



Polling Results, October 2007

Appendix: Questions and Responses

Thinking of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, please say if you are very concerned, somewhat, not very, or not at all concerned about the following issues:

	Very	Some what	Not very	Not at all	DK/NA
Untreated sewage entering the Great Lakes	82	14	2	1	1
Contamination of the food chain by toxic pollution such as mercury	78	18	3	1	1
Loss of wetlands and animal habitat	67	26	4	2	1
Global warming	64	26	5	4	1
Invasive aquatic species, like zebra mussels	56	30	9	4	2
Radioactivity and waste from nuclear power plants near the Great Lakes	56	26	11	4	2
Overuse of water by industry	52	38	6	3	2
Piping Great Lakes water to communities outside of the Great Lakes ecosystem	45	36	10	5	4

How well do the following describe the Great Lakes to you? Des this describe the Great Lakes very well, somewhat, not very well or not at all?

	Very Well	Some what	Not very well	Not at all	DK/NA
Vital to our quality of life and survival	76	21	2	1	2
A national treasure	74	17	4	3	2
A place of beauty	72	23	3	1	1
Vital to our regional economy	71	22	3	2	2
Vulnerable	67	25	4	1	3
A legacy for our kids	63	21	10	5	2
A living ecosystem	63	25	6	2	4
A great place to be with family and friends	63	28	5	3	2
A major source of drinking water	60	21	7	5	7
A great place for fishing and recreation	45	34	10	6	5
Polluted	36	50	8	3	4

Some people want federal governments in Canada to invest a total of 2 billion dollars per year over the next ten years to restore the health of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. Others say that there are other more important areas in which to this money. Do you favour or oppose spending 2 billion dollars per year for ten years to restore the health of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River?

Favour	78
Strongly favour	43
Somewhat favour	35
Somewhat oppose	8
Strongly oppose	6
Oppose	15
[VOLUNTEERED] DK/NA	7

Please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Agree	Disagree	DK/NA
We all have a personal responsibility to leave the Great Lakes in good health for our children	99	1	*
Government spending to upgrade sewage and water systems in our province will create new jobs	89	8	4
The Great Lakes will help shield us from the impacts of global warming like HEAT and DROUGHT	72	20	8
What I do in my life does not impact the health of the Great Lakes	36	62	2
Selling water from the Great Lakes is a major economic opportunity for Canada	39	55	6
(S2) The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence are cleaner than they were 20 years ago	31	48	21

I am going to read a list of reasons to support spending Canadian tax dollars to clean up the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. Please tell me if you think each one is a good reason or a poor reason to support spending money on a clean-up:

	Very Good	Some what Good	Some what Poor	Very Poor	DK/NA
Over 10 million people in Ontario and Quebec get their drinking water from the Great Lakes every day	83	12	1	1	3
We should act now because problems in the Lakes will cost us more to fix in the future.	77	19	3	1	1
The Great Lakes represent one fifth of the world's fresh water supply	77	17	2	1	4
The health of the Great Lakes is key to the health of Canadians	70	25	3	1	1
(S2) Whatever goes into the Great Lakes ends up in the food chain and eventually in our bodies	72	19	6	2	2
Cities like Toronto release billions of litres of untreated raw sewage into the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River	71	14	4	4	7
Per facility, Canadian industry emits four times more chemicals than U.S. polluters.	51	20	8	8	13
Aquatic invasive species are costing the Canadian public hundreds of millions of dollars	46	30	10	4	9