

If there were a victory of the "yes" side, it would certainly not be devoid of meaning. It would even have a number of meanings, as can already be observed. And if the "no" side won the day, it would represent a refusal of sovereignty-association but certainly not an endorsement of the status quo.

Doubtless either verdict, despite its ambiguity, will be in line with a movement that is either secessionist or federalist. But neither verdict will be conclusive.

One thing we can predict with certainty is that Canadian political life is in no danger of falling back into the lethargy that men and women of my generation complained about bitterly when we were twenty.