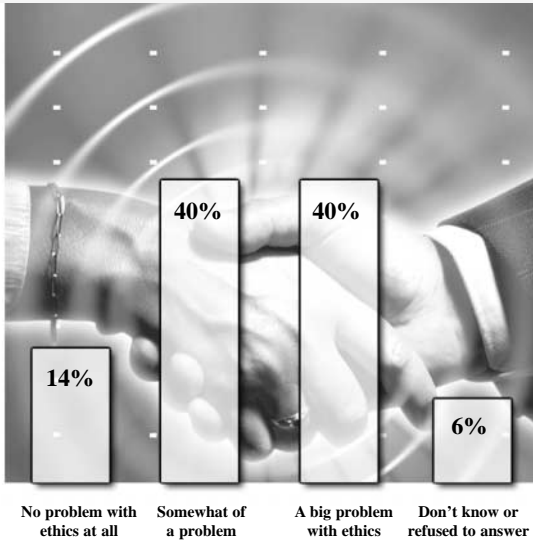


# Edmontonians' poll station

By **Linda Banister**

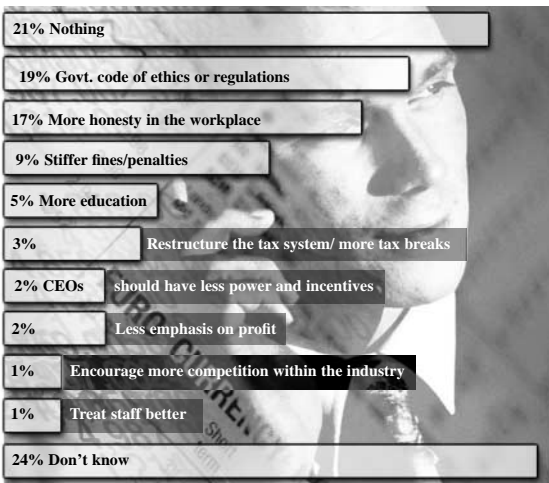
This month's Poll Station looks at the ethics in business practices.

## WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH ETHICS IN BUSINESS?



Forty percent of respondents felt there is a big problem with ethics in business, while another 40 percent felt there is only somewhat of a problem. Fourteen percent of respondents felt there is no problem with ethics in business.

## WHAT WOULD ENCOURAGE MORE ETHICAL BUSINESS PRACTICES?

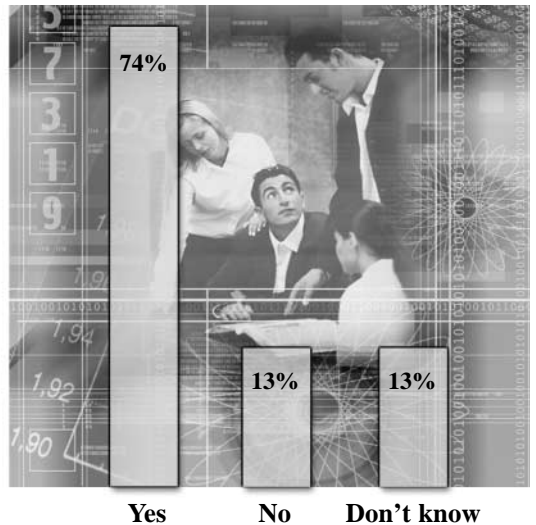


Almost one fifth (19%) of respondents felt that more government regulations into business practices would encourage more ethical business practices. Other suggestions included: fostering more honesty in the workplace (17%); higher fines and penalties for illegal business practices (9%) and more education in schools and the workplace (5%). A fifth (21%) of respondents felt that nothing could be done to encourage more ethical business practices.

## WHAT COULD EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS DO TO FOSTER ETHICAL BUSINESS PRACTICES?

Suggestions provided by respondents included developing guidelines to integrate into all aspects of the educational curriculum (14%); having instructors lead by example (12%); teaching business ethics as a mandatory course (5%); and teaching students the consequences of unethical behavior (5%). Over one third (36%) of respondents did not feel there was anything else that educational institutions could do to foster ethical business practices.

## DO YOU THINK TEACHING ETHICS IN SCHOOL WILL ENCOURAGE MORE ETHICAL BUSINESS PRACTICES?



Almost three quarters (74%) of respondents felt that teaching ethics in school would encourage more ethical business practices, while 13 percent did not and 13 percent did not know. ✓

The *Edmontonians* Poll Station surveyed 100 city of Edmonton residents on this topic and while the results of the research are not statistically reliable, they do provide a qualitative indication of what local business is thinking.



*Linda Banister is a certified management consultant and the owner of Banister Research & Consulting Inc., a full service provider of market research and program evaluation services. If you have a question you would like included in the Edmontonians Poll, contact Linda at 780.451.4444 or e-mail at [research@banister.ab.ca](mailto:research@banister.ab.ca). For further information on the firm visit [www.banister.ab.ca](http://www.banister.ab.ca).*