



Northwest Territories Project Finance for Permanence Research Report

November 2023

Methodology

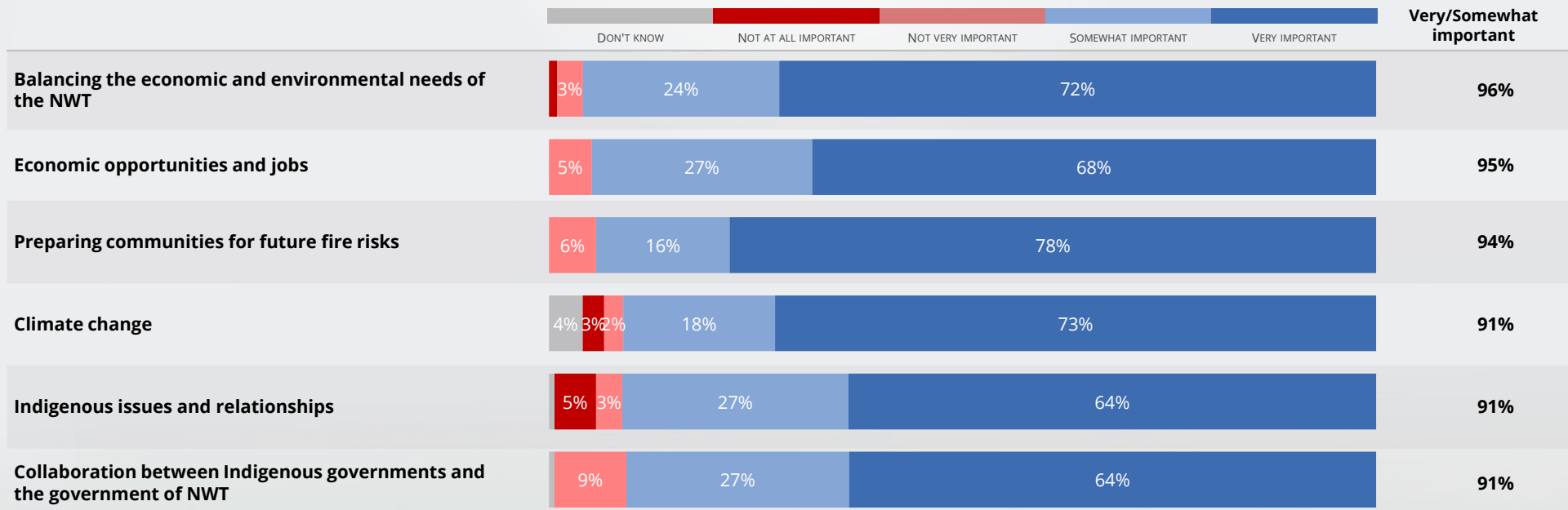
- A telephone survey was conducted among **N=104 respondents in the Northwest Territories** who are 18 years of age and older.
- Surveys were conducted between October 19th and 25th 2023.
- The results were weighted by age and gender to ensure they match the total population distribution.
- Due to relatively low population and infrequent polling in the Northwest Territories, a larger sample size would be extremely difficult to obtain. Results of this sample size can be considered accurate to within ± 9.6 percentage points, at a 95% level of confidence.

Key Findings

- Residents of the Northwest Territories understand the importance of both economic development and conservation, and do not believe there is a conflict between having both. They believe it is very important for all levels of government, including Indigenous governments, to work together to tackle these issues
- There is strong support for the principles of the Northwest Territories Project Finance for Permanence (NWT PFP). Awareness of the project itself could be improved.
- There is also strong support for the Indigenous Guardian project, but again, awareness of the project could be improved.
- Most residents agree NWT PFP will have a positive impact to all of NWT, particularly those who care about conservation and Indigenous communities. Very few residents believe it will have any negative impact.

Environmental, economic and Indigenous issues are all important to NWT residents

- An overwhelming majority think that all tested issues are at least somewhat important.
- Three-quarters find preparing communities for future risk (78%) as well as climate change (73%) and balancing the economic and environmental needs of the NWT (72%) are very important issues.

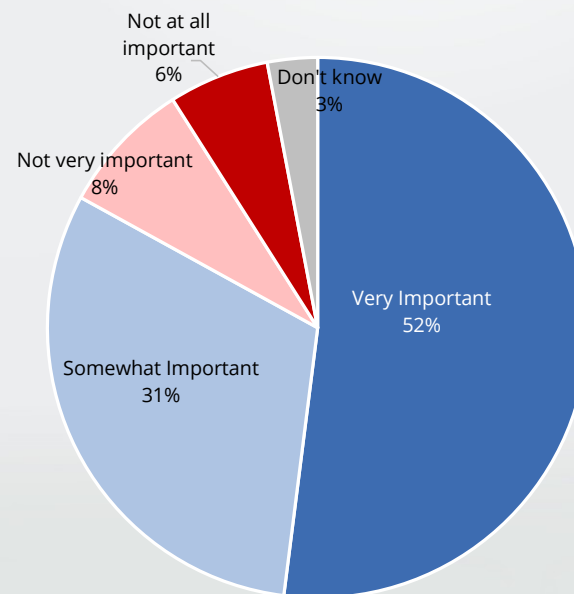


Q1: How important is each of the following issues to you personally? n = 104

The vast majority consider the conservation of land to be important

- More than four-fifths of NWT residents believe conserving land is important, with half saying it is very important.

Importance of Conserving Land

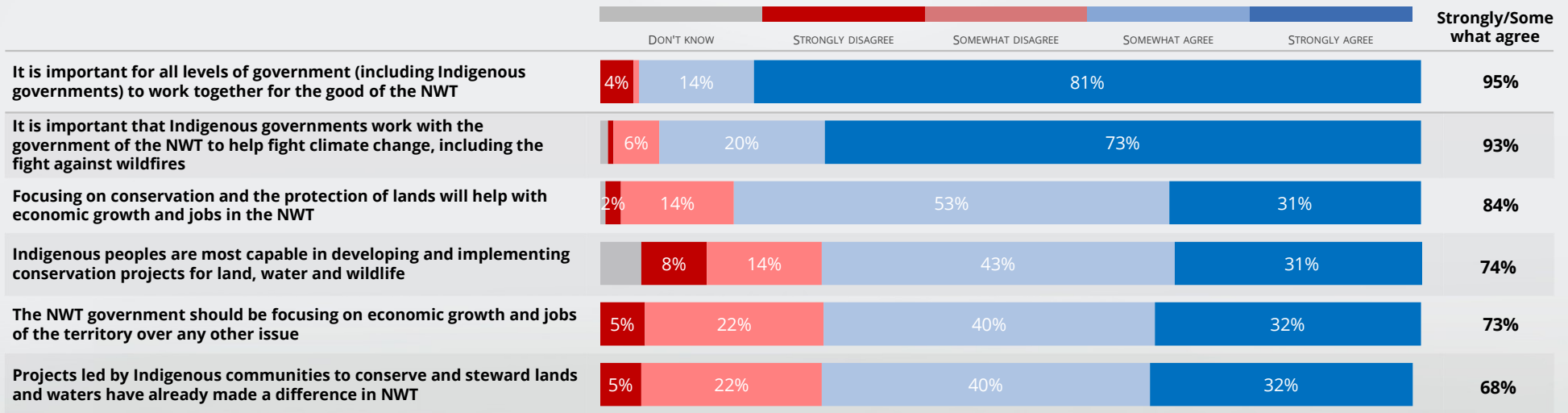


Total Important:
83%

Q1: How important is each of the following issues to you personally? n = 104

Collaboration between the various levels of government, especially on climate change issues has unanimous strong agreement, however there is milder agreement on focusing only on specific issues.

- The vast majority strongly agree it is important for all levels of government to work together for the good of the NWT (81%) and It is important that Indigenous governments work with the government of the NWT to help fight climate change (73%).
- The majority at least somewhat agree with the notion that the NWT government should be prioritizing economic growth and jobs over any other issue (73%), or that focusing on land conservation will help with economic growth and jobs in the NWT (84%), only one-third strongly agree with these statements (32% and 31% respectively).
- The majority agree that Indigenous peoples are most capable in developing and implementing conservation projects for land, water and wildlife (74%); a third (31%) strongly agree.
- The majority agree that projects led by Indigenous communities to conserve and steward lands and waters have already made a difference in NWT (68%); a third (32%) strongly agree.



Q2: Consider the following statements... tell me if you... n = 104

While a minority have a strong familiarity with either, NWT Residents are more familiar with Indigenous Guardians than they are with NWT PFP

- While half have at least heard of Indigenous Guardians (55%), only 36% say they know anything about it, with only 11% saying they know a lot.
- When it comes to NWT PFP, only 40% have heard of this and one-fifth (22%) know anything about it with 4% knowing a lot.

Awareness of Indigenous Guardians

Know about it 36%

Know a lot about it 11%

Know a little about it 25%

Heard of it, but don't know what it is 19%

Never heard of it 44%

Don't know 1%

Awareness of Northwest Territories Project Finance for Permanence

Know about it 22%

Know a lot about it 4%

Know a little about it 18%

Heard of it, but don't know what it is 18%

Never heard of it 60%

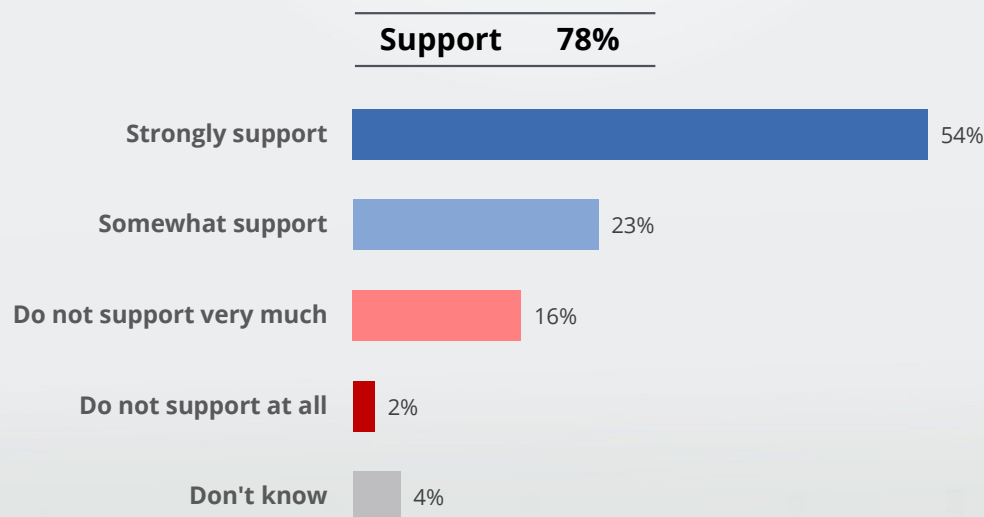
Don't know 0%



Q3 - How familiar are you with Indigenous Guardians? Q5 - How familiar are you with the Northwest Territories Project Finance for Permanence n = 104

Majority (78%) support expanding Guardians stewardship programs in the NWT upon learning that the Indigenous Guardians are trained experts who care for lands and waters on behalf of their communities, with about half indicating strong support (54%).

Indigenous Guardians are trained experts who care for lands and waters on behalf of their communities. They test water quality, help manage protected areas, monitor industrial projects, and support culture and language programs. Based on this description, to what extent would you support expanding Guardians stewardship programs in the NWT?

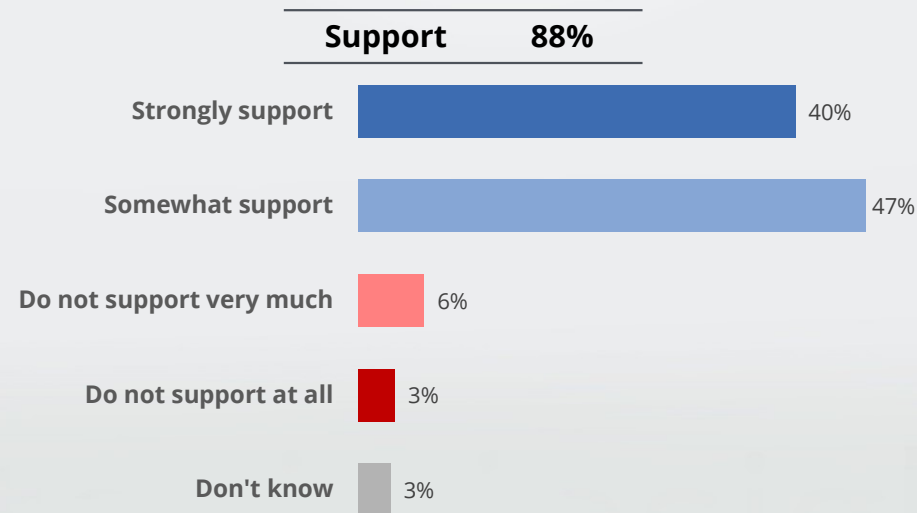


Q4 - Indigenous Guardians are trained experts who care for lands and waters on behalf of their communities... Based on this description, to what extent would you support expanding Guardians stewardship programs in the NWT? n = 104

Once read a description, there is vast support for the NWT PFP

- When read a description of what the NWT PFP would do, there is strong support for it, with almost nine-in-ten residents (88%) supporting it at least somewhat and 40% supporting it strongly.
- Among the 22 residents who were aware of the NWT PFP, 88% showed support of it, before being read the description.

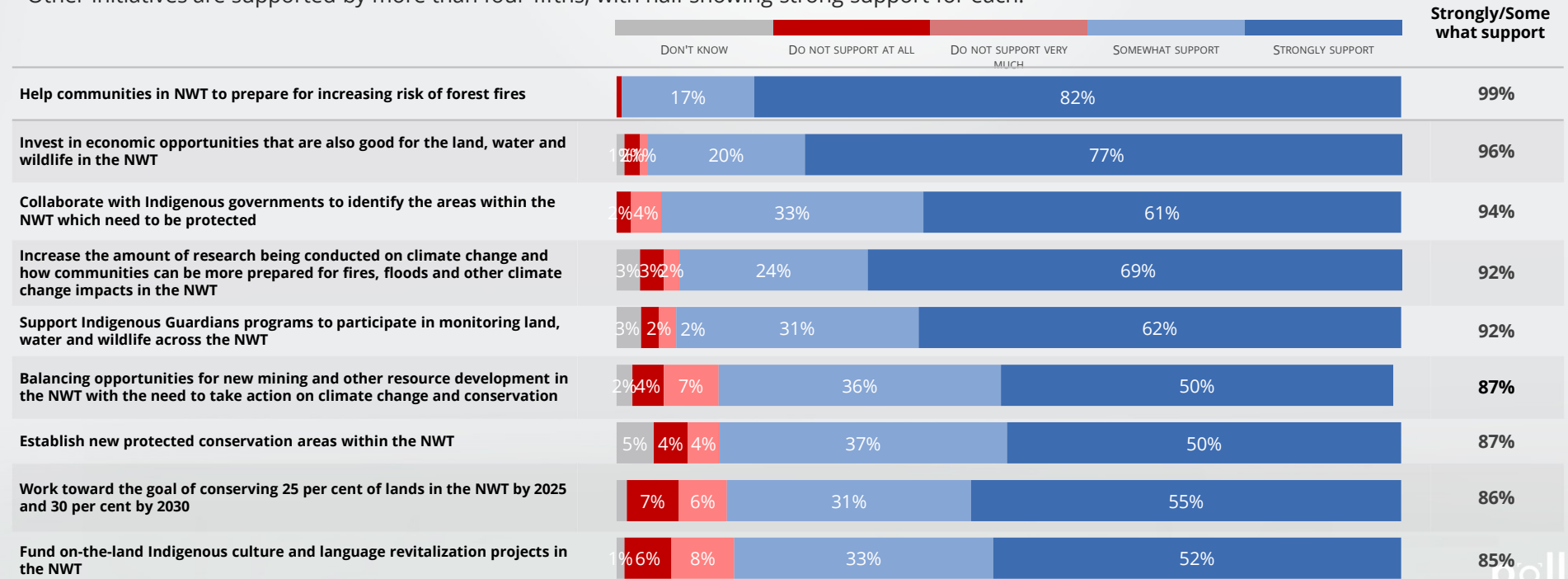
The NWT PFP is a collaboration between Indigenous Governments, the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Government of Canada and private philanthropies. Once this initiative is finalized, it will bring major new funding to protect lands, support thriving cultures and foster new economic opportunities and jobs in different sectors across the Northwest Territories. Based on this description, to what extent would you support the NWT PFP?



Q7 - The NWT PFP is a collaboration between Indigenous Governments, the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Government of Canada and private philanthropies... Based on this description, to what extent would you support the NWT PFP? n = 104

Residents show support for all NWT PFP initiatives, with the strongest level of support for preparation for increasing risk of forest fires.

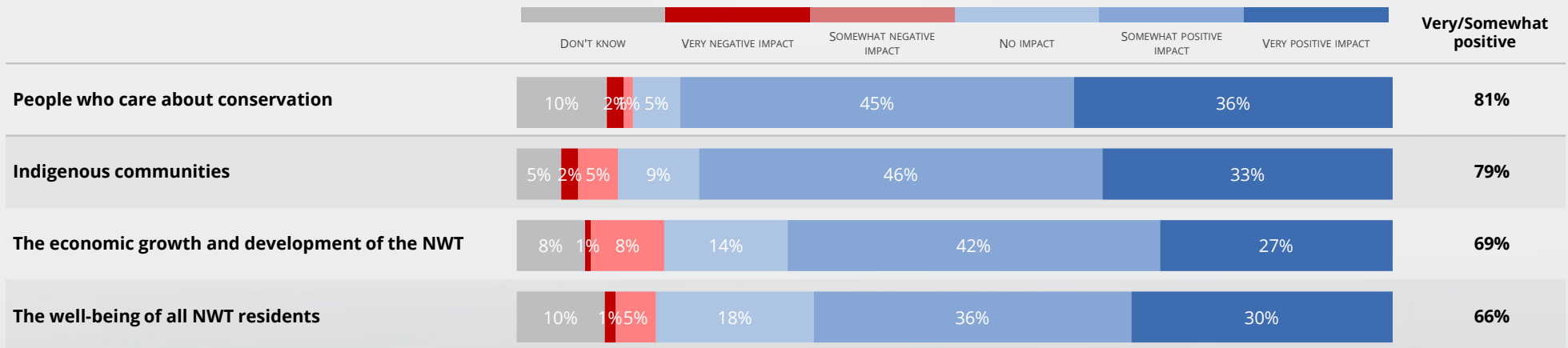
- Almost everyone supports efforts to prepare NWT communities for the increasing risk of forest fire, with the majority (82%) having a strong level of support.
- There is also high support for investing in economic opportunities that are good for land, water and wildlife with 94% showing support, 77% strong support.
- More than nine-in-ten also support collaboration to identify areas that need to be protected, increased research into climate change issues, and support of Indigenous Guardians programs; levels of strong support are approximately two-thirds.
- Other initiatives are supported by more than four-fifths, with half showing strong support for each.



Q8: To what extent would you support the following activities...? n = 104

Seven-in-ten or more feel that NWT PFP will have a positive impact on various aspects, with the strongest impact on 'people who care about conservation'.

- Majority (81%) believe the NWT PFP will have a positive impact on 'people who care about conservation' and two-fifth (36%) believe it will have a very positive impact.
- Most believe Indigenous communities and the well-being of all NWT residents will be positively impacted, with a third saying the NWT PFP will have a very positive impact (33% and 30% respectively).
- A large majority (69%) agree the NWT PFP will have a positive impact on the economic growth and development of the NWT, with about a quarter (27%) say it will have a very positive impact.



Q9: Do you believe the NWT PFP will have a positive or negative impact, or no impact at all on each of the following...? n = 104