

REGIONAL SURVEY RESULTS – SUMMARY

BRITISH COLUMBIA HIGHLIGHTS

Business Issues:

- Business leaders from B.C. are the most likely to list inability to attract talent as a pressing business issue (14 per cent)

National Issues:

- Executives from B.C. are the only to list financing an aging population and the high Canadian dollar as equally important issues (27 per cent)
- The environment was not the most pressing concern, with none of the B.C.-based executives surveyed citing it as a reason they are kept up at night

Legal Advice:

- The need for legal advice in the next 12 months in the area of mergers and acquisitions in B.C. is below the national average (45 per cent and 57 per cent respectively)
-

ALBERTA HIGHLIGHTS

Business Issues:

- Inability to attract talent (37 per cent) and shrinking margins (37 per cent) are the top business issues keeping Alberta business leaders up at night
- Executives from Alberta are the most likely to have a succession plan in place for their own role (77 per cent)
- Leaders from Alberta are the most likely to list an inability to attract talent (37 per cent) that keeps them up at night, as compared to the national average (22 per cent)

National Issues:

- Only a smaller number of leaders from Alberta (3 per cent) see the high Canadian dollar as a pressing, national business issue
- Alberta leaders are the only to list job numbers as the top national issue facing them (27 per cent)

Legal Advice:

- Business leaders from Alberta are the most likely to list mergers and acquisitions as an area of legal need they will turn to in the next 12 months
-

SASKATCHEWAN AND MANITOBA HIGHLIGHTS

Business Issues:

- Half of the executives polled in Saskatchewan and Manitoba have a succession place in plan for their own role
- The issue of government taxation keeps up more executives in Saskatchewan and Manitoba than in any other province

National Issues:

- Business leaders in these provinces are the most likely to list the high Canadian dollar as a pressing, national business issue (56 per cent)

Legal Advice:

- Labour and employment law are the areas that top business leaders in Saskatchewan and Manitoba expect to turn to for legal advice in the next 12 months by an overwhelming majority (89 per cent)
-

ONTARIO HIGHLIGHTS

Business Issues:

- Business leaders from Ontario showed a slight concern for their ability to attract talent (14 per cent)
- 76 per cent of Ontario executives said customers have the greatest impact on their business decisions
- Nearly half (45 per cent) of Ontario executives are concerned with shrinking margins

National Issues:

- Only a smaller number (9 per cent) of Ontario-based executives are kept up at night by the national debt
- One in five (22 per cent) of business leaders are concerned with financing an aging population
- Ten per cent of executives in Ontario cite government regulations as having the most impact on their business decisions

Legal Advice:

- 73 per cent of Ontario executives expect they will need advice in labour and employment law in the next 12 months
-

QUEBEC HIGHLIGHTS

Business Issues:

- Shrinking margins keep nearly half (46 per cent) of Quebec-based business executives up at night
- Respondents from Quebec were the least likely to list the international economic crisis as a pressing business issue (5 per cent)

National Issues:

- One in five (21 per cent) of Quebec business executives have absolute confidence that the Canadian federal and provincial governments are capable of solving the issues that are most pressing to Canadian business leaders
- Quebec business executives were most likely to identify the high Canadian dollar (36 per cent) as the issue most likely to keep them up at night
- Government regulation and taxation are much less of a major concern for business executives in Quebec than in the rest of Canada. Zero survey respondents in Quebec chose these issues as the top issue that keeps them up at night

Legal Advice:

- Over half of Quebec executives say litigation (54 per cent) and labour and employment law (56 per cent) are the areas they will most likely turn to for legal advice in the next 12 months
-

ATLANTIC CANADA HIGHLIGHTS

Business Issues:

- When asked to identify which additional business issues are facing them, executives in the Atlantic region were most likely (24 per cent) to identify market volatility as their biggest concern

National Issues:

- 18 per cent of Atlantic business leaders are concerned about the impact of the global economy, more than in any other region
- Only 6 per cent of business executives are absolutely confident the Canadian federal and provincial governments are equipped to solve these issues

Legal Advice:

- Leaders from Atlantic Canada are the most likely to list succession planning (53 per cent) as the area of legal need they will turn to in the next 12 months
 - Business leaders in Atlantic Canada are equally likely to turn to legal advice in labour and employment law (76 per cent) as they are in tax law (76 per cent) over the next 12 months
-