

Which Course Should Federal Government Pursue?

- Canadians were asked whether they believe that the federal government should work towards promoting freer international trade, or whether the federal government should be working harder to protect Canadian industry.
- On balance, a protectionist stance is preferred by Canadians, although a sizeable minority indicates being in favour of promoting freer trade.
- Clearly, Canadians want both. They would like the government involved when needed, and not involved when not needed. In addition, the fact that one in two believe that a protectionist policy is not at odds with free trade is further evidence of this desire among Canadians.

% of Respondents

Federal Government Should ...

Protect Canadian Industry	60
Promote freer international trade	32
Don't know	<u>8</u>
	100
Base:	(1000)

- Most desirous of a protectionist policy are:

- * females (66%)
- * those earning under \$35,000 (64%)
- * Quebecers (65%)

- Canadians exhibiting a more laissez-faire attitude include:

- * males (40%)
- * those 40 - 49 years (40%)
- * those earning over \$35,000 (44%)
- * B.C. residents (45%)