



CREATIONIST MUSEUM OPENS

DO CANADIANS BELIEVE IN EVOLUTION OR CREATIONISM?

**Three-in-five Canadians (59%) believe in evolution –
the theory that humans evolved from less advanced
life forms over millions of years**

But...

**42% agree that dinosaurs and humans co-existed on earth
– a central tenet of creationism**

From June 12 to 13, 2007, Angus Reid Strategies conducted an online survey among a randomly selected, representative sample of 1,088 adult Canadians. The margin of error for the total sample is +3.0%, 19 times out of 20. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

**Public Release:
National Public Opinion Poll**

[VANCOUVER - June 18, 2007] – Canadians strongly believe humans developed through evolution, but they don't quite understand what the theory means, a new Angus Reid Strategies poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample, three-in-five Canadians (59%) agree that human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years. Just 22 per cent believe that God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years—the theory of creationism espoused by the new Big Valley Creation Science Museum in Alberta, the country's first creationist museum.

However, when asked if humans and dinosaurs co-existed on earth—a central tenet of creationism on display in the Big Valley Museum—42 per cent of respondents agree. Over one-third of Canadians (37%) disagree, in line with fossil records indicating that man developed millions of years after dinosaurs.

Respondents in Quebec are especially disbelieving of creationism. Just 9 per cent agree with the theory behind creationism, while seven-in-ten Quebecers (71%) agree that the process of evolution is how humans developed. However, the province wound up being as split as the rest of the nation over whether dinosaurs and humans co-existed.

But Albertans were not more likely to believe in creationism than the rest of the country. Their views came very close to the national numbers, with 58 per cent registering belief in evolution as the process driving human development, and 42 per cent agreeing that dinosaurs and humans lived at the same time.

As well, younger Canadians, those living in households earning \$100,000 or more a year, and those with university education are more likely to strongly believe in evolution, and more likely to disagree that humans and dinosaurs co-existed.

Three-in-five Canadians (59%) believe in evolution – the theory that humans evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years

Q. Which of these statements comes closest to your own point of view regarding the origin and development of human beings on earth?

	Region						
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ONT	PQ	ATL
Human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years	59%	65%	58%	56%	51%	71%	53%
God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years	22%	21%	28%	33%	26%	9%	26%
Not sure	19%	15%	14%	11%	23%	20%	21%

	Age				Income			Education		
	Total	18-34	35-54	55+	<\$50K	\$50-99K	\$100K+	HS or less	College or Tech schl	Univ+
Human beings evolved from less advanced life forms over millions of years	59%	64%	56%	58%	54%	62%	63%	51%	58%	70%
God created human beings in their present form within the last 10,000 years	22%	18%	23%	24%	26%	19%	22%	23%	24%	17%
Not sure	19%	18%	21%	18%	20%	19%	15%	26%	18%	12%

Creationist museum opens – Do Canadians believe in evolution or creationism?

Contact: Craig Worden, Vice President, Public Affairs
416-644-4038 or craig.worden@angus-reid.com

42% agree that dinosaurs and humans co-existed on earth – a central tenet of creationism

Q. The Big Valley Creation Science Museum opened this month in Alberta. One of the museum's displays suggests that dinosaurs and human beings co-existed on earth. Do you agree or disagree with this assertion?

	Region						
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ONT	PQ	ATL
Strongly agree	14%	11%	19%	11%	11%	19%	13%
Moderately agree	28%	27%	24%	24%	30%	27%	33%
Moderately disagree	12%	11%	7%	12%	14%	12%	7%
Strongly disagree	26%	30%	32%	31%	25%	22%	24%
Not sure	21%	20%	19%	22%	21%	21%	23%
(net) Agree	42%	38%	42%	35%	40%	45%	46%
(net) Disagree	37%	41%	39%	43%	39%	34%	31%

	Age				Income			Education		
	Total	18-34	35-54	55+	<\$50K	\$50-99K	\$100K+	HS or less	College or Tech schl	Univ+
Strongly agree	14%	13%	16%	12%	13%	14%	14%	14%	18%	8%
Moderately agree	28%	29%	28%	26%	26%	29%	21%	30%	26%	28%
Moderately disagree	12%	14%	12%	9%	12%	12%	12%	14%	10%	11%
Strongly disagree	26%	26%	24%	27%	22%	26%	39%	18%	24%	37%
Not sure	21%	18%	21%	25%	27%	19%	14%	24%	22%	17%
(net) Agree	42%	42%	43%	39%	40%	43%	35%	44%	44%	35%
(net) Disagree	37%	40%	36%	37%	34%	38%	51%	32%	34%	48%

Creationist museum opens – Do Canadians believe in evolution or creationism?

Contact: Craig Worden, Vice President, Public Affairs
416-644-4038 or craig.worden@angus-reid.com

Angus Reid Strategies is a North American full-service polling and market research firm which is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Strategies team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995. Located in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, and Montreal, our team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research.

Angus Reid Strategies polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum online panel (www.angusreidforum.com), which is recruited via an industry-leading process that incorporates a randomized, widespread invitation approach and a triple opt-in screening procedure. The panel is maintained through state-of-the-art sampling techniques and frequent verifications of personal identity, contact information, and demographic characteristics. This premier online survey platform presents respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses.

Angus Reid Strategies has been successful in predicting the outcome of this year's provincial elections:

In Quebec: <http://www.angusreidstrategies.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=news&newsid=37>

In Manitoba: <http://www.angusreidstrategies.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=news&newsid=56>

More information on the way Angus Reid Strategies conducts public opinion research can be found at http://www.angusreidstrategies.com/uploads/pages/pdfs/ARS.ARF_WHITE_PAPER.pdf

- 30 -

**For more information, please contact
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

**Copies of this poll are available on our website:
www.angusreidstrategies.com**