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MAJORITY OF CANADIANS SUPPORT FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Public opinion research conducted for the Department of External Affairs since agreement was reached on Free Trade with the United States in early October shows a majority of Canadians supported the pact after signing of the final text.

On behalf of the Department of External Affairs, Decima Research of Toronto conducted four national polls between October 7, 1987 and December 16, 1987.

The following table shows the national results of those polls:

<u>PERIOD</u>	<u>SUPPORT</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	<u>NO OPINION</u>
	%	%	%
Oct. 7 - 17	49	42	9
Nov. 12 - 19	46	46	8
Nov. 25 - Dec. 4	46	46	8
Dec. 8 - 16	51	42	8

The October poll of a proportional sample of 1998 adult Canadians is accurate within plus or minus 2.2 per cent 19 out of 20 times.

The November and December polls of weighted samples of 1524, 1503 and 1469 respectively are accurate to within plus or minus 3.4 per cent 19 out of 20 times.

Attached is a summary by Decima Research of public opinion trends, along with poll questions and results.

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