



MUSTEL GROUP

SUMMARY

Impact of Unresolved First Nations Land Claims on Investment in BC

Mustel Group. February 2004

METHODOLOGY

A total of 143 interviews were collected from the survey of 550 contacts resulting in a response rate of 26 per cent. The focus was on businesses in six sectors that are either headquartered or have a branch in BC with minimum annual revenue of \$10 million. Sectors were Forestry, Investment/Financial, Mining, Oil and Gas, Transportation and Utilities.

Q. *Assuming the BC economy performs as you expect over the next five years, how important will each of the following factors be in your company's investment decisions in BC?*

A. 67 per cent of survey respondents cited 'unresolved First Nation land claims negotiations' as important in investment decisions—very important (31%) and somewhat important (36%).

Q. *Have the unresolved First Nation land claims in BC reduced your company's investment in BC over the past five years, or had no real impact on investment decisions?*

A. One in five companies responding to the survey state that 'unresolved First Nations land claims' reduced their investment in BC over the past five years. Six per cent reported a significant reduction in investment.

Q. *If a significant number of First Nation land claims were settled, would your company increase its investment over and above what is already planned for the next five years, or would this have no real impact on investment plans?*

A. One in four companies responding to the survey would increase investment if a significant number of First Nation land claims were settled. Eight per cent would increase investment significantly.