Montreal Economic Institute

Omnibus Survey Report

October 2004

Opinion of Quebeckers on a Flat Tax Rate for Individuals
Methodological Reminder

This study was conducted by Leger Marketing through telephone interviews among a representative sample of 1,000 English- or French-speaking Quebecers, 18 years of age or older.

The interviews were conducted from our Montreal call centre between October 27 and October 31, 2004. Up to ten call-backs were made in the case of non-response.

Using data from Statistics Canada, the results were weighted according to geographic location, gender and language spoken at home to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population in Québec. In the end, the maximum margin of error obtained for a sample of 1,000 respondents is of ± 3.1%, 19 times out of 20.
Survey Results
The opinion of Quebeckers on adopting a flat tax rate for individuals is divided

- Close to half of the population in Québec (46%) agrees with the Government of Québec adopting a flat tax rate for individuals. A similar proportion of respondents interviewed, that is to say 49%, are of the opposite opinion, of which 26% completely disagree with this provision. Five percent (5%) of respondents did not give their opinion on the subject.

**Question:** Knowing that currently in Québec, the tax rate for individuals increases as income increases, would you AGREE or NOT if the Government of Québec were to adopt a flat tax rate on the income of individuals, that is to say, the same percentage, and this, regardless of the level of income. Would you....? (n=1 000)

Among respondents who **agree with adopting a flat tax rate for individuals**, we observe **stronger proportions** among groups with the following profile:
- Men (51%)
- Respondents between 18 and 24 years of age (57%)
- Manual workers (55%)
- Those who are employed (49%)
- Those with a high school education (52%)
- Those who intend to vote for the Liberal Party (52%) and those who intend to vote for the Action Démocratique du Québec (54%)

And respondents who **disagree with the Government of Québec adopting a flat tax rate for individuals** are significantly **more likely** among the following categories:
- Residents of the greater Montreal area (52%)
- Those with a university education (57%)
### Level of agreement with a flat tax rate for individuals
#### Distribution according to voting intentions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Entire population (n=1 000)</th>
<th>Parti Libéral Québec</th>
<th>PartiQuébécois</th>
<th>ADQ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>52% ✓</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>54% ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t/Refusal</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2% ✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: An arrow pointing up (✓) indicates a significant variation upward and an arrow pointing down (✓) a significant variation downward.