



# Media Release

## No welcome mat for refugees without ID Ontarians want refugees with false ID sent home

Ottawa, March 7, 2003 - A provincial survey on public safety issues released by polling firm SES Canada Research indicates that a strong majority of Ontarians are uncomfortable releasing refugees into communities if they arrive into Canada without proper identification.

One half of Ontarians would prefer to keep refugees without identification in a detention centre until their identity can be confirmed and another 40% would prefer that authorities refuse entry and send refugees without identification back to their country of origin. Only 7% of Ontarians believed that refugees without proper identification should be accepted in communities and the citizenship process initiated (4% of Ontarians were unsure what to do). Polling also indicates that if a refugee is found to have false identification, support for refusing entry into Canada increases from 50% to 65% of Ontarians.

“As the public engages in a debate about finger-printing Canadians and enhancing identification, it’s not surprising that individuals are more cautious about accepting refugees without identification with open arms,” stated Nikita Nanos, President of polling firm SES Canada Research.

SES’s Ontario Omnibus Survey is conducted every four months. It is based on a random telephone sample of 500 Ontarians, 18 years of age and older and was conducted between January 23<sup>rd</sup> and January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003. The margin of accuracy for the survey is 4.5 percentage points, plus or minus, 19 times out of 20. Validation of the demographic profile of respondents indicates that the poll is a fair representation of the Ontario voting populace.

Established in 1987, SES Canada Research Inc. is a full service marketing and public opinion research firm.

For a detailed review of the survey tables, please visit the SES Research website at <http://www.sesresearch.com> in the on-line polling library.



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Media inquiries:

Nikita Nanos, President  
SES Canada Research Inc.  
100 Sparks Street, Suite 1001  
Ottawa, Ontario  
(613) 234-4666  
[nnanos@sesresearch.com](mailto:nnanos@sesresearch.com)

Visit the SES website at [www.sesresearch.com](http://www.sesresearch.com)

**SES Toronto**

401-250 Consumers Road,  
Toronto, CANADA M2J 4V6  
Phone (416) 493-1965  
Fax (416) 493-6403

**SES Ottawa**

1001-100 Sparks Street,  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5B7  
Phone (613) 234-4666  
Fax (613) 235-1444

**SES Halifax**

407-1959 Upper Water Street,  
Halifax, CANADA B3J 3N2  
Phone (902) 420-9523  
Fax (902) 422-2388

**SES General Mail**

Postal Station A,  
Box 5804  
Toronto, CANADA M5W 1P2  
Toll-free 1 888 737-5505

**QUESTION - Refugees Without Identification**

Every year a number of individuals come to Canada as refugees. In some instances these individuals have no identification. Thinking about how the authorities should respond to these individuals do you think that if someone shows up at our border without identification and claims refugee status the government should [READ AND ROTATE]

- Refuse those with no identification entry into Canada and send them back to their country of origin
- Accept those with no identification into Canada and our communities as refugees and start the immigration process to make them citizens, or
- Keep those with no identification in a detention centre until their security risk is determined

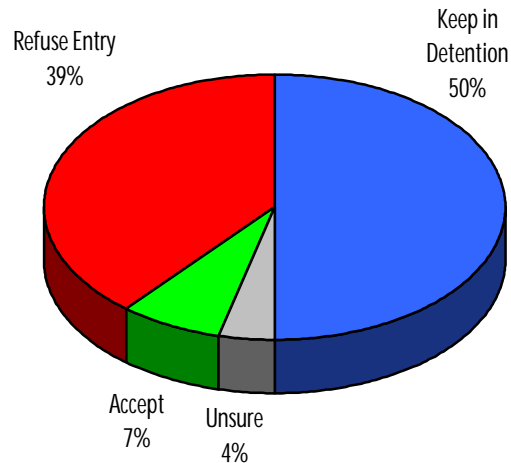
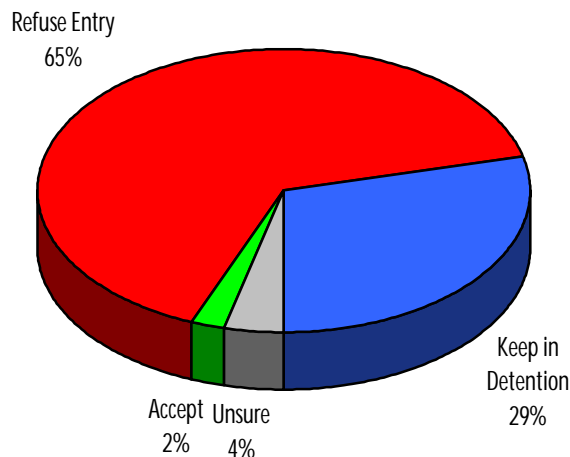
**QUESTION - Refugees With False Identification**

Every year a number of individuals come to Canada as refugees. In some instances these individuals have false identification. Thinking about how the authorities should respond to these individuals do you think that if someone shows up at our border with false identification and claims refugee status the government should [READ AND ROTATE]

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- Accept those with false identification into Canada and our communities as refugees and start the immigration process to make them citizens, or
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**THE METHODOLOGY**

Between January 23<sup>rd</sup> and January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003, SES conducted a total of 500 telephone interviews across Ontario with eligible voters. Aggregate results of the survey are accurate to within 4.5 percentage points, plus or minus, 19 times out of 20. Validation of the demographic profile of respondents indicates that the poll is a fair representation of the voters of Ontario.

**Refugees Without Identification (Ontario)****Refugees With False Identification (Ontario)****ABOUT SES**

Established in 1987, SES Canada Research Inc. is a full service public opinion research and management consulting firm. In order to maximize turn-around time and increase efficiency, SES has a 110-line call centre complete with a predictive dialer. SES is regularly called upon by corporate, government and para-public clients in Canada and the United States to conduct research and provide strategic advice.

For more information on our full range of services please visit our website

[www.sesresearch.com](http://www.sesresearch.com) or contact:

Mr. Nikita Nanos at (613) 234-4666 ext. 400 or [nnanos@sesresearch.com](mailto:nnanos@sesresearch.com)