

Most resist Canada walking away from the Kyoto Accord.

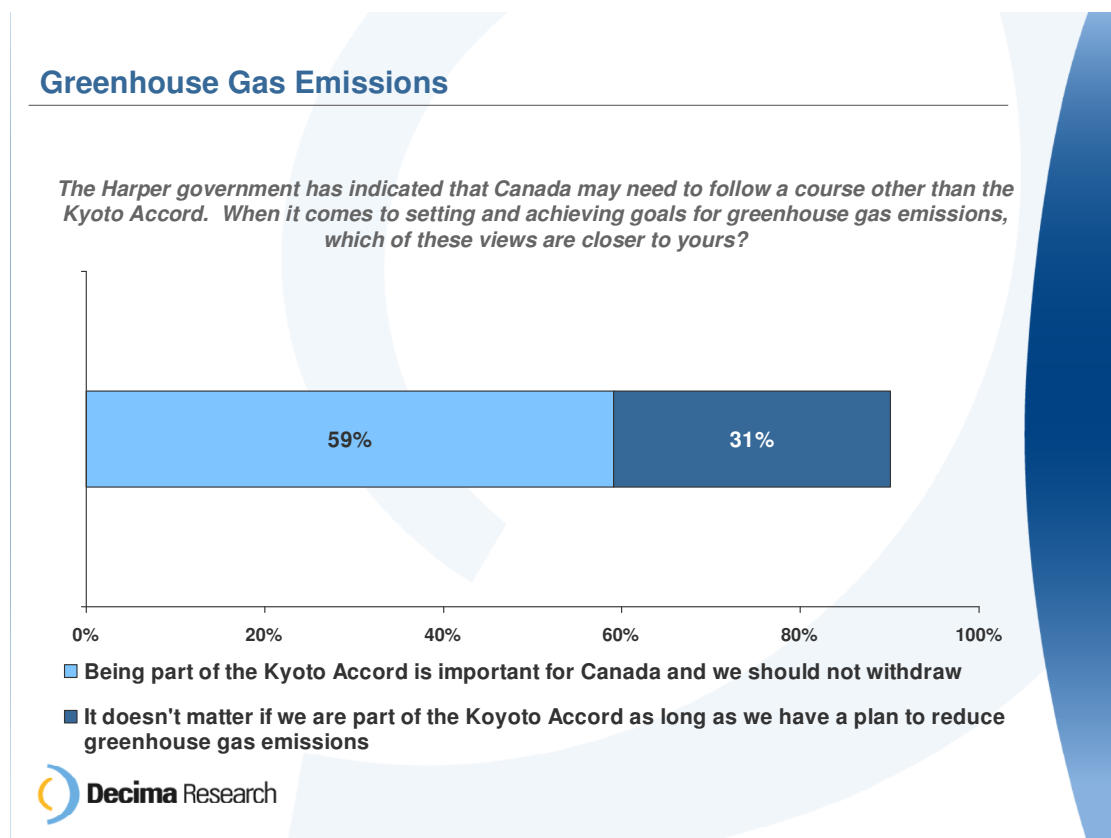
Ottawa, June 2, 2006

A new poll by Decima Research shows the Conservatives are resisting majority opinion in Canada, as they look for an alternative to the Kyoto.

The specific question asked in the poll was worded as follows: The Harper government has indicated that Canada may need to follow a course other than the Kyoto Accord. When it comes to setting and achieving goals for greenhouse gas emissions, which of these views is closer to yours? As long as Canada has a serious plan to reduce emissions, it doesn't matter if we are part of the Kyoto Accord or being part of the Kyoto Accord is important for Canada and the world and we should not withdraw from it.

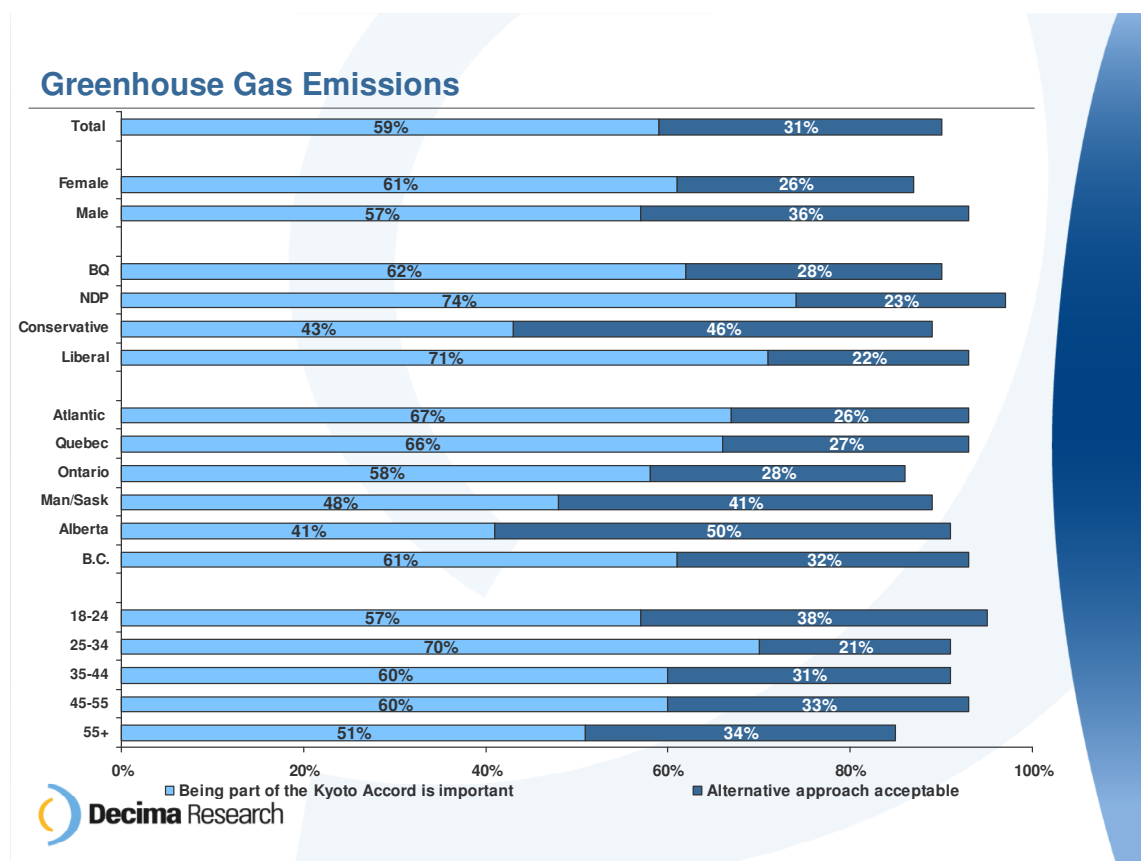
The results of the survey show:

- Nationally, 59% say that the Accord is important for Canada and the country should not withdraw. Only 31% say that as long as Canada has a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, it doesn't matter if the country remains part of the Accord.



The national results mask some very significant variations in opinion:

- Prairie residents and those planning to vote Conservative are the most willing to embrace an alternative approach to Kyoto. However, it's important to note that even Conservative voters and Albertans are fairly split on the question.
- Younger voters tend on the whole to be more tenacious in their support for the Kyoto Approach, while older voters are more likely to withhold or not have an opinion. At the same time, it is interesting that the very youngest group (18-24), who have typically been more attuned to this issue, are a little more open to an alternative than those 25-44.
- Support for an alternative approach is only 28% among Ontario voters, 27% among Quebec voters, 29% among urban voters, and 28% among those planning to vote BQ, all groups that are potentially important sources of further support as the Conservative Party looks to assemble the conditions for a majority government.



According to Decima CEO Bruce Anderson “The issue of climate change is a sensitive one for the government. While our surveys generally indicate that most Canadians are not overly familiar with the details of the Kyoto Accord, the Accord has a somewhat symbolic importance in the debate about the future of the planet.

History suggests these results are unlikely to translate into massive, entrenched opposition to an alternative course, but they are a clear signal that the government's approach will be under scrutiny. Many voters will be looking for reassuring evidence that a shift from Kyoto is not a 'stand-down' on the issue, but a step that is more likely to produce results."

The latest Decima Poll was conducted May 25th through May 28th 2006, through the Decima teleVox, a national weekly omnibus telephone survey. Results of the survey are based on a sample of 1,023 adult Canadians and are accurate to within +/-3.1%, 19 times out of 20.



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