



House of Commons
Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0A6

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Mauril Bélanger Releases Results of Survey on Inclusive National Anthem

OTTAWA, April 16th, 2015 – On April 27th, the second hour of debate on Bill C-624, *An Act to amend the National Anthem Act (gender)* will occur, a second reading vote following on Wednesday April 29th. The first hour of debate took place on February 23rd, 2015.

Due to the response of the government via MP Costas Menegakis, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, who quoted a 2013 polling exercise, MP Mauril Bélanger decided to commission his own opinion poll.

The results of this latest poll, conducted by Mainstreet Technologies, are very positive. The questions and answers by more than 5,000 Canadians are attached in PDF format and also available on Mr. Bélanger's website. You may visit www.mauril.ca/news to refer to them.

The numbers show solid support for this initiative: 58% of Canadians approve this change and only 19% disapprove. The margin of error is 1.35%; 19 times out of 20.

It is worth noting that the only purpose of Bill C-624 is a simple change in the English version of our National Anthem. It proposes that "True patriot love in all thy sons command" becomes "True patriot love in all of us command"; therefore, changing only two words: "thy sons" with "of us". It is in the interests of fair treatment of both genders that MP Bélanger proposed the Bill. A copy of Bill C-624 is available via the following link: http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/hoc/Bills/412/Private/C-624/C-624_1/C-624_1.PDF.

The first hour of debate can also be accessed here: <http://www.parl.gc.ca/HousePublications/Publication.aspx?Language=E&Mode=1&Parl=41&Ses=2&DocId=7850168>

"O Canada" officially became Canada's national anthem on July 1st, 1980, a century after it was first unofficially sung, on June 24th, 1880. The French version was written in 1880 and has remained unchanged. The English version of "O Canada" was slower to take root. The English lyrics written by Mr. Justice Robert Stanley Weir in 1908 became the most widely used. It is interesting to note that the phrase "True patriot love thou dost

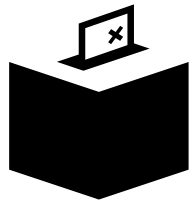
in us command” were in the lyrics. In 1914, the year the Great War broke out, this wording was replaced by “True patriot love in all thy sons command.”

"With this level of support consistent across Canada, Parliament should look favorably on reverting to the original version of the English 'O Canada'. What was once likely changed to increase patriotic sentiment during a time of conflict and war was appropriate then but is no longer reflective of Canadian society [today](#), or representative of over 50% of the Canadian population", said Mr. Quito Maggi, President of Mainstreet Technologies.

You may also view the poll results by visiting www.singallofus.ca.

Information:

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MAINSTREET TECHNOLOGIES

MAURIL BELANGER, MP

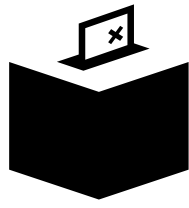
Are you aware that the English O Canada was changed in 1913?

YES	17%
NO	53%
DON'T KNOW	30%

BREAKDOWNS

	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female
YES	22%	16%	17%	14%	19%	16%
NO	50%	58%	56%	45%	51%	54%
DON'T KNOW	29%	27%	27%	41%	30%	31%
SAMPLE	628	814	1880	1952	2521	2753

	BC	AB	Prairies	ON	QC	Atlantic
YES	14%	23%	20%	21%	10%	16%
NO	56%	48%	56%	54%	50%	52%
DON'T KNOW	30%	29%	24%	26%	40%	32%
SAMPLE	590	700	668	1360	1326	630



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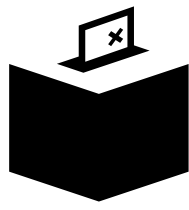
The original English Anthem uses the word US, the current version uses THY SONS. Which version do you believe is most appropriate?

VERSION WITH US	53%
VERSION WITH THY SONS	22%
DON'T KNOW	25%

BREAKDOWNS

	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female
VERSION WITH US	56%	46%	56%	56%	53%	54%
VERSION WITH THY SONS	20%	27%	20%	22%	22%	22%
DON'T KNOW	25%	27%	24%	23%	25%	25%
SAMPLE	628	814	1880	1952	2521	2753

	BC	AB	Prairies	ON	QC	Atlantic
VERSION WITH US	51%	40%	50%	54%	62%	47%
VERSION WITH THY SONS	25%	36%	26%	22%	11%	28%
DON'T KNOW	24%	24%	25%	24%	27%	24%
SAMPLE	590	700	668	1360	1326	630



MAINSTREET TECHNOLOGIES

MAURIL BELANGER, MP

There is a Private Members Bill in the House of Commons to restore the meaning of the original English Anthem. Do you agree or disagree that we should restore the original meaning and use the words 'in all of us command' instead of the words 'in all thy sons command' in the English O Canada?

STRONGLY APPROVE	40%
SOMEWHAT APPROVE	18%
NEITHER APPROVE/DISAPPROVE	24%
SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	6%
STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	13%

BREAKDOWNS

	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female
STRONGLY APPROVE	39%	36%	41%	44%	39%	40%
SOMEWHAT APPROVE	13%	17%	22%	21%	17%	19%
NEITHER APPROVE/DISAPPROVE	25%	25%	21%	23%	24%	23%
SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	7%	7%	4%	5%	6%	5%
STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	16%	15%	12%	7%	13%	13%
SAMPLE	628	814	1880	1952	2521	2753

	BC	AB	Prairies	ON	QC	Atlantic
STRONGLY APPROVE	43%	29%	43%	48%	29%	39%
SOMEWHAT APPROVE	21%	19%	17%	17%	18%	17%
NEITHER APPROVE/DISAPPROVE	21%	23%	19%	21%	31%	26%
SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE	2%	9%	4%	5%	9%	4%
STRONGLY DISAPPROVE	15%	19%	17%	10%	12%	14%
SAMPLE	590	700	668	1360	1326	630