

As Figure 7 demonstrates, support is not only higher for UN membership, it is also more intense - 61% of Canadians strongly support continued U.N. membership, as opposed to 46% who *strongly* support NORAD membership and 40% who *strongly* support NATO.

Higher numbers of Canadians are neutral regarding continued membership in NATO and NORAD. One could conclude that this is due to the low level of awareness of NATO or NORAD relative to the UN.

To the extent that Figure 7 may be taken to measure support and opposition to membership in these international organizations, there may be evidence of increasing support for NATO. In previous studies, support for membership in NATO has hovered at or near the 60% mark. Results shown in Figure 7 suggest support may now stand nearer to 70%.

While there has been a perennial debate in Canadian foreign policy about whether the UN or regional alliances (such as NATO or the OAS) are the most appropriate fora for international action, Canadian public opinion is steadfastly in favour of both. Four out of five Canadians (79%) who support continued membership in the United Nations also support continued membership in NATO.

Support for membership in NATO, NORAD and the UN is highest in Atlantic Canada and Ontario. Support is lowest in Québec, particularly for NATO and NORAD, as depicted in Table 2.

Table 2
Support for Canada's Membership in NATO, NORAD and the U.N.:
Regional Differences

% Saying Membership is Very Important

<u>Membership</u>	<u>Atlantic</u> %	<u>Québec</u> %	<u>Ontario</u> %	<u>Prairies</u> %	<u>British Columbia</u> %
NATO	45	30	47	41	37
NORAD	55	29	53	48	51
United Nations	73	49	66	59	61

Gender differences exist with regard to support for membership in NATO and NORAD. Women (50%) are more likely than men (42%) to say membership in NORAD is very important. Similarly, women (46%) are more likely than men (34%) to say membership in NATO is very important. No gender differences exist regarding membership in the United Nations, however.