actions or initiatives from the Government of Canada related to online platforms and harmful content. Asked specifically whether they had heard anything related to the *Online Harms Act*, none could recall anything. Provided with information related to this proposed legislation, participants expressed a range of reactions, with a greater number holding more neutral opinions compared to those who reacted positively. Among the smaller number who felt more positively, it was thought that these were the right areas for the Government of Canada to be focusing on, and so long as they were properly implemented, these measures would go a long way towards combatting cyberbullying. For those who were more neutral in their reactions, many questioned whether it would be possible to monitor such a large amount of content.

Provided with additional information related to specific components of the *Online Harms Act*, a large number expressed strong support for these measures, and many believed that these actions should have been put into place years ago. Asked if they had any questions about these aspects of the legislation, a few were curious as to whether reported content would simply be removed or if it would also be subject to further actions, such as fines and penalties. Several questioned what would happen if users failed to remove harmful content, and how platforms would prevent users from re-uploading content that had previously been removed. Discussing whether they expected this legislation would have a positive impact on protecting the online safety of Canadians, most felt that it would, with several believing that it would be especially helpful towards protecting the safety of children online.

Discussing the five categories of harmful content that social media companies would be required to limit on their platforms, participants were asked whether these were the right areas for the Government of Canada to be focusing on. While all believed that these were important areas, several thought that greater clarity would be needed regarding the definition of terms such as 'violence' and 'hatred' under this legislation. Some were of the opinion that this approach was too broad and believed there needed to be a more precise explanation of what 'reducing exposure' entailed. Asked whether there were any other types of harmful content that they felt needed to be addressed, a number believed that a greater focus should be placed on reducing the prevalence of online scams and fraud.

Sharing their reactions to measures that had been proposed specifically aimed at protecting children from harmful content online, most felt that this approach was appropriate and that the Government of Canada was on the right track with these actions. Discussing additional actions that could be taken, many expressed the need for increased education and knowledge about these issues to be integrated into K-12 education to better protect children. Some suggested that greater education for parents



would also be beneficial, given that parents were the ones primarily responsible for their children's safety.

Participants were informed that this legislation would also lead to the creation of a Digital Safety Commission to enforce these rules and hold platforms accountable to remove the harmful content posted by their users. Most believed that the establishment of this Digital Safety Commission would be ineffective towards addressing harmful content online, feeling it would be impossible for any regulatory body to monitor the entirety of the internet. Several also expressed concerns regarding the potential for individual biases on the part of those working for this Commission to unfairly impact what types of content was deemed harmful under this legislation.

Provided with a definition for 'hate speech' under this legislation, many expressed feeling that it was somewhat unclear. Concerns were raised by several that this definition could potentially lead to ambiguity, reiterating the subjective nature of what is classified as 'hate speech'. Asked if the Government of Canada should include hate speech in this legislation, all believed that it should. A few, however, expressed the belief that while no one should be subjected to hate, it was important that Canadians continue to be able to freely express themselves online and that for this legislation to be effective, there needed to be clearer definitions in place regarding what constitutes hate speech.

Supplemented Foods Concept Testing (Northern Ontario, Quebec City, Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples)

Three groups shared their perspectives regarding social media concepts designed by the Government of Canada to highlight information related to supplemented foods.

Participants were presented with two different concepts, first one after the other, and then side by side, and were informed that these posts were designed specifically for adults over the age of 51, students, and those who are physically active. Reactions to these concepts were mixed among participants. A number reported feeling initially more drawn to the second post, perceiving it to be less targeted to specific groups and more applicable to the general public. Few, however, felt that either of these concepts were very captivating, with some expressing the opinion that the concept featuring the energy drink more resembled an advertisement than an informational message from the Government of Canada.

Asked what they liked about the concepts, many appreciated that the concepts included a link to more information, believing this was important to include for those wishing to learn more. Several also spoke positively of the content related to minerals and supplements, viewing this as new information that would likely be relevant to a large number of Canadians. Discussing ways in which these concepts could be improved, several felt that these posts could do more to stand out and capture the attention of the reader, while others thought that this information should also be disseminated on other platforms (such as television, radio, and on physical spaces) in order to reach more individuals.



Questioned specifically whether they would notice these posts, only a small number expected that they would. For those who felt that these concepts could be more visually remarkable, participants suggested changes to how the information is formatted, such as breaking up long-form text with bullet points and using more direct language to make the messages more succinct and digestible. A number also felt that these concepts would benefit from the incorporation of more dynamic and eye-catching imagery. Asked if seeing these posts would motivate participants to do anything, several commented that they would likely click on the link to find out more information. All participants felt that the messaging of these concepts was clear, with a number describing feeling surprised regarding the potential negative consequences of consuming supplemented foods.

Participants were also presented with a series of additional social media messages that could potentially accompany the graphics they had previously been shown. Many participants reiterated the importance of this messaging, and several appreciated that certain messages were targeted to different groups. Among these participants, it was felt that given the diversity of Canada's population, a range of different communication styles and approaches would be necessary in order for this information to be resonant. A number suggested condensing the information in these statements to make them more digestible for social media users who were accustomed to consuming small pieces of content at a time.

Community Challenges (Interior British Columbia, Estrie Region Quebec, Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora)

Three groups, comprised of participants residing in Interior B.C., the Estrie region of Quebec, and Calgary and Edmonton, respectively, took part in conversations related to their local communities. Asked to identify the top issues facing their communities that required greater prioritization from the federal government, participants in all groups mentioned concerns related to housing, health care, and the cost of living.

Questioned whether they had seen, read, or heard anything as of late related to the Government of Canada and infrastructure in their region, few could recall anything. While a number were aware of recent projects to improve local infrastructure such as roadways, bridges, and schools, most expressed uncertainty as to whether these had been financed by the federal government. Discussing the types of local infrastructure projects that they felt would be most important to their region, many believed that more needed to be done to expand public transportation services in their areas. Additionally, a number felt that more should be done to increase the number of walkways and bike lanes in their communities, create more public spaces such as parks, community gardens, and sports fields, and provide residents with additional health care resources such as hospitals, walk-in clinics, and long-term care facilities.

Describing what they viewed as the most important industries and sectors to their communities, participants provided a range of responses. Those residing in Calgary and Edmonton felt that oil and gas, health care, construction, and the machinery manufacturing industries were the most significant in their area, while participants in the Estrie region mentioned mining, agriculture, energy production,



education, tourism, and health care as key economic drivers in their community. Participants in the group based in Interior B.C. identified sectors such as logging, forestry, tourism, agriculture, and the hotel industry as being important to their region.

Participants in all groups viewed labour shortages as being an issue in their communities. Prompted to identify the specific industries that they felt had been most impacted by these shortages, participants mentioned sectors such as agriculture, child care, restaurants and hospitality, education, health care, and construction. Discussing the factors that they felt had contributed to the labour shortages in their respective communities, many believed that employers in many cases were not offering to pay their workers a living wage, and as such, the jobs on offer were not desirable for prospective workers. Additionally, a number were of the impression that many of the jobs available were either part-time or seasonal and did not provide the full-time work that most individuals were looking for.

MORE INFORMATION

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Detailed Findings

Timeline of June 2024 Announcements

To help place the focus group discussions within the context of key events which occurred during the reporting cycle, below is a brief synopsis for the month of June 2024.

- June 1-7
 - June 3. The Government of Canada announced that it would be providing up to \$59 million to the Integrated Youth Services Network of Networks (IYS-Net) initiative to link together a web of provincial, territorial, and Indigenous networks with the aim of creating a learning health system, where research evidence, data, and the lived experiences of youth are used to inform processes, policies, and practices to improve services.
 - [Focus group was held with the general population in the Golden Horseshoe Region of Ontario \(June 4\).](#)
 - June 5. The Government of Canada announced an updated strategy to combat climate change through the Greening Government Strategy, with the aim of reducing emissions from the federal government's real property and conventional fleet operations by 40 per cent by 2025 and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.
 - [Focus group was held with the general population in Saskatchewan \(June 5\).](#)
 - June 6. The Government of Canada launched a new \$1.5 billion program with the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada to build a new generation of co-op housing and to help make housing more affordable for Canadians.
 - June 6. The Government of Canada introduced Bill C-72, the *Connected Care for Canadians Act*, aimed at enabling Canadians to securely access their own health data, empowering patients' decision-making, and improving the care they receive from health providers in Canada.
 - [Focus group was held with young women aged 18-34 who reported being heavier media users in Atlantic Canada \(June 6\).](#)
- June 8-14
 - June 8. The Government of Canada launched *Changing Systems, Transforming Lives: Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy 2024–2028*, a new anti-racism strategy seeking to establish a community-driven framework and a more holistic approach to tackling systemic racism and discrimination in Canada.
 - [Focus group was held with the Southeast Asian diaspora in Calgary and Edmonton \(June 11\).](#)
 - June 12. The Government of Canada announced that the first four of 50 new Armoured Combat Support Vehicles (ACSVs) built by Canadian workers for donation to Ukraine's Armed Forces would soon be departing for Europe.
 - [Focus group was held with the general population in the Estrie region of Quebec \(June 12\).](#)
 - June 13. The Government of Canada announced that it would be imposing additional sanctions on Russia under the *Special Economic Measures (Russia) Regulations* in coordination with Canada's international partners in the Group of Seven (G7). The

- sanctions targeted many individuals and entities implicated in disinformation and propaganda operations, including those identified by Rapid Response Mechanism Canada.
- June 13. The Government of Canada announced its intent to expand early pension eligibility for frontline safety and security workers as part of its commitment supporting public servants entrusted with protecting the safety and security of Canadians.
 - [Focus group was held with the general population in Interior British Columbia \(June 13\).](#)
 - June 15-21
 - June 17. The Government of Canada announced the launch of a consultation on a new spectrum policy as a first step toward enabling service providers to start using commercial mobile spectrum to expand wireless services via satellites.
 - [Focus group was held with Arab women aged 35-54 in Toronto \(June 18\).](#)
 - [Focus group was held with Quebec seniors aged 65+ \(June 19\).](#)
 - June 20. The Government of Canada announced that Bill C-50, *the Canadian Sustainable Jobs Act*, had received royal assent, enacting legislation aimed at fostering the creation of sustainable jobs, and supporting industries and communities in every region across Canada.
 - June 20. The Government of Canada announced that Bill C-69, the *Budget Implementation Act, 2024, No. 1*, had received royal assent, changing the legislation of the Canada Labour Code to include better protection for gig workers and the right to disconnect.
 - June 20. The Government of Canada announced that Bill C-59, the *Fall Economic Statement Implementation Act, 2023*, had received royal assent, delivering on key measures from the 2023 Fall Economic Statement to help make life cost less, build more homes, and ensure economic growth is shared by all Canadians.
 - [Focus group was held with renters in Vancouver \(June 20\).](#)
 - June 21. The Government of Canada announced the passing into law of the first four Clean Economy Investment Tax Credits: the Clean Technology ITC, the Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS) ITC, the Clean Technology Manufacturing ITC, and the Clean Hydrogen ITC.
 - June 22-30
 - June 24. The Joint Chiefs of Global Tax Enforcement (J5) released an advisory note to financial institutions, entitled *Crypto Assets Risk Indicators*, highlighting how cryptocurrency asset layering, geographic locations, high-risk counterparties, unknown or obscured transaction recipients, and certain online behaviors may indicate criminal activity.
 - [Focus group was held with the general population in Northern Ontario \(June 25\).](#)
 - June 26. The Government of Canada launched a public consultation on artificial intelligence (AI) computing infrastructure aimed at informing the development and implementation of measures related to Budget 2024's \$2 billion investment to boost Canada's sovereign AI data processing capacity.
 - [Focus group was held with the general population in Quebec City \(June 26\).](#)
 - June 27. The Government of Canada imposed a second round of sanctions on perpetrators of extremist settler violence against civilians in West Bank. This round of sanctions listed seven individuals and five entities who had facilitated, supported, or

financially contributed to acts of violence by Israeli extremist settlers against Palestinian civilians and their property.

- [Focus group was held with Indigenous peoples in Winnipeg \(June 27\).](#)
- June 28. The Government of Canada launched a consultation concerning the right to repair to better meet the needs of Canadian consumers.

Government of Canada in the News (All Locations)

Participants in all groups were asked to share what they had seen, read, or heard about the Government of Canada in recent days. A range of announcements and initiatives were recalled, including:

- The decision by the Bank of Canada on June 5th, 2024, to lower its policy interest rate to 4.75 per cent;
- The tabling of a report by the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICOP) that had found that numerous members of Parliament had wittingly assisted foreign state actors soon after being elected;
- The announcement by the federal government of a national pharmacare program, the initial phase of which would cover the costs of diabetes medications such as insulin as well as contraceptives for Canadians;
- A proposal by the Government of Canada to increase the capital gains inclusion rate (also referred to as the capital gains tax) on the portion of capital gains realized annually that are in excess of \$250,000 for individuals;
- Actions taken by the Government of Canada related to making housing more affordable for Canadians, including initiatives to provide financial assistance to municipalities through the Housing Accelerator Fund to expedite the building of more affordable homes;
- An announcement by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) that it would be moving to the next phase of debt recovery in terms of collecting individual overpayments for benefit programs related to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) and the Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit (CWLDB). It was announced that, beginning in July 2024, individuals who had not responded or co-operated with the CRA on this front, and who had been determined to have the financial capacity to pay, would be issued legal warnings and that legal measures could be taken to recover monies owed;
- The announcement that Bill C-59 (*An Act to Implement Certain Provisions to the Fall Economic Statement*) had received royal assent, successfully removing goods and services tax (GST) and harmonized sales tax (HST) on counselling therapy and psychotherapy services in provinces/territories where this profession is regulated; and
- The announcement by Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) that, beginning in 2024, the federal government would be setting an intake cap on international student study permit applications for a period of two years



Participants residing in the Estrie region of Quebec were asked whether had heard anything about the Government of Canada and dental care. A large number indicated that they had, with several recalling the announcement of the Canada Dental Care Plan (CDCP). While all reacted positively to this measure, a number expressed uncertainty as to whether this initiative provided universal coverage for dental expenses or whether Canadians would be required to pay a portion of the costs themselves. A few were of the impression that eligibility for this plan was currently only available to households under a certain income threshold, and/or to specific groups such as seniors and children.

News Consumption (Atlantic Canada Younger Woman Heavier Social Media Users, Calgary and Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora, Quebec Seniors, Toronto Arab Women)

Participants in four groups engaged in an additional discussion related to their news consumption habits and the sources they typically use to receive news. At the outset of their conversation, participants in the group comprised of young women residing in Atlantic Canada who identified as heavier social media users, were asked how much time each day they typically spent reading, watching, or listening to the news. While estimates of daily news consumption ranged from approximately 30 minutes to 2-3 hours, some mentioned that they had been consuming less news in recent months, with a few specifically citing the removal of news from Meta's Facebook and Instagram platforms as a reason for this.

All groups were asked to identify the primary sources they use to receive their news. Many mentioned television channels such as CBC, CTV, Global News, BBC, and CNN, radio stations such as CBC Radio, Radio Canada and local channels, and legacy news outlets such as the Globe and Mail, La Presse, the New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Guardian. Several also mentioned social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and LinkedIn, as well as other digital platforms such as Google News. Asked whether they felt some news sources were more reliable than others, while a number believed that most television, radio, and legacy news outlets were quite trustworthy, many thought that news found on social media (and in particular on platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and TikTok) should be taken with some degree of skepticism and should be verified using other official sources.

Participants in the groups comprised of Arab women residing in Toronto and members of the Southeast Asian diaspora in Calgary and Edmonton, were asked whether they ever sought out news in languages other than English. A number in the group comprised of Arab women reported accessing news from Al Jazeera, often in Arabic, while members of the Southeast Asian diaspora recalled seeking out foreign-language news sources based in countries such as Singapore, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

Those in the group of seniors (aged 65 and over) residing in Quebec were asked whether they ever utilized local news sources based in their respective communities and/or regions. Only a small number indicated that they did, with a few mentioning receiving a local newspaper each week, listening to local



radio channels, and/or following their municipal governments on platforms such as Facebook. Asked whether they felt local news issues received too much, too little, or the right amount of coverage in their respective communities, most felt that not enough attention was currently being devoted to this area. A number were of the impression that even news outlets that were based locally were covering national and global issues to a far greater extent than they had in the past and believed that there had been an increasingly diminished focus on local news in recent years.

Discussing where they would likely go to find information and news related to the Government of Canada, most in the groups comprised of Quebec seniors and Arab women in Toronto expected that they would likely rely on official websites run by the federal government, as well as specific agencies such as the CRA and Service Canada. A few also mentioned that they would often use search engines such as Google to find information related to specific federal programs or supports that they were interested in and would verify any information they encountered using websites directly operated by the Government of Canada.

Research and Innovation (Golden Horseshoe Region Ontario)

Participants residing in the Golden Horseshoe region of Ontario were asked a few additional questions related to research and innovation. Asked whether they had seen, read, or heard about any actions from the federal government on this front, a few recalled hearing about a \$5 billion joint investment it had made (along with the Government of Ontario) towards the building of a new electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing plant in Alliston, Ontario that had been announced by the Honda Motor Company as part of its \$15 billion investment towards EV manufacturing in Canada. To aid in conversation, participants were provided with the following information:

The Government of Canada has announced funding of more than \$800 million that will support 24 organizations. The funding was awarded through a new competitive, merit-based and transparent process, informed by the advice of an independent expert review panel.

These 24 organizations span Canada's science and research landscape and are making contributions in a range of crucial areas including:

- *Researching and developing health care solutions;*
- *Encouraging innovations in aging and brain health;*
- *Supporting Indigenous inclusion and research;*
- *Addressing climate change;*
- *Supporting Arctic science and research;*
- *Making advancements in emerging technologies such as quantum computing and artificial intelligence;*
- *Promoting science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education among young people; and*
- *Facilitating learning and training opportunities for post-secondary students.*

On balance, participants reacted positively to these initiatives and believed that these were important areas for the Government of Canada to be supporting. Several, however, expected that the \$800 million amount would not be enough to sufficiently address all of these priority areas. A number questioned how this funding would be allocated across the 24 organizations and whether some would receive more than others. Asked whether they felt the federal government was headed in the right direction by focusing on these priority areas, while most did, a number believed that the success of these initiatives would ultimately depend on how the findings of this research were implemented. The view was expressed by some that investments towards certain areas, such as addressing climate change, facilitating learning and training opportunities for post-secondary students, and supporting Indigenous inclusion and research would be critical to the long-term success of Canada's research goals going forward.

Government of Canada Priorities and Performance (Golden Horseshoe Region Ontario, Saskatchewan, Calgary and Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora, Estrie Region Quebec, Interior British Columbia, Quebec Seniors, Vancouver Renters, Toronto Arab Women, Northern Ontario, Quebec City, Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples)

Eleven groups engaged in discussions related to the issues currently facing Canadians as well as their perspectives regarding the federal government's management of these priorities. Participants were asked to identify areas in which they felt the Government of Canada was performing well and areas where they felt there was room for improvement. On a number of issues participants expressed a range of positive and negative views. These included:

- Health care – Several spoke positively of the relative affordability of health care in Canada, as well as the recent introduction of initiatives such as the Canada Dental Care Plan (CDCP), and a national pharmacare plan. A few also thought that Health Canada had performed well as of late in providing Canadians with health-related resources and information, especially during emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Many, however, also identified a range of perceived challenges currently impacting health care in Canada. These included perceived long wait times for primary and emergency care, shortages of doctors and nurses in many parts of the country, and challenges related to finding a family doctor in their community. A number were of the opinion that greater investments needed to be made towards mental health care and believed that a growing number of Canadians were facing challenges on this front;

- Immigration – While most were generally supportive of immigration and believed that immigrants provided valuable economic and social contributions to Canada, many felt that greater efforts needed to be taken by the federal government to ensure that the current level of immigration was manageable. Several were of the impression that Canada was currently taking in too many new immigrants, and that this had placed increased strain on the availability of affordable housing, the employment market, and on vital services such as health care and education. Among these participants, it was felt that actions should be taken to curb the rate of immigration and ensure that the needs of those already living in Canada were being met prior to bringing in more newcomers. A few also believed that more needed to be done to expedite the foreign credential recognition process, allowing newcomers to work in their fields of expertise immediately upon their arrival; and
- Climate change – A number felt that the federal government had placed a prominent focus on taking action to mitigate the potential impacts of climate change. It was believed that it had taken numerous steps in recent years to better protect and conserve Canada’s natural resources, including working to protect food sources such as fishing stocks, and introducing measures to assist in preserving the country’s ecosystems and environments. Some, however, felt that the federal government had not been urgent enough in its actions on this front, especially given the perceived existential threat they believed climate change posed to future generations.

Participants also mentioned a number of areas where they felt that the Government of Canada had performed well, including:

- Supports for Canadians – Many believed that the federal government had performed well in providing a wide range of benefits and supports for Canadians. Programs and initiatives mentioned by participants included Employment Insurance (EI), maternity leave, the Canada Child Benefit (CCB), the goods and services tax/harmonized sales tax (GST/HST) credit, and supports for seniors such as the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Old Age Security (OAS);
- Diversity and multiculturalism – Several felt that the Government of Canada had been effective in protecting and promoting diversity and multiculturalism in all parts of the country. It was thought that the federal government had placed a strong focus on providing support to vulnerable groups such as women, low-income Canadians, racialized individuals, and the 2SLGBTQI+ community;
- Online Services – A number spoke positively of the online services provided by the federal government, with some specifically mentioning improvements to the CRA’s website in recent years; and
- Humanitarian assistance – It was felt that the Government of Canada had provided considerable support to those facing challenges in other parts of the world. A number mentioned the assistance that it had provided to individuals seeking safe haven from conflicts such as those in Ukraine and the Middle East, as well as what they viewed as its ongoing efforts to defend and uphold human rights on the global stage.

Additionally, participants identified a range of areas in which they believed the Government of Canada had room for improvement. These included:

- Cost of living- Several believed that more needed to be done by the federal government to address what they viewed as the high cost of living at present. It was felt that a greater focus needed to be placed on making life more affordable for Canadians and that action needed to be taken to help reduce the costs of essentials, such as groceries and gasoline. A number expressed the opinion that the federal government needed to reduce its spending, believing that increasing deficits in recent years had contributed to rising inflation;
- Housing affordability – A large number identified housing as a major area of concern. It was widely believed that housing had become increasingly less affordable for both homeowners and renters alike and that more needed to be done to ensure that all Canadians had access to safe and affordable housing. Some believed that a lack of available housing had contributed to a rise in homelessness and addiction, with a number describing these issues as having become increasingly visible in their communities in recent years. A few expressed concerns regarding the impact a lack of affordable housing would have on future generations, believing that it would become prohibitively expensive for most younger Canadians to purchase a home if action was not taken to address this issue;
- Education – It was thought that increased investments needed to be made by the federal government towards education at the primary and secondary level. A number were of the impression that primary and secondary schools had become overcrowded in many parts of the country and that there were not enough teachers available to meet the needs of Canada’s growing population. It was thought that action needed to be taken to build new schools and to encourage individuals to consider teaching as a career path, including by making post-secondary education more affordable for prospective teachers;
- Reconciliation – A number of participants, including many in the group comprised of Indigenous peoples residing in Winnipeg, believed that a greater focus needed to be placed on reconciliation and improving the quality of life for Indigenous communities. Specifically, a number felt that more urgent action needed to be taken to ensure that all Indigenous communities had access to basic necessities such as clean drinking water, affordable housing, nutritious food, and the same level of access to federal services as the rest of Canadians; and
- Public Safety – Some felt that an increased emphasis needed to be placed on public safety, with a number describing feeling less safe in their respective communities as of late. A few thought that further actions should be taken by the federal government to reform the bail system, including making the conditions for bail stricter and increasing the penalties for those who re-offend while out on bail.

Asked to identify what they viewed as the most important priorities for the federal government to be focusing on, many reiterated the need for a greater emphasis to be placed on addressing the cost of living, including reducing the costs of groceries and housing. A number also felt that more needed to be done related to immigration, including taking steps to ensure that communities had sufficient resources and infrastructure available to accommodate a rising population. Several also mentioned health care, emphasizing the need to address perceived health shortages of doctors and nurses and

long wait times for emergency and primary care. Other priority areas identified by participants included climate change and the environment, making post-secondary education more affordable, providing increased supports for seniors, building and repairing vital infrastructure such as highways and bridges, and the need for greater investments towards national security and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF).

Cost of Living (Saskatchewan)

Participants residing in Saskatchewan were asked a few additional questions related to the cost of living. Prompted to identify what they viewed as the biggest challenges related to the cost of living that the Government of Canada should be prioritizing, many believed that a greater focus needed to be placed on increasing the affordability of necessities such as groceries and housing. A few also felt that further efforts needed to be taken by the federal government to increase wages for Canadians. Among these participants, it was believed that the rate of inflation had significantly outpaced wage growth in recent years and that this had served to reduce the purchasing power of many Canadian households. None felt the Government of Canada was headed in the right direction when it came to addressing the cost of living and all felt that this issue had worsened in recent years.

Asked whether they were aware of any actions from the Government of Canada related to addressing the cost of living, participants recalled initiatives such as the provision of a one-time \$500 top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit for lower-income renters, and the one-time Grocery Rebate provided to eligible Canadians as a part of their quarterly goods and services tax/harmonized sales tax (GST/HST) credit payment in July 2023. A few also recalled the announcement of the Canada Disability Benefit (CDB) which they viewed as being aimed at making life more affordable for persons living with disabilities. Questioned whether they could recall any actions from the federal government specifically related to increasing the affordability of housing, a few mentioned the introduction of the First Home Savings Account (FHSA).

Questioned how important they felt it was for the federal government to be focused on increasing the affordability of telecommunications (such as mobile phone costs and home internet services), many viewed this as an important priority area. A number were of the impression that Canadians currently paid among the highest rates in the world for mobile phone and internet services and believed that efforts needed to be taken to make these services more affordable for Canadians. A few felt that some progress had already been made by the Government of Canada on this front and were of the impression that mobile and internet costs had gone down in recent years.

Agriculture (Saskatchewan)

The group based in Saskatchewan also engaged in a brief conversation related to agriculture and actions that the Government of Canada had taken to support this sector. Asked how big of a priority they felt the agriculture sector should be for the federal government, almost all viewed it as a major area for it to be focusing on. It was widely felt that there needed to be an increased focus on recruiting and incentivizing younger Canadians to pursue careers in agriculture, with some believing



that the sector was currently experiencing labour shortages in many parts of the country. A number viewed agriculture as being a critical part of Saskatchewan's economy and thought that additional support for this sector from the federal government would have a positive impact on the province as a whole. Asked whether they were aware of any actions from the federal government related to supporting the agricultural sector, while a small number were of the impression that it had placed a priority on streamlining the immigration process for temporary foreign agricultural workers, no other initiatives could be recalled.

Discussing the degree to which they felt climate change was impacting the agriculture sector and the ability of farmers to produce food, several believed that it was having a significant impact, especially in terms of the effects of extreme weather events such as wildfires, flooding, and droughts. A smaller number felt somewhat differently, believing that while climate change might be having some impact, it had not led to a noticeable decrease in agricultural production in their region. Asked how climate change could potentially impact the cost of living, several expected that as food became increasingly difficult to produce, it would ultimately lead to higher grocery costs for consumers. Questioned whether they could recall any efforts that the Government of Canada had taken related to addressing climate change, several mentioned the implementation of a federal price on carbon, as well as its encouragements to Canadians to decrease their household emissions and use more energy efficient technology where possible.

Reconciliation (Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples)

One group, comprised of Indigenous peoples residing in urban centres in the Prairies, shared their perspectives related to the Government of Canada's progress on reconciliation. Asked to identify what they viewed as the top issues facing Indigenous peoples that the federal government needed to be prioritizing, several felt that greater efforts needed to be taken to ensure that all Indigenous communities had access to clean drinking water, affordable and nutritious food, and essential services such as health care and education. It was also thought that increased resources needed to be devoted towards investigating the disappearances of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) as well as ensuring that existing treaties between the federal government and individual Indigenous nations were being properly upheld. Asked whether there were any issues facing Indigenous people residing in Winnipeg more specifically that they felt required additional attention, a number mentioned what they viewed as rising rates of Indigenous homelessness and addiction in their community.

Questioned whether they felt reconciliation was a priority for the federal government, while a number believed that it was, most did not feel that the prioritization of this issue had led to any tangible improvements in the quality of life for Indigenous peoples and communities. It was widely thought that while it was important for the Government of Canada to be highlighting Indigenous issues and histories, these efforts needed to be accompanied by clear and measurable actions to better the lives of Indigenous peoples. Several once again mentioned clean drinking water as an example in this regard, commenting that while this issue had received considerable attention from the federal

government in recent years, many Indigenous communities (and especially those in the North) continued to be without a reliable source of potable water.

Identifying additional areas that they felt the federal government should be prioritizing when it came to better supporting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, a large number felt that more needed to be done to provide mental health support to these communities, and especially those suffering from intergenerational trauma stemming from the historical residential school program. Asked how the Government of Canada could better respond to the needs of Indigenous peoples living in urban areas, several believed that there needed to be more frequent engagement between federal officials and Indigenous leaders and elders. It was felt that these engagements could be used to identify and establish key goals and priority areas that could be worked on to improve the quality of life for Indigenous peoples and their communities.

Asked how they would go about measuring the federal government's progress on reconciliation, a range of metrics were proposed. A number felt that a key focus should be placed on ensuring that Indigenous peoples had the same access to educational and employment opportunities as the rest of Canadians, believing that this would mark a significant step towards achieving reconciliation. Some also suggested tracking and regularly reporting on key statistics (such as the rate of Indigenous home ownership) to ensure that tangible progress was being made on these fronts. Related to this, a number emphasized the importance for the federal government to provide clear and transparent documentation of all the actions it was taking related to reconciliation, with some of the opinion that progress on these fronts would likely be incremental and only become evident over a long period of time.

Southeast Asian Canadians (Calgary and Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora)

The group composed of members of the Southeast Asian diaspora residing in Calgary and Edmonton shared their perspectives on what they viewed as the most important issues facing Southeast Asian Canadians at present. Asked to identify what they felt to be the top issues impacting their diaspora that required further prioritization from the federal government, participants mentioned a range of concerns. These included challenges faced by immigrants from Southeast Asia in having their professional and educational credentials recognized, difficulties in learning and conversing in English, and not feeling welcomed by others in their communities.

Asked whether the Government of Canada should be prioritizing its relationships with Southeast Asian countries (such as Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, and the Philippines), many felt that it should. A number were of the opinion that, given the perceived growing proportion of Canadian residents who were immigrants from Southeast Asia, it was increasingly important for the federal government to have strong relationships with the region. Questioned whether they were aware of any actions from the federal government on this front, none indicated that they were.

Discussing whether they believed the federal government was headed in the right direction in its efforts to engage with Southeast Asian Canadians, several expressed uncertainty and felt that they did not know about its efforts on this front to provide a proper evaluation. Focusing on actions that the



Government of Canada could take to improve its engagement with the Southeast Asian diaspora, participants mentioned actions such as a greater inclusion of Southeast Asian countries and peoples during Asian Heritage Month, as well as placing an increased focus on educating Canadians about the region's unique histories and cultures.

Arab Canadians (Toronto Arab Women)

One group, comprised of Arab Women residing in Toronto, shared their perspectives regarding issues impacting Arab Canadians as well as the Government of Canada's international relations with Arab majority countries.

Asked to identify the top issues impacting Arab Canadians that they felt required greater prioritization from the federal government, participants mentioned a range of areas. In addition to issues that were believed to be impacting most Canadians (such as the high cost of living, a lack of affordable housing, and challenges related to accessing health care) many shared concerns regarding what they perceived as rising rates of Islamophobia as of late. The view was expressed by several that anti-Arab sentiment had become more prominent in Canada following the October 7th, 2023, attacks perpetrated by the Hamas terrorist organization against Israel, and that this issue had continued to increase in the months that had followed. A number felt that more needed to be done by the Government of Canada to stand up for the rights and safety of Palestinian civilians, who they felt were facing an increasingly perilous situation amidst the ongoing hostilities between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. Questioned whether they were aware of any actions by the federal government to address these concerns, while some number mentioned the efforts it had taken to provide safe haven to those fleeing conflicts in Arab majority jurisdictions (such as Syria, Afghanistan, and the Palestinian territories), few could recall anything else. Most felt that the Government of Canada was on the wrong track on this front and believed that more needed to be done to protect and promote the rights and safety of members of the Arab diaspora in Canada.

Discussing the Government of Canada's management of its international relations with Arab-majority countries, most felt that it was headed in the wrong direction on this front. Many were of the opinion that Arab countries were frequently treated differently by the federal government compared to countries in other parts of the world and believed that immigrants from these countries were often subjected to a greater level of mistrust and discrimination. Asked whether they had seen, read, or heard anything as of late concerning the Government of Canada's relations with Arab-majority countries, few had. Discussing actions that the federal government could take to improve its engagement with Arab Canadians, several suggested the need for increased outreach to Arab communities and organizations within Canada. It was felt that this would provide members of the Arab diaspora a greater opportunity to share their perspectives and provide feedback as to how they felt life could be improved for Arab Canadians going forward.

Seniors (Quebec Seniors)

Participants in the group comprised of seniors aged 65+ in Quebec engaged in a discussion related to the issues currently impacting seniors in Canada. Asked to identify what they viewed as the top challenges facing working seniors at present, participants provided a range of responses. A number mentioned the increasing physical limitations that seniors face as they age and felt that this had made it more difficult for them to engage in physical work and had placed them at a disadvantage in the workforce compared to younger workers. A few also believed that seniors were often unfairly perceived as being less capable of learning new processes and technologies and that this had contributed to them receiving fewer employment opportunities relative to other generations. Asked whether they viewed the perceived high cost of living at present as a challenge for seniors, several believed that it was. A number were of the impression that, as a result of the high cost of living, an increasing proportion of seniors were now finding it necessary to work on at least a part-time basis in order to supplement the income they had saved for retirement.

Questioned whether they were aware of any recent actions that the Government of Canada had taken to address the rising cost of living for seniors, few reported that they were. Among those who could recall something, participants mentioned subsidies that they believed the federal government had provided for transportation (such as BIXI bikes) in Sherbrooke, as well as increased benefits and supports for seniors (though no specific initiatives were recalled by name). Asked whether they felt the Government of Canada was on the right track when it came to addressing the cost of living, most believed that it was. Among these participants, the view was expressed that while the cost of living remained high, they felt the federal government was aware of the issue and had taken numerous steps as of late to help to make life more affordable for Canadians. For those who were more uncertain or viewed the Government of Canada as being headed in the wrong direction on this front, it was thought that the actions taken thus far to address this issue had been insufficient and that far more would need to be done make the cost of living more manageable for Canadian households going forward.

Almost all reported having had to re-evaluate their retirement plans to at least some extent due to the high cost of living at present. Several commented that they had found it necessary to continue working to afford their desired lifestyle, including the ability to go on vacation as well as engage in the hobbies and pastimes they enjoyed. A number described having been compelled to make lifestyle changes due to the high cost of living, such as moving to a different location, which they felt had further complicated their retirement plans.

Asked how important, if at all, they felt government programs such as Old Age Security (OAS), and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) were to making their lives more affordable, all believed that these supports had made a positive impact on their financial wellbeing. Many expressed feeling that these programs had provided them with additional financial security and had helped them in affording the cost of living. Questioned whether they were aware of any recent work that the Government of Canada had undertaken related to these programs, none reported having heard anything. To aid in discussion, participants were provided with the following information:



OAS and GIS benefits are adjusted each year to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index to ensure that they keep up with the cost of living. OAS and GIS benefits are reviewed in January, April, July and October.

Though all reported having been aware that OAS and GIS benefits were adjusted each year to keep pace with the cost living, many were surprised to hear that these amounts were reviewed four times per year. All believed that this was an important action for the Government of Canada to be taking and felt that this would make it easier for seniors to adjust to higher rates of inflation. A few, however, expressed the opinion that even with more frequent reviews to OAS and GIS benefits, the amounts provided to seniors would likely not be enough to keep pace with rising costs, such as those for groceries and home renovation projects. Participants were next informed of recent changes to these programs:

As of July 2022, seniors who are 75 years old or older will receive an automatic 10 per cent increase of their Old Age Security pension.

While all reacted positively to increasing the amounts paid through OAS pensions, many questioned why the increase was set at 10 per cent and why this measure only applied to seniors 75 years old or older. Some felt that the increase should be applied to all seniors and believed that the increase needed to be higher than ten per cent, especially given the rising cost of living as of late.

Discussing whether the Government of Canada was headed in the right direction when it came to engaging with seniors, almost all felt that it was not. Many were of the opinion that there had been a lack of effective communication and consultation between the federal government and the seniors' community and believed that more needed to be done to establish meaningful dialogues on this front. Participants provided a number of suggestions as to how this relationship could be improved. These included establishing local seniors' representatives with whom official consultations could be organized, distributing informational bulletins regarding actions and initiatives related to seniors, and providing a contact number that seniors could use to obtain information and share their views with the federal government.

Housing (Golden Horseshoe Region Ontario, Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario, Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples)

Four groups took part in conversations related to housing. Those residing in the Golden Horseshoe region of Ontario, Northern Ontario, and Vancouver shared their perspectives regarding a range of housing initiatives recently announced by the federal government, while participants in the group comprised of Indigenous peoples residing in Winnipeg discussed potential actions that could be taken to improve the affordability and availability of housing for Indigenous peoples and communities.



At the outset of their conversations, participants in the groups comprised of renters in Vancouver and individuals living in Northern Ontario were asked how they would describe the current housing situation in their communities. Almost all perceived housing as having become increasingly unaffordable (both to purchase and to rent) in recent years and believed that there was not nearly enough available housing to meet the current level of demand in their areas. Several were of the impression that it had become very difficult for first-time home buyers to enter the housing market and believed that this would have a negative impact on the future financial prospects of younger generations if action was not taken to address this issue. All felt that the housing situation in their communities had worsened in recent years. Discussing actions that could be taken to make improvements on this front, several were of the impression that a priority should be placed on the building of higher density housing projects, believing this to be an effective way of increasing the supply of available of housing in a relatively short period of time.

Focusing on issues specifically impacting renters, all in the group comprised of renters living in Vancouver described the rental situation in their community as having become drastically unaffordable. Several felt that increasing demand in recent years combined with issues such as real estate speculation and profit-seeking behaviour from landlords had served to significantly increase the rates paid by Vancouver renters. A number were also of the impression that perceived high development fees in Vancouver had made it more difficult for developers to build new housing units, further exacerbating challenges related to the supply of housing in the area. Discussing potential actions that could be taken to assist renters, participants believed that there should be increased taxation and restrictions for those who purchase residential real estate as an investment. A few also felt that more should be done to stabilize rental costs and further limit the amounts by which landlords can increase rent. It was felt that taking this approach would allow renting to become a more viable, long-term option, and would be especially beneficial for those individuals who did not have plans to purchase a home in the foreseeable future.

Housing Initiatives (Golden Horseshoe Region Ontario, Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario)

Three groups engaged in discussions related to a range of housing measures that had recently been announced by the Government of Canada as part of Budget 2024. Asked whether they were aware of any steps that the federal government had taken as of late to increase the affordability and availability of housing for Canadians, participants recalled a number of initiatives. These included agreements reached with municipalities, supported by the Housing Accelerator Fund, to assist in the building of new affordable housing projects, encouraging lenders to consider on-time rent payments when calculating individuals' credit scores, and extending the ban on foreign purchases of Canadian residential housing by an additional two years.

Informed that the Government of Canada had recently introduced a three-part strategy to address the housing crisis, participants in the groups comprised of renters in Vancouver and those residing in the Golden Horseshoe region of Ontario were shown three sets of initiatives that had been announced and were asked to share their perspectives on each. The first set shown to participants, highlighting some



of the measures the Government of Canada was proposing to assist in the building of more homes, included:

- *Signing 179 Housing Accelerator Fund agreements to date to cut red tape, fast tracking an estimated total of over 750,000 housing units over the next decade;*
- *Using federal lands, such as those used by Canada Post, the Department of National Defense, and federal government office buildings, to build more homes faster;*
- *Helping to get more rental homes built by investing more than \$15 billion through the Apartment Construction Loan Program, which helps builders get the capital they need for new projects;*
- *Changing how homes in Canada are built by investing in technology like prefabricated housing factories and pre-approved home design catalogues; and*
- *Streamlining foreign credential recognition in the construction sector and helping skilled trades workers get more homes built.*

While most reacted positively to these initiatives, several questioned whether they would be enough to make an impact on increasing the housing supply and making housing more affordable for Canadians. A number expressed the view that the estimated total of 750,000 new housing units expected to be built over the next decade via agreements reached under the Housing Accelerator Fund was too low, especially given what they perceived as high rates of immigration to Canada at present. While participants felt that the action to invest \$15 billion in the Apartment Construction Loan Program would have a positive impact on building more rental homes, a number questioned what regulations would be put into place to ensure that these homes remained affordable for lower- and middle-income Canadians. Participants were mixed in their views regarding the federal government's plan to increase its investments into technology such as prefabricated housing factories and pre-approved home design catalogues. It was felt that while this action could help to accelerate the pace at which new homes are being built, the overall quality, safety, and longevity of prefabricated homes was also a concern for several participants.

The second set of initiatives shown to participants, describing some of the actions that the Government of Canada was proposing to make it easier to purchase or rent a home, included:

- *Cracking down on illegal short-term rentals (e.g. Airbnb);*
- *Calling on fintech companies, credit bureaus, and lenders to build the ecosystem that will give renters the option to include their rental payment history in their credit scores, helping renters qualify for a mortgage and better rates;*
- *Creating a Canadian Renters' Bill of Rights to protect renters and provide a clear history of apartment pricing so renters can bargain fairly, crack down on renovictions, and create a nationwide standard lease agreement;*
- *Allowing 30-year mortgages for first-time homebuyers purchasing new builds ;*
- *Extending the ban on foreign homebuyers by two years; and*
- *Restricting the purchase and acquisition of existing single-family homes by very large, corporate investors. The government will consult on how to go about this in the coming months.*



All reacted positively to these initiatives, with many specifically identifying the actions to extend the ban on foreign homebuyers by two years and restrict the purchase and acquisition of existing single-family homes by very large, corporate investors as measures they felt would be particularly effective. A few expressed the view that the ban on foreign homebuyers should be put into place permanently. Participants also spoke positively of the initiative to allow 30-year mortgages for first-time homebuyers purchasing new builds, with a number believing that mortgages of this length should be made available to all prospective homebuyers. While generally supportive of actions to crack down on illegal short-term rentals (such as Airbnb), some questioned how this action would be enforced and what specific regulations would be put into place.

The third set of initiatives, highlighting some of the measures that the Government of Canada was proposing to help those who struggle most with the cost of housing, included:

- *Investing \$1 billion in the Affordable Housing Fund to support non-profit, co-operative, and public housing providers and respond to the needs of those most impacted by the housing crisis;*
- *Creating a Rental Protection Fund to help affordable housing providers buy units and preserve rents at a stable level instead of being turned into luxury condos; and*
- *Increasing funding to support organizations that prevent and reduce homelessness.*

Though believing these measures represented a step in the right direction, many felt that they would only have a minor impact on assisting those who are struggling with the cost of housing. While several reacted positively to the initiative to increase funding to support organizations that prevent and reduce homelessness, a number hoped to see more specific details regarding which organizations would be supported and how much financial support would be provided. A number believed that homelessness had become an increasing issue in their communities in recent years and felt that this was an important area for the federal government to be focusing on. The opinion was also expressed that, given the perceived size and scope of the housing crisis, an investment of \$1 billion to the Affordable Housing Fund would not be enough to sufficiently address this issue.

Participants next engaged in an exercise where they were asked to select a single word or phrase to describe their overall reactions to the Government of Canada's strategy to address the housing situation. On balance, while many selected words with positive connotations such as 'optimistic' and 'hopeful', several clarified that their overall opinions of these initiatives would depend on how successful they were once implemented. A smaller number expressed more negative sentiments, selecting words such as 'minimal', 'belated', and 'frustrated'. Among these participants it was felt that these actions did not go far enough to address the housing crisis and that far more would need to be done to make housing more affordable for Canadians going forward.

Those in the group based in Northern Ontario were presented with a condensed list of these initiatives and asked to share their reactions. The measures shown to this group included:

- *Signing 179 Housing Accelerator Fund agreements to date to cut red tape, fast tracking an estimated total of over 750,000 housing units over the next decade;*



- *Using federal lands, such as those used by Canada Post, the Department of National Defense, and federal government office buildings, to build more homes faster;*
- *Changing how homes in Canada are built by investing in technology like prefabricated housing factories and pre-approved home design catalogues;*
- *Calling on fintech companies, credit bureaus, and lenders to build the ecosystem that will give renters the option to include their rental payment history in their credit scores, helping renters qualify for a mortgage and better rates;*
- *Allowing 30-year mortgages for first-time homebuyers purchasing new builds;*
- *Extending the ban on foreign homebuyers by two years; and*
- *Restricting the purchase and acquisition of existing single-family homes by very large, corporate investors. The government will consult on how to go about this in the coming months.*

Similar to other groups, several reacted positively to the action to restrict the purchase and acquisition of existing single-family homes by very large, corporate investors and believed this would have a positive impact on the housing market and the supply of available housing. On balance, however, most were pessimistic as to whether these initiatives would be enough to sufficiently address the housing crisis. It was felt that unless tangible action was taken by the federal government to substantially reduce the cost of purchasing or renting a home, these actions would likely only have a minimal impact on making housing more affordable for Canadians.

Indigenous Housing (Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples)

Participants in the group comprised of Indigenous peoples residing in Winnipeg shared their perspectives related to the housing situation for Indigenous peoples and communities, both in Winnipeg as well as throughout Canada more broadly. Asked to identify what they viewed as the biggest challenges related to housing Indigenous peoples in Winnipeg were facing, several mentioned what they perceived as the high cost of purchasing a home at present and the difficulties they had encountered in saving up the amount required for a down payment. A number also described what they viewed as a lack of safe and affordable rental options in Winnipeg, believing that many of the rental units available in their price range were often in poor condition and/or in need of maintenance and repairs. A few also expressed the opinion that Indigenous peoples frequently faced a greater amount of discrimination from potential landlords compared to others in Canada, making it more difficult for them to find adequate housing in their communities.

Asked whether they were aware of any actions that had been taken by the Government of Canada related to addressing the housing situation, only a small number were. Among those who had heard something, participants mentioned actions such as encouraging municipalities to change their zoning laws to allow for increased density in new housing projects, as well as the introduction of the First Home Savings Account (FHSA). To aid in conversation, participants were informed that, as part of the 2024 federal budget, the Government of Canada had introduced a plan to address the housing crisis and had presented a strategy to unlock 3.87 million new homes by 2031. Participants next engaged in

an exercise where they were presented with a range of measures that had been included as part of this strategy and asked to identify which three they felt would have the greatest impact on Indigenous peoples. These included:

- *Investing \$1 billion in the Affordable Housing Fund to support non-profit, co-operative, and public housing providers and respond to the needs of those most impacted by the housing crisis;*
- *Increasing funding to support organizations that prevent and reduce homelessness;*
- *Investing \$4 billion over seven years in collaboration with Indigenous partners to develop tailored housing solutions for urban, rural, and northern Indigenous communities;*
- *Creating a Canadian Renters' Bill of Rights to protect renters and provide a clear history of apartment pricing so renters can bargain fairly, crack down on renovations, and create a nationwide standard lease agreement;*
- *Helping to get more rental homes built by investing more than \$15 billion through the Apartment Construction Loan Program, which helps builders get the capital they need for new projects;*
- *Restricting the purchase and acquisition of existing single-family homes by very large, corporate investors; and*
- *Extending the ban on foreign homebuyers by two years.*

The initiative to increase funding to organizations that prevent and reduce homelessness received the highest level of support among participants. Many felt that homelessness in their community had risen substantially in recent years and believed that a disproportionate number of Indigenous peoples were currently facing issues related to housing insecurity compared to other groups in Canada. The measures to restrict the purchase and acquisition of existing single-family homes by very large corporate investors and to extend the ban on foreign homebuyers by two years also received considerable support. It was felt that these actions would have a positive impact on increasing the supply of affordable housing and discourage behaviours such as real estate speculation that treat housing as an investment commodity rather than as a place to live. The initiatives to invest \$1 billion to the Affordable Housing Fund to support non-profit, co-operative, and public housing providers, and \$4 billion (over seven years) towards collaborating with Indigenous partners to develop tailored housing solutions for urban, rural, and northern Indigenous communities also received a moderate level of support. It was felt that any investments towards increasing the supply of affordable housing and providing more housing options for Indigenous peoples represented a step in the right direction. While also supportive of these initiatives, only a small number selected the actions to create a Canadian Renters' Bill of Rights and invest upwards of \$15 billion towards the Apartment Construction Loan Program.

Asked what impacts they expected this strategy could have for Indigenous peoples residing in Winnipeg, several hoped that these actions would help to reduce homelessness and provide more options for shelter for those living in the city. It was hoped that by making housing more affordable, these measures would lead to an overall improvement in the quality of life for Indigenous peoples in



Winnipeg. Questioned whether, having been provided with information related to these measures, they felt the Government of Canada was on the right track with its housing strategy, almost all did. A number, however, felt that their overall impression of the federal government's performance would likely be dependent on how successfully these initiatives were implemented in the months and years to come. A few expressed concerns about the high costs of some of these initiatives and worried that this would lead to a higher financial burden being placed on taxpayers going forward.

Discussing additional actions that could be taken to improve the housing situation for Indigenous peoples in their community, participants expressed concerns related to the perceived high rate of immigration at present and the impact this was having on housing prices and the supply of available housing. It was felt that more should be done by the federal government to curb the rate of immigration and ensure that sufficient housing and infrastructure was in place to meet the needs of the existing population. A few also felt that actions could be taken to provide more informational resources for prospective homeowners to assist them in navigating the process of saving up for and purchasing a home.

Health Care (Interior British Columbia)

Participants residing in Interior British Columbia (B.C.) took part in a conversation related to health care. All viewed health care as a major priority for the Government of Canada to be focusing on, and several described having personally encountered issues on this front, including long wait times at emergency rooms and walk-in clinics, difficulties in obtaining appointments with specialists, and a perceived shortage of health care workers such as doctors and nurses. A few reported that doctors and other health workers had been leaving their communities in increasing numbers in recent years, and that services such as walk-in clinics had closed altogether. Asked to rate the quality of health care in their area, while most believed that health care services and professionals in their region were generally of a high calibre, many reiterated concerns related to the ability to access these services, including the difficulties they believed many faced in obtaining a family doctor. A number felt that greater investments needed to be made towards improving health care for seniors. Among these participants, it was thought that there were not enough resources currently available to properly care for Canada's aging population.

Asked whether they were aware of any actions by the Government of Canada related to health care, none were. No participants felt the federal government was on the right track when it came to health care and believed that far more emphasis needed to be placed on improving health care provision in Canada going forward. Discussing potential actions that could be taken, many believed that more should be done to recruit and train more individuals (both from Canada as well as outside the country) to work in the health care sector. It was felt that efforts should also be made to reduce tuition costs for prospective health care workers as well as increase the number of seats available in Canadian medical and nursing programs. Additionally, it was thought that actions should be taken to work to increase the wages received by doctors and nurses, as well as provide better mental health care for health care professionals to better assist them in managing and coping with the stresses of their work.

Pharmacare (Saskatchewan)

Participants residing in Saskatchewan engaged in a conversation related to pharmacare and recent actions by the Government of Canada to introduce a national pharmacare program. Asked to identify what they viewed as the biggest challenges related to health care that the federal government needed to be prioritizing, participants provided a number of responses. These included perceived shortages of doctors and nurses in their area, difficulties in accessing a family physician, long wait times to schedule appointments and/or procedures with specialists, and the need for upgrades to the facilities and equipment used by medical professionals. Questioned specifically whether they viewed the cost of prescription medication as a major challenge currently facing Canadians, while almost all believed that it was an important issue, several viewed it as a lower priority compared to other issues such as health worker shortages and long wait times to access primary and emergency care.

Asked to describe the overall state of prescription drug coverage in Canada, many were of the impression that prescription medications were relatively affordable and accessible for most Canadians. Several, however, expressed the view that if one did not have prescription drug coverage through their insurance or employment benefits, these medications could become very challenging to afford, with potentially life-threatening consequences for those with chronic conditions. Questioned whether they would support a universal pharmacare program where all Canadians would receive coverage for prescription medication, all indicated that they would. It was felt that in addition to increasing the overall health and wellbeing of Canadians as a whole, this initiative would have a significant positive impact on the health outcomes for many lower-income individuals who were currently struggling to afford their medication.

No participants were aware of any actions from the federal government related to the establishment of a national pharmacare program. To aid in conversation, participants were provided with the following information:

On February 29th, 2024, the Government of Canada introduced legislation to move forward on implementing the first phase of a national pharmacare program to make prescription drugs more affordable and accessible to more Canadians.

If approved, the Government of Canada intends to work with the provinces and territories to provide universal, single-payer coverage for a number of contraception and diabetes medications. The Government of Canada also intends to establish a fund to help Canadians access supplies that diabetics need to manage and monitor their condition and administer their medication, like syringes and glucose test strips.

All reacted positively to this information, with several expressing particular support for the inclusion of diabetes medications in the initial phase of this program. A number reported having friends and family members with diabetes and believed that this would have an immediate positive impact on their quality of life. Participants were more mixed in their views regarding the inclusion of contraception in this phase. While generally supportive of the federal government providing contraceptive products, it



was felt that a greater priority should have been placed on including other life-saving drugs such as cancer medications.

Asked whether they would support Saskatchewan's involvement in this national pharmacare program, all indicated that they would and believed that this would have a positive impact on the residents of the province as a whole. Questioned how they would feel if other provinces/territories joined this program and Saskatchewan did not, many expressed that they would be disappointed and did not understand why any province would want to be excluded from this program. Discussing what the federal government should keep in mind as it plans the next steps of this national pharmacare program, several felt that the primary focus should be placed on providing coverage for medications used to treat life threatening and/or chronic illnesses such as multiple sclerosis and cancer, as well as those for mental illnesses such as depression and anxiety. A few also felt that attention needed to be paid to how much this program would cost and whether this initiative would be financially feasible in the long term.

Questioned whether they favoured a completely public pharmacare program or a "close the gaps" approach, where public coverage would account for areas not covered by one's private insurance and benefits, most expressed support for the latter approach. It was felt that this would be preferable for most Canadians as it would allow them to continue to utilize their existing benefits programs, while also likely reducing the costs of the national pharmacare program for taxpayers. Asked what impacts they felt a national pharmacare program would have on the health care system in Canada, a number expected that it would allow a larger number of Canadians to access medication to preventatively treat illnesses and diseases before they escalate, taking pressure off of emergency rooms and walk-in clinics as a result.

Immigration (Calgary and Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora, Estrie Region Quebec, Toronto Arab Women, Northern Ontario, Quebec City)

Five groups engaged in discussions related to immigration in Canada. Asked how they would describe the current state of the Canadian immigration system, many perceived it as experiencing considerable strain at present. The view was expressed by several participants that the country had taken in more people than it could realistically handle in recent years and that this had negatively impacted the cost of living and availability of housing in many Canadian communities. A number were of the opinion that the immigration system was overly complex and believed that more needed to be done to streamline the process for immigrants to have their education and professional credentials recognized and be able to work in their fields of expertise. Some also expressed the view that there needed to be a greater prioritization of bringing in immigrants with in-demand skills, such as those with experience in key sectors such as health care and education. Several in the group comprised of Arab women residing in Toronto (all of whom who reported having gone through the immigration process

themselves) recalled having encountered long processing times and difficulties in communicating effectively with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) representatives due a lack of services available in languages other than English or French.

Asked to describe what they viewed as the benefits of welcoming new immigrants to Canada, participants identified a range of positive impacts. Several described what they viewed as the important role immigrants played in filling existing labour shortages, especially given the growing number of Canadians that they expected would be entering into retirement in the coming years. Others mentioned the cultural enrichment that they felt was derived from bringing in immigrants from across the world and providing them with the opportunity to share their perspectives, practices, and traditions with other Canadians.

Participants in the groups based in the Estrie Region of Quebec, Quebec City, and Northern Ontario were asked to what extent they agree with the following statement:

"Canada needs to welcome more new immigrants to fill labour shortages and grow the economy".

Reactions to this statement were mixed among participants, with a roughly equal number agreeing with it as those who felt otherwise. Regionally, a greater number in Quebec City agreed with the statement compared to those in the Estrie region and Northern Ontario. Among those who supported this statement, it was widely thought that immigrants had numerous skills that could immediately benefit the Canadian economy, including in important sectors such as health care, agriculture, and construction. The opinion was expressed that a rising population would likely lead to greater economic productivity and would provide increased economic opportunities for all Canadians in the long term. Among those who disagreed with the statement, a number reiterated concerns related to the capacity of Canada to accommodate a greater number of immigrants in the years to come, as well as concerns related to the impact a higher rate of immigration would have on other economic issues such as the cost of living and housing affordability. A few expressed concerns regarding the ability of Canadian communities to integrate a large number of new arrivals and questioned whether sufficient educational and language resources would be available to support these individuals.

Asked what actions they felt the Government of Canada should take to address these concerns, participants in these three groups offered a range of suggestions. These included building more affordable housing projects, streamlining the foreign credential recognition process, subsidizing education and skills training for new immigrants seeking to work in sectors experiencing labour shortages, and providing language training and social supports for immigrants to assist them in acclimatizing to their new communities.

All groups were asked whether they thought the Government of Canada should increase, decrease, or keep the rate of immigration at about the same level. On balance, most felt that the current rate of immigration should be maintained, while a smaller number respectively felt that it should be increased or decreased. Among those who felt the rate of immigration should be kept the same, it was thought that the current rate of immigration was manageable and that decreasing the number of new



immigrants arriving in Canada would serve to exacerbate existing labour shortages in the years to come. Most of those who felt the rate of immigration should be increased primarily focused on the economic benefits of taking this action, particularly in terms of its potential to bolster the Canadian labour force. Among the smaller number who felt that immigration to Canada should decrease, a number clarified that while they were generally supportive of immigration, they felt that actions first needed to be taken to expand the capacity of existing infrastructure and services.

Participants in the group comprised of members of the Southeast Asian diaspora residing in Edmonton and Calgary were asked an additional question regarding whether they felt the Government of Canada was doing enough to support recent immigrants to Canada. Most felt that it had not performed effectively in this regard and believed that far more needed to be done to assist immigrants with integrating into their new communities. Several who had gone through the immigration process themselves spoke to the isolation and loneliness that they had experienced and believed that efforts should be taken to provide more social programming for new immigrants as well as increased language training resources in order to allow them to communicate more easily with others in their community. A number also suggested that increased educational resources should be provided to new immigrants regarding the unique investment options available to them in Canada, such as the Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA) and the First Home Savings Account (FHSA).

Foreign Credential Recognition (Calgary and Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora)

Participants in the group comprised of members of the Southeast Asian diaspora based in Calgary and Edmonton were asked a few additional questions related to the foreign credential recognition process. Asked how important, if at all, they felt it was for the federal government to address issues related to recognizing foreign credentials, all viewed this as a major priority. To aid in conversation, participants were provided with the following information:

Recognizing foreign credentials is when the federal, provincial, or territorial government determines that a license or certificate earned outside of Canada meets the standards in Canada, so that an individual can work in a specialized job. Examples of specialized jobs could be working as a doctor, accountant, or an electrician.

Almost all reported having gone through the foreign credential recognition process themselves or had a friend or family member who had done so. While some had heard that the Government of Canada had recently fast-tracked this process for new arrivals from some countries, it was widely felt that the process of getting one's education and professional credentials recognized continued to be a major challenge for many recent immigrants. Discussing additional steps that the federal government should take to address this issue participants mentioned a range of potential actions. These included assisting immigrants in getting their credentials recognized prior to arriving in Canada, providing grants and funding for new arrivals to acquire the certifications necessary to work in their fields of expertise, and matching new immigrants with mentors who had previously immigrated to Canada who could assist them in navigating this process.



Out-of-Status Workers (Estrie Region Quebec, Quebec City)

Two groups engaged in discussions related to out-of-status workers. Asked whether they were familiar with the terms “out-of-status” or “undocumented” people, most indicated that they were, with several believing that these terms primarily referred to those living in Canada without legal documentation and/or individuals who had entered the country through non-legitimate pathways. To aid in conversation, participants were provided with the following information:

Out-of-status people are individuals living in Canada without legal immigration status. This could refer to someone whose work, study, or visitor permit has expired, someone who made a refugee claim that was denied, or someone who entered Canada through unofficial pathways.

People without legal status are often employed as personal support workers or care aides in long-term care facilities, or in sectors like construction and agriculture.

Prompted to estimate approximately how many out-of-status workers were currently living in Canada, participant responses ranged from 10,000 to upwards of 3 million, with most believing this amount to be somewhere between 100,000 and 300,000. Asked whether they felt out-of-status workers residing in Canada should be provided with a pathway to permanent residency and citizenship, almost all believed that they should. A large number felt that as these workers were already in Canada and contributing to their communities, it was important for them to have access to the same benefits and protections as the rest of Canadians. Asked whether they felt there was an economic argument for providing these individuals with a pathway to permanent residency or citizenship, especially given that many out-of-status workers did not currently pay income taxes, many responded affirmatively. Among the very small number who felt otherwise, it was thought that as out-of-status workers had not followed the proper immigration practices, it was unfair to provide them with a pathway to citizenship, especially given the perceived long wait times for those seeking to immigrate to Canada via the official channels.

Capital Gains (Quebec Seniors 65+, Vancouver Renters)

Two groups took part in discussions regarding the proposed changes from the Government of Canada related to the taxation of capital gains. Asked whether they had heard anything about proposed changes to capital gains taxes, while almost all in the group comprised of seniors residing in Quebec were aware of these changes, a roughly equal number in the group of renters from Vancouver recalled having heard about them as those who had not. To aid in discussion, participants were provided with the following information:

Capital gains are the profits people make when they sell valuable assets they own for more money than they originally paid for them. Capital gains can be made from valuable assets like real estate, stocks and bonds, mutual funds, precious metals, art and collectibles, cryptocurrencies, vehicles, personal property, and more.



In Canada, capital gains are subject to taxation. When someone sells a valuable asset for more than its original cost, they will owe taxes on the capital gain. Note that there is no capital gains tax on the sale of a primary home; that is, capital gains taxes only apply when people own multiple real estate properties and sell the ones they do not live in.

The Government of Canada is proposing to raise taxes on some of the wealthiest Canadians by increasing the tax on their capital gains above \$250,000. The government estimates that this change would only impact 0.1% of Canadians in any given year.

Reacting to this information, those in the group from Quebec were mostly positive in their views, believing that taxing the wealthiest Canadians would serve as an effective way to generate revenue that could be utilized to fund social programs and assist in addressing the national debt. Among those in Vancouver, many were more neutral or uncertain in their reactions, with several expecting that this action would have little impact on them personally. A small number expressed concern that these actions by the federal government could potentially have a negative impact on investments and economic activity in Canada going forward.

Discussing who they felt would be most impacted by these proposed changes, several in Quebec believed that it would primarily be those in the middle class as well as individuals who were currently approaching retirement. Among these participants, it was felt that these populations typically placed a large portion of their savings into long-term investments that typically produced significant capital gains and, as a result, could be subject to paying increased taxes upon the eventual sale of these investments. Those in Vancouver expected that these changes would primarily impact only the wealthiest of Canadians, believing that most households did not typically have annual capital gains in excess of \$250,000. Questioned whether they felt this change was an effective way for the federal government to raise revenues to invest in programs related to housing, dental care, pharmacare, health care, and other areas, most believed that it was. Several, however, were of the opinion that any additional revenues collected as a result of these changes should primarily be directed toward housing, which they viewed as the highest priority at present. Asked whether they expected these proposed changes would affect them personally, very few believed that they would have any impact.

Participants were next informed that Canada has something called "The Principal Residence Exemption" which allows Canadians to avoid paying capital gains tax on the sale of their primary home, meaning that capital gains taxes would only apply to people who own multiple real estate properties and sell properties that they do not live in. Asked whether they felt this seemed fair, all believed that it was. Several were of the opinion that saving for a home and paying off a mortgage in Canada required decades of hard work and discipline and did not believe that the sale of one's primary dwelling should be taxed at the same rate as other real estate investments.

Public Sentiment (Toronto Arab Women)

Participants in the group from Toronto, comprised of women who were members of the Arab diaspora in Canada, shared their perspectives related to life in Canada and the current state of equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout the country. Asked what made them feel optimistic about their futures in Canada, a number mentioned the feeling of safety from geopolitical conflict and violence compared to other parts of the world, as well as the freedom they felt to pursue their own goals and passions. Participants widely viewed Canada as a peaceful country where they could expect to experience far less discrimination compared to other parts of the world. Other positive aspects of life in Canada mentioned by participants included the supports and benefits provided by the federal government, including those related to important services such as child care.

Questioned what made them feel concerned about their futures in Canada, many identified the high cost of living, a perceived lack of affordable housing, and what they viewed as a growing lack of safety on public transit. A few also worried about what they viewed as the increasing rate of criminal behaviour and addiction in their communities. A small number expressed concerns regarding the public education system, believing that some aspects of the curricula taught to primary and secondary students might conflict with their personal and religious values (particularly as it relates to gender identity and sexual orientation).

Asked to describe the state of diversity, equity, and inclusion in Canada, participants were mixed in their opinions. While several felt that Canada had performed better on these fronts compared to most other countries, it was thought there was still room for improvement. A number were of the impression that the level of support for diversity-focused initiatives varied throughout the country, believing that these values were protected and promoted to a greater extent in major urban centres compared to more rural communities.

Climate Change Impacts (Interior British Columbia)

Participants residing in Interior British Columbia (B.C.) engaged in a discussion about climate change and actions that the Government of Canada was taking to address its impacts. Asked how worried they were about the potential impacts of climate change, all viewed this as major area of concern. Many described what they perceived as a significant increase in uncontrolled wildfires across Canada in recent years, believing this to be an impact of climate change that was already being felt. Others were of the impression that weather patterns had become far less predictable as of late and believed that issues such as extreme heat and drought had begun to negatively impact farmers' ability to produce food. Other concerns mentioned by participants related to climate change included the perceived increase in the frequency of extreme weather events, rising sea levels, species extinctions, and destruction of Canada's diverse ecosystems.



All expected that their communities would be at greater risk of experiencing the impacts of climate change in the decades to come. Several recounted instances in recent years where wildfires had come very close to damaging their communities and believed that it was only a matter of time before they would be forced to evacuate. Asked if they were aware of any work that the federal government had done to respond to wildfires in B.C., none could recall any specific initiatives. To aid in the discussion, participants were provided with the following information:

The Government of Canada's approach to managing wildfires involves supporting communities in getting prepared, providing information through real-time monitoring, and offering support to communities and individuals impacted by wildfires. In Budget 2024, the Government of Canada has committed to take several additional actions to help those affected by wildfires:

- *Doubling the Volunteer Firefighter and Search and Rescue Volunteer Tax Credits, which will increase from \$3,000 to \$6,000 for 2024, saving volunteer firefighters up to an additional \$450 per year.*
- *Investing \$800,000 more to expand firefighting capacity. This funding will help expand a training program for firefighters to respond to wildfires that impact urban areas. This builds on existing funding to support the federal government's commitment to train 1,000 wildland firefighters.*
- *Partnering with Indigenous Peoples to save lives and better protect communities against wildfires including:*
 - *Investing over \$145 million to help First Nations communities prepare for emergencies;*
 - *Providing \$20.9 million for fire prevention in First Nations communities; and*
 - *Committing \$9 million to help support Indigenous governments directly affected by the 2023 wildfires in the Northwest Territories.*

Reactions to this information were mostly positive among participants and the initiative to train 1,000 additional wildland firefighters was viewed by many as being particularly promising. A few questioned why funding was being set aside specifically for Indigenous communities and governments, believing that there was no reason to have differing levels of response to wildfires depending on whether they occurred in Indigenous or non-Indigenous communities. Asked if they felt the federal government was doing enough to help communities affected by wildfires, a number felt that it was not. Several expressed a desire for the Government of Canada to take a more active role in ensuring that federal funding was being used effectively by provincial/territorial governments to prevent and respond to wildfires. Asked what more the federal government could be doing on this front, participants suggested actions such as providing funding to create paid firefighter roles where there are currently volunteer fire services, increasing the recruitment of firefighters from other provinces or countries, and allocating greater investments towards the rebuilding of communities destroyed by wildfires and other extreme weather events.

Clean Energy and Technology

(Saskatchewan)

Participants residing in Saskatchewan shared their perspectives related to clean energy and technologies, as well as the investments that the federal government had recently made towards these areas. Informed that the Government of Canada was investing in clean energy and clean technologies as a part of its efforts to decrease emissions, participants were asked what came to mind when they thought of clean energy and clean tech. Several mentioned renewable forms of energy such as solar, wind, and hydroelectricity, while others thought of green technology such as electric vehicles (EVs) and electric scooters. Asked whether they felt the Government of Canada should be making investments towards these areas, all believed that it should. A number were of the opinion that Canada was already regarded highly among its international peers as a climate leader and believed that it was important to maintain this reputation.

Discussing the potential benefits of the Government of Canada encouraging investments towards clean energy and clean technology, several expected that this would have a positive impact on reducing emissions and mitigating the impacts of climate change. A few also believed that having cleaner air would likely lead to a decrease in respiratory issues among Canadians, resulting in less pressure being placed on the health care system going forward. Questioned whether they expected that the increased use of clean electricity and clean technology would lead to more, fewer, or have no impact on the risks of power outages, most believed that it would not have much of an impact. A few felt differently, believing that increased incorporation of clean energy sources into the power grid would likely strengthen its overall capacity and result in reduced risk of power outages.

Focusing on the potential impact that the development of the clean energy sector could have on Saskatchewan (including for workers in the province), while a few expressed concerns about potential job losses in the oil and gas sector, a greater number believed that it would have an overall positive impact. Among these participants, it was believed that investments towards clean energy would lead to the creation of a large number of well-paying jobs in the sector, providing an overall benefit to the province's economy and the financial wellbeing of its residents. A few also expected that as clean energy became more widely available, it would likely lead to an overall decrease in the cost of energy and heating for Canadian households going forward.

Electric Vehicle Manufacturing (Golden

Horseshoe Region Ontario)

One group, comprised of residents of the Golden Horseshoe region of Ontario, took part in a brief discussion related to the manufacturing of electric vehicles (EVs). Asked whether they felt the federal government was generally headed in the right direction when it came to supporting the automotive industry a larger number were uncertain or neutral in their views compared to those who felt it was on



the wrong track. No participants felt that the Government of Canada was on the right track in this regard. Questioned whether they had recently seen, read, or heard about any actions from the federal government related to electric vehicles, several recalled hearing about recent investments it had made along with the Government of Ontario, and Honda Canada towards the manufacturing of EVs and EV batteries in Ontario. To aid in discussion, participants were presented with the following information:

The federal and Ontario governments recently announced that Honda Canada will make a \$15-billion electric vehicle investment in Ontario to build four new manufacturing plants in the province. These plants include a new electric vehicle assembly plant and a battery manufacturing plant. The new assembly plant will produce up to 240,000 vehicles per year. This investment is estimated to directly and indirectly create thousands of new jobs in several sectors including manufacturing, construction, the auto parts supplier industry, and in research and development.

Most reacted positively to this information, believing that these investments would lead to the creation of many high paying jobs in their area, stimulate the province's manufacturing industry, and benefit the environment due to the increased production of clean technology. A number, however, believed that the success of these investments would depend on how effectively they were implemented and whether they ultimately yielded the new jobs and economic stimulus that they were expected to bring. A few also expressed concerns regarding the potential negative environmental impacts of increased EV production, focusing particularly on the raw materials required to be mined in order to manufacture EV batteries as well as the perceived difficulties in recycling these batteries at the end of their lifespans.

Public Transit (Golden Horseshoe Region Ontario)

Participants residing in the Golden Horseshoe Region of Ontario engaged in a discussion regarding the federal government's role in providing public transportation for Canadians. To begin, participants were asked whether they felt investing in public transit should be a priority for the Government of Canada. While most felt that public transportation was an important priority, several were of the impression that this was primarily a provincial and municipal responsibility and did not believe that the federal government should be directly involved in this area. A number expressed the view that while the federal government should provide funding to provincial and municipal governments to support public transportation projects, they did not feel it should be directly involved in the creation, development, or construction of these systems.

Asked to describe what they felt were the most important objectives for the Government of Canada to be focusing on related to public transit, many felt that it should primarily be focused on ensuring that public transportation systems in Canada were environmentally friendly and helping in the fight against climate change. Discussing specific actions that could be taken by the federal government in this regard, participants suggested making efforts to electrify public transit vehicles, assisting public transit agencies in transitioning to clean energy sources, and reducing the overall emissions of public transit

systems across Canada. Some also suggested that federal public transportation grants should be prioritized for public transit agencies that use clean energy or electric vehicle fleets. To aid in the discussion, participants were provided with the following information related to the Zero Emission Transit Fund (ZETF):

Through the Zero Emission Transit Fund, the Government of Canada is investing \$2.75 billion over five years to help public transit operators plan for electrification by supporting the acquisition of zero-emissions buses, new charging stations, and facility upgrades.

All reacted positively to this information, and many expected that this support would be critical in assisting municipalities with managing the high costs of reducing or eliminating emissions from their public transit systems. Several were of the opinion that, as a condition of receiving this funding, all vehicles or batteries purchased through the program should be manufactured in Canada. A small number hoped that this initiative would help to reduce fare costs for transit users, believing that a transition to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) would lower costs for public transit agencies by eliminating the need for them to purchase fuel for their vehicles

Online Safety (Atlantic Canada Young Women Heavier Media Users)

One group, comprised of young women in Atlantic Canada who identified as heavier media users, took part in a discussion related to online safety and actions that the Government of Canada was taking to combat hateful content and the proliferation of misinformation and disinformation in online spaces. To begin, participants were asked to identify what positive impacts, if any, they felt the internet was having on society today. A range of responses were provided, including:

- Connecting with family and friends – Many believed that the internet had made it much easier to stay connected with family and friends across the world. The ability to facilitate communication on a global scale was widely seen as one of the most positive impacts of the internet on society;
- Finding communities and discovering passions – Several felt that the internet had provided users with access to diverse online communities where they could share in and discuss interests and hobbies. It was thought that the internet had helped many discover and pursue new passions through forums, groups, and websites;
- Raising awareness of global issues – Some felt that the internet had helped to broaden the perspectives of its users by exposing them to news and issues from all over the world. Related to this, it was thought that the internet had provided people with a greater ability to get involved with social causes outside of their local communities through online campaigns and discussions;
- Access to informative streaming services – A number also identified the internet as an important source of educational content, with some mentioning the wide range of

documentaries available on streaming platforms such as YouTube, Netflix, and Amazon Prime; and,

- Enabling remote work – A few felt that the internet had provided many workers with increased flexibility, allowing professionals to work from home to a far greater extent compared to previous generations.

Participants also identified a number of ways in which they felt that the internet had negatively impacted society:

- Impact on social interactions – Many believed that the internet had caused a growing number of people to become over-reliant on technology, leading to reduced face-to-face interactions and limiting social skills in both adults and children;
- Effects on children– Related to the above, it was felt that the internet was having a negative effect on children, and especially those that underwent key developmental milestones during the COVID-19 pandemic. A number believed that children were currently facing increased difficulties in performing social skills such as making eye contact and holding conversations, and felt that this was, in part, caused by them spending more time focusing on online games and digital interactions and less on natural creativity and imaginative play;
- Information overload – Several mentioned what they described as information overload, feeling that the prevalence of negative content on the internet had made life seem more overwhelming and chaotic in recent years. It was thought by some that increased exposure to negative online news and content was impacting their mental health and had made it more difficult for them to focus on their personal wellbeing. It was also believed that meaningful, thoughtful conversations occurred less frequently online as a result of this perceived overload of negative information; and
- Online harassment and anonymity – A number believed that the internet, by allowing individuals to hide their identities and remain anonymous, had made it easier for behaviours such as harassment and the dissemination of hateful opinions to occur. It was felt that this was becoming an increasingly significant issue, with victims often unable to receive help from authorities due to the anonymity of the perpetrators.

All believed that harmful online content was an issue at present. Asked what constituted harmful content, most believed that this term was somewhat subjective and largely dependent on the individual viewing the content. Describing examples of harmful content, participants mentioned violent online videos, behaviours such as catfishing, and digital scams designed to steal money and/or personal information. Several also expressed concerns regarding content that was designed to evoke extreme or distressing emotions, or which encouraged viewers (and youth especially) to engage in risky behaviours or challenges. A number of participants emphasized the importance of remaining aware of one's boundaries while online and being able to recognize when to disengage with harmful content.



Questioned whether, to the best of their knowledge, there were currently protections in place to keep Canadians safe on the internet, many believed that companies such as Google and Meta had filters and parental controls available to prevent children from accessing inappropriate content. Many, however, expressed that they were not very confident in the measures that were in place to reduce the exposure of harmful content to Canadians. Several cited what they viewed as inconsistencies in content moderation across different platforms and jurisdictions and highlighted instances where reported content, such as child and animal abuse, remained online due to subjective decision-making by platform moderators. Asked whether they believed that social media companies were accountable for the impact on users of the harmful content posted on their platforms, all felt that they were. The view was expressed that as profit-driven businesses, platforms should be required to take responsibility for this aspect of their services, particularly regarding how it impacts children's profiles and their exposure to exploitative content.

Discussing whether they felt the Government of Canada should hold digital platforms accountable for addressing harmful content on their platforms, several believed that it should. It was felt that regulating the content available to Canadians was a responsibility of the federal government and that it, rather than online platforms, should be setting the standards and regulations related to harmful content online. While also believing that the Government of Canada had a responsibility in this regard, a number felt that this issue would need to be addressed carefully to ensure that the regulation of online content did not go too far towards limiting the ability of Canadians to freely express themselves online.

No participants were aware of any actions or initiatives from the Government of Canada related to online platforms and harmful content. Asked specifically whether they had heard anything related to the *Online Harms Act*, none could recall anything. To aid in conversation, participants were shown the following information:

The Government of Canada has introduced legislation designed to ensure digital platforms, specifically social media services, live streaming services, and user-uploaded adult content services, are responsible for addressing harmful content. The legislation focuses on five key components:

- *Ensuring digital platforms reduce seven kinds of harmful content online;*
- *Changing the Criminal Code to better address hate crimes and hate propaganda;*
- *Changing the Canadian Human Rights Act to allow people to file complaints against those who post hate speech online;*
- *Enhancing laws to protect children from sexual exploitation; and*
- *Creating a new Digital Safety Commission to enforce the rules and keep digital platforms accountable.*

Note that the new rules would not apply to private and encrypted messaging services (for example, WhatsApp, Signal, Telegram, etc.).



Participants expressed a range of reactions to this information, with a greater number holding more neutral opinions compared to those who reacted positively. Among the smaller number who felt more positively, it was thought that these were the right areas for the Government of Canada to be focusing on, and so long as they were properly implemented, these measures would go a long way towards combatting cyberbullying. For those who were more neutral in their reactions, many questioned whether it would be possible to monitor such a large amount of content. With this in mind, a few suggested that a different department be created to monitor each component.

All felt that a clear definition as to what was considered harmful content would need to be provided by the federal government prior to this legislation being enacted. Several questioned how these measures would be implemented, especially given that most platforms operate worldwide and were not under the sole jurisdiction of the federal government. Concerns were also raised about user-uploaded adult content services, and the potential of these restrictions to negatively impact the ability of performers on these services to earn income. Additionally, some questioned how accountability would be enforced regarding instances of harassment perpetrated by individuals residing outside of Canada.

Participants were next provided with additional information related to specific components of the *Online Harms Act*:

Online platforms would be required to remove the following within 24 hours:

- *Content that sexually victimizes a child or revictimizes a survivor; and*
- *Intimate content communicated without consent.*

Platforms would also be required to reduce exposure to five categories of harmful content:

- *Content that encourages hatred;*
- *Content that incites violent extremism or terrorism;*
- *Content that incites violence;*
- *Content used to bully a child; and*
- *Content that induces a child to harm themselves.*

Focusing on the first two bullet points (regarding content that would be required to be removed within 24 hours), participants were asked whether this was something that the federal government should be asking online platforms to do. All strongly supported these measures, and many believed that actions such as these should have been put into place years ago. Asked if they had any questions about these aspects of the legislation, a few were curious as to whether reported content would simply be removed or if it would also be subject to further actions, such as fines and penalties. Several questioned what would happen if users failed to remove harmful content, and how platforms would prevent users from re-uploading content that had previously been removed. Discussing whether they expected this legislation would have a positive impact on protecting the online safety of Canadians, most felt that it

would, with several believing that it would be especially helpful towards protecting the safety of children online.

Discussing the five categories of harmful content that social media companies would be required to limit on their platforms, participants were asked whether these were the right areas for the Government of Canada to be focusing on. While all believed that these were important areas, several thought that greater clarity would be needed regarding the definition of terms such as 'violence' and 'hatred' under this legislation. Some were of the opinion that this approach was too broad and believed there needed to be a more precise explanation of what 'reducing exposure' entailed. Asked whether there were any other types of harmful content that they felt needed to be addressed, a number believed that a greater focus should be placed on reducing the prevalence of online scams and fraud.

Participants were next provided with additional details related to this proposed requirement for digital platforms to reduce exposure to harmful content:

The proposed rules focus on ensuring online platforms take into account the level of risk of exposure to harmful content and then take steps to reduce those risks.

For example, online platforms would be asked to provide users with guidelines and tools to flag harmful content and block other users. They would also be asked to set up an internal point of contact for this kind of guidance and complaints.

Additionally, they would be required to label harmful content that they have reason to believe is being created and amplified through automated communications by computer programs (e.g. bots).

While all believed that these were important steps for the federal government to be taking, several were of the impression that these measures were more geared at providing users the tools to flag and block online content, as opposed to removing it altogether. A number commented that these guidelines appeared to be quite similar to existing ones that were already offered by online platforms and rarely actively enforced.

Focusing specifically on actions to protect children from harmful content online, participants were provided with the following information:

Online platforms would also be required to take into account the interests of children when designing products and features. For example:

- *Design features to limit children's exposure to harmful content, including explicit adult content, cyberbullying content and content that encourages self-harm;*
- *Provide parental control settings and safe search settings so that certain types of content would be unavailable via search;*
- *Design features such as limiting scrolling and autoplay for kids; and*
- *Not allowing adult users to message children who are not in their network.*



Sharing their reactions, while most felt that this approach was appropriate, a few expressed concerns that some measures, such as parental control and safe search settings, were already in place on most platforms and had largely been ineffective. A small number were also worried about the potential for adult users to create fake profiles in order to bypass measures preventing them from messaging children who were not in their network. Despite these concerns, most believed that this approach represented a step in the right direction. Discussing additional actions that could be taken, many expressed the need for increased education and knowledge about these issues to be integrated into K-12 education to better protect children. Some suggested that greater education for parents would also be beneficial, given that parents were the ones primarily responsible for their children's safety. Asked whether these measures would have a major, minor, or no impact on online safety and reducing the amount of harmful content Canadians are exposed to, most expected they would have a minor impact. A few expressed the view that in order for major progress to occur in limiting harmful content online, most platforms would have to completely re-evaluate the ways in which users are allowed to share and interact with content.

Participants were informed that this legislation would also lead to the creation of a Digital Safety Commission to enforce these rules and hold platforms accountable to remove the harmful content posted by their users. Most believed that the establishment of this Digital Safety Commission would be ineffective towards addressing harmful content online, feeling it would be impossible for any regulatory body to monitor the entirety of the internet. Several also expressed concerns regarding the potential for individual biases on the part of those working for this Commission to unfairly impact what types of content was deemed harmful under this legislation. To aid in conversation, participants were provided with the following information regarding how hate speech would be defined under this legislation:

Specific detestation or vilification of an individual or group of individuals on the basis of a prohibited ground of discrimination (race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, family status, genetic traits, disability, or pardoned criminal records).

To be considered discriminatory, the hate speech would need to be communicated where it is likely to cause detestation or vilification of an individual or group.

Speech would not be classified as hate speech just because it expresses dislike or disdain, or it discredits, humiliates, hurts, or offends.

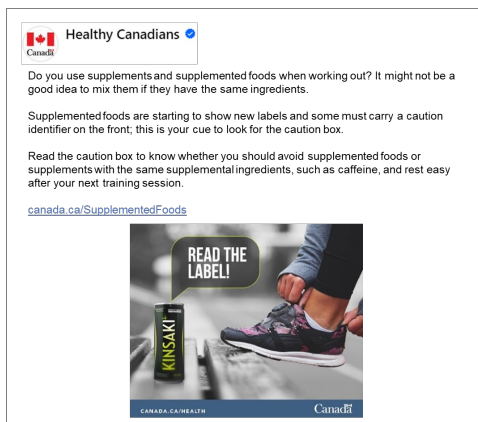
Asked whether they felt this definition was clear, participants had varying reactions, with most feeling it was somewhat unclear. Concerns were raised by several that this definition could potentially lead to ambiguity, reiterating the subjective nature of what is classified as 'hate speech'. A number felt that there was a fine line between expressing dislike or disdain and hate speech. A few also questioned the inclusion of pardoned criminal records in this definition, believing that this could lead to potential negative repercussions for individuals sharing factual information about someone. Asked if the Government of Canada should include hate speech in this legislation, all believed that it should. A few, however, expressed the belief that while no one should be subjected to hate, it was important that

Canadians continue to be able to freely express themselves online and that for this legislation to be effective, there needed to be clearer definitions in place regarding what constitutes hate speech.

Supplemented Foods Concept Testing (Northern Ontario, Quebec City, Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples)

Three groups shared their perspectives regarding social media concepts designed by the Government of Canada to highlight information related to supplemented foods. Prior to viewing the concepts, participants were asked a series of questions related to their familiarity with supplemental foods as well as their health and nutritional habits. Only a small number reported being familiar with supplements and supplemented foods. A roughly equal number of those who were familiar with supplemental foods reported taking multivitamins and/or mineral supplements as those who did not. Asked if they ever consumed caffeinated energy drinks, a slightly smaller number said they did compared to those who refrained from drinking these beverages. While most indicated that they typically engaged in exercise on at least a weekly basis, only a small number reported taking supplements either before or after their workout.

Participants were next shown each social media concept, first one after the other, and then side by side, and were informed that these posts were designed specifically for adults over the age of 51, students, and those who are physically active. Groups were shown the following posts:




Healthy Canadians

Do you use supplements and supplemented foods when working out? It might not be a good idea to mix them if they have the same ingredients.

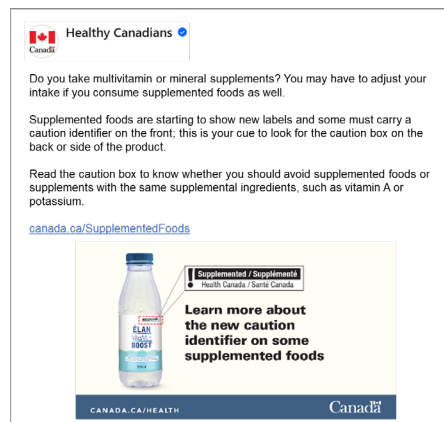
Supplemented foods are starting to show new labels and some must carry a caution identifier on the front; this is your cue to look for the caution box.

Read the caution box to know whether you should avoid supplemented foods or supplements with the same supplemental ingredients, such as caffeine, and rest easy after your next training session.

canada.ca/SupplementedFoods



CANADA.CA/HEALTH Canada




Healthy Canadians

Do you take multivitamin or mineral supplements? You may have to adjust your intake if you consume supplemented foods as well.

Supplemented foods are starting to show new labels and some must carry a caution identifier on the front; this is your cue to look for the caution box on the back or side of the product.

Read the caution box to know whether you should avoid supplemented foods or supplements with the same supplemental ingredients, such as vitamin A or potassium.

canada.ca/SupplementedFoods



CANADA.CA/HEALTH Canada

 **Canadiens en santé**

Prenez-vous des suppléments ou des aliments supplémentés quand vous vous entraînez ? S'ils contiennent les mêmes ingrédients, ce pourrait être une mauvaise idée de les prendre ensemble.

De nouvelles étiquettes font leur apparition sur les aliments supplémentés. Un identifiant de mise en garde doit apparaître sur le devant de certains d'entre eux; cherchez alors l'encadré de mises en garde.

Lisez l'encadré de mises en garde pour savoir si vous devriez éviter les aliments supplémentés ou les suppléments contenant les mêmes ingrédients supplémentaires (p. ex. caféine). Vous aurez ainsi l'esprit en paix après votre prochaine séance d'entraînement.

Canada.ca/AlimentsSupplementes



 **Canadiens en santé**

Prenez-vous des suppléments de multivitamines ou de minéraux? Vous pourriez devoir modifier la quantité que vous prenez si vous consommez aussi des aliments supplémentés.

De nouvelles étiquettes font leur apparition sur les aliments supplémentés. Un identifiant de mise en garde doit apparaître sur le devant de certains d'entre eux; cherchez alors l'encadré de mises en garde sur le côté ou au dos du produit.

Lisez l'encadré de mises en garde pour savoir si vous devriez éviter les aliments supplémentés ou les suppléments contenant les mêmes ingrédients supplémentaires (p. ex. vitamine A, potassium).

Canada.ca/AlimentsSupplementes



The above images are concepts of social media posts from the Government of Canada. The first set of posts are written in English, the second set, in French.

Both social media posts come from the verified account "Healthy Canadians". Below the username are several paragraphs of text, reading, "Do you use supplements and supplemented foods when working out? It might not be a good idea to mix them if they have the same ingredients. Supplemented foods are starting to show new labels and some must carry a caution identifier on the front; this is your cue to look for the caution box. Read the caution box to know whether you should avoid supplemented foods or supplements with the same supplemental ingredients, such as caffeine, and rest easy after your next training session". Below the text is the following link: "Canada.ca/SupplementedFoods". To the right of the link is an image of a canned beverage beside a person tying a running shoe. There is a grey speech bubble coming out of the can that says, "READ THE LABEL!". At the bottom of the image is a blue banner with the Government of Canada logo on the right and "CANADA.CA/HEALTH" on the left.

The French version of this image is identical in appearance. The account posting it is "Canadiens en santé", and the text reads, "Prenez-vous des suppléments ou des aliments supplémentés quand vous vous entraînez ? S'ils contiennent les mêmes ingrédients, ce pourrait être une mauvaise idée de les prendre ensemble. De nouvelles étiquettes font leur apparition sur les aliments supplémentés. Un identifiant de mise en garde doit apparaître sur le devant de certains d'entre eux; cherchez alors l'encadré de mises en garde. Lisez l'encadré de mises en garde pour savoir si vous devriez éviter les aliments supplémentés ou les suppléments contenant les mêmes ingrédients supplémentaires (p. ex. caféine). Vous aurez ainsi l'esprit en paix après votre prochaine séance d'entraînement. Canada.ca/AlimentsSupplementes. The speech bubble says « LISEZ L'ÉTIQUETTE ! ».

The image on the right comes from the same account with the same link. The text reads, "Do you take multivitamin or mineral supplements? You may have to adjust your intake if you consume supplemented foods as well. Supplemented foods are starting to show new labels and some must carry a caution identifier on the front; this is your cue to look for the caution box on the back or side of the product. Read the caution box to know whether you should avoid supplemented foods or supplements with the same supplemental ingredients, such as vitamin A or potassium." The image at the bottom depicts a plastic bottle containing a clear liquid against a light yellow background. A black and white label on the bottle is amplified in the image to show an exclamation mark beside the words "Supplemented/Supplémenté" and "Health Canada/Santé Canada". Below the label is a caption, reading "Learn more about the new caution identifier on some supplemented foods". The image has the same blue banner with the logo and website at the bottom.

The French version of this concept is identical. The text reads, "Prenez-vous des suppléments de multivitamines ou de minéraux? Vous pourriez devoir modifier la quantité que vous prenez si vous consommez aussi des aliments supplémentés. De



nouvelles étiquettes font leur apparition sur les aliments supplémentés. Un identifiant de mise en garde doit apparaître sur le devant de certains d'entre eux; cherchez alors l'encadré de mises en garde sur le côté ou au dos du produit. Lisez l'encadré de mises en garde pour savoir si vous devriez éviter les aliments supplémentés ou les suppléments contenant les mêmes ingrédients supplémentaires (p. ex. vitamine A, potassium). » The caption below the label reads, « Apprenez-en plus au sujet de nouvel identifiant de mise en garde sur certains aliments supplémentés ».

Reactions to these concepts were mixed among participants. Several expressed surprise at the information presented and felt it was important for the public to know. A number reported feeling initially more drawn to the second post, perceiving it to be less targeted to specific groups and more applicable to the general public. Few, however, felt that these concepts were very captivating, with some expressing the opinion that the concept featuring the energy drink more resembled an advertisement than an informational message from the Government of Canada.

Asked what they liked about the concepts, many appreciated that the concepts included a link to more information, believing this was important to include for those wishing to learn more. Several also spoke positively of the content related to minerals and supplements, viewing this as new information that would likely be relevant to a large number of Canadians. Discussing ways in which these concepts could be improved, several felt that these posts could do more to stand out and capture the attention of the reader, while others thought that this information should also be disseminated on other platforms (such as television, radio, and on physical spaces) in order to reach more individuals.

Questioned specifically whether they would notice these posts, only a small number expected that they would. Among those who expected that these posts would capture their attention, a number cited the information as coming from the Government of Canada as a key factor that would make them be more likely to pay attention. For those who felt that these concepts could be more visually remarkable, participants suggested changes to how the information is formatted, such as breaking up long-form text with bullet points and using more direct language to make the messages more succinct and digestible. A number also felt that these concepts would benefit from the incorporation of more dynamic and eye-catching imagery. Asked if seeing these posts would motivate participants to do anything, several commented that they would likely click on the link to find out more information. A few reported that they would like these posts and verbally relay the information concerning vitamins and minerals to others, while a smaller number expressed that they would be willing to share these posts on social media to inform others in their circle about supplemented foods. All participants felt that the messaging of these concepts was clear, with a number reiterating feeling surprised regarding the potential negative consequences of consuming supplemented foods.

Participants were also presented with a series of additional social media messages that could potentially accompany the graphics they had previously been shown. These included:

Do you consume coffee, chocolate or caffeinated energy drinks when studying? These foods all contain caffeine and there's a recommended limit for how much you could have per day.

Supplemented foods are starting to show new labels and some, like caffeinated energy drinks, must carry a caution identifier on the front; this is your cue to look for the caution box.



Read the caution box to know the limit of servings you could have per day and focus on the topic at hand during your next late night study session.

Are you a health professional working with older adults? If your clients or patients take multivitamin or mineral supplements, they should be aware of the new caution labels on supplemented foods that may apply to them.

Supplemented foods are starting to show new labels and some must carry a caution identifier on the front; this is a cue to look for the caution box on the back or side of the product.

Tell your patients to look for the caution identifier and read the caution box to know whether they should avoid having them together if they contain the same ingredients in certain amounts.

If you work with recreational athletes, it's important to know about supplemented foods. Your clients and patients may be consuming supplements and supplemented foods when working out. The two may not be suitable to have together if they contain the same ingredients in certain amounts.

Supplemented foods are starting to show new labels and some must carry a caution identifier on the front; this is a cue to look for the caution box on the back or side of the product

Tell your clients to look for the caution identifier and read the caution box to know whether they should avoid supplemented foods or supplements with the same supplemental ingredients, such as caffeine, so they can rest easy after their next training session.

Many participants reiterated the importance of this messaging, and several appreciated that certain messages were targeted to different groups. Among these participants, it was felt that given the diversity of Canada's population, a range of different communication styles and approaches would be necessary in order for this information to be resonant. A number suggested condensing the information in these statements to make them more digestible for social media users who were accustomed to consuming small pieces of content at a time. Asked if there was anything that stood out in particular, participants mentioned with a range of items, including:

- The word, "nutrition";
- Content regarding caffeine and chocolate;
- Content aimed at older adults; and
- Mandating labels.

While most were pleased at the content in the additional messages, a small number expressed concerns regarding what they viewed as the negative phrasing related to coffee consumption, while a few questioned who was referred to by the term 'recreational athletes'.

Community Challenges (Interior British Columbia, Estrie Region Quebec, Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora)

Three groups, comprised of participants residing in Interior B.C., the Estrie region of Quebec, and Calgary and Edmonton, respectively, took part in conversations related to their local communities. Asked to identify the top issues facing their communities that required greater prioritization from the federal government, participants in all groups mentioned concerns related to housing, health care, and the cost of living.

Questioned whether they had seen, read, or heard anything as of late related to the Government of Canada and infrastructure in their region, few could recall anything. Among those who were aware of something, a few in Calgary and Edmonton believed that the federal government had assisted in financing the construction of a train between the two cities, while some in Interior B.C. were of the impression that it had provided support for the building of more new housing in their areas. While a number were aware of recent projects to improve local infrastructure such as roadways, bridges, and schools, most expressed uncertainty as to whether these had been financed by the Government of Canada. Discussing the types of local infrastructure projects that they felt would be most important to their region, many believed that more needed to be done to expand public transportation services in their areas. Additionally, a number felt that more should be done to increase the number of walkways and bike lanes in their communities, create more public spaces such as parks, community gardens, and sports fields, and provide residents with additional health care resources such as hospitals, walk-in clinics, and long-term care facilities.

Describing what they viewed as the most important industries and sectors to their communities, participants provided a range of responses. Those residing in Calgary and Edmonton felt that oil and gas, health care, construction, and the machinery manufacturing industries were the most significant in their area, while participants in the Estrie region mentioned mining, agriculture, energy production, education, tourism, and health care as key economic drivers in their community. Participants in the group based in Interior B.C. identified sectors such as logging, forestry, tourism, agriculture, and the hotel industry as being important to their region. Asked what sectors in their respective areas they felt required the most help, participants in Interior B.C. mentioned hunting (due to firearms regulations) and tourism (due to lack of available accommodations). Those from the Estrie region of Quebec expressed that seniors' centres, housing, agriculture, and community organizations were all in need of greater assistance, while those in Calgary and Edmonton believed that more needed to be done to support the health care and education sectors.

Participants in all groups viewed labour shortages as being an issue in their communities. Prompted to identify the specific industries that they felt had been most impacted by these shortages, participants mentioned sectors such as agriculture, child care, restaurants and hospitality, education, health care, and construction. Discussing the factors that they felt had contributed to the labour shortages in their respective communities, many believed that employers in many cases were not



offering to pay their workers a living wage, and as such, the jobs on offer were not desirable for prospective workers. Additionally, a number were of the impression that many of the jobs available were either part-time or seasonal and did not provide the full-time work that most individuals were looking for. Asked whether they could think of any potential solutions to help reduce labour shortages, a number felt that more should be done to expedite the foreign credential recognition process for recent immigrants, allowing new arrivals to more readily work in their fields of expertise. Additionally, it was felt that there should be a greater focus on reaching out to older generations such as seniors to fill open positions, as well as providing more co-op opportunities to students to assist them in gaining valuable experience in the workplace and learning about career paths that may be of interest to them.

Appendices

Appendix A – Recruiting Scripts

English Recruiting Script

Privy Council Office Recruiting Script – June 2024 English Groups

Recruitment Specifications Summary

- Groups conducted online.
- Each group is expected to last for two hours.
- Recruit 8 participants.
- Incentives will be \$125 per person and will be sent to participants via e-transfer following the group.

Specifications for the focus groups are as follows:

| Group | Date | Time (ET) | Local Time | Location | Composition | Moderator |
|-------|------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|-----------|
| 1 | Tues, June 4 th | 6:00-8:00 PM | 6:00-8:00 PM (ET) | Golden Horseshoe | General Population | DN |
| 2 | Wed, June 5 th | 8:00-10:00 PM | 6:00-8:00 (CST) | Saskatchewan | General Population | MP |
| 3 | Thurs, June 6 th | 5:00-7:00 PM | 6:00-8:00 (ADT) 6:30-8:30 (NDT) | Atlantic Canada | Young Women, Aged 18-34 Heavier Media Users | DN |
| 4 | Tues, June 11 th | 8:00-10:00 PM | 6:00-8:00 (MDT) | Calgary & Edmonton | Southeast Asian Diaspora | TBW |
| 6 | Thurs, June 13 th | 9:00-11:00 PM | 6:00-8:00 (PDT) | British Columbia Interior | General Population | TBW |
| 7 | Tues, June 18 th | 6:00-8:00 PM | 6:00-8:00 PM (ET) | Toronto | Arab Women, Aged 35-54 | DN |
| 9 | Thurs, June 20 th | 9:00-11:00 PM | 6:00-8:00 (PDT) | Vancouver | Renters | TBW |
| 10 | Tues, June 25 th | 6:00-8:00 PM | 6:00-8:00 PM (ET) | Northern Ontario | General Population | TBW |
| 12 | Thurs, June 27 th | 7:00-9:00 PM | 6:00-8:00 PM (CDT) | Winnipeg | Indigenous Peoples | DN |

Recruiting Script



INTRODUCTION

Hello, my name is **[RECRUITER NAME]**. I'm calling from The Strategic Counsel, a national public opinion research firm, on behalf of the Government of Canada. / Bonjour, je m'appelle **[NOM DU RECRUTEUR]**. Je vous téléphone du Strategic Counsel, une entreprise nationale de recherche sur l'opinion publique, pour le compte du gouvernement du Canada.

Would you prefer to continue in English or French? / Préférez-vous continuer en français ou en anglais?
[CONTINUE IN LANGUAGE OF PREFERENCE]

RECORD LANGUAGE

English **CONTINUE**
French **SWITCH TO FRENCH SCREENER**

On behalf of the Government of Canada, we're organizing a series of online video focus group discussions to explore current issues of interest to Canadians.

The format is a "round table" discussion, led by an experienced moderator. Participants will be given a cash honorarium in appreciation of their time.

Your participation is completely voluntary, and all your answers will be kept confidential. We are only interested in hearing your opinions - no attempt will be made to sell or market you anything. The report that is produced from the series of discussion groups we are holding will not contain comments that are attributed to specific individuals.

But before we invite you to attend, we need to ask you a few questions to ensure that we get a good mix/variety of people in each of the groups. May I ask you a few questions?

Yes **CONTINUE**
No **THANK AND END**

SCREENING QUESTIONS

1. Have you, or has anyone in your household, worked for any of the following types of organizations in the last 5 years?

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| A market research firm | THANK AND END |
| A marketing, branding, or advertising agency | THANK AND END |
| A magazine or newspaper | THANK AND END |
| A federal/provincial/territorial government department or agency | THANK AND END |
| A political party | THANK AND END |
| In public/media relations | THANK AND END |
| In radio/television | THANK AND END |
| No, none of the above | CONTINUE |

1a. IN ALL LOCATIONS: Are you a retired Government of Canada employee?

Yes **THANK AND END**
No **CONTINUE**

2. In which city do you reside?

| LOCATION | CITIES | |
|--------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Golden Horseshoe | <p>Cities and regions include (but are not limited to):</p> <p>Toronto, Hamilton, St. Catherine's-Niagara, Oshawa, Kitchener, Cambridge, Waterloo, Barrie, Guelph, Brantford, Peterborough, Kawartha lakes</p> <p>ENSURE A GOOD MIX OF CITIES ACROSS THE REGION.</p> | CONTINUE – GROUP 1 |
| Saskatchewan | <p>Cities/regions include (but are not limited to):</p> <p>Saskatoon, Regina, Prince Albert, Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Yorkton, Lloydminster</p> <p>ENSURE A GOOD MIX ACROSS THE REGION.</p> | CONTINUE – GROUP 2 |
| Atlantic Canada | <p>Cities/regions could include (but are not limited to):</p> <p><u>Newfoundland</u>: St. John's, Corner Brook, Conception Bay, Mount Pearl, Labrador City, Grand Falls-Windsor, Paradise</p> <p><u>Nova Scotia</u>: Halifax, Cape Breton, New Glasgow, Glace Bay, Truro</p> <p><u>New Brunswick</u>: Greater Moncton Area, Greater Saint John Area, Quispamsis – Rothesay, Dieppe, Miramichi, Edmundston, Fredericton, Saint John</p> <p><u>Prince Edward Island</u>: Charlottetown, Charlottetown Region</p> <p>ENSURE A GOOD MIX OF CITIES/REGIONS ACROSS PROVINCES. NO MORE THAN 3 FROM EACH PROVINCE.</p> | CONTINUE – GROUP 3 |
| Calgary & Edmonton | <p>Cities include:</p> <p>Calgary & Edmonton</p> | CONTINUE – GROUP 4 |

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------------|
| | PARTICIPANTS MUST RESIDE IN THE ABOVE-NOTED CENTRES PROPER. | |
| British Columbia Interior | <p>Cities include (but are not limited to):</p> <p>Kamloops, Vernon, Kelowna, Penticton, Peachland Nelson, Cranbrook, Golden, Revelstoke, Prince George, Williams Lake, Fort St. John</p> <p>ENSURE A GOOD MIX OF CITIES ACROSS THE REGION. INCLUDE THOSE RESIDING IN LARGER AND SMALLER COMMUNITIES.</p> | CONTINUE – GROUP 6 |
| Toronto | <p>Cities include:</p> <p>Toronto</p> <p>PARTICIPANTS MUST RESIDE IN THE ABOVE-NOTED CENTRE PROPER.</p> | CONTINUE – GROUP 7 |
| Vancouver | <p>Cities include:</p> <p>Vancouver</p> <p>PARTICIPANTS MUST RESIDE IN THE ABOVE-NOTED CENTRE PROPER.</p> | CONTINUE – GROUP 9 |
| Northern Ontario | <p>Cities include (but are not limited to):</p> <p>Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, North Bay, Timmins, Kenora, Elliot Lake, Temiskaming Shores, Dryden</p> <p>ENSURE A GOOD MIX OF CITIES ACROSS THE REGION.</p> | CONTINUE – GROUP 10 |
| Winnipeg | <p>Cities include:</p> <p>Winnipeg</p> <p>PARTICIPANTS MUST RESIDE IN ABOVE NOTED CITY PROPER.</p> | CONTINUE – GROUP 12 |
| VOLUNTEERED Prefer not to answer | | THANK AND END |

2a. How long have you lived in [INSERT CITY]? **RECORD NUMBER OF YEARS.**

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Less than two years | THANK AND END |
| Two years or more | CONTINUE |
| Don't know/Prefer not to answer | THANK AND END |

3. Would you be willing to tell me in which of the following age categories you belong?

| | |
|--|--|
| Under 18 years of age | IF POSSIBLE, ASK FOR SOMEONE OVER 18 AND REINTRODUCE. OTHERWISE THANK AND END. |
| 18-34 | IF GROUP 7 – THANK AND END FOR ALL OTHERS – CONTINUE |
| 35-54 | IF GROUP 3 – THANK AND END FOR ALL OTHERS – CONTINUE |
| 55-64 | IF GROUP 3 OR GROUP 7 – THANK AND END |
| 65+ | FOR ALL OTHERS – CONTINUE |
| VOLUNTEERED Prefer not to answer | THANK AND END |

ENSURE A GOOD MIX WHERE APPLICABLE. **GROUP 3** WILL BE COMPOSED ENTIRELY OF THOSE AGED 18-34. **GROUP 7** WILL BE COMPOSED ENTIRELY OF THOSE AGED 35-54.

4. **ASK ONLY IF GROUP 4** Do you identify your primary cultural and/or ethnic heritage to be South East Asian?

Yes **CONTINUE TO Q4a.**
 No **THANK AND END**
VOLUNTEERED Prefer not to answer **THANK AND END**

- 4a. **ASK ONLY IF GROUP 4** Where did you and/or your family immigrate from?

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Brunei | CONTINUE |
| Cambodia | |
| Timor-Leste (East Timor) | |
| Indonesia | |
| Laos | |
| Malaysia | |
| Myanmar (Burma) | |
| Philippines | |
| Singapore | |
| Thailand | |
| Vietnam | |
| Other, please specify: _____ | |
| VOLUNTEERED Prefer not to answer | THANK AND END |

ENSURE A GOOD MIX BY COUNTRY/REGION OF IMMIGRATION.

5. **ASK IF ONLY GROUP 3 and GROUP 7** How would you identify your gender?



| | |
|--------|----------------------|
| Female | CONTINUE |
| Male | THANK AND END |
| Other | |

GROUP 3 AND GROUP 7 WILL BE COMPOSED ENTIRELY OF THOSE WHO SAY "FEMALE".

6. **ASK IF ONLY GROUP 7** Do you consider your primary cultural, regional, or ethnic heritage to be Arab?

Yes **CONTINUE TO Q6a.**

No **THANK AND END**

VOLUNTEERED Prefer not to answer **THANK AND END**

6a. **ASK IF ONLY GROUP 7** Where did you and/or your family emigrate from?

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Algeria | CONTINUE |
| Bahrain | |
| Comoros | |
| Djibouti | |
| Egypt | |
| Iraq | |
| Jordan | |
| Kuwait | |
| Lebanon | |
| Libia | |
| Mauritius | |
| Morocco | |
| Oman | |
| Palestine | |
| Qatar | |
| Saudi Arabia | |
| Somalia | |
| Sudan | |
| Tunisia | |
| Syria | |
| United Arab Emirates | |
| Yemen | |
| Israel | |
| Other, please specify: _____ | |
| VOLUNTEERED Prefer not to answer | THANK AND END |

ENSURE A GOOD MIX BY COUNTRY/REGION OF IMMIGRATION.

7. **ASK ONLY IF GROUP 7 and GROUP 4** Were you born in Canada?



Yes **CONTINUE TO Q7a.**
 No **CONTINUE TO Q7a.**
VOLUNTEERED Prefer not to answer **THANK AND END**

7a. ASK ONLY IF GROUP 7 and GROUP 4 How many years have you lived in Canada?

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Fewer than 5 years | CONTINUE |
| 5 to <10 years | |
| 10 to <20 years | |
| 20 to <30 years | |
| 30 or more | |
| Don't know/Prefer not to answer | THANK AND END |

ENSURE A GOOD MIX BETWEEN THOSE WHO WERE BORN IN CANADA AND THOSE WHO BORN OUTSIDE OF CANADA, IF POSSIBLE.

8. ASK ONLY IF GROUP 3 What kind of media do you consume the most?

1. News (Online news, websites, applications, televised news, print news, radio)
2. Social media (Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), Threads, TikTok, Snapchat, YouTube, other)
3. Television/film
4. Print media (Books, journals, magazines, newspapers)
5. Radio/podcasts

ENSURE A GOOD MIX.

8a. ASK IF ONLY GROUP 3 Which of the following statements describe your relationship with media (including all those mentioned above: news, social media, television, print media, and radio)?

1. I regularly view media multiple times a day and I often interact with content by liking, commenting, or sharing **CONTINUE TO Q8b.**
2. I regularly view media multiple times a day and I occasionally interact with content by liking, commenting, or sharing **CONTINUE TO Q8b.**
3. I regularly view media multiple times a day, but rarely or never like, comment, or share content **CONTINUE TO Q8b.**
4. I view media once or twice a day **THANK AND END**
5. I don't consume media **THANK AND END**

ENSURE A GOOD MIX.

8b. ASK ONLY IF GROUP 3 How much time would you say you spend consuming media everyday?

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. I usually spend more than 4 hours a day consuming media | CONTINUE |
| 2. I usually spend between 3-4 hours a day consuming media | CONTINUE |
| 3. I usually spend between 1-2 hours a day consuming media | THANK AND END |
| 4. I usually spend less than 1 hour a day consuming media | THANK AND END |



9. **ASK ONLY IF GROUP 12** Do you identify as Indigenous?
 Yes **CONTINUE TO Q9a.**
 No **THANK AND END**
VOLUNTEERED Prefer not to answer **THANK AND END**

- 9a. **ASK ONLY IF GROUP 12** Do you identify as...?

First Nations **CONTINUE**
 Métis **CONTINUE**
 Inuit **CONTINUE**
 None of the above **THANK AND END**

10. **ASK ALL GROUPS** Do you own or rent your current residence? **IF ASKED/CLARIFICATION REQUIRED:** You are considered a homeowner even if you have outstanding debt that you owe on your mortgage loan.

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Own | CONTINUE |
| Rent | CONTINUE – GROUP 9 |
| VOLUNTEERED Living at home | CONTINUE |
| VOLUNTEERED Other, please specify: | |
| VOLUNTEERED Don't know/not sure | THANK AND END |

ENSURE A GOOD MIX WHERE APPLICABLE.

- 10a. **ASK ALL GROUPS** Which of the following best describes the residence you currently [own/rent]?

Condo **CONTINUE**
 Apartment **CONTINUE**
 Single family home **CONTINUE**
 Townhome **CONTINUE**
 Other, please specify: _____ **CONTINUE**

ENSURE A GOOD MIX.

11. Are you familiar with the concept of a focus group?

Yes **CONTINUE**
 No **EXPLAIN THE FOLLOWING** “a focus group consists of six to eight participants and one moderator. During a two-hour session, participants are asked to discuss a wide range of issues related to the topic being examined.”

12. As part of the focus group, you will be asked to actively participate in a conversation. Thinking of how you engage in group discussions, how would you rate yourself on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means ‘you tend to sit back and listen to others’ and 5 means ‘you are usually one of the first people to speak’?

1-2 **THANK AND END**
 3-5 **CONTINUE**



- 13.** As this group is being conducted online, in order to participate you will need to have high-speed Internet and a computer with a working webcam, microphone and speaker. **RECRUITER TO CONFIRM THE FOLLOWING. TERMINATE IF NO TO EITHER.**

Participant has high-speed access to the Internet
Participant has a computer/webcam

- 14. ASK ALL GROUPS** Have you used online meeting software, such as Zoom, Webex, Microsoft Teams, Google Hangouts/Meet, etc., in the last two years?

Yes **CONTINUE**
No **CONTINUE**

- 15. ASK ALL GROUPS** How skilled would you say you are at using online meeting platforms on your own, using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means you are not at all skilled, and 5 means you are very skilled?

1-2 **THANK AND END**
3-5 **CONTINUE**

- 16. ASK ALL GROUPS** During the discussion, you could be asked to read or view materials on screen and/or participate in poll-type exercises online. You will also be asked to actively participate online using a webcam. Can you think of any reason why you may have difficulty reading the materials or participating by video?

TERMINATE IF RESPONDENT OFFERS ANY REASON SUCH AS SIGHT OR HEARING PROBLEM, A WRITTEN OR VERBAL LANGUAGE PROBLEM, A CONCERN WITH NOT BEING ABLE TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY, ANY CONCERNS WITH USING A WEBCAM OR IF YOU AS THE INTERVIEWER HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT THE PARTICIPANT'S ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE EFFECTIVELY.

- 17.** Have you ever attended a focus group discussion, an interview or survey which was arranged in advance and for which you received a sum of money?

Yes **CONTINUE**
No **SKIP TO Q.21**

- 18.** How long ago was the last focus group you attended?

Less than 6 months ago **THANK AND END**
More than 6 months ago **CONTINUE**

- 19.** How many focus group discussions have you attended in the past 5 years?

0-4 groups **CONTINUE**
5 or more groups **THANK AND END**

- 20.** On what topics were they and do you recall who or what organization the groups were being undertaken for?



TERMINATE IF ANY ON SIMILAR/SAME TOPIC OR GOVERNMENT OF CANADA IDENTIFIED AS ORGANIZATION

ADDITIONAL RECRUITING CRITERIA

Now we have just a few final questions before we give you the details of the focus group, including the time and date.

21. What is the highest level of formal education that you have completed?

Grade 8 or less

Some high school

High school diploma or equivalent

Registered Apprenticeship or other trades certificate or diploma

College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma

University certificate or diploma below bachelor's level

Bachelor's degree

Post graduate degree above bachelor's level

VOLUNTEERED Prefer not to answer **THANK AND END**

ENSURE A GOOD MIX.

22. ASK ALL GROUPS Which of the following best describes the industry/sector in which you are currently employed?

Accommodation and Food Services

Administrative and Support, Waste Management and Remediation Services

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting

Arts, Entertainment and Recreation

Automotive

Construction

Educational Services

Finance & Insurance

Health Care

Social Assistance

Information and Cultural Industries

Management of Companies and Enterprises

Manufacturing

Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction

Other Services (except Public Administration)

Professional, Scientific and Technical Services

Public Administration

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing

Retail Trade

Transportation and Warehousing

Utilities

Wholesale Trade

Unemployed

Full Time Student
Retired
Other, please specify: _____

ENSURE A GOOD MIX BY TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT IF APPLICABLE. NO MORE THAN TWO PER SECTOR. NO MORE THAN 2 WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED. NO INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN ANY GROUPS.

- 23. ASK ALL GROUPS** Which of the following categories best describes your total household income in 2023? That is, the total income of all persons in your household combined, before taxes?

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Under \$20,000 | CONTINUE |
| \$20,000 to just under \$40,000 | |
| \$40,000 to just under \$60,000 | |
| \$60,000 to just under \$80,000 | |
| \$80,000 to just under \$100,000 | |
| \$100,000 to just under \$125,000 | |
| \$100,000 to just under \$150,000 | |
| \$150,000 and above | THANK AND END |
| VOLUNTEERED Prefer not to answer | |

ENSURE A GOOD MIX WHERE APPLICABLE.

- 24. ASK ALL GROUPS EXCEPT GROUP 4 AND GROUP 7** Which of the following racial or cultural groups best describes you? (multi-select)

White/Caucasian
South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan)
Chinese
Black
Latin American
Filipino
Arab
Southeast Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Thai)
Korean or Japanese
Indigenous
Other (specify)

VOLUNTEERED Prefer not to answer **THANK AND END**

ENSURE A GOOD MIX.

- 25. [DO NOT ASK] Gender RECORD BY OBSERVATION.**

| | |
|--------|-----------------|
| Male | CONTINUE |
| Female | CONTINUE |

ENSURE A GOOD MIX BY GENDER IN EACH GROUP WHERE APPLICABLE.



26. The focus group discussion will be audio-taped and video-taped for research purposes only. The taping is conducted to assist our researchers in writing their report. Do you consent to being audio-taped and video-taped?

Yes **CONTINUE TO INVITATION ON NEXT PAGE**

No **THANK AND END**

INVITATION

I would like to invite you to this online focus group discussion, which will take place the evening of **[INSERT DATE/TIME BASED ON GROUP # IN CHART ON PAGE 1]**. The group will be two hours in length and you will receive \$125 for your participation following the group via an e-transfer.

Please note that there may be observers from the Government of Canada at the group and that the discussion will be videotaped. By agreeing to participate, you have given your consent to these procedures.

Would you be willing to attend?

Yes **CONTINUE**

No **THANK AND END**

May I please have your full name, a telephone number that is best to reach you at as well as your e-mail address if you have one so that I can send you the details for the group?

Name:

Telephone Number:

E-mail Address:

You will receive an e-mail from **[INSERT RECRUITER]** with the instructions to login to the online group. Should you have any issues logging into the system specifically, you can contact our technical support team at support@thestrategiccounsel.com.

We ask that you are online at least 15 minutes prior to the beginning of the session in order to ensure you are set up and to allow our support team to assist you in case you run into any technical issues. We also ask that you restart your computer prior to joining the group.

You may be required to view some material during the course of the discussion. If you require glasses to do so, please be sure to have them handy at the time of the group. Also, you will need a pen and paper in order to take some notes throughout the group.

This is a firm commitment. If you anticipate anything preventing you from attending (either home or work-related), please let me know now and we will keep your name for a future study. If for any reason you are unable to attend, please let us know as soon as possible at **[1-800-xxx-xxxx]** so we can find a replacement.

Thank you very much for your time.

RECRUITED BY: _____ **/DATE RECRUITED:** _____

French Recruiting Script

Bureau du Conseil privé Questionnaire de recrutement – juin 2024 Groupes en français

Résumé des consignes de recrutement

- Groupes tenus en ligne.
- Durée prévue de chaque rencontre : deux heures.
- Recrutement de huit participants.
- Incitatifs de 125 \$ par personne, versés aux participants par transfert électronique après la rencontre.

Caractéristiques des groupes de discussion :

| GRUPE | DATE | HEURE (HNE) | HEURE (LOCALE) | LIEU | COMPOSITION DU GROUPE | MODÉRAT EUR |
|-------|---------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 5 | 12 juin | 6:00-8:00 | 6:00-8:00 (HAE) | Estrie | Population générale | MP |
| 8 | 19 juin | 6:00-8:00 | 6:00-8:00 (HAE) | Québec | Aînés, 65 ans et plus | MP |
| 11 | 26 juin | 6:00-8:00 | 6:00-8:00 (HAE) | Ville de Québec | Population générale | MP |

Questionnaire de recrutement

INTRODUCTION

Bonjour, je m'appelle **[NOM DU RECRUTEUR]**. Je vous téléphone du Strategic Counsel, une entreprise nationale de recherche sur l'opinion publique, pour le compte du gouvernement du Canada. / Hello, my name is **[RECRUITER NAME]**. I'm calling from The Strategic Counsel, a national public opinion research firm, on behalf of the Government of Canada

Préféreriez-vous continuer en français ou en anglais? / Would you prefer to continue in English or French?
[CONTINUER DANS LA LANGUE PRÉFÉRÉE]

NOTER LA LANGUE ET CONTINUER

Français **CONTINUER**

Anglais **PASSER AU QUESTIONNAIRE ANGLAIS**



Nous organisons, pour le compte du gouvernement du Canada, une série de groupes de discussion vidéo en ligne afin d'explorer des questions d'actualité qui intéressent les Canadiens.

La rencontre prendra la forme d'une table ronde animée par un modérateur expérimenté. Les participants recevront un montant d'argent en remerciement de leur temps.

Votre participation est entièrement volontaire et toutes vos réponses seront confidentielles. Nous aimerions simplement connaître vos opinions : personne n'essaiera de vous vendre quoi que ce soit ou de promouvoir des produits. Notre rapport sur cette série de groupes de discussion n'attribuera aucun commentaire à une personne en particulier.

Avant de vous inviter à participer, je dois vous poser quelques questions qui nous permettront de former des groupes suffisamment diversifiés. Puis-je vous poser quelques questions?

Oui **CONTINUER**
Non **REMERCIER ET CONCLURE**

QUESTIONS DE SÉLECTION

1. Est-ce que vous ou une personne de votre ménage avez travaillé pour l'un des types d'organisations suivants au cours des cinq dernières années?

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Une société d'études de marché | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |
| Une agence de commercialisation, de marque ou de publicité | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |
| Un magazine ou un journal | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |
| Un ministère ou un organisme gouvernemental fédéral, provincial ou territorial | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |
| Un parti politique | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |
| Dans les relations publiques ou les relations avec les médias | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |
| Dans le milieu de la radio ou de la télévision | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |
| Non, aucune de ces réponses | CONTINUER |

- 1a. **POUR TOUS LES LIEUX** : Êtes-vous un ou une employé(e) retraité(e) du gouvernement du Canada?

Oui **REMERCIER ET CONCLURE**
Non **CONTINUER**

2. Quelle est la langue officielle du Canada que vous parlez principalement aujourd'hui?

Anglais **REMERCIER ET CONCLURE**
Français **CONTINUER**
Autre [Préciser ou non la langue, selon les besoins de l'étude] **REMERCIER ET CONCLURE**
Préfère ne pas répondre **REMERCIER ET CONCLURE**

3. Dans quelle ville habitez-vous?

| LIEU | VILLES | |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| Estrie | <p>Ces villes peuvent notamment comprendre (mais ne sont pas limité à):</p> <p>Sherbrooke, Granby, Bromont, Coaticook, Windsor, Lac-Brome, Magog, Farnham, Cowansville, Cookshire-Eaton</p> <p>ASSURER UN BON MÉLANGE. PAS PLUS DE TROIS PERSONNES QUI VIENNENT DE SHERBROOKE.</p> | CONTINUER – GROUPE 5 |
| Québec | <p>Les villes peuvent notamment comprendre (mais ne sont pas limité à) :</p> <p>Montréal, Gatineau, Ville de Québec, Saguenay, Sherbrooke, Trois-Rivières, Saint-Jérôme, Chicoutimi – Jonquière, Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Chateauguay, Drummondville, Granby, Saint-Hyacinthe</p> <p>ASSURER UNE BONNE REPRÉSENTATION DES VILLES DE LA RÉGION.</p> | CONTINUER – GROUPE 8 |
| Ville de Québec | <p>Ville de Québec.</p> <p>LES PARTICIPANTS DOIVENT RÉSIDER DANS LEDIT CENTRE.</p> | CONTINUER – GROUPE 11 |
| RÉPONSE SPONTANÉE Préfère ne pas répondre | | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |

4. Depuis combien de temps habitez-vous à [INSÉRER LE NOM DE LA VILLE]? **NOTER LE NOMBRE D'ANNÉES.**

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Moins de deux ans | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |
| Deux ans ou plus | CONTINUER |
| Ne sais pas/Préfère ne pas répondre | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |

5. Seriez-vous prêt/prête à m'indiquer votre tranche d'âge dans la liste suivante?

| | |
|---|---|
| Moins de 18 ans | SI POSSIBLE, DEMANDER À PARLER À UNE PERSONNE DE 18 ANS OU PLUS ET REFAIRE L'INTRODUCTION. SINON, REMERCIER ET CONCLURE. |
| 18 à 27 ans | SI GROUPE B – REMERCIER ET CONCLURE TOUS LES AUTRES GROUPES – CONTINUER |
| 28 à 43 ans | |
| 43 à 54 ans | |
| 55 ans ou plus | CONTINUER |
| 65 ans ou plus | |
| RÉPONSE SPONTANÉE Préfère ne pas répondre | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |

GROUPE B SERA CONSTITUÉ DE CEUX QUI ONT 65 ANS OU PLUS. ASSURER UNE BONNE REPRÉSENTATION D'ÂGES DANS CHAQUE GROUPE, S'IL Y A LIEU.

6. Êtes-vous actuellement propriétaire ou locataire de votre résidence principale? **ECLAIRCISSEMENT AU BESOIN** : Vous êtes considéré comme propriétaire même si vous avez une dette hypothécaire active.

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Propriétaire | CONTINUER |
| Locataire | CONTINUER |
| RÉPONSE SPONTANÉE Habitant au domicile parentale | CONTINUER |
| RÉPONSE SPONTANÉE Autre, veuillez préciser : | CONTINUER |
| RÉPONSE SPONTANÉE Ne sais pas/Préfère ne pas répondre | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |

- 6a. Parmi les choix suivants, lequel décrit le mieux la résidence dont vous êtes actuellement [propriétaire/locataire]?

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Condo | CONTINUER |
| Appartement | CONTINUER |
| Maison unifamiliale | CONTINUER |
| Maison en rangée | CONTINUER |
| Autre, veuillez préciser : _____ | CONTINUER |

ASSURER UN BON MÉLANGE.

7. Est-ce que vous connaissez le concept du « groupe de discussion » ?

Oui **CONTINUER**

Non **EXPLIQUER QUE** : « un groupe de discussion se compose de six à huit participants et d'un modérateur. Au cours d'une période de deux heures, les participants sont invités à discuter d'un éventail de questions reliées au sujet abordé ».



8. Dans le cadre du groupe de discussion, on vous demandera de participer activement à une conversation. En pensant à la manière dont vous interagissez lors de discussions en groupe, quelle note vous donneriez-vous sur une échelle de 1 à 5 si 1 signifie « j'ai tendance à ne pas intervenir et à écouter les autres parler » et 5, « je suis habituellement une des premières personnes à parler »?

1-2 **REMERCIER ET CONCLURE**
3-5 **CONTINUER**

9. Étant donné que ce groupe se réunira en ligne, vous aurez besoin, pour participer, d'un accès Internet haut débit et d'un ordinateur muni d'une caméra Web, d'un microphone et d'un haut-parleur en bon état de marche. **CONFIRMER LES POINTS CI-DESSOUS. METTRE FIN À L'APPEL SI NON À L'UN DES TROIS.**

Le participant a accès à Internet haut débit
Le participant a un ordinateur avec caméra Web

10. Avez-vous utilisé des logiciels de réunion en ligne tels que Zoom, Webex, Microsoft Teams, Google Hangouts/Meet, etc., au cours des deux dernières années?

Oui **CONTINUER**
Non **CONTINUER**

11. Sur une échelle de 1 à 5 signifie que vous n'êtes pas du tout habile et 5 que vous êtes très habile, comment évaluez-vous votre capacité à utiliser seul(e) les plateformes de réunion en ligne?

1-2 **REMERCIER ET CONCLURE**
3-5 **CONTINUER**

12. Au cours de la discussion, vous pourriez devoir lire ou visionner du matériel affiché à l'écran, ou faire des exercices en ligne comme ceux qu'on trouve dans les sondages. On vous demandera aussi de participer activement à la discussion en ligne à l'aide d'une caméra Web. Pensez-vous avoir de la difficulté, pour une raison ou une autre, à lire les documents ou à participer à la discussion par vidéo?
CONCLURE L'ENTRETIEN SI LE RÉPONDANT SIGNALE UN PROBLÈME DE VISION OU D'AUDITION, UN PROBLÈME DE LANGUE PARLÉE OU ÉCRITE, S'IL CRAINT DE NE POUVOIR COMMUNIQUER EFFICACEMENT, SI L'UTILISATION D'UNE CAMÉRA WEB LUI POSE PROBLÈME, OU SI VOUS, EN TANT QU'INTERVIEWEUR, AVEZ DES DOUBTES QUANT À SA CAPACITÉ DE PARTICIPER EFFICACEMENT AUX DISCUSSIONS.

13. Avez-vous déjà participé à un groupe de discussion, à une entrevue ou à un sondage organisé à l'avance en contrepartie d'une somme d'argent?

Oui **CONTINUER**
Non **PASSER À LA Q.17**

14. À quand remonte le dernier groupe de discussion auquel vous avez participé?

À moins de six mois **REMERCIER ET CONCLURE**
À plus de six mois **CONTINUER**



15. À combien de groupes de discussion avez-vous participé au cours des cinq dernières années?

- 0 à 4 groupes **CONTINUER**
5 groupes ou plus **REMERCIER ET CONCLURE**

16. Quel était leur sujet, et vous rappelez-vous pour qui ou pour quelle organisation ces groupes étaient organisés?

TERMINER SI LE SUJET EST SEMBLABLE OU IDENTIQUE, OU SI L'ORGANISATION NOMMÉE EST LE GOUVERNEMENT DU CANADA

CRITÈRES DE RECRUTEMENT SUPPLÉMENTAIRES

Il me reste quelques dernières questions avant de vous donner les détails du groupe de discussion, comme l'heure et la date.

17. Laquelle des catégories suivantes décrit le mieux le revenu annuel total de votre ménage en 2023 – c'est-à-dire le revenu cumulatif de l'ensemble des membres de votre ménage avant impôt?

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Moins de 20 000 \$ | CONTINUER |
| 20 000 \$ à moins de 40 000 \$ | CONTINUER |
| 40 000 \$ à moins de 60 000 \$ | CONTINUER |
| 60 000 \$ à moins de 80 000 \$ | CONTINUER |
| 80 000 \$ à moins de 100 000 \$ | CONTINUER |
| 100 000 \$ à moins de 150 000 \$ | CONTINUER |
| 150 000 \$ ou plus | CONTINUER |
| RÉPONSE SPONTANÉE : Préfère ne pas répondre | REMERCIER ET CONCLURE |

ASSURER UN BON MÉLANGE, S'IL Y A LIEU.

18. Lequel ou lesquels des groupes raciaux ou culturels suivants vous décrivent le mieux? (Plusieurs choix possibles)

- Blanc
- Sud-asiatique (p. ex., indien, pakistanais, sri-lankais)
- Chinois
- Noir
- Latino-américain
- Philippin
- Arabe
- Asiatique du sud-est (p. ex., vietnamien, cambodgien, thaïlandais)
- Coréen ou japonais
- Autochtone
- Autre groupe racial ou culturel (préciser)

RÉPONSE SPONTANÉE : Préfère ne pas répondre

ASSURER UN BON MÉLANGE.



19. Quel est le niveau de scolarité le plus élevé que vous avez atteint?

- École primaire
- Études secondaires partielles
- Diplôme d'études secondaires ou l'équivalent
- Certificat ou diplôme d'apprenti inscrit ou d'une école de métiers
- Certificat ou diplôme d'un collège, cégep ou autre établissement non universitaire
- Certificat ou diplôme universitaire inférieur au baccalauréat
- Baccalauréat
- Diplôme d'études supérieur au baccalauréat

RÉPONSE SPONTANÉE : Préfère ne pas répondre

ASSURER UN BON MÉLANGE.

20. [NE PAS DEMANDER] Sexe **NOTER SELON VOTRE OBSERVATION.**

Homme

Femme

ASSURER UNE PROPORTION ÉGALE D'HOMMES ET DE FEMMES DANS CHAQUE GROUPE.

21. Parmi les choix suivants, lequel décrit le mieux le secteur d'activité dans lequel vous travaillez?

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Métier de la construction ou métier spécialisé | TOUS LES GROUPES - CONTINUER |
| Administrations publiques | |
| Agriculture, foresterie, pêche et chasse | |
| Arts, spectacle et loisirs | |
| Autres services, sauf les administrations publiques | |
| Commerce de détail | |
| Commerce de gros | |
| Extraction minière, exploitation en carrière, et extraction de pétrole et de gaz | |
| Fabrication | |
| Finance et assurances | |
| Gestion de sociétés et d'entreprises | |
| Hébergement et services de restauration | |
| Industrie de l'information et industrie culturelle | |
| Services administratifs, services de soutien, services de gestion des déchets et services d'assainissement | |
| Services d'enseignement | |
| Services immobiliers et services de location et de location à bail | |
| Services professionnels, scientifiques et techniques | |
| Services publics | |
| Soins de santé et assistance sociale | |
| Transport et entreposage | |
| Sans emploi | |
| Aux études à temps plein | |



| | |
|---|--|
| À la retraite | |
| Autre situation ou autre secteur; veuillez préciser : | |

ASSURER UNE BONNE REPRÉSENTATION DES TYPES D'EMPLOI DANS CHAQUE GROUPE. PAS PLUS DE DEUX RÉPONDANTS PAR SECTEUR D'ACTIVITÉ. PAS D'ÉTUDIANTS ÉTRANGERS.

22. La discussion sera enregistrée sur bandes audio et vidéo, strictement aux fins de la recherche. Les enregistrements aideront nos chercheurs à rédiger leur rapport. Est-ce que vous consentez à ce qu'on vous enregistre sur bandes audio et vidéo?

Oui **CONTINUER À L'INVITATION**
Non **REMERCIER ET CONCLUREE**

INVITATION

J'aimerais vous inviter à ce groupe de discussion en ligne, qui aura lieu le **[DONNER LA DATE ET L'HEURE EN FONCTION DU NO DE GROUPE INDIQUÉ DANS LE TABLEAU, PAGE 1]**. La discussion durera deux heures et vous recevrez 125 \$ pour votre participation. Ce montant vous sera envoyé par transfert électronique après la tenue du groupe de discussion.

Veuillez noter que des observateurs du gouvernement du Canada pourraient être présents au groupe et que la discussion sera enregistrée sur bande vidéo. En acceptant de participer, vous donnez votre consentement à ces modalités.

Est-ce que vous accepteriez de participer?

Oui **CONTINUER**
Non **REMERCIER ET CONCLURE**

Puis-je avoir votre nom complet, le numéro de téléphone où vous êtes le plus facile à joindre et votre adresse électronique, si vous en avez une, pour vous envoyer les détails au sujet du groupe?

Nom :

Numéro de téléphone :

Adresse courriel :

Vous recevrez un courrier électronique du **[INSÉRER LE NOM DU RECRUTEUR]** expliquant comment rejoindre le groupe en ligne. Si la connexion au système vous pose des difficultés, veuillez en aviser notre équipe de soutien technique à : support@thestrategiccounsel.com.

Nous vous prions de vous mettre en ligne au moins 15 minutes avant l'heure prévue, afin d'avoir le temps de vous installer et d'obtenir l'aide de notre équipe de soutien en cas de problèmes techniques. Veuillez également redémarrer votre ordinateur avant de vous joindre au groupe.

Vous pourriez devoir lire des documents au cours de la discussion. Si vous utilisez des lunettes, assurez-vous de les avoir à portée de main durant la rencontre. Vous aurez également besoin d'un stylo et de papier pour prendre des notes.



THE
**STRATEGIC
COUNSEL**

Ce rendez-vous est un engagement ferme. Si vous pensez ne pas pouvoir participer pour des raisons personnelles ou professionnelles, veuillez m'en aviser dès maintenant et nous conserverons votre nom pour une étude ultérieure. Enfin, si jamais vous n'êtes pas en mesure de participer, veuillez nous prévenir le plus rapidement possible au [1-800-xxx-xxxx] pour que nous puissions trouver quelqu'un pour vous remplacer.

Merci de votre temps.

RECRUTEMENT FAIT PAR : _____

DATE DU RECRUTEMENT : _____

Appendix B – Discussion Guides

English Moderator's Guide

MASTER MODERATOR'S GUIDE JUNE 2024

INTRODUCTION (10 minutes) All locations

- Moderator or technician should let participants know that they will need pen and paper in order to take some notes, jot down some thoughts around some material that we will show them later in the discussion.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA IN THE NEWS/ [NEWS CONSUMPTION] (5-52 minutes) All Locations

- **All Locations** What have you seen, read, or heard about the Government of Canada in the last few days?
 - **Saskatchewan, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** Where did you hear, read, or see this information?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** What about when it comes to international relations?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** What are your reactions to this news?
- **Golden Horseshoe** What news, if any, have you seen, read, or heard lately about the Government of Canada investing in research and innovation or cutting-edge research?

SHOW ON SCREEN Golden Horseshoe

The Government of Canada has announced funding of more than \$800 million that will support 24 organizations. The funding was awarded through a new competitive, merit-based and transparent process, informed by the advice of an independent expert review panel.

These 24 organizations span Canada's science and research landscape and are making contributions in a range of crucial areas including:

- Researching and developing health care solutions;
- Encouraging innovations in aging and brain health;
- Supporting Indigenous inclusion and research;
- Addressing climate change;
- Supporting Arctic science and research;
- Making advancements in emerging technologies such as quantum computing and artificial intelligence;
- Promoting science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education among young people; and
- Facilitating learning and training opportunities for post-secondary students.

- **Golden Horseshoe** What are your reactions to this? What impacts do you think this could have?
- **Golden Horseshoe** Would you say the Government of Canada is generally on the right track or wrong track when it comes to investing in research and innovation? Why do you feel this way?
- **Atlantic Canada Young Women Aged 18-34 Heavier Social Media Users** How much time do you typically spend reading, watching, or listening to the news?
- **Atlantic Canada Young Women Aged 18-34 Heavier Social Media Users, Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora, Toronto Arab Women, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** What are your primary sources for news? (TV news, radio, social media, friends/family?)
 - **Atlantic Canada Young Women Aged 18-34 Heavier Social Media Users** Are there any sources that are more or less reliable for news?
 - **Atlantic Canada Young Women Aged 18-34 Heavier Social Media Users** IF YES: Which ones?
 - **Atlantic Canada Young Women Aged 18-34 Heavier Social Media Users** IF NOT MENTIONED: How many of you use social media to get news?
 - **Atlantic Canada Young Women Aged 18-34 Heavier Social Media Users** Are some platforms more credible or trustworthy than others when it comes to news? Why?
 - **Atlantic Canada Young Women Aged 18-34 Heavier Social Media Users** Which do you find more/less credible?
 - **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** Do you ever seek out news in a language other than English?
 - **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** Are there any sources you turn to that specialize in news for Southeast Asian audiences?
 - **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** IF YES: What are they?
 - **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** IF YES: How often do you turn to these sources?
 - **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** Are there some news sources you trust more than others? Why do you say that?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** Do you mostly get news from English language sources or in another language?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** IF ANOTHER LANGUAGE: Which language(s)?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** How often do you turn to sources in other languages?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** Do you mostly get news from Canadian media or media from another country?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** IF ANOTHER COUNTRY: Which countr(y/ies)?

- **Toronto Arab Women** How often do you turn to media from another country?
 - **Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** How would you rate your level of trust in the news source you use?
 - **Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** How do you go about deciding whether a news source is trustworthy or not?
- **Toronto Arab Women** If you were looking for federal government news, where would you go to first? Why?
- **Estrie** IF NOT MENTIONED: Have you heard anything related to the Government of Canada and dental care?
 - **Estrie** IF YES: What have you heard? What are your reactions?
 - **Estrie** Do you have any concerns?
- **Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** If you were looking for news about the Government of Canada, where would you expect to get that information? Why?
 - **Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** Do you ever turn to Government of Canada sources for news or information? Why or why not?

PERFORMANCE AND PRIORITIES [COST OF LIVING, SENIORS] (10-35 minutes) **Golden Horseshoe, Saskatchewan, Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora, Estrie, Interior BC, Toronto Arab Women, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+, Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario, Quebec City, Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples**

Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora Now I'd like to focus on the Government of Canada more broadly...

- **Golden Horseshoe, Saskatchewan, Estrie, Interior BC, Vancouver Renters, Toronto Arab Women, Northern Ontario, Quebec City** In your opinion, what are the top issues that the Government of Canada should be prioritizing? Why? [Why are these issues important to prioritize?]
 - **Saskatchewan** IF NOT MENTIONED: What about when it comes to the cost of living?
 - **Saskatchewan** What are the biggest challenges related to the cost of living that the Government of Canada should be prioritizing?
- **Golden Horseshoe, Saskatchewan, Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora, Estrie, Interior BC, Toronto Arab Women, Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario, Quebec City, Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** What does the Government of Canada do well?

- **Golden Horseshoe, Saskatchewan, Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora, Estrie, Interior BC, Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario, Toronto Arab Women, Quebec City, Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** What does the Government of Canada need to improve on? [Why/Why do you say that?]
- **Saskatchewan** What have you seen, read, or heard about work the Government of Canada has done to tackle the high cost of living? What do you think about it?
 - **Saskatchewan** AS NEEDED: What about when it comes to housing? What about when it comes to groceries?
- **Saskatchewan** Would you say the Government of Canada is generally on the right track or wrong track when it comes to addressing the high cost of living? Why do you say that?
- **Saskatchewan** IF TELECOMMUNICATIONS NOT MENTIONED AS A PRIORITY, ASK: What about telecommunications? How big of a priority should addressing costs for things like mobile phone and home internet services be for the Government of Canada?
- **Saskatchewan** What, if anything, have you seen, read, or heard about work the Government of Canada has done to help make telecom services more affordable? What do you think about it?
- **Saskatchewan** How much of an impact, if any, do telecom services have on the cost of living?
- **Saskatchewan** IF AGRICULTURE NOT MENTIONED AS A PRIORITY, ASK: What about agriculture? How big of a priority should the agricultural sector be for the Government of Canada?
- **Saskatchewan** What, if anything, have you seen, read, or heard about work the Government of Canada has done to address issues in the agricultural sector? What do you think about it?
- **Saskatchewan** How much of an impact does climate change have on agriculture?
 - **Saskatchewan** IF IMPACTED: Does climate change's impact on agriculture also have an impact on the cost of living? If yes, how much of an impact does it have?
- **Saskatchewan** What have you seen, read, or heard about work the Government of Canada has done to address climate change? What do you think about it?



- **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** In addition to the issues specific to your community, in your opinion, what are other top issues that the Government of Canada should be prioritizing? Why are these issues important to prioritize?
- **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** And what are the top issues impacting Southeast Asian Canadians that the Government of Canada should be prioritizing?
 - **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** When it comes to these issues, would you say that the Government of Canada is generally on the right track or wrong track? Why do you say that?
 - **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** IF WRONG TRACK: What does the Government of Canada need to do to get on the right track?
- **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** What about when it comes to international relations, especially in Southeast Asia (like Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, etc.)? Is this an issue that the Government of Canada should be prioritizing? Why or why not?
- **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** When it comes to managing international relations, especially in Southeast Asia, would you say the Government of Canada is generally on the right track or wrong track? Why do you say that?
- **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** Have you seen, read, or heard anything recently about the Government of Canada strengthening ties with Southeast Asian nations?
 - IF YES: What have you heard?
- **Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora** When it comes to engaging with Southeast Asian Canadians, would you say the Government of Canada is generally on the right or wrong track?
 - What do you think are better ways for the government to engage with Southeast Asian Canadians?

Toronto Arab Women And now thinking about Arab Canadians specifically...

- **Toronto Arab Women** What are the top issues impacting Arab Canadians that the Government of Canada should be prioritizing?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** What news have you ever seen, read, or heard about the Government of Canada's past work on any of these issues?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** What work, if any, is the federal government planning to do on these issues?

- **Toronto Arab Women** On these priorities, is the federal government generally on the right track or wrong track? Why do you say that?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** IF WRONG TRACK: What does the Government of Canada need to do to get on the right track?
- **Toronto Arab Women** When it comes to managing international relations, especially with Arab majority countries, would you say the Government of Canada is generally on the right track or wrong track? Why do you say that?
- **Toronto Arab Women** Have you seen, read, or heard anything recently about the Government of Canada and its relations with Arab majority nations?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** IF YES: What have you heard?
- **Toronto Arab Women** When it comes to engaging with Arab Canadians, would you say the federal government is generally on the right or wrong track?
- **Toronto Arab Women** What are better ways for the federal government to engage with Arab Canadians?
- **Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** In your opinion, what are the top issues facing working seniors that the Government of Canada should be prioritizing? Why?
 - **Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** IF NOT MENTIONED: What about the cost of living?
- **Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** What, if anything, is the Government of Canada doing to address the rising cost of living?
 - **Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** Would you say that the federal government is generally on the right track or wrong track? Why?
- **Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** How much of an impact, if at all, has the cost of living had on your retirement plans?
- **Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** How important, if at all, are government programs like Old Age Security (OAS), and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) to making your lives more affordable? How familiar, if at all, are you with these programs?
- **Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** Is anyone aware of any work the Government of Canada has done with any of these programs?

Quebec Seniors Aged 65+ CLARIFY:

OAS and GIS benefits are adjusted each year to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index to ensure that they keep up with the cost of living. OAS and GIS benefits are reviewed in January, April, July and October.

- **Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** What are your reactions to this? Is there any information that you were unaware of before today?

Quebec Seniors Aged 65+ Over the last few years, there have been some changes to these programs. We will review one of these now.

SHOW ON SCREEN Quebec Seniors Aged 65+

As of July 2022, seniors who are 75 years old or older receive an automatic 10% increase of their Old Age Security pension.

- What is your reaction to this?
- Does this change impact you in any way?
 - IF YES: How?
- **When** it comes to engaging with seniors, would you say the Government of Canada is generally on the right or wrong track?
 - What do you think are better ways for the government to engage with seniors?
- **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** In your opinion, what are the top issues Indigenous peoples are facing that the federal government should be prioritizing?
 - **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** What about for Indigenous peoples in Winnipeg?
- **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** In your opinion, has the Government of Canada prioritized reconciliation?
 - **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** IF YES: Would you say it has been a minor priority, or a major priority?



- **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** What areas do you think the Government of Canada should be prioritizing to help advance reconciliation? Why do you feel this way?
- **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** How would you measure progress on reconciliation?
 - **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** Are there specific actions or outcomes that would show progress?
 - **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** IF YES: What are they?
- Do you have any advice to help the federal government engage with and respond to the needs of Indigenous peoples living in urban areas?

ELECTRIC VEHICLES (20 minutes) **Golden Horseshoe**

- IF AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY NOT MENTIONED ABOVE, ASK: What about when it comes to supporting the automotive industry? Would you say that the Government of Canada is generally on the right track or wrong track?
- IF AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY MENTIONED ABOVE AS A PRIORITY, ASK: Would you say that the Government of Canada is generally on the right track or wrong track when it comes to the automotive industry?
 -
- What are some examples of work the federal government has done to support the automotive industry? What do you think about this?
- AS NEEDED: Has anyone heard of any news related to the Government of Canada and electric vehicles recently?

SHOW ON SCREEN:

The federal and Ontario governments recently announced that Honda Canada will make a \$15 billion electric vehicle investment in Ontario to build four new manufacturing plants in the province. These plants include a new electric vehicle assembly plant and a battery manufacturing plant. The new assembly plant will produce up to 240,000 vehicles per year. This investment is estimated to directly and indirectly create thousands of new jobs in several sectors including manufacturing, construction, the auto parts supplier industry, and in research and development.

- What are your reactions to this? What do you think the impacts of this investment will be?
 - How do you think this investment will impact Ontario's economy?

- AS NEEDED: What about when it comes to creating jobs? Do you believe the job creation from Honda's new plants will have a direct or indirect impact on you, someone you know, or your community?
- IF NO: Do you think this will impact you, someone you know, or your community in any other ways?
 - IF YES: In what ways?
- Do you have any questions or concerns about this investment?

PUBLIC TRANSIT (20 minutes) Golden Horseshoe

Now I'd like to focus on public transit...

- IF PUBLIC TRANSIT NOT MENTIONED EARLIER, ASK: Should investing in public transit be a priority for the Government of Canada?
- Who is most responsible for investing in public transit?
 - How big of a role does the Government of Canada play in funding public transit projects?
 - Can anyone remember seeing, reading, or hearing about the Government of Canada investing in any public transit projects?
 - When it comes to making investments in public transit, what are the most important objectives the Government of Canada should be trying to achieve?
 - PROMPT: Should it be making public transit more reliable, more affordable, safer, cleaner, more energy efficient? Something else?
 - How important are investments in electrifying public transit? What impacts would electrifying public transit systems have on you?

PROMPT: Through the Zero Emission Transit Fund, the Government of Canada is investing \$2.75 billion over five years to help public transit operators plan for electrification by supporting the acquisition of zero-emissions buses, new charging stations, and facility upgrades.

- What are your reactions to hearing this information? Is this something the Government of Canada should be doing? Why or why not?

HOUSING (30-40 minutes) Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario, Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples

Vancouver Renters When you were recruited for this focus group, you indicated that you currently rent the place where you live. Could I confirm quickly with you now, using a show of hands, that is still the case?

Golden Horseshoe, Northern Ontario Now I'd like to talk about housing...

Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples Now I'd like to shift topics and discuss housing...

- **Golden Horseshoe** Prior to today, has anyone heard of any steps the Government of Canada is taking to try to deal with housing affordability and availability?
 - IF YES: What have you heard?
- **Northern Ontario** Who here rents their home? And who owns? [SHOW OF HANDS FOR EACH]
- **Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario** How would you describe the housing situation in your community? What about renting, specifically?
 - **Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario** What are the biggest challenges when it comes to renting in your community? **Vancouver Renters** PROMPT AS NECESSARY: Affordability, quality, supply...
 - **Vancouver Renters** IF NOT MENTIONED: What about density? Is anyone concerned about their community becoming too dense? Why do you feel this way?
- **Vancouver Renters** IF AFFORDABILITY MENTIONED: In your opinion, what has contributed to the lack of affordable rental options in your community?
- **Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario** Would you say the situation with respect to housing and the rental market has worsened, improved, or stayed the same over the last few years? **Vancouver Renters** PROMPT TO ENSURE AFFORDABILITY AND DENSITY ARE COVERED.
 - **Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario** IF WORSENERD/IMPROVED: What's behind these changes?
 - **Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario** What might help improve the situation?
 - **Vancouver Renters** When it comes to affordability specifically, what, if anything, needs to happen for the affordability of renting in Vancouver to improve?
 - **Vancouver Renters** How long do you think it will take to solve the issues behind the unaffordability of renting in Vancouver?
- **Vancouver Renters** To the best of your knowledge, has the Government of Canada done anything to address the issues facing renters?



- **Northern Ontario** To the best of your knowledge, has the Government of Canada done anything to help Canadians find affordable places to live?
- **Vancouver Renters** What, if anything, should the Government of Canada be doing to support renters?
- **Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario** Have you seen, read, or heard anything from the Government of Canada about what it is doing to address home construction?
 - **Vancouver Renters, Northern Ontario** IF YES: What did you see, read, or hear? Where did you see, read, or hear this?
- **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** How would you describe the housing situation in your community? What are the biggest challenges when it comes to housing, particularly for Indigenous people living in Winnipeg?
- **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** Have you seen, read, or heard anything from the Government of Canada about what it is doing to address housing?

Northern Ontario The Government of Canada introduced a plan to address the housing crisis as part of the federal budget. Here are some parts of the plan:

Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+ The Government of Canada introduced a plan to address the housing crisis as part of the federal budget. The plan lays out a strategy to unlock 3.87 million new homes by 2031. The federal government's housing plan has three parts. We will go through each part and get your reaction to a few of the specific measures included.

Here is the first part, which highlights some of the measures the Government of Canada is proposing in the budget as part of its strategy to help build more homes:

SHOW ON SCREEN Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+, Northern Ontario

- **Golden Horseshoe** Signing 179 Housing Accelerator Fund agreements to date to cut red tape, fast tracking an estimated total of over 750,000 housing units over the next decade
- **Golden Horseshoe** Using federal lands, such as those used by Canada Post, the Department of National Defense, and federal government office buildings, to build more homes faster
- **Golden Horseshoe** Changing how homes in Canada are built by investing in technology like prefabricated housing factories and pre-approved home design catalogues

- Calling on fintech companies, credit bureaus, and lenders to build the ecosystem that will give renters the option to include their rental payment history in their credit scores, helping renters qualify for a mortgage and better rates
- Allowing 30-year mortgages for first-time homebuyers purchasing new builds
- Extending the ban on foreign homebuyers by two years
- Restricting the purchase and acquisition of existing single-family homes by very large, corporate investors. The government will consult on how to go about this in the coming months.
- **ONLY SHOWN IN GOLDEN HORSESHOE** Helping to get more rental homes built by investing more than \$15 billion through the Apartment Construction Loan Program, which helps builders get the capital they need for new projects
- **ONLY SHOWN IN GOLDEN HORSESHOE** Streamlining foreign credential recognition in the construction sector and helping skilled trades workers get more homes built
- **Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+, Northern Ontario** What do you think of these measures?
 - **Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+, Northern Ontario** Do you think they will have an impact on the supply of homes in Canada?
 - **Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+, Northern Ontario** What about the affordability of homes?
 - **Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+, Northern Ontario** Will they make it easier to own a home?

Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+ Here is the second part, which highlights some of the measures the Government of Canada is proposing to make it easier to own or rent your home.

SHOW ON SCREEN Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+

- Cracking down on illegal short-term rentals (e.g. Airbnb)
- Calling on fintech companies, credit bureaus, and lenders to build the ecosystem that will give renters the option to include their rental payment history in their credit scores, helping renters qualify for a mortgage and better rates

- Creating a Canadian Renters' Bill of Rights to protect renters and provide a clear history of apartment pricing so renters can bargain fairly, crack down on renovictions, and create a nationwide standard lease agreement
- Allowing 30-year mortgages for first-time homebuyers purchasing new builds
- Extending the ban on foreign homebuyers by two years
- Restricting the purchase and acquisition of existing single-family homes by very large, corporate investors. The government will consult on how to go about this in the coming months.
- What do you think of these measures? Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+
 - Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+ Do you think they will have an impact on the supply of homes in Canada?
 - Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+ What about the affordability of homes?
 - Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+ Will they make it easier to own a home?

Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+ And here is the third part, which highlights some of the measures the Government of Canada is proposing to help those who struggle most with the cost of housing.

SHOW ON SCREEN Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+

- Investing \$1 billion in the Affordable Housing Fund to support non-profit, co-operative, and public housing providers and respond to the needs of those most impacted by the housing crisis
- Creating a Rental Protection Fund to help affordable housing providers buy units and preserve rents at a stable level instead of being turned into luxury condos
- Increasing funding to support organizations that prevent and reduce homelessness
- Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+ What do you think of these measures?
 - Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+ What impact, if any, will they have on helping those who struggle to afford housing find a place to call home?

- **Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** Now that you have seen some highlights from the budget regarding housing, I'd like you to think of a word that describes your overall reaction. That is, think of a word you would use to describe the Government of Canada's housing strategy overall.
 - **Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** MODERATOR TO ASK EACH PARTICIPANT: What word did you choose and why did you pick that word?
- **Golden Horseshoe, Vancouver Renters, Quebec Seniors Aged 65+** Do you think any of the measures we've discussed will help younger Canadians, and help ensure all generations – especially young people – have access to a variety of affordable housing options?

Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples The Government of Canada introduced a plan to address the housing crisis as part of the federal budget. The plan lays out a strategy to unlock 3.87 million new homes by 2031. We will go over a few measures now:

SHOW ON SCREEN Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples

- **Investing \$1 billion in the Affordable Housing Fund** to support non-profit, co-operative, and public housing providers and respond to the needs of those most impacted by the housing crisis
- **Increasing funding to support organizations that prevent and reduce homelessness**
- **Investing \$4 billion over seven years in collaboration with Indigenous partners** to develop tailored housing solutions for urban, rural, and northern Indigenous communities
- **Creating a Canadian Renters' Bill of Rights to protect renters and provide a clear history of apartment pricing** so renters can bargain fairly, crack down on renovictions, and create a nationwide standard lease agreement
- **Helping to get more rental homes built** by investing more than \$15 billion through the Apartment Construction Loan Program, which helps builders get the capital they need for new projects
- **Restricting the purchase and acquisition of existing single-family homes** by very large, corporate investors
- **Extending the ban on foreign homebuyers by two years**

Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples POLL: Now I'd like you to select the ones that you think will have the greatest impact on Indigenous people. You can select up to 3. If you don't think any will have a positive impact, don't select any.

- Investing \$1 billion in the Affordable Housing Fund
- Increasing funding to support organizations that prevent and reduce homelessness
- Investing \$4 billion over seven years in collaboration with Indigenous partners to develop tailored housing solutions
- Creating a Canadian Renters' Bill of Rights to protect renters and provide a clear history of apartment pricing
- Helping to get more rental homes built by investing more than \$15 billion through the Apartment Construction Loan Program
- Restricting the purchase and acquisition of existing single-family homes by very large, corporate investors
- Extending the ban on foreign homebuyers by two years
- **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** MODERATOR TO GO THROUGH SELECTIONS: Why did you select this measure?
- **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** What impacts, if any, do you think this plan could have for Indigenous people living in Winnipeg?
- **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** Would you say these measures put the Government of Canada on the right track or wrong track when it comes to addressing the housing issues that Indigenous people living in Winnipeg face? What makes you say that?
- **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** Do you have any questions about these measures? Is anything unclear?
- **Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples** What else, in your opinion, should the Government of Canada be doing to address the housing issues that Indigenous people living in Winnipeg face?

ENERGY/CLEAN TECHNOLOGY (25 minutes) Saskatchewan

- Have you heard of anything the Government of Canada is doing when it comes to clean energy?



CLARIFY AS NEEDED:

The Government of Canada is investing in clean electricity and clean technologies to help reduce emissions.

- What comes to mind when you think of clean electricity? What about clean tech?
- Should the Government of Canada be encouraging investments in clean electricity? What about in clean tech?
 - CLARIFY AS NEEDED: This could include investments in building power grids that use clean energy sources (like wind, solar, and hydroelectric), and providing incentives for the adoption and manufacturing of clean technologies (like solar panels and wind turbines), to name a few.
- Do you see any positives or benefits from the Government of Canada encouraging investments in clean electricity and clean tech?
- Do you have any concerns about the Government of Canada encouraging investments in clean electricity and clean tech?
- Do you think more clean electricity and clean tech will lead to more risks of power outages, fewer risks, or do you think these risks will stay about the same? What makes you say that?
- Do you think developing the clean electricity sector will have a positive impact, a negative impact, or no impact on someone like you? What about on workers in Saskatchewan?

PHARMACARE (40 minutes) Saskatchewan

I'd like to change topics now...

- What are the biggest challenges in healthcare that the Government of Canada should be addressing?
 - IF NOT MENTIONED: What about the cost of prescription medication in Canada? Would you say this issue is more important, as important, or less important than the healthcare challenges you mentioned earlier?
- How would you describe the state of prescription drug coverage in Canada today? Is it affordable? Is it accessible?
- What are the biggest challenges, if any, that people without drug coverage face?

- Would you support a “universal” pharmacare plan where everyone gets drug coverage? Why or why not?
- Are you aware of anything the Government of Canada has done or is planning to do on pharmacare?
 - IF YES: What have you seen, read, or heard?

SHOW ON SCREEN

On February 29, 2024, the Government of Canada introduced legislation to move forward on implementing the first phase of a national pharmacare program to make prescription drugs more affordable and accessible to more Canadians.

If approved, the Government of Canada intends to work with the provinces and territories to provide universal, single-payer coverage for a number of contraception and diabetes medications. The Government of Canada also intends to establish a fund to help Canadians access supplies that diabetics need to manage and monitor their condition and administer their medication, like syringes and glucose test strips.

- What are your reactions to this information? Is this something the Government of Canada should be doing? Why or why not?
 - AS NEEDED: What are your reactions to the Government of Canada’s decision to begin its first phase of pharmacare with coverage of contraception and diabetes medications?
- MODERATOR TO PROBE ON BOTH CONTRACEPTION AND DIABETES MEDICATIONS: What impacts will this coverage have? Who will benefit most from this? Will this impact you or anyone you know?
- Do you have any questions or concerns with the Government of Canada covering contraception and diabetes medications?
- As we mentioned earlier, the federal government will have to work with the provinces and territories in order to provide pharmacare. Would you support Saskatchewan’s involvement in a national pharmacare program? Why or why not?
 - How would you feel if other provinces joined a national pharmacare program, but Saskatchewan chose not to?
- As the Government of Canada plans the next steps of its national pharmacare plan, what are the most important things it should keep in mind?
 - What other drugs should be covered?

- Should it be completely public where all Canadians are on the same plan or should it “close the gaps” so that people can still use existing public and private plans, ensuring that everyone receives coverage, including those currently not covered?
 - Do you have any concerns with either approach?
- Would a national pharmacare plan have an impact on making life more affordable? Why or why not?
- What impacts would a national pharmacare plan have on our healthcare system?
- Do you have any other questions or feedback about pharmacare?

ONLINE SAFETY (90 minutes) Atlantic Canada Young Women Aged 18-34 Heavier Social Media Users

Seeing as we’re all talking to each other online right now, we already know that everyone here uses the internet.

- What are the positive impacts, if any, the internet and online world has on society today?
- Are there any drawbacks? What are they?
 - PROBE IF NOT MENTIONED: What about harmful content online? How would you define harmful content? What are some examples of it?
- How concerned are you, if at all, about harmful content on the internet?
- To the best of your knowledge, are there protections in place to keep Canadians safe on the internet?
 - What about when it comes to reducing the amount of harmful content Canadians are exposed to?
 - How confident are you, if at all, that online platforms have measures in place to reduce the amount of harmful content Canadians are exposed to?
 - What about for vulnerable people or children?
- Do you believe online platforms are accountable for harmful content on their platform and its impact on users? Should they be? Why or why not?

- Should the Government of Canada hold digital platforms accountable for addressing harmful content on their platforms? Why or why not?
- What have you seen, read, or heard lately about the Government of Canada, online platforms, and harmful content?
 - Have you heard anything about a proposed bill to address online harms, called the Online Harms Act?
 - IF YES: What have you heard?

SHOW ON SCREEN

The Government of Canada has introduced legislation designed to ensure digital platforms, specifically social media services, live streaming services and user-uploaded adult content services, are responsible for addressing harmful content. The legislation focuses on five key components:

1. Ensuring digital platforms reduce seven kinds of harmful content online
2. Changing the Criminal Code to better address hate crimes and hate propaganda
3. Changing the Canadian Human Rights Act to allow people to file complaints against those who post hate speech online
4. Enhancing laws to protect children from sexual exploitation
5. Creating a new Digital Safety Commission to enforce the rules and keep digital platforms accountable

Note that the new rules would not apply to private and encrypted messaging services (for example, WhatsApp, Signal, Telegram, etc.).

NOTE TO MODERATOR: IF PARTICIPANTS ASK ABOUT THE SPECIFICS OF THE FIVE KEY COMPONENTS (I.E., THE SEVEN KINDS OF HARMFUL CONTENT, DEFINITION OF HATE CRIME/PROPOGANDA, AND HATE SPEECH) NOTE THAT MUCH WILL BE COVERED SHORTLY AND WE ARE ONLY INTERESTED IN THEIR INITIAL REACTIONS.

- What is your initial impression of these measures – positive, negative, or somewhere in between? Why do you feel this way?
- Do you have any concerns or questions about anything in this list?

Now I'm going to share with you on screen a few more details about The Online Harms Act. If it becomes law, it would require online platforms to do the following:

SHOW ON SCREEN

Online platforms would be required to **remove** the following within 24 hours:

- Content that sexually victimizes a child or revictimizes a survivor
- Intimate content communicated without consent

Platforms would also be required to **reduce exposure** to five categories of harmful content:

- Content that encourages hatred
 - Content that incites violent extremism or terrorism
 - Content that incites violence
 - Content used to bully a child
 - Content that induces a child to harm themselves
- Thinking about the first two types of harmful content listed here (i.e., the first two bullet points) and the requirement for platforms to remove this content, in your opinion, is this something the Government of Canada should be asking platforms to do? Why or why not?
 - Do you have any questions about it? Concerns?
 - What impact, if any, would this requirement have on Canadians' safety online? What about the safety of children specifically?

Now turning to the five types of content to which platforms would be required to reduce exposure (i.e., the bottom five bullet points) ...

- Should the Government of Canada be focusing on these types of harmful content? Why or why not?
- Are there other types of harmful content you think should be addressed?
- Is there anything in this list that you think should not be included?

I'm going to provide you with some more details about the proposed requirement to reduce exposure to harmful content ...

SHOW ON SCREEN

The proposed rules focus on ensuring online platforms take into account the level of risk of exposure to harmful content and then take steps to reduce those risks.

For example, online platforms would be asked to provide users with guidelines and tools to flag harmful content and block other users. They would also be asked to set up an internal point of contact for this kind of guidance and complaints.

Additionally, they would be required to label harmful content that they have reason to believe is being created and amplified through automated communications by computer programs (e.g. bots).

- Do you have any questions or concerns about what I've just presented?

Now I'm going to provide you with some more details about the proposed requirement as it relates to children ...

SHOW ON SCREEN

Online platforms would also be required to take into account the interests of children when designing products and features. For example:

- design features to limit children's exposure to harmful content, including explicit adult content, cyberbullying content and content that encourages self-harm;
- parental control settings and safe search settings so that certain types of content would be unavailable via search;
- design features such as limiting scrolling and autoplay for kids; and
- not allowing adult users to message children who are not in their network.

So, to sum up, much of the proposed legislation is focused on reducing exposure to harmful content, rather than requiring online services to remove it - except in the 2 types of instances we discussed earlier.

MODERATOR TO REMIND PARTICIPANTS IF NEEDED: Content that sexually victimizes a child or revictimizes a survivor; Intimate content communicated without consent.

- Do you think the federal government's approach is appropriate – that is, asking platforms to look at the level of risk of exposure to harmful content and make design choices to minimize that risk, rather than asking them to remove it (in most cases). Why or why not?

- Is there a different approach you would prefer the Government of Canada take when dealing with this issue?
- Do you think these requirements will have a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on online safety and the amount of harmful content Canadians are exposed to? How so?
- Do you think the Government of Canada will be able to ensure digital platforms comply with their obligations?

The proposed law would also create a Digital Safety Commission to enforce the rules and hold platforms accountable. This commission would be responsible for ordering the removal of content if it falls into the two categories we've discussed.

- How effective, if at all, do you think this Digital Safety Commission would be in ensuring platforms protect their users?
- Do you have any questions or concerns about this Commission?

In terms of hate speech, the proposal includes a definition for hate speech, based on decisions made by the Supreme Court of Canada.

SHOW ON SCREEN

Hate speech would be defined as the following:

Specific detestation or vilification of an individual or group of individuals on the basis of a prohibited ground of discrimination (race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, family status, genetic traits, disability, or pardoned criminal records).

To be considered discriminatory, the hate speech would need to be communicated where it is likely to cause detestation or vilification of an individual or group.

Speech would **not** be classified as hate speech just because it expresses dislike or disdain, or it discredits, humiliates, hurts or offends.

- Is this definition clear to you? Does it seem reasonable? Why or why not?



- In your view, should the Government of Canada include hate speech in the legislation? Why or why not?
- IF ANYONE WAS AWARE OF THE PROPOSED ONLINE HARMS ACT IN INITIAL DISCUSSION, MODERATOR TO ASK: Earlier, some of you said that you had heard about the proposed Online Harms Act. Does the information provided here align with what you heard, or did you have different perceptions of what this Act was about?

COMMUNITY CHALLENGES (25-30 minutes) Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora, Estrie, Interior BC

Now I'd like to focus on your local community...

- What are the top issues in your region specifically that the Government of Canada should be prioritizing?
 - IF NOT MENTIONED: What about investing in local infrastructure?
- What have you seen, read, or heard lately about the Government of Canada and infrastructure in your region?
 - Have you noticed any changes or developments in the local infrastructure?
- Generally, what type of local infrastructure projects do you think are the most important to your region? What would make the biggest difference to you personally?

Shifting away from infrastructure ...

- What are the most important sectors and industries for your local community?
- Which sectors and industries in your region do you feel need the most help?
- Are labour shortages an issue in your community?
 - IF YES: Are labour shortages affecting certain sectors in particular?
 - IF YES: Which ones?
- In your opinion, what's behind these labour shortages?
- What do you believe are some potential solutions to help reduce labour shortages?



FOREIGN CREDENTIAL RECOGNITION (25 minutes) Calgary & Edmonton Southeast Asian Diaspora

- How important, if at all, are issues around recognizing foreign credentials?

CLARIFY AS NEEDED:

Recognizing foreign credentials is when the federal, provincial, or territorial government determines that a license or certificate earned outside of Canada meets the standards in Canada, so that an individual can work in a specialized job. Examples of specialized jobs could be working as a doctor, accountant, or an electrician.

- Does anyone here have a family member who has had to, or is currently going through a process to have credentials recognized?
- As far as you know, what, if anything, has the Government of Canada done to address the issues around recognizing foreign credentials?
- What should the Government of Canada do on this issue?
- Would you say the Government of Canada is generally on the right track or wrong track when it comes to managing the immigration system? Why?
 - IF WRONG TRACK: What should the Government of Canada do to get on the right track?
- Do you think the Government of Canada should increase, decrease, or keep the rate of immigration at about the same level? Why?
 - IF INCREASE OR DECREASE: What impacts would this have in Canada?
- In your opinion, does the Government of Canada do enough to support recent immigrants? What makes you say that?
- What more should the Government of Canada do to support immigrants?
 - What about when it comes to housing and healthcare?

IMMIGRATION (25-30 minutes) Estrie, Toronto Arab Women, Northern Ontario, Quebec City

Estrie, Northern Ontario, Quebec City Now I'd like to move to a completely different topic...

Toronto Arab Women Changing topics again...



- **Toronto Arab Women** Have you seen, read, or heard any news related to immigration in Canada recently?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** What do you think about what you saw, read, or heard?
- **Estrie, Toronto Arab Women, Northern Ontario, Quebec City** Overall, how would you describe the current state of the immigration system in Canada?
- **Estrie, Northern Ontario, Quebec City** What do you think are some of the benefits of welcoming new immigrants to Canada?
- **Estrie, Northern Ontario, Quebec City** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: “Canada needs to welcome more new immigrants to fill labour shortages and grow the economy.”?
 - **Estrie, Northern Ontario, Quebec City** Why do you feel this way?
- **Estrie, Northern Ontario, Quebec City** Do you have any concerns about welcoming new immigrants?
 - **Estrie, Northern Ontario, Quebec City** IF YES: What are your concerns?
- **Estrie, Northern Ontario, Quebec City** What should the Government of Canada do to address these concerns?
- **Estrie, Toronto Arab Women, Northern Ontario, Quebec City** Do you think the Government of Canada should increase, decrease, or keep the rate of immigration at about the same level? Why?
 - **Estrie Northern Ontario, Quebec City** IF INCREASE OR DECREASE: What impacts would this have in Canada, either socially or economically?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** IF INCREASE OR DECREASE: What impacts would this have in Canada?
- **Toronto Arab Women** Has anyone been through Canada’s immigration process? (SHOW OF HANDS)
 - **Toronto Arab Women** Has anyone been through the process of sponsoring a family member (either being sponsored or sponsoring a family member)? (SHOW OF HANDS)
- **Toronto Arab Women** FOR THOSE WHO SAY THEY’VE BEEN THROUGH CANADA’S IMMIGRATION SYSTEM, ASK: How would you describe your experience? Did you experience any challenges throughout the process?

- **Toronto Arab Women** IF YES: Only if you feel comfortable sharing, what were some of the challenges with the process?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** IF NOT MENTIONED: How was your experience with application processing times?
- **Toronto Arab Women** Overall, would you say the Government of Canada is generally on the right track or wrong track when it comes to managing the immigration system? Why?
- **Toronto Arab Women** IF WRONG TRACK: What should the Government of Canada do to get on the right track?
- **Toronto Arab Women** In your opinion, does the Government of Canada do enough to support to recent immigrants? What makes you say that?
- **Estrie** Before we move to the next section, do you have any other thoughts you would like to share on the Canadian immigration system?
- **Toronto Arab Women** What more should the Government of Canada do to support immigrants?
 - **Toronto Arab Women** What about when it comes to housing and healthcare?
- **Northern Ontario, Quebec City** Before we wrap up, do you have any other thoughts you would like to share on the Canadian immigration system?

OUT-OF-STATUS WORKERS (20 minutes) **Estrie, Quebec City**

Now I'd like to talk to you about out-of-status people in Canada...

- Are you familiar with the term “out-of-status” or “undocumented” people?
 - What are out-of-status people?

CLARIFY:

Out-of-status people are individuals living in Canada without legal immigration status. It could refer to someone whose work, study or visitor permit has expired, someone who made a refugee claim that was denied, or someone who entered Canada through unofficial pathways.

People without legal status are often employed as personal support workers or care aides in long-term care facilities, or in sectors like construction and agriculture.

- If you were to estimate, how many out-of-status people do you think there are in Canada?



- Do you think out-of-status people should be given a path to permanent residency and citizenship?
 - Why or why not?
- Given that many out-of-status people don't pay income taxes and are doing jobs where labour shortages are experienced often, is there an economic argument in support of providing them with a path to permanent residency and citizenship?

HEALTH CARE (20 minutes) Interior BC

- IF HEALTHCARE MENTIONED AS A TOP ISSUE: Some of you noted that health care is one of the top issues that the Government of Canada should prioritize.
- IF HEALTHCARE NOT MENTIONED AS A TOP ISSUE: Thinking of the issues you identified as being the top issues for the Government of Canada, where does health care fit in? Is it more important, less important, or of the same importance?
- How would you rate the quality of the healthcare system where you live? What makes you say that?
- And what about access to healthcare services? What makes you say that?
- What are the biggest challenges facing health care in your area?
- Has anyone heard about any commitments or announcements made by the Government of Canada on healthcare?
 - PROBE: Have you heard anything about negotiations between the federal and provincial governments on funding for health care?
 - IF YES: What did you hear? What were your impressions of the negotiations?
- Would you say that when it comes to health care, the Government of Canada is generally on the right track or wrong track? Why do you say that?
 - IF WRONG TRACK: What could the federal government do to get on the right track?

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS (40 minutes) Interior BC

Now I'd like to move to a different topic...

- How concerned are you, if at all, about the potential impacts of climate change? Why do you feel this way?
- What comes to mind when you think about the potential impacts of climate change?
 - Does climate change have any impacts on things like wildlife, extreme weather, extreme temperatures, floods, droughts, or wildfires?
 - IF YES: As far as you know, what impacts does it have?
 - IF NO: Why do you feel this way?
 - IF NOT MENTIONED: Has climate change played a role in increasing the frequency and severity of extreme weather events in Canada, such as floods and wildfires?
 - IF YES: How?
 - IF NO: Why do you feel this way?
- Have you seen any of these impacts of climate change in your daily life or in your community?
 - IF YES: What have you seen?
- Over the next few decades, do you expect your community to be any more at risk of climate change?
- What have you seen, read, or heard about the Government of Canada when it comes to responding to the wildfires in British Columbia?
 - How would you generally describe the federal government's approach to responding to the wildfires in British Columbia?

SHOW ON SCREEN:

The Government of Canada's approach to managing wildfires involves supporting communities in getting prepared, providing information through real-time monitoring, and offering support to communities and individuals impacted by wildfires.

In Budget 2024, the Government of Canada has committed to take several additional actions to help those affected by wildfires:

- **Doubling the Volunteer Firefighter and Search and Rescue Volunteer Tax Credits**, which will increase from \$3,000 to \$6,000 for 2024, saving volunteer firefighters up to an additional \$450 per year.



- **Investing \$800,000 more to expand firefighting capacity.** This funding will help expand a training program for firefighters to respond to wildfires that impact urban areas. This builds on existing funding to support the federal government's commitment to train 1,000 wildland firefighters.
- Partnering with Indigenous Peoples to save lives and better protect communities against wildfires including:
 - **Investing over \$145 million to help First Nations communities prepare for emergencies;**
 - **Providing \$20.9 million for fire prevention in First Nations communities;** and
 - **Committing \$9 million to help support Indigenous governments directly affected by the 2023 wildfires in the Northwest Territories.**
- What are your initial thoughts about these additional actions?
 - Is the Government of Canada doing enough to help communities affected by wildfires? Why or why not?
- What more should the federal government be doing?

PUBLIC SENTIMENT (15 minutes) Toronto Arab Women

Now, let's explore a broader topic...

- When thinking about your future living in Canada, what makes you feel optimistic?
- On the other hand, are there any things that make you feel worried or concerned about you or your family's future in Canada?
 - IF YES: What are they?
- How would you describe the state of diversity, equity, and inclusion in Canada? Do you feel Canada is a society that welcomes and respects different cultures, beliefs, and values? Why or why not?
-

CAPITAL GAINS (35 minutes) Quebec Seniors Aged 65+, Vancouver Renters

- IF CAPITAL GAINS NOT MENTIONED ABOVE, ASK: Have you heard anything about the proposed change to capital gains taxes?
 - IF YES: What have you heard?

SHOW ON SCREEN



Capital gains are the profits people make when they sell valuable assets they own for more money than they originally paid for them. Capital gains can be made from valuable assets like real estate, stocks and bonds, mutual funds, precious metals, art and collectibles, cryptocurrencies, vehicles, personal property, and more.

In Canada, capital gains are subject to taxation. When someone sells a valuable asset for more than its original cost, they'll owe taxes on the capital gain. Note that there is no capital gains tax on the sale of a primary home; that is, capital gains taxes only apply when people own multiple real estate properties and sell the ones they don't live in.

The Government of Canada is proposing to raise taxes on some of the wealthiest Canadians by increasing the tax on their capital gains above \$250,000. The government estimates that this change would only impact 0.1% of Canadians in any given year.

- What do you think of this proposed change?
 - Do you think this will make the tax system more fair or less fair? What makes you say that?
- What impacts, if any, might a capital gains tax have?
- Who do you think will be impacted by this change?
- Do you think this change is a good way to raise revenues to invest in things like housing, dental care, pharmacare, other areas in health care, and so on? What makes you say that?
 - IF NO: What would you propose instead?
- Do you think you will pay more in taxes because of this proposed change, pay less, or you won't be impacted?
 - IF EXPECT TO PAY MORE: Why do you think you will pay more in taxes?

Canada has something called "The Principal Residence Exemption" which lets Canadians avoid paying capital gains tax on the sale of their primary home. This means capital gains taxes only apply when people own multiple real estate properties and sell the ones they don't live in.

- Does this seem fair? Why or why not?

SUPPLEMENTAL FOODS SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS (35 minutes) Northern Ontario, Quebec City, Winnipeg Indigenous Peoples

Now I'd like to shift topics completely...

- Quick show of hands, who knows what supplements and supplemented foods are?
 - Can you name some?
- Quick show of hands, does anyone take a multivitamin or mineral supplement?
- Quick show of hands, who exercises every week; it could be going to the gym, walking, swimming, yoga, etc.?
 - For those who exercise, do you ever take supplements when working out?
- Does anyone consume caffeinated energy drinks?

We have two social media posts to show you related to supplemented foods, which are meant for people who consume supplements and/or supplemented foods. These posts are targeting older adults (over the age of 51), students, or those who are physically active. We will review them in silence and then we will discuss your reactions together.

SHOW ON SCREEN: *Moderator to display each post one at a time on screen, then show both at the same time.*

- What is your overall reaction to these social media posts?
 - What, if anything, do you like? Why?
 - What, if anything, do you dislike? Why?
- Would you notice them? Would they capture your attention? Are they memorable? Why or why not?
 - IF ANYONE SAYS THEY FIND THEM LENGTHY: What would you change to make them more succinct?
- If you saw these, would they motivate you to do anything? Why or why not?
 - IF YES: What would you be motivated to do?
 - Would you “like” these posts or share them? Why or why not?
 - Would you “comment” on these posts?
 - IF YES: What would you write?
- Did you understand the messages?
 - Was anything confusing or unclear? How so?



- Did anything surprise you? Did you learn anything?
- How could they be improved?

Additional messages

We have some additional social media messages we would like to share that could be used with the graphics we reviewed already or in other posts.

SHOW ON SCREEN: *Moderator to show alternate messages.*

- What do you think of these messages?
- Are there any specific words or phrases that you find particularly compelling?
 - Are any problematic? Why?

IF ANYONE SAYS THEY FIND THEM LENGTHY: What would you change to make them more succinct?

CONCLUSION (5-10 minutes) All locations

- Before we close, is there anything else you would like to say to the federal government? It can be an additional point related to anything we discussed today or it could be something you think is important but wasn't discussed.

French Moderator's Guide

GUIDE DU MODÉRATEUR – DOCUMENT MAÎTRE 2024 JUIN

INTRODUCTION (10 minutes) Tous les lieux

- Le modérateur ou la personne responsable du soutien technique doit faire savoir aux participantes et aux participants qu'un stylo et du papier seront nécessaires afin de prendre des notes et d'écrire quelques réflexions au sujet des pièces de communication que nous leur montrerons plus tard au cours de la discussion.

LE GOUVERNEMENT DU CANADA DANS L'ACTUALITÉ/[CONSOMMATION DE NOUVELLES] (5 à 15 minutes) Tous les lieux

- **Tous les lieux** Qu'avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu au sujet du gouvernement du Canada au cours des derniers jours?
 - **Saskatchewan** Où avez-vous entendu, lu ou vu cette information?
 - **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** Et au sujet des relations internationales?
 - **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** Quelles sont vos réactions à cette nouvelle?
- **Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario** Quelles nouvelles avez-vous récemment vu, lu ou entendu, le cas échéant, au sujet des investissements du gouvernement du Canada en matière de recherche et d'innovation ou de recherche de pointe?

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN : Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario

Le gouvernement du Canada a annoncé l'octroi de plus de 800 millions de dollars en appui à 24 organismes. Les fonds leur ont été alloués à l'issue d'un nouveau processus concurrentiel transparent et fondé sur le mérite, qui avait été étayé des conseils d'un comité d'experts indépendant.

Ces 24 organismes couvrent l'ensemble du paysage scientifique et de la recherche canadien et apportent une riche contribution dans un éventail de domaines cruciaux, dont :

- La recherche et l'élaboration de solutions en matière de soins de santé;
- La promotion d'innovations dans le domaine du vieillissement et de la santé du cerveau;
- Le soutien à l'inclusion des Autochtones et à leurs activités de recherche;
- La lutte contre le changement climatique;
- Le soutien à la science et à la recherche dans l'Arctique;

- Le développement de technologies émergentes comme l'informatique quantique et l'intelligence artificielle;
- La promotion de l'enseignement des sciences, de la technologie, de l'ingénierie et des mathématiques aux jeunes;
- L'offre de possibilités d'apprentissage et de formation aux étudiants de niveau postsecondaire.
- **Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario** Quelles sont vos réactions à cet investissement? Quels impacts pourrait-il avoir?
- **Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario** Diriez-vous que dans l'ensemble, le gouvernement du Canada est sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie lorsqu'il s'agit d'investir dans la recherche et l'innovation? Pourquoi êtes-vous de cet avis?
- **Utilisatrices intensives de médias sociaux âgées de 18 à 34 ans du Canada atlantique** Combien de temps passez-vous généralement à lire, à regarder ou à écouter les actualités?
- **Utilisatrices intensives de médias sociaux âgées de 18 à 34 ans du Canada atlantique, membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton, Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto, Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Quelles sont vos principales sources d'actualités? (p. ex. nouvelles télévisées, radio, médias sociaux, amis ou famille)
 - **Utilisatrices intensives de médias sociaux âgées de 18 à 34 ans du Canada atlantique** Y a-t-il certaines sources d'actualités qui sont plus fiables et d'autres qui le sont moins?
 - **Utilisatrices intensives de médias sociaux âgées de 18 à 34 ans du Canada atlantique** SI OUI : Lesquelles?
 - **Utilisatrices intensives de médias sociaux âgées de 18 à 34 ans du Canada atlantique** SI CE N'EST PAS MENTIONNÉ : Combien d'entre vous consultent les médias sociaux pour obtenir des nouvelles d'actualité?
 - **Utilisatrices intensives de médias sociaux âgées de 18 à 34 ans du Canada atlantique** Certaines plateformes sont-elles plus crédibles ou dignes de confiance que d'autres en ce qui a trait aux actualités? Pourquoi?
 - **Utilisatrices intensives de médias sociaux âgées de 18 à 34 ans du Canada atlantique** Lesquelles de ces plateformes trouvez-vous plus crédibles et lesquelles trouvez-vous moins crédibles?
 - **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** Vous arrive-t-il de rechercher des nouvelles d'actualité dans une langue autre que l'anglais?
 - **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** Consultez-vous des sources spécialisées pour obtenir de l'information destinée au public d'Asie du Sud-Est?

- **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** SI OUI : Lesquelles?
 - **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** SI OUI : À quelle fréquence consultez-vous ces sources?
 - **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** Y a-t-il des sources d'informations auxquelles vous faites plus confiance que d'autres? Pourquoi dites-vous cela?
 - **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** Obtenez-vous principalement des nouvelles en anglais ou dans une autre langue?
 - **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** SI UNE AUTRE LANGUE : En quelle(s) langue(s)?
 - **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** À quelle fréquence vous tournez-vous vers des sources en d'autres langues?
 - **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** Obtenez-vous principalement des nouvelles des médias canadiens ou des médias d'un autre pays?
 - **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** SI UN AUTRE PAYS : Quel(s) pays?
 - **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** À quelle fréquence vous tournez-vous vers les médias d'un autre pays?
 - **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Comment évalueriez-vous votre niveau de confiance dans les sources de nouvelles que vous utilisez?
 - **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Comment faites-vous pour décider si une source de nouvelles est digne de confiance ou non?
- **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** Si vous cherchiez des nouvelles du gouvernement fédéral, vers quelle source vous tourneriez-vous en premier? Pourquoi?
- **Estrie** SI CE N'EST PAS MENTIONNÉ : Avez-vous entendu parler de quoi que ce soit en lien avec le gouvernement du Canada et les soins dentaires?
 - SI OUI : Qu'avez-vous entendu? Quelles sont vos réactions?
 - **Estrie** Avez-vous des préoccupations à ce sujet?
- **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Si vous étiez à la recherche d'actualités au sujet du gouvernement du Canada, où espéreriez-vous trouver ces informations? Pourquoi?
 - **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Vous arrive-t-il de vous tourner vers des sources du gouvernement du Canada pour obtenir des nouvelles ou de l'information? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?

PERFORMANCE ET PRIORITÉS/COÛT DE LA VIE (10 à 35 minutes) **Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, Saskatchewan, membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton,**



Estrie, secteur de l'intérieur de la C.-B., femmes arabes résidant à Toronto, personnes âgées résidant au Québec, locataires résidant à Vancouver, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Québec, Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg

Membres de la diaspora sud-asiatique de Calgary et d'Edmonton, locataires résidant à Vancouver, femmes arabes résidant à Toronto, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Québec J'aimerais maintenant que nous nous concentrons sur le gouvernement du Canada en général...

- Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, Saskatchewan, Estrie, secteur de l'intérieur de la C.-B. À votre avis, quels sont les principaux enjeux auxquels le gouvernement du Canada devrait accorder la priorité? Pourquoi ces enjeux sont-ils importants?
 - Saskatchewan SI CE N'EST PAS MENTIONNÉ : Qu'en est-il du logement?
 - Saskatchewan Quels sont les principaux enjeux liés à la hausse du coût de la vie que devrait prioriser le gouvernement fédéral?
- Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, Saskatchewan, membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton, Estrie, secteur de l'intérieur de la C.-B., femmes arabes résidant à Toronto, locataires résidant à Vancouver, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Québec, Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg Qu'est-ce que le gouvernement du Canada fait de bien?
- Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, Saskatchewan, membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton, Estrie, secteur de l'intérieur de la C.-B., locataires résidant à Vancouver, nord de l'Ontario, femmes arabes résidant à Toronto, ville de Québec, Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg Qu'est-ce que le gouvernement du Canada doit améliorer? Pourquoi dites-vous cela?
- Saskatchewan Qu'avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu au sujet du récent travail effectué par le gouvernement du Canada en matière de logement?
 - Saskatchewan AU BESOIN : Qu'en est-il de la situation du logement? Qu'en est-il du prix des produits d'épicerie?
- Saskatchewan Diriez-vous que dans l'ensemble, le gouvernement du Canada est sur la bonne ou la mauvaise voie lorsqu'il s'agit de faire face à la hausse du coût de la vie? Pourquoi dites-vous cela?
- Saskatchewan SI AUCUNE MENTION N'EST FAITE DES TÉLÉCOMMUNICATIONS COMME PRIORITÉ, POSER LA QUESTION SUIVANTE : Et les télécommunications? Quelle priorité le gouvernement du

Canada devrait-il accorder à la prise en charge des coûts des services de téléphonie mobile et des services Internet à domicile?

- **Saskatchewan** Qu'avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu, le cas échéant, au sujet du travail accompli par le gouvernement du Canada pour rendre les services de télécommunications plus abordables? Qu'en pensez-vous?
- **Saskatchewan** Quel impact les services de télécommunications ont-ils, le cas échéant, sur le coût de la vie?
- **Saskatchewan** SI AUCUNE MENTION N'EST FAITE DE L'AGRICULTURE COMME PRIORITÉ, POSER LA QUESTION SUIVANTE : Et l'agriculture? Dans quelle mesure le secteur de l'agriculture doit-il constituer une priorité pour le gouvernement du Canada?
- **Saskatchewan** Qu'avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu, le cas échéant, au sujet du travail accompli par le gouvernement du Canada pour remédier aux problèmes auxquels est confronté le secteur de l'agriculture? Qu'en pensez-vous?
- **Saskatchewan** Quelle est l'ampleur de l'impact du changement climatique sur l'agriculture?
 - **Saskatchewan** SI IMPACT IL Y A : L'impact du changement climatique sur l'agriculture a-t-il également des répercussions sur le coût de la vie? Si oui, quelle est l'ampleur de ces répercussions?
- **Saskatchewan** Qu'avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu sur le travail accompli par le gouvernement du Canada pour faire face à la hausse du coût de la vie? Qu'en pensez-vous?
- **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** Outre les enjeux propres à vote collectivité, quelles sont, à votre avis, les principaux enjeux auxquels le gouvernement du Canada devrait accorder la priorité? Pourquoi ces enjeux sont-ils importants?
- **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** Quels sont, selon vous, les principaux enjeux auxquels les Canadiens d'origine sud-asiatique sont confrontés et auxquels le gouvernement du Canada devrait accorder la priorité?
 - **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** En ce qui concerne ces priorités, le gouvernement du Canada est-il, dans l'ensemble, sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie? Pourquoi dites-vous cela?

- **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** SI SUR LA MAUVAISE VOIE : Que doit faire le gouvernement du Canada pour être sur la bonne voie?

- **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** Et en matière de relations internationales, plus particulièrement avec l'Asie du Sud-Est (Cambodge, Indonésie, Laos, Malaisie, Philippines, Singapour, etc.)? Est-ce un enjeu que le gouvernement fédéral devrait traiter en priorité? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?

- **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** En matière de gestion des relations internationales, plus particulièrement avec l'Asie du Sud-Est, diriez-vous que, dans l'ensemble, le gouvernement du Canada est sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie? Pourquoi dites-vous cela?

- **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** Avez-vous récemment vu, lu ou entendu quoi que ce soit concernant des mesures prises par le gouvernement du Canada pour renforcer ses liens avec des pays d'Asie du Sud-Est?
 - SI OUI : Qu'avez-vous entendu?

- **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** En matière de gestion des relations internationales, plus particulièrement avec l'Asie du Sud-Est, diriez-vous que, dans l'ensemble, le gouvernement du Canada est sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie?
 - Y a-t-il, selon vous, de meilleurs moyens pour le gouvernement de nouer un dialogue avec les Canadiens et Canadiennes originaires de l'Asie du Sud-Est?

- Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** Et maintenant, au sujet des Canadiens d'origine arabe plus particulièrement...

- **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** Quels sont, à votre avis, les principaux enjeux qui affectent les Canadiens d'origine arabe et auxquels le gouvernement du Canada devrait accorder la priorité?
 - Quelles nouvelles avez-vous déjà vues, lues ou entendues au sujet du travail effectué par le gouvernement du Canada dans le passé sur l'un de ces dossiers?
 - Quel travail, le cas échéant, le gouvernement fédéral prévoit-il de faire dans ces dossiers?
 - En ce qui concerne ces priorités, le gouvernement du Canada est-il globalement sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie? Pourquoi dites-vous cela?

- SI MAUVAISE VOIE: Que pourrait faire le gouvernement du Canada pour se mettre sur la bonne voie?

- **Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton** En matière de gestion des relations internationales, plus particulièrement avec des pays à majorité arabe, diriez-vous que, de manière générale, le gouvernement du Canada est sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie? Pourquoi dites-vous cela?

- **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** Avez-vous récemment vu, lu ou entendu quoi que ce soit au sujet du gouvernement du Canada et de ses relations avec des pays à majorité arabe?
 - SI OUI: Qu'avez-vous entendu?

- **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** Pour ce qui est de nouer des relations avec les Canadiens d'origine arabe, diriez-vous que le gouvernement fédéral est généralement sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie?

- **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** Quels sont les meilleurs moyens pour le gouvernement fédéral de nouer le dialogue avec les Canadiens d'origine arabe?

- **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Quels sont, à votre avis, les principaux enjeux auxquels sont confrontés les personnes âgées au travail et auxquels le gouvernement du Canada devrait accorder la priorité? Pourquoi?
 - SI CE N'EST PAS MENTIONNÉ : Qu'en est-il du coût de la vie?

- **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Que fait le gouvernement du Canada face à l'augmentation du coût de la vie?
 - Direz-vous que le gouvernement du Canada est généralement sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie? Pourquoi?

- **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Dans quelle mesure le coût de la vie a-t-il un impact, le cas échéant, sur vos plans de retraite?

- **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Dans quelle mesure les programmes gouvernementaux tels que la Sécurité de la vieillesse (SV) et Le Supplément de revenu garanti (SRG) sont-ils importants, le cas échéant, pour ce qui est de rendre votre vie plus abordable? Dans quelle mesure ces programmes vous sont-ils familiers?

- **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Êtes-vous au courant d'un quelconque travail effectué par le gouvernement du Canada en lien avec l'un ou l'autre de ces programmes?

Personnes âgées résidant au Québec ÉCLAIRCISSEMENTS : Les prestations de la SV et du SRG sont ajustées chaque année en fonction des variations dans l'indice des prix à la consommation afin de tenir compte de l'augmentation du coût de la vie. Les prestations de la SV et du SRG sont revues en janvier, avril, juillet et octobre.

- **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Que pensez-vous de cela? Y a-t-il des informations que vous ignoriez avant aujourd'hui?

Personnes âgées résidant au Québec Au cours des dernières années, certains changements ont été apportés à ces programmes. Nous allons maintenant en passer un en revue.

Personnes âgées résidant au Québec AFFICHER A L'ÉCRAN À compter de juillet 2022, les personnes âgées de 75 ans et plus verront une augmentation automatique de 10 % de leur pension de la Sécurité de la vieillesse.

- **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Que pensez-vous de cela?
- **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Ce changement a-t-il un quelconque impact sur vous?
 - SI OUI: Lequel?
- **Personnes âgées résidant au Québec** Lorsqu'il s'agit de nouer un dialogue avec les personnes âgées, diriez-vous que le gouvernement fédéral est généralement sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie?
 - Y a-t-il, selon vous, de meilleurs moyens pour le gouvernement de nouer un dialogue avec les personnes âgées?
- **Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg** Quels sont, à votre avis, les principaux enjeux auxquels les Autochtones sont confrontés et auxquels le gouvernement fédéral devrait accorder la priorité?
 - Et avec les Autochtones vivant à Winnipeg?
- **Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg** À votre avis, le gouvernement du Canada a-t-il priorisé la réconciliation?
 - SI OUI : Diriez-vous que la réconciliation a constitué une priorité mineure ou majeure?



- **Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg** Quels domaines devrait, selon vous, prioriser le gouvernement du Canada pour faire progresser la réconciliation? Qu'est-ce qui vous incite à avoir cette opinion?
- **Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg** Comment mesureriez-vous les progrès réalisés en matière de réconciliation?
 - Y a-t-il des mesures ou des résultats précis qui témoigneraient des progrès accomplis? Si oui, quels sont-ils?
 - SI OUI: Quels sont-ils?
- **Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg** Avez-vous des conseils à donner au gouvernement fédéral pour l'aider à nouer un dialogue avec les populations autochtones vivant en région urbaine et à répondre à leurs besoins?

VÉHICULES ÉLECTRIQUES (20 minutes) Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario

- SI AUCUNE MENTION N'À ÉTÉ FAITE DE L'INDUSTRIE AUTOMOBILE CI-DESSUS, POSER LA QUESTION SUIVANTE : Et pour ce qui est de venir en aide à l'industrie automobile? Diriez-vous que le gouvernement du Canada est sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie?
- SI L'INDUSTRIE AUTOMOBILE A ÉTÉ MENTIONNÉE CI-DESSUS EN TANT QU'ENJEU PRIORITAIRE, POSER LA QUESTION SUIVANTE : Diriez-vous que le gouvernement du Canada est sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie en ce qui concerne l'industrie automobile?
- Pouvez-vous citer quelques exemples de mesures prises par le gouvernement fédéral pour venir en aide à l'industrie automobile? Que pensez-vous de cela?
- AU BESOIN : Quelqu'un parmi vous a-t-il récemment entendu parler de nouvelles concernant le gouvernement du Canada et les véhicules électriques?

AFFICHER A L'ÉCRAN :

Les gouvernements fédéral et ontarien ont récemment annoncé qu'Honda Canada investira 15 milliards de dollars dans le secteur des véhicules électriques en Ontario pour construire quatre nouvelles usines de fabrication dans la province. Ces usines comprendront une nouvelle usine d'assemblage de véhicules électriques et une usine de fabrication de batteries. La nouvelle usine d'assemblage produira jusqu'à 240 000 véhicules par année. On estime que cet investissement créera directement et indirectement des milliers d'emplois dans plusieurs secteurs, notamment dans ceux de l'industrie manufacturière, de la construction, de l'industrie des fournisseurs de pièces automobiles, ainsi que de la recherche et du développement.

- Quelles sont vos réactions à cela? Quel seront, selon vous, les impacts de cet investissement?
 - En quoi cet investissement impactera-t-il, selon vous, l'économie ontarienne?
 - AU BESOIN : Et en matière de création d'emplois? Pensez-vous que la création d'emplois dans les nouvelles usines de Honda puisse directement ou indirectement vous impacter, ou impacter une personne que vous connaissez, ou avoir un impact au sein de votre collectivité?
 - SI NON : Pensez-vous que cela puisse vous impacter, impacter quelqu'un que vous connaissez, ou impacter votre communauté d'une quelque autre façon?
 - SI OUI : De quelle façon?
- Avez-vous des questions ou des préoccupations concernant cet investissement?

TRANSPORT PUBLIC (20 minutes) Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario

J'aimerais maintenant que nous nous concentrons sur le transport en commun...

- SI AUCUNE MENTION N'A PRÉCÉDEMMENT ÉTÉ FAITE DU TRANSPORT EN COMMUN, POSER LA QUESTION SUIVANTE : Tous les participants estimaient que cela devait constituer une priorité absolue du gouvernement du Canada.
- À qui revient principalement la responsabilité du transport en commun?
 - Quelle est l'importance du rôle du gouvernement en ce qui a trait au financement du transport en commun?
 - Quelqu'un se souvient-il d'avoir vu, lu ou entendu que le gouvernement du Canada investissait dans un quelconque projet de transport en commun?
 - En matière d'investissements dans les transports publics, quels sont les principaux objectifs que devrait s'efforcer d'atteindre le gouvernement du Canada?
 - DEMANDER : Devrait-il faire en sorte que le transport en commun soit plus fiable, plus abordable ou plus écoénergétique? Faire autre chose?
 - Dans quelle mesure les investissements destinés à l'électrification du transport en commun sont-ils importants? En quoi l'électrification des réseaux de transport en commun vous impacterait-elle personnellement?

DEMANDER : Par l'intermédiaire du Fonds pour le transport en commun à zéro émission, le gouvernement du Canada investit 2,75 milliards de dollars en appui aux plans d'électrification des exploitants en soutenant l'achat d'autobus à zéro émission, de nouvelles bornes de recharge ainsi

que la modernisation d'installations.

- Quelles sont vos réactions à cette information? S'agit-il d'une mesure que devrait prendre le gouvernement du Canada? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?

LOGEMENT (40 minutes) Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, nord de l'Ontario, Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg

Locataires résidant à Vancouver Lorsqu'on vous a recruté pour ce groupe de discussion, vous avez indiqué être locataire des lieux que vous habitez. Je demanderais à présent à chacun de vous de bien vouloir me confirmer rapidement, en levant la main, que c'est toujours le cas.

Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, nord de l'Ontario J'aimerais maintenant parler du logement...

Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg J'aimerais maintenant changer de sujet pour aborder la question du logement...

- **Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario** Avant aujourd'hui, quelqu'un parmi vous avait-il entendu parler de mesures prises par le gouvernement du Canada pour tenter de remédier au problème de l'accessibilité et de la disponibilité des logements?
 - **Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario** SI OUI : Qu'avez-vous entendu?
- **Nord de l'Ontario** Qui ici est locataire? Et qui est propriétaire? [À MAIN LEVÉE POUR CHACUNE DES QUESTIONS]
- **Locataires résidant à Vancouver, nord de l'Ontario** Comment décririez-vous la situation du logement au sein de votre collectivité? Et la situation en matière de location plus précisément?
 - **Locataires résidant à Vancouver, nord de l'Ontario** Quels sont les défis les plus importants en matière de location au sein de votre collectivité? DEMANDER AU BESOIN : Abordabilité, qualité, offre.
 - **Locataires résidant à Vancouver** SI CE N'EST PAS MENTIONNÉ : Et la densité? Quelqu'un parmi vous craint-il que sa collectivité ne devienne trop densément peuplée? Pourquoi êtes-vous de cet avis?
- **Locataires résidant à Vancouver** SI L'ABORDABILITÉ EST MENTIONNÉE : À votre avis, à quoi le manque de logements locatifs abordables au sein de votre collectivité est-il attribuable?
- **Locataires résidant à Vancouver, nord de l'Ontario** Diriez-vous que la situation en matière de logement et que le marché locatif ont empiré, se sont améliorés ou sont restés les mêmes au

cours des dernières années? **Locataires résidant à Vancouver** DEMANDER POUR S'ASSURER QUE L'ABORDABILITÉ ET LA DENSITÉ SONT COUVERTES.

- SI EMPIRÉE/AMÉLIORÉE : Qu'est-ce qui explique ces changements?
 - Qu'est-ce qui pourrait contribuer à améliorer la situation?
 - **Locataires résidant à Vancouver** En ce qui concerne plus particulièrement l'abordabilité, que faut-il faire, le cas échéant, pour améliorer l'accès à des logements locatifs abordables à Vancouver?
 - **Locataires résidant à Vancouver** Combien de temps pensez-vous qu'il faudra pour résoudre les problèmes liés à l'inaccessibilité des logements locatifs à prix abordables à Vancouver?
- **Locataires résidant à Vancouver** À votre connaissance, le gouvernement du Canada a-t-il fait quoi que ce soit pour résoudre les problèmes auxquels sont confrontés les locataires?
 - **Nord de l'Ontario** À votre connaissance, le gouvernement du Canada a-t-il fait quelque chose pour aider les Canadiens à se loger à prix abordable?
 - **Locataires résidant à Vancouver** Que devrait faire le gouvernement du Canada, le cas échéant, pour soutenir les locataires?
 - **Autochtones de régions urbaines des Prairies, locataires de la RGT -** Avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu quoi que ce soit de la part du gouvernement du Canada concernant les mesures qu'il prend pour faire face au [logement/construction de logement].
 - **Locataires résidant à Vancouver, nord de l'Ontario** SI OUI : Qu'avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu? Où l'avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu?
 - **Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg** Comment décririez-vous la situation du logement au sein de votre collectivité? Quels sont les principales difficultés auxquelles sont plus particulièrement confrontés les Autochtones vivant à Winnipeg en matière de logement?
 - **Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg** Avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu quoi que ce soit au sujet d'initiatives du gouvernement du Canada visant à remédier à la situation du logement?

Nord de l'Ontario Dans le cadre du budget fédéral, le gouvernement du Canada a présenté un plan pour remédier à la crise du logement. En Voici quelques éléments :

Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec En plus des mesures dont nous avons déjà discuté, le gouvernement du Canada a présenté, dans le cadre de son budget, un plan pour résoudre la crise du logement. Ce plan définit une stratégie visant à stimuler la construction de 3,87 millions de nouveaux logements d'ici 2031. Le plan du gouvernement fédéral sur logement comporte trois volets. Nous allons passer en revue

chacune d'entre elles et recueillir vos réactions quant à quelques-unes des mesures spécifiques qu'ils comportent. Voici le premier volet, qui met en lumière certaines des mesures budgétaires que propose le gouvernement du Canada dans le cadre de sa stratégie visant à favoriser la construction de nouveaux logements.

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN Locataires résidant à Vancouver, nord de l'Ontario

- **Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario** Signature de 179 ententes dans le cadre du Fonds pour accélérer la construction de logements jusqu'à présent afin de réduire les formalités administratives et d'accélérer la construction d'un nombre total approximatif de 750 000 logements au cours de la prochaine décennie.
- **Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario** Utilisation de biens fonciers fédéraux, tels que ceux utilisés par Postes Canada, le ministère de la Défense nationale, et les immeubles de bureaux du gouvernement fédéral, pour la construire plus de logements plus rapidement.
- **Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario** Favoriser la construction d'un plus grand nombre de logements locatifs en investissant plus de 15 milliards de dollars dans le cadre du Programme de prêts pour la construction d'appartements, qui vise à aider les constructeurs à obtenir les fonds dont ils ont besoin pour réaliser de nouveaux projets.
- Changer la façon dont les logements sont construits au Canada en investissant dans des technologies comme les usines de logements préfabriqués et des catalogues de conceptions de logements préapprouvées.
- Rationaliser la reconnaissance des titres de compétences étrangers dans le secteur de la construction et aider les travailleurs qualifiés à construire davantage de logements.
- À N'AFFICHER QUE DANS LA RÉGION DU GOLDEN HORSESHOE, EN ONTARIO Favoriser la construction d'un plus grand nombre de logements locatifs en investissant plus de 15 milliards de dollars dans le cadre du Programme de prêts pour la construction d'appartements, qui vise à aider les constructeurs à obtenir les fonds dont ils ont besoin pour réaliser de nouveaux projets;
- À N'AFFICHER QUE DANS LA RÉGION DU GOLDEN HORSESHOE, EN ONTARIO Des initiatives visant à rationaliser la reconnaissance des titres de compétences étrangers dans le secteur de la construction et à aider les travailleurs qualifiés à construire davantage de logements.
- **Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec, nord de l'Ontario** Que pensez-vous de ces mesures?

- Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec, nord de l'Ontario Pensez-vous que ces mesures auront un impact sur l'offre de logements au Canada?
- Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec, nord de l'Ontario Et sur l'abordabilité des logements?
- Locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec, nord de l'Ontario Faciliteront-elles l'accès à la propriété?

Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec Voici le deuxième volet qui met en lumière quelques-unes des mesures que propose le gouvernement du Canada pour faciliter votre accès à la propriété ou la location d'un logement.

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec

- Sévir contre les locations illégales de courte durée (p.ex., Airbnb)
- Convier les entreprises de technologie financière, les agences d'évaluation du crédit et les prêteurs à élaborer l'écosystème qui donnera aux locataires la possibilité d'inclure leurs antécédents de paiement de loyer dans leur cote de crédit, pour les aider à se qualifier pour un prêt hypothécaire et à obtenir de meilleurs taux d'intérêt;
- Établir une Charte canadienne des droits des locataires afin de protéger les locataires, exiger des propriétaires qu'ils fournissent un historique clair des loyers d'un appartement, sévir contre les rénovictions et établir un contrat de location standard à l'échelle nationale;
- Permettre une période d'amortissement de 30 ans pour les acheteurs d'une première propriété nouvellement construite;
- Prolonger de deux ans l'interdiction d'achat de logements canadiens par des étrangers
- Limiter l'achat et l'acquisition de maisons unifamiliales existantes par de grandes sociétés d'investissement. Le gouvernement mènera des consultations sur la manière de procéder au cours des prochains mois.
- Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec Que pensez-vous de ces mesures?
 - Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec Auront-elles à votre avis un impact sur l'offre de logements au Canada?
 - Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec Et sur l'abordabilité des logements?

- Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec Favoriseront-elles l'accès à la propriété?

Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec Et voici le troisième volet qui met en lumière quelques-unes des mesures que propose le gouvernement du Canada pour venir en aide à ceux qui peinent le plus à faire face au coût de la vie.

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec

- Fournir 1 milliard de dollars au Fonds pour le logement abordable pour soutenir les fournisseurs de logements sans but lucratif, coopératifs et publics et répondre aux besoins des personnes les plus touchées par la crise du logement;
- Créer un Fonds canadien de protection des loyers pour aider les fournisseurs de logements abordables à acheter des logements et à préserver leur abordabilité à long terme pour éviter qu'ils ne soient reconvertis en condominiums de luxe;
- Augmenter le financement pour soutenir les organisations ayant pour vocation de prévenir et de réduire l'itinérance.
- Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec Que pensez-vous de ces mesures?
 - Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec Quel impact, le cas échéant, ces mesures auront-elles sur l'aide apportée à ceux qui peinent à se loger et à trouver un endroit où se sentir chez eux?
- Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec Maintenant que vous avez pris connaissance de cette liste des points saillants du budget, j'aimerais que vous pensiez à un mot qui décrit votre réaction générale à l'égard du budget. En d'autres termes, pensez à un mot que vous utiliseriez pour décrire le budget dans son ensemble.
 - Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec LE MODÉRATEUR POSERA LA QUESTION SUIVANTE À CHAQUE PARTICIPANT : Quel mot avez-vous choisi et pourquoi l'avez-vous choisi?
- Région du Golden Horseshoe en Ontario, locataires résidant à Vancouver, personnes âgées résidant au Québec Maintenant, en pensant à toutes les mesures dont nous avons discuté aujourd'hui, croyez-vous que l'une d'entre elles puisse aider des particuliers cherchant à acheter

leur première propriété et faire en sorte que toutes les générations, et en particulier les jeunes, aient accès à une diversité d'options abordables en matière de logement?

Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg Le gouvernement du Canada a présenté, dans le cadre de son budget, un plan pour résoudre la crise du logement. Ce plan définit une stratégie visant à stimuler la construction de 3,87 millions de nouveaux logements d'ici 2031. Nous allons maintenant passer en revue quelques mesures :

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN :

- **Fournir 1 milliard de dollars au Fonds pour le logement abordable** pour soutenir les fournisseurs de logements sans but lucratif, coopératifs et publics et répondre aux besoins des personnes les plus touchées par la crise du logement
- **Augmenter le financement alloué en appui à des organisations ayant pour vocation de prévenir et de réduire l'itinérance.**
- **Investir 4 milliards de dollars sur sept ans en collaboration avec des partenaires autochtones** afin d'élaborer des solutions adaptées en matière de logement à l'intention des communautés autochtones urbaines, rurales et nordiques;
- **Établir une Charte canadienne des droits des locataires afin de protéger les locataires,** exiger des propriétaires qu'ils fournissent un historique clair des loyers d'un appartement, sévir contre les rénovictions et établir un contrat de location standard à l'échelle nationale
- **Favoriser la construction d'un plus grand nombre de logements locatifs** en investissant plus de 15 milliards de dollars dans le cadre du Programme de prêts pour la construction d'appartements, qui vise à aider les constructeurs à obtenir les fonds dont ils ont besoin pour réaliser de nouveaux projets.
- **Limiter l'achat et l'acquisition de maisons unifamiliales** existantes par de grandes sociétés d'investissement.
- **Prolonger de deux ans l'interdiction d'achat de logements canadiens par des étrangers**

Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg **SONDAGE:** J'aimerais maintenant que vous sélectionniez les mesures qui impacteront, selon vous, le plus positivement les Autochtones. Si vous jugez qu'aucune d'entre elles n'aura un impact positif, n'en sélectionnez aucune.

- Fournir 1 milliard de dollars au Fonds pour le logement abordable
- Augmenter le financement alloué en appui à des organisations ayant pour vocation de prévenir et de réduire l'itinérance.



- Investir 4 milliards de dollars sur sept ans en collaboration avec des partenaires autochtones afin d'élaborer des solutions adaptées en matière de logement
- Créer une Charte canadienne des droits des locataires visant à protéger les locataires et à leur fournir un historique détaillé des loyers d'un appartement.
- Favoriser la construction d'un plus grand nombre de logements locatifs en investissant plus de 15 milliards de dollars dans le cadre du Programme de prêts pour la construction d'appartements
- Limiter l'achat et l'acquisition de maisons unifamiliales existantes par de grandes sociétés d'investissement.
- Prolonger de deux ans l'interdiction d'achat de logements canadiens par des étrangers
- **Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg** LE MODÉRATEUR PASSERA EN REVUE LES MESURES SÉLECTIONNÉES : Pourquoi avez-vous sélectionné cette mesure?
- **Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg** Quels sont les impacts, le cas échéant, que pourrait, selon vous, avoir ce plan sur les Autochtones vivant à Winnipeg?
- **Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg** Diriez-vous qu'avec ces mesures, le gouvernement du Canada est sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie pour ce qui est de remédier aux problèmes auxquels sont confrontés les Autochtones vivant à Winnipeg en matière de logement? Qu'est-ce qui vous fait dire cela?
- **Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg** Avez-vous des questions concernant ces mesures? Y a-t-il quelque chose qui ne vous semble pas clair?

Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg À votre avis, que devrait encore faire le gouvernement du Canada pour remédier aux problèmes en matière de logement auxquels sont confrontés les Autochtones vivant à Winnipeg?

ÉNERGIE ET TECHNOLOGIE PROPRES (25 minutes) Saskatchewan

- Avez-vous entendu quoi que ce soit au sujet des initiatives que prend le gouvernement du Canada en matière d'énergie propre?

CLARIFIER AU BESOIN :

Le gouvernement du Canada investit dans l'électricité propre et les technologies propres afin de contribuer à la réduction des émissions.



- Qu'est-ce qui vous vient à l'esprit lorsque vous pensez à de l'électricité propre? Et aux technologies propres?
- Le gouvernement du Canada devrait-il encourager des investissements dans l'électricité propre? Et dans les technologies propres?
 - CLARIFIER AU BESOIN : Cela pourrait comprendre des investissements dans la construction de réseaux électriques utilisant des sources d'énergie propres (comme l'éolien, le solaire et l'hydroélectrique) et l'octroi d'incitatifs à l'adoption et à la fabrication de technologies propres (dont des panneaux solaires et des éoliennes), pour n'en nommer que quelques-unes.
- Voyez-vous des avantages ou des bénéfices à ce que le gouvernement du Canada favorise des investissements dans le secteur de l'électricité propre et des technologies propres?
- Avez-vous des inquiétudes quant au fait que le gouvernement du Canada encourage des investissements dans les secteurs de l'électricité propre et des technologies propres?
- Pensez-vous que le développement du secteur de l'électricité propre et des technologies propres augmentera les risques de pannes d'électricité, en diminuera les risques, ou pensez-vous que ces risques resteront à peu près les mêmes? Qu'est-ce qui vous fait dire cela?
- Pensez-vous que le développement du secteur de l'électricité propre aura un impact positif, négatif ou nul sur une personne comme vous? Et sur les travailleurs de Saskatchewan?

ASSURANCE MÉDICAMENTS (40 minutes) Saskatchewan

J'aimerais maintenant changer de sujet...

- Quels sont les principaux enjeux en matière de soins de santé sur lesquels le gouvernement du Canada devrait se pencher?
 - SI CE N'EST PAS MENTIONNÉ : Et le coût des médicaments d'ordonnance? Diriez-vous que cet enjeu est plus important, aussi important ou moins important que les enjeux en matière de soins de santé que vous avez mentionnés précédemment?
- Comment qualifieriez-vous la couverture actuelle pour les médicaments d'ordonnance au Canada? Est-elle abordable? Est-elle accessible?
- Quels sont, le cas échéant, les principaux obstacles auxquels sont confrontées les personnes ne bénéficiant pas d'une assurance médicaments?

- Seriez-vous en faveur d'un régime d'assurance médicaments « universel » en vertu duquel tout le monde bénéficierait d'une assurance médicaments? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
- Êtes-vous au courant d'initiatives qu'a pris ou que compte prendre le gouvernement du Canada en matière d'assurance médicaments?
 - SI OUI : Qu'avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu?

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN :

Le 29 février 2024, le gouvernement du Canada a présenté un projet de loi pour la mise en œuvre de la première phase d'un régime national d'assurance médicaments afin d'améliorer l'accès aux médicaments sur ordonnance et les rendre plus abordables pour un plus grand nombre de Canadiens.

Si le projet de loi est approuvé, le gouvernement entend collaborer avec les provinces et territoires afin de fournir une couverture universelle à payeur unique pour un certain nombre de moyens de contraception et de médicaments contre le diabète. Le gouvernement du Canada entend également mettre en place un fonds pour soutenir l'accès de la population canadienne aux fournitures dont les personnes atteintes de diabète ont besoin pour gérer et surveiller leur maladie et administrer leurs médicaments, comme les seringues et les bandelettes de test de glycémie.

- Quelles sont vos réactions à cette information? Est-ce quelque chose que le gouvernement du Canada devrait faire? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
 - AU BESOIN : Comment réagissez-vous à la décision du gouvernement du Canada de mettre en œuvre la première phase d'un régime d'assurance médicaments prévoyant la couverture des contraceptifs et de médicaments contre le diabète?
- LE MODÉRATEUR S'ENQUIÈRERA DES CONTRACEPTIFS ET DES MÉDICAMENTS CONTRE LE DIABÈTE : Quels seront les impacts de cette couverture? Qui en bénéficiera le plus? Cette couverture vous concernera-t-elle ou concernera-t-elle quelqu'un que vous connaissez?
- Avez-vous des questions ou des préoccupations concernant la couverture des contraceptifs et des médicaments contre le diabète?
- Comme nous l'avons mentionné précédemment, le gouvernement fédéral devra collaborer avec les provinces et territoires pour mettre en œuvre un régime d'assurance médicaments. Seriez-vous favorable à ce que la Saskatchewan participe à un programme national d'assurance médicaments? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
 - Que diriez-vous si d'autres provinces adhéraient à un régime national d'assurance médicaments, mais que la Saskatchewan choisissait de ne pas y adhérer?



- Alors que le gouvernement du Canada planifie les prochaines étapes de son régime national d'assurance médicaments, quels sont les éléments les plus importants qu'il devrait garder à l'esprit?
 - Quels autres médicaments devraient être couverts?
 - Le régime d'assurance médicaments devrait-il être entièrement, de sorte que tous les Canadiens bénéficient du même régime, ou devrait-il servir à combler les écarts, de sorte que les gens puissent continuer à utiliser les régimes publics et privés existants, en veillant à ce que tout le monde soit couvert, y compris ceux qui ne le sont pas actuellement?
 - Avez-vous des préoccupations concernant l'une ou l'autre de ces approches?
- Un régime d'assurance médicaments national contribuerait-il à rendre la vie plus abordable? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
- Quels seraient les impacts d'un régime national d'assurance médicaments sur notre système de soins de santé?
- Avez-vous d'autres questions ou commentaires concernant le régime d'assurance médicaments?

SÉCURITÉ EN LIGNE (90 minutes) Utilisatrices intensives de médias sociaux âgées de 18 à 34 du Canada atlantique

Puisque nous discutons présentement en ligne, nous savons que vous utilisez tous l'Internet!

- Quels sont les impacts positifs de l'Internet et du cyberspace sur la société d'aujourd'hui?
- Présentent-ils des inconvénients? Lesquels?
 - SONDER SI CE N'EST PAS MENTIONNÉ : Et que dire des contenus préjudiciables en ligne? Comment définiriez-vous un contenu préjudiciable? Pouvez-vous en donner des exemples?
- Dans quelle mesure les contenus préjudiciables en ligne vous préoccupent-ils, le cas échéant?
- À votre connaissance, des mesures de protection ont-elles été mises en place pour assurer la sécurité des Canadiens en ligne?
 - Et pour ce qui est de réduire le nombre de contenus préjudiciables auxquels sont exposés les Canadiens?
 - Dans quelle mesure avez-vous bon espoir, le cas échéant, que les plateformes numériques aient mis en place des mesures pour réduire la quantité de contenus préjudiciables auxquels sont exposés les Canadiens?

- Et auxquels sont exposés les personnes vulnérables et les enfants?

- Estimez-vous que les plateformes numériques soient responsables des contenus préjudiciables qu'elles diffusent et de leur impact sur les utilisateurs? Devraient-elles l'être? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?

- Le gouvernement du Canada devrait-il tenir les plateformes numériques responsables de la gestion des contenus préjudiciables sur leurs plateformes? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?

- Qu'avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu récemment au sujet du gouvernement du Canada, des plateformes numériques et des contenus préjudiciables?
 - Avez-vous entendu parler d'un projet de loi visant à lutter contre les préjudices en ligne, appelé *Loi sur les préjudices en ligne*?
 - SI OUI : Qu'avez-vous entendu?

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN

Le gouvernement du Canada a déposé un projet de loi visant à garantir que les plateformes numériques, en particulier les services de médias sociaux, les services de diffusion en direct ainsi que les services de contenu pour adultes téléchargés par des utilisateurs, soient responsables de gérer les contenus préjudiciables. Le projet de loi s'articule autour de cinq éléments clés :

6. Veiller à ce que les plateformes numériques réduisent l'exposition à sept types de contenus préjudiciables en ligne;
7. Modifier le Code pénal pour mieux lutter contre la propagande et les crimes haineux;
8. Modifier la *Loi canadienne sur les droits de la personne* pour permettre aux citoyens de porter plainte contre ceux qui diffusent des propos haineux en ligne.
9. Resserrer les lois visant à protéger les enfants contre l'exploitation sexuelle;
10. Créer une nouvelle commission de la sécurité numérique chargée de faire respecter les règles et de responsabiliser les plateformes numériques.

Notez que les nouvelles règles ne s'appliqueraient pas aux services de messagerie privée et cryptée (par exemple, WhatsApp, Signal, Telegram, etc.).

NOTE À L'ATTENTION DU MODÉRATEUR : SI LES PARTICIPANTS POSENT DES QUESTIONS SUR LES PARTICULARITÉS DES CINQ ÉLÉMENTS CLÉS (C'EST-À-DIRE LES SEPT TYPES DE CONTENUS PRÉJUDICIALES, LA DÉFINITION DU CRIME HAINEUX, DE LA PROPAGANDE HAINEUSE ET DU DISCOURS HAINEUX), NOTEZ QUE CES ÉLÉMENTS SERONT ABORDÉS SOUS PEU ET QUE NOUS NE NOUS INTÉRESSONS QU'À LEURS RÉACTIONS INITIALES.

- Votre première impression de ces mesures est-elle positive, négative, ou ni positive ni négative? Pourquoi êtes-vous de cet avis?
- Avez-vous des préoccupations ou des questions concernant l'un ou l'autre des éléments de cette liste?

Je vais maintenant vous présenter à l'écran quelques détails supplémentaires concernant la *Loi sur les préjudices en ligne*. Si cette loi est adoptée, elle obligera les plateformes numériques à prendre les mesures suivantes :

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN.

Les plateformes numériques seraient tenues de **retirer** les contenus suivants dans les 24 heures :

- Contenu représentant la victimisation sexuelle d'enfants ou perpétuant la victimisation de survivants et survivantes;
- Contenu intime communiqué de façon non consensuelle.

Les plateformes seraient également tenues de réduire l'exposition à sept types de contenu préjudiciable :

- Contenu fomentant la haine;
 - Contenu incitant à l'extrémisme violent ou au terrorisme;
 - Contenu incitant à la violence;
 - Contenu visant à intimider un enfant;
 - Contenu poussant un enfant à se porter préjudice.
-
- Concernant les deux premiers types de contenu préjudiciable énumérés ci-dessus (c'est-à-dire les deux premiers points centrés) et l'obligation des plateformes rendre ces contenus inaccessibles, est-ce à votre avis une exigence que le gouvernement du Canada devrait imposer aux plateformes? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
 - Avez-vous des questions ou préoccupations?
 - En quoi cette exigence contribuerait-elle, le cas échéant, à la sécurité des Canadiens en ligne? Et plus particulièrement à la sécurité des enfants?

Passons maintenant aux cinq types de contenu dont les plateformes seraient tenues de réduire l'exposition (c'est-à-dire les cinq derniers points centrés) ...

- Le gouvernement du Canada devrait-il se focaliser sur ces types de contenus préjudiciables? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
- Y a-t-il, à votre avis, d'autres types de contenus préjudiciables qui devraient être pris en compte?
- Y a-t-il des éléments de cette liste qui, selon vous, ne devraient pas y figurer?

Je vais maintenant vous fournir d'autres détails concernant le projet de loi visant à réduire l'exposition aux contenus préjudiciables...

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN :

Les règles proposées visent essentiellement à s'assurer que les plateformes numériques évaluent le risque d'exposition à du contenu préjudiciable pour ensuite adopter des mesures pour réduire ces risques.

À titre d'exemple, les plateformes numériques seraient tenues de fournir aux utilisateurs et utilisatrices des lignes directrices et des outils leur permettant de signaler tout contenu préjudiciable et de bloquer d'autres utilisateurs et utilisatrices. Les plateformes seraient également tenues de mettre en place un point de contact interne pour recevoir les plaintes des utilisateurs et des utilisatrices ou leur prodiguer des conseils.

Elles seraient en outre tenues d'étiqueter les contenus préjudiciables dont elles ont des raisons de penser qu'ils sont créés et amplifiés au moyen de communications automatisées par des programmes informatiques (par exemple, des robots).

- Avez-vous des questions ou des préoccupations de ce que je viens de vous présenter?

Je vais maintenant vous fournir d'autres détails concernant le projet de loi qui ont trait aux enfants...

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN :

Les plateformes numériques seraient également tenues de prendre en compte les intérêts des enfants au moment de concevoir des produits et des fonctionnalités. À titre d'exemple :

- Concevoir des fonctionnalités pour limiter l'exposition à du contenu préjudiciable, notamment au contenu sexuel explicite, au contenu intimidant ou incitant à se porter préjudice;
- Inclure des paramètres de contrôle parental et de recherche sécuritaire afin que certains types de contenu soient inaccessibles lors d'une recherche.
- Concevoir des fonctionnalités limitant le défilement et la lecture automatique dans l'intérêt des enfants.
- Interdire aux utilisateurs adultes d'envoyer des messages à des enfants ne faisant pas partie de leur réseau.

En résumé, le projet de loi vise essentiellement à réduire l'exposition aux contenus préjudiciables, plutôt qu'à exiger des services en ligne qu'ils les retirent, sauf dans les deux types de cas que nous avons précédemment évoqués. **AU BESOIN, LE MODÉRATEUR RAPPELLERA CE QUI SUIT AUX PARTICIPANTS** : Tout contenu représentant une victimisation sexuelle d'enfants ou perpétuant la victimisation de survivantes et survivants. Tout contenu intime communiqué de façon non consensuelle.

- L'approche du gouvernement fédéral est-elle à votre avis appropriée, à savoir de demander aux plateformes d'évaluer le niveau de risque d'exposition à du contenu préjudiciable et de faire des choix conceptuels afin de minimiser ce risque, plutôt que de leur demander de le supprimer (dans la plupart des cas)? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
 - Y a-t-il une approche différente que vous souhaiteriez qu'adopte le gouvernement du Canada pour remédier à cette problématique?
- Ces exigences auront-elles, selon vous, un impact majeur, mineur ou aucun impact sur la sécurité en ligne et la quantité de contenus préjudiciables auxquels les Canadiens sont exposés? Pourquoi êtes-vous de cet avis?
- Selon vous, le gouvernement du Canada parviendra-t-il à faire en sorte que les plateformes numériques respectent leurs obligations?

Le projet de loi prévoit également la création d'une commission de la sécurité numérique chargée de faire respecter les règles et de demander aux plateformes de rendre des comptes. Cette commission serait responsable d'ordonner le retrait de tout contenu s'inscrivant dans l'une ou l'autre des deux catégories dont nous avons discuté.



- À quel point pensez-vous que cette commission de la sécurité numérique serait efficace, le cas échéant, pour garantir que les plateformes protègent leurs utilisateurs?
- Avez-vous des questions ou des préoccupations concernant cette commission?

Pour ce qui est du discours haineux, la proposition comprend une définition de ce type de discours, basée sur des décisions de la Cour suprême du Canada.

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN

Le « discours haineux » se définirait comme suit :

Tout contenu d'une communication exprimant de la détestation ou diffamatoire à l'égard d'une personne ou d'un groupe de personnes en se fondant sur un motif de distinction illicite (soit la race, l'origine nationale ou ethnique, la couleur, la religion, l'âge, le sexe, l'orientation sexuelle, l'identité ou l'expression de genre, l'état matrimonial, la situation de famille, les caractéristiques génétiques, le handicap ou la condamnation pour un crime pour lequel la personne accusée a obtenu un pardon ou dont le casier judiciaire a été suspendu).

Pour constituer une pratique discriminatoire, le discours haineux doit être communiqué de manière à fomentier l'aversion ou la diffamation d'une personne ou d'un groupe

Un discours n'entrerait **pas** dans la définition du discours haineux simplement parce qu'il exprime de l'aversion ou du dédain, ou parce qu'il discrédite, humilie, blesse ou offense.

- Cette définition est-elle claire selon vous? Vous semble-t-elle raisonnable? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
- Le gouvernement devrait-il à votre avis inclure le discours haineux dans la législation? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
- SI UN PARTICIPANT ÉTAIT AU COURANT DU PROJET DE LOI SUR LES PRÉJUDICES EN LIGNE LORS DE LA DISCUSSION INITIALE, LE MODÉRATEUR POSERA LA QUESTION SUIVANTE : Certains d'entre vous ont précédemment affirmé avoir entendu parler du projet de loi sur les préjudices en ligne. L'information fournie ici correspond-elle à ce que vous avez entendu, ou aviez-vous une perception différente de l'objet de cette loi?

DÉFIS POUR LES COLLECTIVITÉS (25 à 30 minutes) Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton, Estrie, secteur de l'intérieur de la C.-B.

Maintenant, j'aimerais que nous nous concentrons sur votre collectivité locale...

- Dans votre région, quels sont les principaux enjeux auxquels le gouvernement devrait tout particulièrement accorder la priorité?
 - SI CE N'EST PAS MENTIONNÉ : Aux investissements dans les infrastructures locales?
- Qu'avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu récemment au sujet du gouvernement du Canada et des infrastructures dans votre région?
 - Avez-vous remarqué des changements ou des développements en ce qui concerne les infrastructures locales?
- En général, quel type de projets d'infrastructure locaux vous semblent les plus essentiels pour la ville de Québec? Qu'est-ce qui ferait vraiment une différence pour vous personnellement?

Laissons de côté les infrastructures...

- Quels sont les plus importants secteurs d'activités et industries pour votre collectivité locale?
- Quels sont les secteurs d'activités et les industries de votre région qui, selon vous, ont le plus besoin d'aide?
- Les pénuries de main-d'œuvre posent-elles problème au sein de votre collectivité?
 - SI OUI : Ces pénuries de main-d'œuvre touchent-elles certains secteurs en particulier?
 - SI OUI : Lesquels?
- À quoi sont dues ces pénuries de main-d'œuvre à votre avis?
- Quelles sont, selon vous, les solutions pouvant être envisagées pour aider à limiter les pénuries de main-d'œuvre?

RECONNAISSANCE DES TITRES DE COMPÉTENCES ÉTRANGERS (25 minutes) Membres de la diaspora d'Asie du Sud-Est résidant à Calgary et à Edmonton

- Immigrants récents de la région métropolitaine de Montréal — quelle importance revêtent, le cas échéant, les enjeux liés à la reconnaissance des titres de compétence étrangers?

ÉCLAIRCISSEMENTS AU BESOIN : La reconnaissance des titres de compétences étrangers survient lorsque le gouvernement fédéral, provincial ou territorial détermine qu'une licence ou un certificat



obtenu à l'extérieur du Canada répond aux normes canadiennes, de sorte qu'un travailleur puisse occuper un emploi spécialisé. Les médecins, les comptables et les électriciens sont des exemples d'emplois spécialisés.

- Est-ce que quelqu'un parmi vous a un proche parent qui a eu à entreprendre ou qui est en train d'entreprendre une procédure pour faire reconnaître ses titres de compétences?
- À votre connaissance, qu'a fait le gouvernement du Canada, le cas échéant, pour résoudre les problèmes liés à la reconnaissance des diplômes étrangers?
- Que devrait faire le gouvernement du Canada à ce sujet?
- Diriez-vous que le gouvernement fédéral est généralement sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie lorsqu'il s'agit d'immigration? Pourquoi?
 - SI SUR LA MAUVAISE VOIE : Que doit faire le gouvernement du Canada pour être sur la bonne voie?
- Pensez-vous que le gouvernement du Canada devrait augmenter, réduire ou maintenir le taux d'immigration à peu près au même niveau? Pourquoi?
 - SI AUGMENTER OU RÉDUIRE : Quels impacts cela aurait-il au Canada?
- À votre avis, le gouvernement du Canada en fait-il assez pour venir en aide aux immigrants récents? Qu'est-ce qui vous fait dire cela?
- Que devrait faire le gouvernement du Canada pour soutenir les immigrants?
 - Qu'en est-il du logement et de soins de santé?

IMMIGRATION (25 minutes) Estrie, femmes arabes résidant à Toronto, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Quebec

Estrie, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Quebec Passons à un tout autre sujet...

- Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto Avez-vous lu, vu ou entendu des nouvelles récentes se rapportant à l'immigration au Canada?
 - Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto Que pensez-vous de ce que vous avez lu, vu ou entendu?
- Estrie, femmes arabes résidant à Toronto, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Quebec Dans l'ensemble, comment décririez-vous l'état actuel du système d'immigration au Canada?

- **Estrie, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Quebec** Quels sont, selon vous, les avantages liés au fait d'accueillir de nouveaux immigrants au Canada?
- **Estrie, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Quebec** Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous d'accord ou en désaccord avec l'énoncé suivant :
« Le Canada doit accueillir davantage de nouveaux immigrants pour contrer les pénuries de main-d'œuvre et contribuer à la croissance de l'économie »?
 - **Estrie, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Quebec** Pourquoi êtes-vous de cet avis?
- **Estrie, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Quebec** Avez-vous de quelconques appréhensions concernant l'accueil de nouveaux immigrants?
 - **Estrie, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Quebec** SI OUI : Quelles sont vos appréhensions?
- **Estrie, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Quebec** Que devrait faire le gouvernement du Canada pour répondre à ces préoccupations?
- **Estrie, femmes arabes résidant à Toronto, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Quebec** Pensez-vous que le gouvernement du Canada devrait augmenter, réduire ou maintenir le taux d'immigration à peu près au même niveau? Pourquoi?
 - **Estrie, nord de l'Ontario, ville de Quebec** SI AUGMENTER OU RÉDUIRE : Quels impacts cela aurait-il au Canada, que ce soit sur le plan social ou économique?
 - **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** SI AUGMENTER OU RÉDUIRE : Quels impacts cela aurait-il au Canada?
- **Estrie** Avant de passer à la section suivante, avez-vous d'autres réflexions dont vous voudriez nous faire part concernant le système d'immigration canadien?
- **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** Qui, parmi vous, a déjà vécu le processus d'immigration canadien? (À MAIN LEVÉE)
 - **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** Qui, parmi vous, a déjà vécu le processus de parrainage d'un membre de la famille (soit en étant parrainé, soit en parrainant un membre de la famille)? (À MAIN LEVÉE)
- **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** POSER LA QUESTION SUIVANTE À CEUX QUI DISENT AVOIR VÉCU LE PROCESSUS PROPRE AU SYSTÈME D'IMMIGRATION CANADIEN: Comment décririez-vous votre expérience? Avez-vous rencontré des difficultés au cours du processus?
 - **Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto** SI OUI: À condition que vous acceptiez de nous en faire part, quelles ont été les difficultés à surmonter dans le cadre de ce processus?

- Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto SI CE N'EST PAS MENTIONNÉ : D'après votre expérience, comment qualifieriez-vous les délais de traitement des demandes?
- Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto Diriez-vous que le gouvernement fédéral est généralement sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie lorsqu'il s'agit d'immigration? Pourquoi?
- Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto SI SUR LA MAUVAISE VOIE : Que doit faire le gouvernement du Canada pour être sur la bonne voie?
- Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto À votre avis, le gouvernement du Canada en fait-il assez pour venir en aide aux immigrants récents? Qu'est-ce qui vous fait dire cela?
- Nord de l'Ontario, ville de Quebec Avant de conclure, avez-vous d'autres réflexions dont vous souhaiteriez nous faire part au sujet du système d'immigration canadien?

TRAVAILLEURS SANS STATUT (20 minutes) Estrie, ville de Quebec

J'aimerais maintenant vous parler des personnes sans statut au Canada...

- Connaissez-vous les termes « travailleurs sans statut » ou « sans-papiers »?
 - Que veut-on dire par « personnes sans statut »?

ÉCLAIRCISSEMENTS :

Les personnes sans statut sont des particuliers vivant au Canada sans statut d'immigrant légal. Le terme « personne sans statut » peut désigner une personne dont le permis de travail, d'études ou dont le titre de voyage a expiré, une personne ayant présenté une demande de statut de réfugié qui lui a été refusée, ou une personne qui est entrée au Canada par des voies non officielles.

Les personnes sans statut sont souvent employées comme auxiliaires de vie ou aides-soignants dans des établissements de soins de longue durée, ou dans des secteurs comme celui de la construction et de l'agriculture.

- Quelle serait votre estimation du nombre de personnes sans statut au Canada?
- Pensez-vous que les personnes sans statut devraient se voir offrir la possibilité d'obtenir un statut de résident permanent et la citoyenneté?
 - Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
- Compte tenu du fait que de nombreuses personnes sans statut ne paient pas d'impôts sur le revenu et occupent des emplois pour lesquels des pénuries de main-d'œuvre se font souvent sentir, existe-t-il un argument économique justifiant de leur offrir une voie d'accès à la résidence permanente et à la citoyenneté?

SOINS DE SANTÉ (20 minutes) Secteur de l'intérieur de la C.-B.

- SI LES SOINS DE SANTÉ ONT PRÉCÉDEMMENT ÉTÉ MENTIONNÉS COMME PRINCIPAL ENJEU : Certains d'entre vous ont indiqué que les soins de santé sont l'un des principaux enjeux auxquels sont confrontés les Québécois.
- SI LES SOINS DE SANTÉ N'ONT PAS PRÉCÉDEMMENT ÉTÉ MENTIONNÉS COMME PRINCIPAL ENJEU : Parmi les principaux enjeux que vous avez identifiés comme étant les plus importants aux yeux des Québécois, quelle importance accordez-vous à la santé? Est-elle plus importante, moins importante ou tout aussi importante que les autres enjeux mentionnés?
- Comment évalueriez-vous la qualité du système de soins de santé là où vous résidez? Qu'est-ce qui vous fait dire cela?
- Et comment évalueriez-vous l'accès aux services de soins de santé? Qu'est-ce qui vous fait dire cela?
- Quels sont les plus grands défis liés aux soins de santé dans votre région?
- Est-ce que quelqu'un a entendu parler de récents engagements ou d'annonces faites par le gouvernement du Canada en matière de soins de santé?
 - SONDER : Avez-vous entendu quoi que ce soit au sujet des négociations entre les gouvernements fédéral et provinciaux sur le financement des soins de santé?
 - SI OUI : Qu'avez-vous entendu? Quelles ont été vos impressions concernant ces négociations?
- En ce qui concerne les soins de santé, le gouvernement du Canada est-il généralement sur la bonne voie ou sur la mauvaise voie? Pourquoi dites-vous cela?
 - SI SUR LA MAUVAISE VOIE : Que pourrait faire le gouvernement fédéral pour se mettre sur la bonne voie?

IMPACTS DE CHANGEMENT CLIMATIQUE (40 minutes) Secteur de l'intérieur de la C.-B.

Ontario, Canadiens de la génération Z de Toronto — maintenant, j'aimerais passer à un tout autre sujet...



- Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous préoccupé(e) par les effets potentiels du changement climatique sur votre collectivité? Pourquoi êtes-vous de cet avis?

- Qu'est-ce qui vous vient à l'esprit lorsque vous pensez aux effets potentiels du changement climatique?
 - Le changement climatique a-t-il des impacts sur des éléments comme l'agriculture, la faune et la flore et entraîne-t-il des conditions météorologiques extrêmes, des températures extrêmes, des inondations, des sécheresses ou des incendies de forêt?
 - SI OUI : Quels sont ces impacts?
 - SI NON : Pourquoi êtes-vous de cet avis?
 - SI CE N'EST PAS MENTIONNÉ : Le changement climatique est-il en partie responsable de l'augmentation de la fréquence et de la gravité des phénomènes météorologiques extrêmes au Canada, comme des inondations et des feux de forêt?
 - SI OUI : Comment?
 - SI NON : Pourquoi êtes-vous de cet avis?

- Avez-vous constaté de quelconques effets du changement climatique au sein de votre collectivité?
 - SI OUI : Qu'avez-vous constaté?

- Au cours des prochaines décennies, prévoyez-vous que votre collectivité sera davantage menacée en raison du changement climatique?

- Qu'avez-vous vu, lu ou entendu au sujet de la réponse du gouvernement du Canada concernant les feux de forêt en Colombie-Britannique?
 - Comment qualifieriez-vous la réponse du gouvernement du Canada concernant les feux de forêt en Colombie-Britannique?

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN

La démarche du gouvernement du Canada en matière de gestion des feux de forêt consiste à aider les communautés à se préparer, à fournir des informations par le biais d'une surveillance en temps réel et à offrir un soutien aux communautés et aux personnes impactées par les feux de forêt.

Dans le budget 2024, le gouvernement du Canada s'est engagé à prendre plusieurs mesures supplémentaires pour venir en aide aux personnes impactées par les feux de forêt, à savoir :



- **Doubler les crédits d'impôt pour les pompiers volontaires et les volontaires en recherche et sauvetage**, qui passeront de 3 000 dollars à 6 000 dollars en 2024, ce qui permettra aux pompiers volontaires d'économiser jusqu'à 450 dollars supplémentaires par année.
- **Investir 800 000 dollars de plus pour renforcer la capacité de lutte contre les feux de forêt.** Ce financement contribuera à élargir le programme de formation aux pompiers afin que ces derniers puissent lutter contre les feux de forêt affectant des zones urbaines. Ce financement s'ajoute aux fonds déjà alloués pour soutenir l'engagement du gouvernement fédéral à former 1 000 pompiers forestiers.
- Travailler en partenariat avec les Autochtones pour sauver des vies et mieux protéger les collectivités contre les feux de forêt en plus des mesures suivantes :
 - **Investir plus de 145 millions de dollars pour aider les communautés des Premières Nations à se préparer à des situations d'urgence.**
 - **Investir 20,9 millions de dollars pour la prévention des incendies dans les communautés autochtones.**
 - **Engager 9 millions de dollars pour venir en aide aux gouvernements autochtones directement touchés par les feux de forêt survenus dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest en 2023.**
- Quelles sont vos réflexions immédiates au sujet de ces mesures?
 - Le gouvernement du Canada en fait-il assez pour venir en aide aux collectivités touchées par des feux de forêt? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
- Que devrait encore faire le gouvernement du Canada?

SENTIMENT DU PUBLIC (15 minutes) Femmes arabes résidant à Toronto

J'aimerais maintenant aborder un sujet plus vaste.

- Lorsque vous pensez à votre avenir au Canada, qu'est-ce qui vous rend optimiste?
- D'autre part, y a-t-il des choses qui vous inquiètent ou vous préoccupent quant à votre avenir au Canada?
 - SI OUI : Lesquels?
- Comment décririez-vous la situation actuelle au Canada en matière de diversité, d'équité et d'inclusion?



- Avez-vous le sentiment que le Canada est une société qui accepte et respecte différentes cultures, croyances et valeurs? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?

GAINS EN CAPITAL (35 minutes) Personnes âgées résidant au Québec, locataires résidant à Vancouver

- SI AUCUNE MENTION DES GAINS EN CAPITAL N'A ÉTÉ FAITE CI-DESSUS, POSER LA QUESTION SUIVANTE : Avez-vous entendu quoi que ce soit au sujet de la proposition de modifier l'impôt sur les gains en capital?
 - SI OUI : Qu'avez-vous entendu à ce sujet?

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN

Les gains en capital sont les profits que réalisent les gens en vendant des actifs de valeur pour un montant supérieur à celui qu'ils ont initialement payé pour les acquérir. Des gains en capital peuvent être réalisés suivant la vente ou l'achat de biens de valeur, comme des biens immobiliers, des actions et obligations, des fonds communs de placement, des métaux précieux, des œuvres d'art et objets de collection, des cryptomonnaies, des véhicules ainsi que des biens personnels, entre autres.

Au Canada, les gains en capital sont imposables. Toute personne qui vend un bien de valeur à un prix supérieur à son coût initial doit payer des impôts sur le gain en capital. Il convient de noter que la vente d'une résidence principale n'est pas assujettie à l'impôt sur les gains en capital; en d'autres termes, l'impôt sur les gains en capital ne s'applique que lorsqu'une personne possède plusieurs biens immobiliers et vend ceux qu'elle n'habite pas.

Le gouvernement du Canada propose de taxer davantage certains des Canadiens les plus fortunés en augmentant l'impôt sur les gains en capital supérieurs à 250 000 dollars. Le gouvernement estime que ce changement ne concernerait que 0,1 % des Canadiens chaque année.

- Que pensez-vous de ce changement proposé?
 - Pensez-vous qu'il rendra le système fiscal plus équitable ou moins équitable? Qu'est-ce qui vous fait dire cela?
- Quels impacts, le cas échéant, un impôt sur les gains en capital pourrait-il avoir?
- Qui ce changement impactera-t-il, selon vous?
- Pensez-vous que ce changement est un bon moyen de générer des revenus à investir dans des domaines comme ceux du logement, des soins dentaires, de l'assurance médicaments, ainsi que d'autres secteurs des soins de santé, entre autres? Qu'est-ce qui vous fait dire cela?

- SI ON A RÉPONDU « NON » : Quelles solutions de rechange proposeriez-vous?
- Pensez-vous que ce changement proposé vous fera payer plus d'impôts, moins d'impôts ou qu'il ne vous impactera pas?
 - À CEUX QUI S'ATTENDENT À PAYER PLUS : Pourquoi pensez-vous payer plus d'impôts?

Le Canada a prévu un allègement fiscal appelé « exemption pour résidence principale » permettant aux Canadiens d'éviter de payer de l'impôt sur la vente de leur résidence principale. En d'autres mots, cela signifie que l'impôt sur les gains en capital ne s'applique que lorsque des personnes possédant plusieurs propriétés immobilières vendent celles qu'ils n'habitent pas.

- Cela vous semble-t-il juste? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?

MESSAGES SUR LES MÉDIAS SOCIAUX À PROPOS DES ALIMENTS SUPPLÉMENTÉS (35 minutes) Nord de l'Ontario, ville de Québec, Autochtones résidant à Winnipeg

Maintenant, passons à un tout autre sujet...

- À main levée, qui parmi vous sait ce que sont les suppléments et les aliments supplémentés?
 - Pouvez-vous en nommer quelques-uns?
- À main levée, est-ce que quelqu'un parmi vous prend des suppléments de multivitamines ou de minéraux?
- À main levée, qui prend le temps de faire de l'exercice chaque semaine; il peut s'agir d'aller au gym, de marcher, de nager, de faire du yoga, etc.?
 - Parmi ceux qui font de l'exercice, qui prend des suppléments en s'entraînant?
- Quelqu'un parmi vous consomme-t-il des boissons énergisantes caféinées?

Nous avons deux messages sur les médias sociaux à vous montrer concernant les aliments supplémentés, qui sont destinés aux personnes consommant des suppléments ou des aliments supplémentés. Ces messages s'adressent particulièrement aux personnes âgées (de plus de 51 ans), aux étudiants ou aux personnes physiquement actives. Nous allons les passer en revue en silence, puis nous discuterons ensemble de vos réactions.

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN : *Le modérateur affichera chaque message un par un à l'écran, puis les deux en même temps.*

- Quelle est votre réaction générale à ces messages sur média social?
 - Qu'est-ce qui vous plaît, le cas échéant? Pourquoi?
 - Qu'est-ce qui vous déplaît, le cas échéant? Pourquoi?
- Les remarqueriez-vous? Attireraient-ils votre attention? Sont-ils mémorables? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
 - S'ILS TROUVENT LES MESSAGES LONGS : Quels changements apporteriez-vous pour les rendre plus concis? Quels changements apporteriez-vous pour les rendre plus concis?
- Si vous voyiez ces images, vous inciteraient-elles à faire quelque chose? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
 - SI OUI : Qu'est-ce que cela vous motiverait à faire?
 - Les 'aimeriez' vous ou les partageriez-vous? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?
 - Les commenteriez-vous?
 - SI OUI : Qu'écririez-vous?
- Avez-vous compris les messages?
 - Y a-t-il des éléments qui manquent de clarté ou qui portent à confusion? Expliquez.
- Quelque chose vous a-t-il surpris? Avez-vous appris quelque chose?
- Comment les messages pourraient-ils être améliorés?

Messages supplémentaires

Nous aimerions vous faire part de quelques messages sur média social qui pourraient être utilisés conjointement avec les graphiques que nous avons déjà examinés ou pour d'autres messages.

AFFICHER À L'ÉCRAN : *Le modérateur affiche les messages supplémentaires*

- Que pensez-vous de ces messages?
- Y a-t-il des mots ou des phrases que vous trouvez particulièrement convaincants?
 - Certains posent-ils problème? Pourquoi?
 - S'ILS TROUVENT LES MESSAGES LONGS : Quels changements apporteriez-vous pour les rendre plus concis?



CONCLUSION (5 minutes) **Tous les lieux**



- Avant de conclure, y a-t-il autre chose que vous souhaiteriez dire au gouvernement fédéral? Il peut s'agir de précisions sur les sujets abordés aujourd'hui ou d'un sujet que vous jugez important, mais dont nous n'avons pas discuté.

Appendix C – Advertising Concepts

Government of Canada Supplemented Foods Concept Testing


 **Healthy Canadians** 


Do you use supplements and supplemented foods when working out? It might not be a good idea to mix them if they have the same ingredients.



Supplemented foods are starting to show new labels and some must carry a caution identifier on the front; this is your cue to look for the caution box.

Read the caution box to know whether you should avoid supplemented foods or supplements with the same supplemental ingredients, such as caffeine, and rest easy after your next training session.

canada.ca/SupplementedFoods



CANADA.CA/HEALTH 


 **Healthy Canadians** 


Do you take multivitamin or mineral supplements? You may have to adjust your intake if you consume supplemented foods as well.

Supplemented foods are starting to show new labels and some must carry a caution identifier on the front; this is your cue to look for the caution box on the back or side of the product.

Read the caution box to know whether you should avoid supplemented foods or supplements with the same supplemental ingredients, such as vitamin A or potassium.

canada.ca/SupplementedFoods



CANADA.CA/HEALTH 

 **Canadiens en santé** 

Prenez-vous des suppléments ou des aliments supplémentés quand vous vous entraînez ? S'ils contiennent les mêmes ingrédients, ce pourrait être une mauvaise idée de les prendre ensemble.

De nouvelles étiquettes font leur apparition sur les aliments supplémentés. Un identifiant de mise en garde doit apparaître sur le devant de certains d'entre eux; cherchez alors l'encadré de mises en garde.

Lisez l'encadré de mises en garde pour savoir si vous devriez éviter les aliments supplémentés ou les suppléments contenant les mêmes ingrédients supplémentaires (p. ex. caféine). Vous aurez ainsi l'esprit en paix après votre prochaine séance d'entraînement.

Canada.ca/AlimentsSupplementes



CANADA.CA/SANTÉ 

 **Canadiens en santé** 

Prenez-vous des suppléments de multivitamines ou de minéraux? Vous pourriez devoir modifier la quantité que vous prenez si vous consommez aussi des aliments supplémentés.

De nouvelles étiquettes font leur apparition sur les aliments supplémentés. Un identifiant de mise en garde doit apparaître sur le devant de certains d'entre eux; cherchez alors l'encadré de mises en garde sur le côté ou au dos du produit.

Lisez l'encadré de mises en garde pour savoir si vous devriez éviter les aliments supplémentés ou les suppléments contenant les mêmes ingrédients supplémentaires (p. ex. vitamine A, potassium).

Canada.ca/AlimentsSupplementes



CANADA.CA/SANTÉ 

The above images are concepts of social media posts from the Government of Canada. The first set of posts are written in English, the second set, in French.

Both social media posts come from the verified account "Healthy Canadians". Below the username are several paragraphs of text, reading, "Do you use supplements and supplemented foods when working out? It might not be a good idea to mix them if they have the same ingredients. Supplemented foods are starting to show new labels and some must carry a caution identifier on the front; this is your cue to look for the caution box. Read the caution box to know whether you should avoid supplemented

foods or supplements with the same supplemental ingredients, such as caffeine, and rest easy after your next training session". Below the text is the following link: "canada.ca/SupplementedFoods". To the right of the link is an image of a canned beverage beside a person tying a running shoe. There is a grey speech bubble coming out of the can that says, "READ THE LABEL!". At the bottom of the image is a blue banner with the Government of Canada logo on the right and "CANADA.CA/HEALTH" on the left.

The French version of this image is identical in appearance. The account posting it is "Canadiens en santé", and the text reads, "Prenez-vous des suppléments ou des aliments supplémentés quand vous vous entraînez ? S'ils contiennent les mêmes ingrédients, ce pourrait être une mauvaise idée de les prendre ensemble. De nouvelles étiquettes font leur apparition sur les aliments supplémentés. Un identifiant de mise en garde doit apparaître sur le devant de certains d'entre eux; cherchez alors l'encadré de mises en garde. Lisez l'encadré de mises en garde pour savoir si vous devriez éviter les aliments supplémentés ou les suppléments contenant les mêmes ingrédients supplémentaires (p. ex. caféine). Vous aurez ainsi l'esprit en paix après votre prochaine séance d'entraînement. Canada.ca/AlimentsSupplementes. The speech bubble says « LISEZ L'ÉTIQUETTE ! ».

The image on the right comes from the same account with the same link. The text reads, "Do you take multivitamin or mineral supplements? You may have to adjust your intake if you consume supplemented foods as well. Supplemented foods are starting to show new labels and some must carry a caution identifier on the front; this is your cue to look for the caution box on the back or side of the product. Read the caution box to know whether you should avoid supplemented foods or supplements with the same supplemental ingredients, such as vitamin A or potassium." The image at the bottom depicts a plastic bottle containing a clear liquid against a light yellow background. A black and white label on the bottle is amplified in the image to show an exclamation mark beside the words "Supplemented/Supplémenté" and "Health Canada/Santé Canada". Below the label is a caption, reading "Learn more about the new caution identifier on some supplemented foods". The image has the same blue banner with the logo and website at the bottom.

The French version of this concept is identical. The text reads, "Prenez-vous des suppléments de multivitamines ou de minéraux? Vous pourriez devoir modifier la quantité que vous prenez si vous consommez aussi des aliments supplémentés. De nouvelles étiquettes font leur apparition sur les aliments supplémentés. Un identifiant de mise en garde doit apparaître sur le devant de certains d'entre eux; cherchez alors l'encadré de mises en garde sur le côté ou au dos du produit. Lisez l'encadré de mises en garde pour savoir si vous devriez éviter les aliments supplémentés ou les suppléments contenant les mêmes ingrédients supplémentaires (p. ex. vitamine A, potassium). » The caption below the label reads, « Apprenez-en plus au sujet de nouvel identifiant de mise en garde sur certains aliments supplémentés ».