A number of significant trends exist in the data:

o   The final wave of the study witnessed 61% of university educated respondents saying they feel that the trade agreement would be either a good (46%) or very good (15%) thing for the Canadian economy. At the same time, 66% of university graduates indicate that they feel the trade deal would be a good (53%) or very good (13%) thing for their respective provincial economies compared to only 58% of Canadians who feel this way;

o   While all Canadians became more and more convinced that the free trade deal would bring about cheaper prices for consumer goods from wave I (66%) to wave III (71%), university educated respondents remained the most convinced of this outcome (76%); and

o   With respect to specific sectors of the economy, those who are university educated are more likely than Canadians on average to feel that the oil industry (63% versus 57%), forest industry (59% versus 51%) and the fish product industry (48% versus 43%) would each be better off under the free trade agreement. On the other hand, they are more apt to indicate that the wine (70%), and the agriculture and farming industry (30%) would be worse off under a free trade agreement.

The data would appear to indicate two distinct camps among the university educated -- those who feel that the economic concerns should come ahead of Canadian independence concerns and, on the other side, those who feel that Canada's independence is more important than the economic concerns.

Although in the first wave of the study these camps were of about equal size, the third wave results indicate a decline in the number of university educated respondents who are more concerned about Canadian independence than about Canadian economics. Further evidence of this is revealed in the following:

o   A significant change which has occurred among university educated respondents since October with respect to how they perceive the free trade deal would affect Canada's ability to play an independent role in the world. In October,