

British Columbia Survey on Paramedics Strike Canadian Union of Public Employees - BC

Topline Results

Fielded November 16 - 18, 2009

Sample = BC residents 18+

Gender, Age, and Regionally Weighted n=404

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		Cases	Col Response %
Q1. British Columbia's ambulance paramedics - the professionals who drive BC's ambulances and provide ambulance services - have been in the news recently. Can you tell me why?	They are/were on strike	240	59.4%
	They were legislated back to work	75	18.5%
	Wanted more money	28	6.9%
	Contract dispute/no contract	13	3.3%
	Not paid enough	13	3.3%
	They are refusing to work overtime	7	1.7%
	(They feel) they are being treated unfairly	6	1.6%
	The gov't treated them badly	4	.9%
	Hours of work	3	.8%
	Concerns about level of care	3	.7%
	Want better benefits	2	.4%
	Status as essential service	1	.4%
	Other (SPECIFY)	5	1.3%
[DNR] Don't Know	28	7.0%	
Total	404	106.2%	

		Count	Col %
Q2. BC's ambulance paramedics were on strike from April 1st until November 7th. On November 7th the provincial government used legislation and the strike and to impose a contract. How aware of these events were you?	Very Aware	162	40.1%
	Somewhat Aware	173	42.9%
	Not at all aware	67	16.5%
	[DNR] Don't Know	2	.4%
	[DNR] Refused	0	.1%
Total	404	100.0%	

		Count	Col %
Q3. Based on what you know now do you think the government was justified in ending the strike and legislating a contract on the ambulance paramedics workers rather than continuing to try to negotiate a contract?	Yes	101	24.9%
	No	221	54.6%
	[DNR] Don't Know	83	20.5%
Total	404	100.0%	

		Count	Col %
Q4. [ROTATE SOME/OTHER] Some/other people say that the government was justified in legislating an end to the strike and imposing a contract because of the risk of H1N1 and because of the Olympics. Other/some people say that the paramedics were maintaining essential services and the government should have bargained a contract. Which is closer to your view?	The government was justified in ending the strike and imposing a contract	100	24.7%
	The government should have bargained a contract	269	66.6%
	[DNR] Don't Know	33	8.1%
	[DNR] Refused	3	.7%
Total	404	100.0%	

		Count	Col %
<p>Q5. Some essential workers, like police and fire fighters have their contracts determined through a third party, independent arbitration process. [ROTATE SOME/OTHER] Some/other people say that that as essential workers the ambulance paramedics should have had their contract determined by an independent, third party arbitration process. Other/some people say that the government needs to control costs and it would have been unwise to allow their contract be determined by a third party independent arbitration process. Which is closer to your view?</p>	The ambulance paramedics should have had their contract determined by an independent third party arbitration process	309	76.6%
	It would have been unwise for the government to allow the ambulance paramedics contract to be determined by an independent, third party arbitration process	62	15.2%
	[DNR] Don't Know	28	6.9%
	[DNR] Refused	5	1.3%
	Total	404	100.0%

		Count	Col %
<p>Q6. On Sept 11, 2009, in a memo to the BC Ambulance Service, the Vancouver Olympic Organizing Committee, (VANOC), wrote that it required a 'guarantee through either settlement of the strike or a legislated 'détente' for the Games that all required ambulance services be provided as planned. [ROTATE SOME/OTHER] Some/other people say that VANOC's memo was an unjustified political interference in the collective bargaining process. Other/some people say that VANOC was justified in writing this memo because of the need to ensure that the Games have the level of ambulance services that they require. Which is closer to your view?</p>	VANOC's memo was an unjustified political interference in the collective bargaining process.	240	59.4%
	VANOC was justified in writing this memo	124	30.7%
	[DNR] Don't Know	38	9.5%
	[DNR] Refused	2	.5%
	Total	404	100.0%