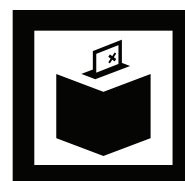




2016 NATIONAL POLL

EMBARGOED UNTIL: 5 AM EST - MAY 16, 2016

MAINSTREET



62% SUPPORT MAKING ANTHEM GENDER NEUTRAL

May 16, 2016 (Ottawa, ON) – A new Mainstreet Research poll commissioned by **Sing All of Us**, a national organization advocating for a gender neutral English national anthem, finds 62% of Canadians would support changing the anthem to be gender inclusive. With 2,027 respondents the poll has a margin of error of +/- 2.18%, 19 times out of 20. The poll was conducted May 11, 2016.

Bill C-210, a private members' bill sponsored by the Honourable Mauril Bélanger, Member of Parliament for Ottawa-Vanier, that would make a simple change to Canada's national anthem, will again be debated in the House of Commons on May 30, 2016.

"We can take our English National Anthem out of the historical, World War I ice box some have put it in. We can let it thaw a little, grow a little, in this new century. By officially recognizing "all **of us**" in place of "all **thy sons**" in the second line of O Canada, we are respecting the past and embracing the future," said Senator Nancy Ruth, co-founder of Sing All of Us.

"As I said many times, there are numerous reasons we would want to sing 'in all of us command'. We love our country and all of its people. Our anthem is important to us, and we want it to clearly include every Canadian. All of us are proud to sing 'O Canada', and 'O Canada' should embrace all of us," said M.P. Mauril Bélanger.

"Our national anthem reflects our values as Canadians, so the words should reflect our commitment to inclusiveness. Public opinion suggests that most Canadians don't like gender-skewed language," finished Charlotte Gray, award-winning biographer and historian.

The numbers show solid support for this initiative: 62% of Canadians agree with this change, an increase of 4% from 2015, only 19% disagree. Most Canadians (54%) were not aware the anthem had been previously changed.

"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 1908 lyrics. In 1913, in the lead-up to the Great War, this wording was replaced by "True patriot love in all thy sons command."

About Sing All of Us

Sing All of Us is a national organization advocating for a gender neutral national anthem founded by the Rt. Hon. Kim Campbell, Sally Goddard, Hon. Dr. Vivienne Poy, Margaret Atwood and the Hon. Senator Nancy Ruth. For more information and resources visit www.singallofus.ca

About Mainstreet Research

Mainstreet is a national public research firm. Differentiated by its large sample sizes, Mainstreet Research has provided accurate snapshots of public opinion. Most recently, Mainstreet was the only polling firm to correctly predict a Liberal majority government in the 2015 federal election.

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Available for Interview and Commentary from Toronto, ON:

Hon. Nancy Ruth, 416-924-9799 (Office), 416-697-3244 (Mobile)

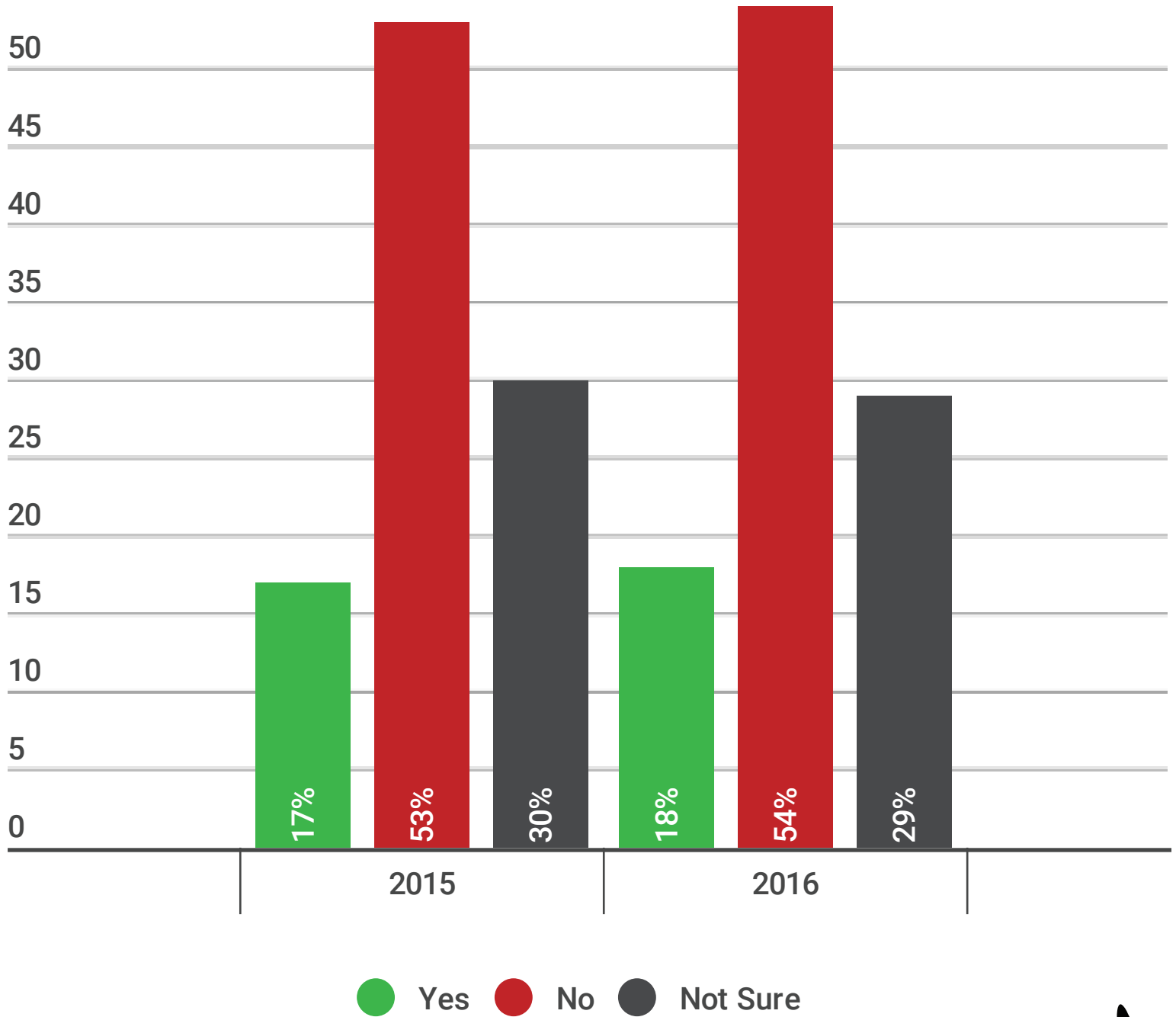
Available for interview and commentary from Charlottetown, PEI:

Sally Goddard, 902-394-1319 (mobile), 902-620-5134 (work), 902-569-5665 (Home)

Available for interview and commentary from Ottawa, ON:

Greg Fergus, MP for Hull-Aylmer, contact Olivier Duhaime at 819-661-8512

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

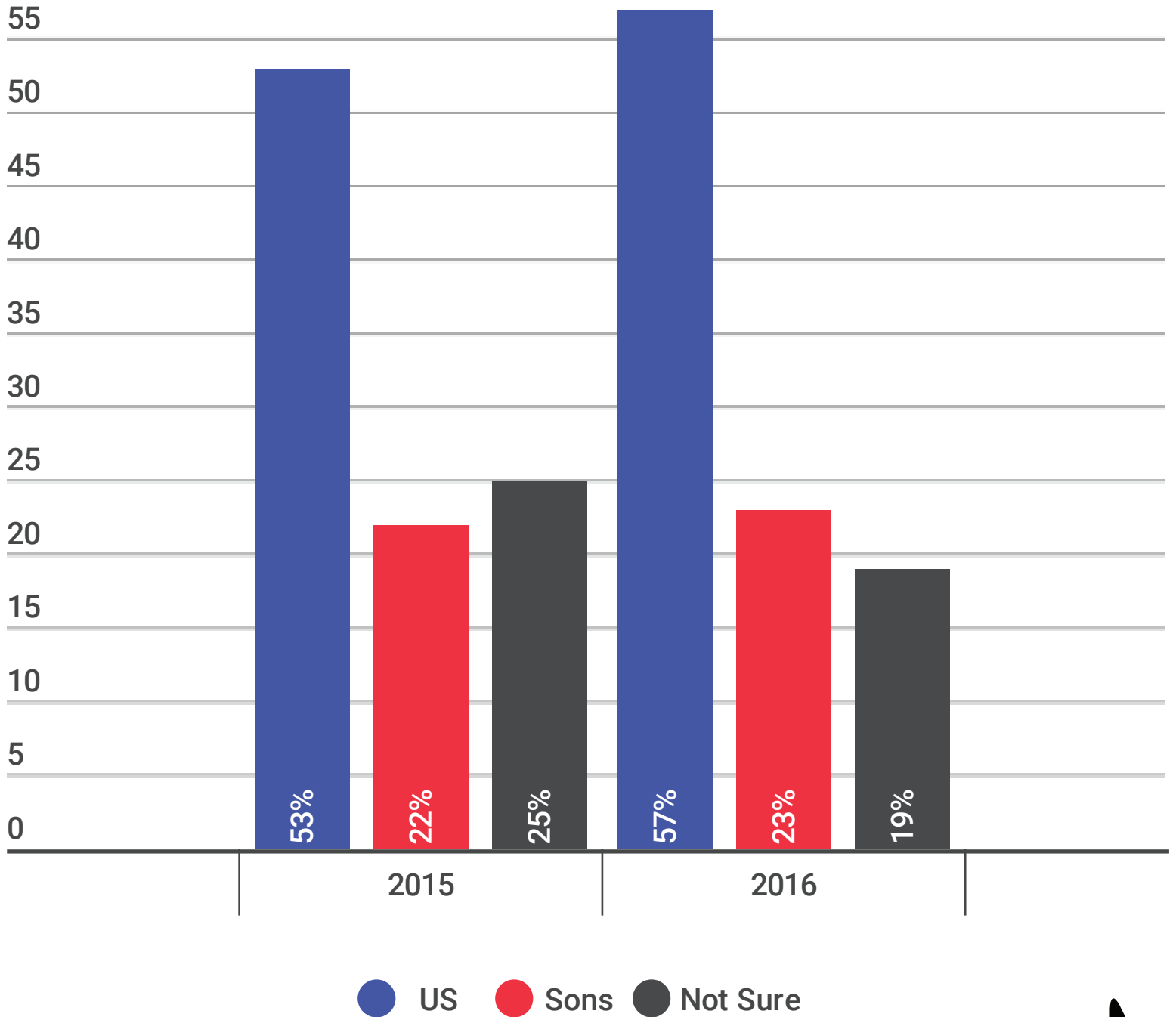


Are you aware that the English O Canada was changed in 1913?

	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female
Yes	22%	17%	17%	14%	19%	17%
No	52%	58%	56%	46%	53%	54%
Not Sure	26%	25%	27%	40%	28%	29%
Sample	257	356	687	727	949	1078

	Nat.	BC	AB	Prairies	ON	QC	ATL
Yes	18%	15%	23%	21%	21%	11%	16%
No	54%	58%	49%	56%	54%	51%	55%
Not Sure	29%	27%	27%	23%	25%	38%	28%
Sample	2027	298	301	307	469	417	235

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

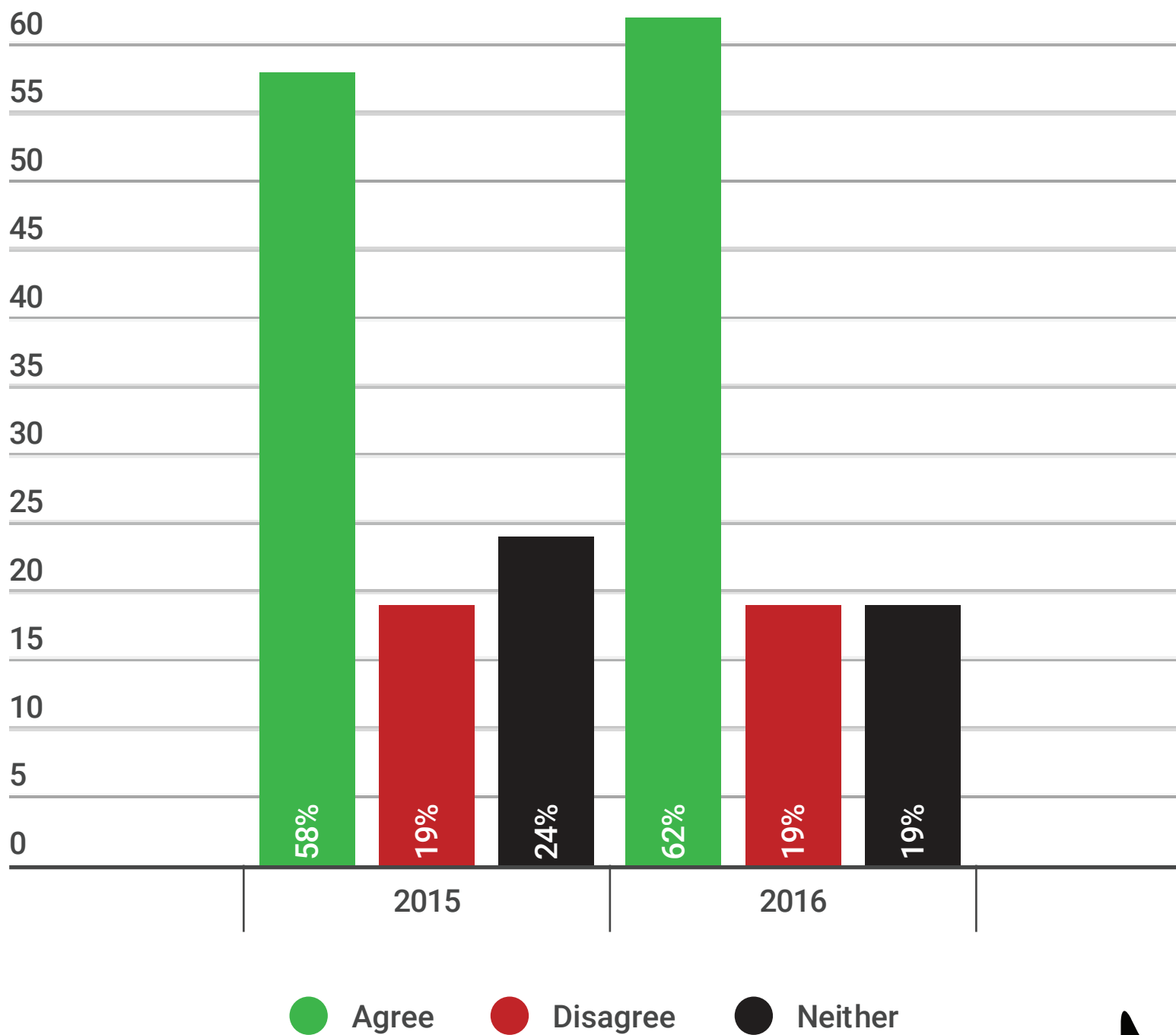


The original English Anthem uses the word US, the current version uses THY SONS. Which version do you believe is most appropriate?

	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female
Version with Us	60%	51%	59%	60%	57%	58%
Version with Thy Sons	21%	27%	22%	22%	24%	23%
Undecided	19%	22%	19%	18%	19%	19%
Sample	257	356	687	727	949	1078

	Nat.	BC	AB	Prairies	ON	QC	ATL
Us	57%	57%	45%	54%	58%	65%	52%
Thy Sons	23%	24%	34%	27%	23%	14%	29%
Undecided	19%	19%	20%	19%	19%	20%	19%
Sample	2027	298	301	307	469	417	235

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?



● Agree ● Disagree ● Neither



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?

	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female
Strongly Agree	43%	42%	46%	50%	45%	44%
Somewhat Agree	13%	16%	21%	21%	17%	18%
Neither A/D	21%	21%	17%	17%	19%	19%
Somewhat Disagree	8%	9%	5%	5%	7%	7%
Strongly Disagree	15%	12%	12%	7%	12%	12%
Sample	257	356	687	727	949	1078

	Nat.	BC	AB	Prairies	ON	QC	ATL
Strongly A	45%	51%	34%	46%	52%	35%	45%
Somewhat A	18%	16%	17%	14%	14%	26%	15%
Neither	19%	17%	20%	19%	19%	18%	22%
Somewhat D	7%	3%	12%	6%	6%	9%	6%
Strongly D	12%	13%	16%	15%	9%	12%	13%
Sample	2027	298	301	307	469	417	235

SCRIPT

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

Yes
No
Not Sure

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

Version that uses US
Version that uses THY SONS
Undecided

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 Agree
Somewhat Agree
Neither Agree Nor Disagree
Somewhat Disagree
Strongly Disagree



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