

Two in Three (68%) Say Money Spent to Host G-20 a 'Waste', Just One in Three (32%) Say 'It's Worth It'

*Canadians (75%) to Federal Government: Cover the Costs of
Non-Insurable Damage to Businesses and Residents
Caused by Protesters*

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Ipsos Reid

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Toronto, ON – Toronto will be the focus of the world later this month, as leaders from the G-20 converge on the city to discuss matters of international importance – most notably the economy. A gathering of the world's most influential leaders comprising 85% of the world's GNP and 80% of the world's population poses a serious security challenge for the host country, and it is estimated that the cost to Canada for security for the preceding G-8 meeting in Northern Ontario and then the full meeting of the G-20 and their delegations will be close to one billion dollars.

While Finance Minister Jim Flaherty has argued that it is Canada's turn to host and that "in today's international environment unfortunately it is necessary to spend substantially on security", two in three (68%) Canadians believe 'hosting the G-20 is a waste' of money.

Conversely, it has been argued that hosting the G-20 has many benefits including increased global exposure for the host country, more control in setting the agenda and prestige on the world stage. Still, only one in three (32%) think that 'hosting the G-20 is worth it'.

The federal government has indicated that it will not compensate businesses or residents for any non-insurable damage caused by protesters at the event. The data reveal that the government appears to be offside of this issue, as three quarters (75%) of Canadians believe



the government should 'cover the costs' of this type of damage, while just one quarter (25%) agree that the government should 'leave the costs up to those affected'.

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted between June 4 and 7, 2010, on behalf of Canada.com. For this survey, a sample of 1,047 adults from Ipsos' Canadian online panel was interviewed online. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics and ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. A survey with an unweighted probability sample of this size and a 100% response rate would have an estimated margin of error of +/-3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what the results would have been had the entire population of adults in Canada been polled. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.

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