Eight in Ten (77%) Agree the Federal Government Has Allowed Canada's Railways Too Much Leeway on Determining Safety Procedures

Just One Quarter (23%) Disagree

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Toronto, ON – On July 6, 2013, an unmanned freight train carrying crude oil exploded in the town of Lac Megantic, Quebec, leaving a town devastated and dozens of its residents dead. It marks the deadliest rail disaster in Canada in roughly a century and a half. Ipsos' media partner, CTV News, has declared this the second largest news story in Canada in 2013.

In the wake of this tragedy, a new Ipsos Reid poll conducted on behalf of CTV news has found that eight in ten (77%) Canadians 'agree' (30% strongly/46% somewhat) that 'the federal government has allowed Canada's railways too much leeway on determining safety procedures'. Just one quarter (23%) 'disagree' (4% strongly/19% somewhat) that the government has allowed Canada's railway too much leeway on determining safety procedures.

Perhaps not surprisingly, Quebecers are the most likely (85%) to agree that the government has been too lax in this area, followed by those living in British Columbia (77%), Alberta (76%), Ontario (75%), Atlantic Canada (72%) and residents of Saskatchewan and Manitoba (66%).

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These are some of the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted between December 9th to 13th, 2013, on behalf of CTV News. For this survey, a sample of 2,535 Canadians from Ipsos' Canadian online panel was interviewed online. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics to 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. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case the poll is accurate to +/- 2.2 percentage points of the entire Canadian adult population. 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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