

Prospective Survey Results

What will the Canadian Commercial Real Estate Industry look like in 5 years?







REALPAC Prospective Survey 2023

The survey was conducted between September 29 and October 20, 2023 to determine what senior CRE leaders expect our sector to look like 5 years from now.

Key Questions:

- What will employees, investors, tenants, and governments expect of CRE?
- What changes do we have to start making now to get there?
- Which sectors are the most potentially impacted?
- Which sectors will have the greatest challenges?
- What critical skills will CRE executives need to have?

Survey Sections:

- A. People & Culture
- B. Office
- C. Retail
- D. Apartment
- E. Industrial
- F. Other Asset Classes

- G. Debt Markets
- H. Financial Best Practices
- I. Environment Social Governance (ESG)
- J. Innovation
- K. Government & Regulation
- L. Strategy



62

@

57

with

>\$470B

Senior
CRE Leaders*
Responded to
the Survey

Companies

Canadian AUM

*The most senior officer responsible for all matters related to real property (CEO, President, Managing Director, or their functional equivalent) 30%
Response
Rate

Representing the following asset classes:

71% Office

64% Apartment

68% Industrial

20% Senior Living

68% Retail

18% Hotel



Participating Companies*





















































































^{*}NB: Not all participating companies agreed to have their logo shown on the final report.

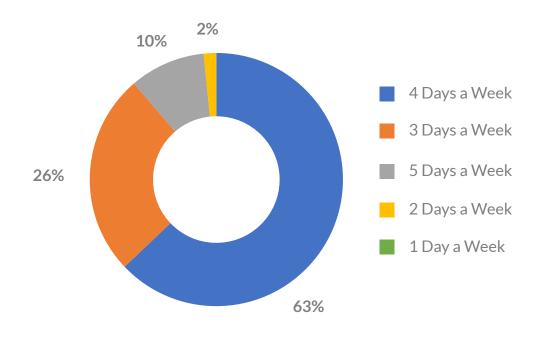
People & Culture



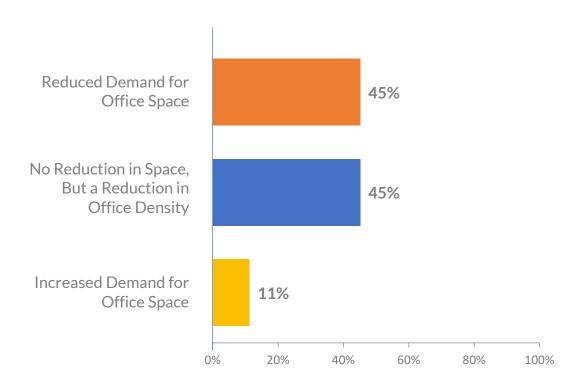


Future of Work

In 5 years, offices will be mostly occupied by tenant employees on average:



This will result in:





What are the critical new skills and knowledge that CRE executives will need to have in 5 years?

1. AI, Technology & Automation

- Knowledge and understanding
- Adoption, integration and management
- Ability to leverage data and predictive analytics to drive information-driven decisions

2. Sustainability & ESG

- Knowledge and understanding of regulatory requirements and practices
- Financial implication of decarbonization on the path to net zero
- Climate resiliency

3. People & Culture

- Authentic and exceptional integrity
- Ability to lead without authority and align team members to get ordinary people to do extraordinary things
- Cultural sensitivity and an awareness of social values
- Inclusivity
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Understanding and acceptance of how their own employees and the employees of their tenants prefer to work

4. Risk Management & Decision Making

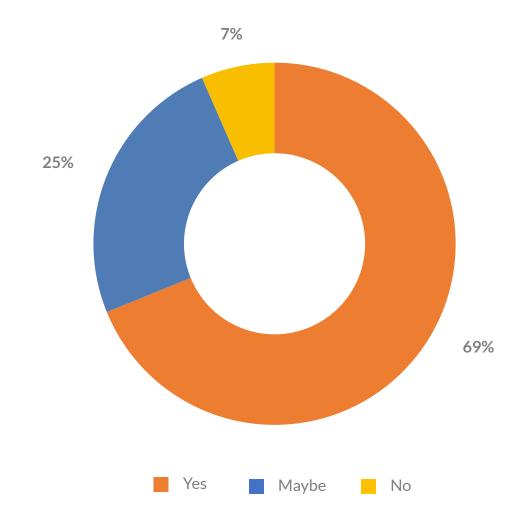
- Change management, critical thinking, adaptability
- Heightened reputational awareness
- Understanding of investment fundamentals and how to make money in a volatile, high interest rate and inflationary environment

B Office





Most office tenants will have substantially amenitized their space to attract employees back to the office:



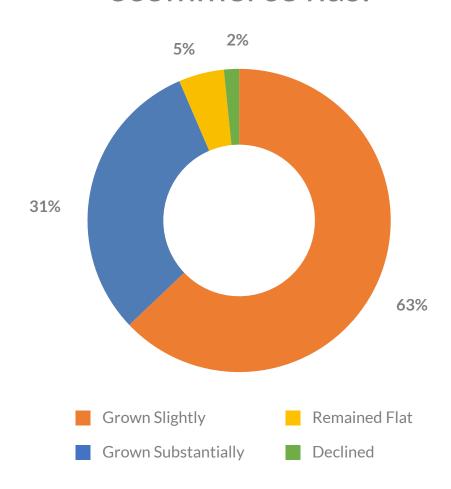
Retail







In 5 Years ecommerce has:



"ecommerce has proven to be convenient, reliable and flexible without extra cost"

"saves valuable time"

"ecommerce is part of the new normal omni-channel retailing environment"

"aging population, small places to live, 30 somethings are minimalists and contribute to decline of ecommerce and in store retail"



What Global Trends will shape retail in the next 5 years?

1. Experiential Retail

- Immersive brand experiences will drive customer loyalty and provide a reason to visit a shopping destination in-person
- Retail destinations will become:
 - Community meeting places for arts and crafts, clubs
 - Entertainment centres
 - Health and wellness centres for pickleball and sports

2. Omni-channel Retailing

- Physical stores, online stores, marketplaces, websites, mobile apps, social media
- Pop-up physical retail for online first stores

3. Artificial Intelligence, Augmented Reality & Virtual Reality

- Al assist customers with order fulfilment
- AR and shopping with Avatars to personalize the customer experience
- VR allowing customers to virtually interact with products
- More digitally native virtual brands

4. Nearshoring & Onshoring

- With the instability in global markets, supply chains and production returns to Canada or a nearby country as global conflicts and tensions increase
- Less reliance on despotic nations
- Changing trade partnerships will benefit from geographical proximity and closer culture compatibility

5. Data Privacy & Cybersecurity

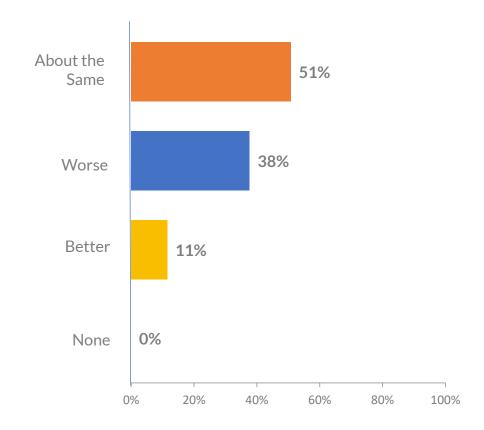
 Organized crime and theft will play an increasingly central role in decision making for certain retailers in certain geographies

Apartment



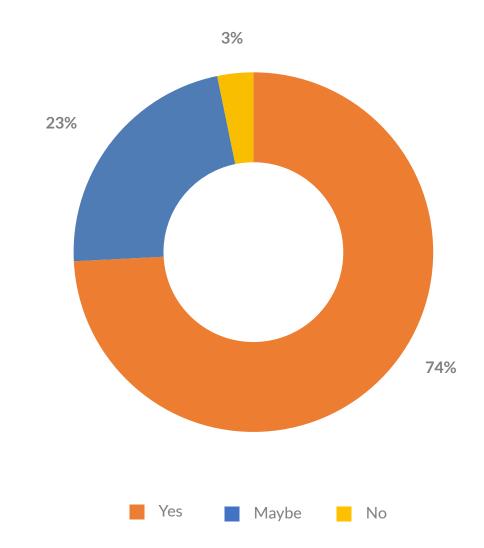


The rental housing affordability problem will be:





Government restrictions and taxes will continue to be a key impediment to more rental supply:



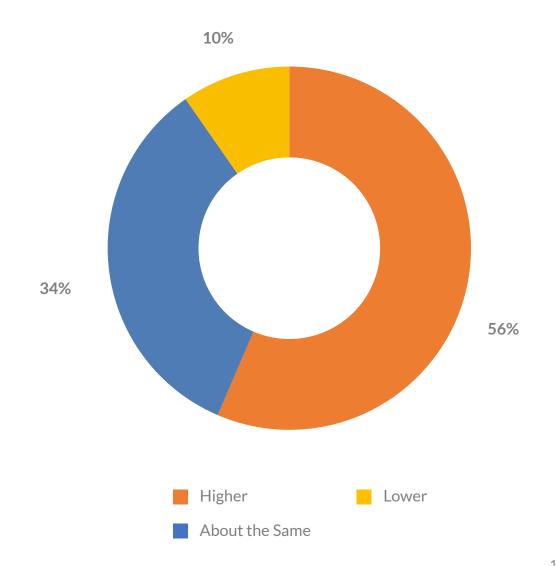
Industrial







The industrial rents will be:



Other Asset Classes





In 5 years significant changes to other asset classes may include:

Senior Living

- Continued undersupply of senior living housing
- Need for more of it to meet demand
- Pressure to make the product and service offering more engaging and holistic
- Lack of skilled workforce and care staff

Office

- Structural demand shift in office
- Less occupancy
- Lower values
- A focus on amenities
- Continued office to residential conversions
- Offices demolished, repurposed, used for schools

Data Centres

Continued growth and demand

"demographic trends towards demand for seniors housing will accelerate across Canada"

"high rise office is very capital intensive and will continue to struggle"

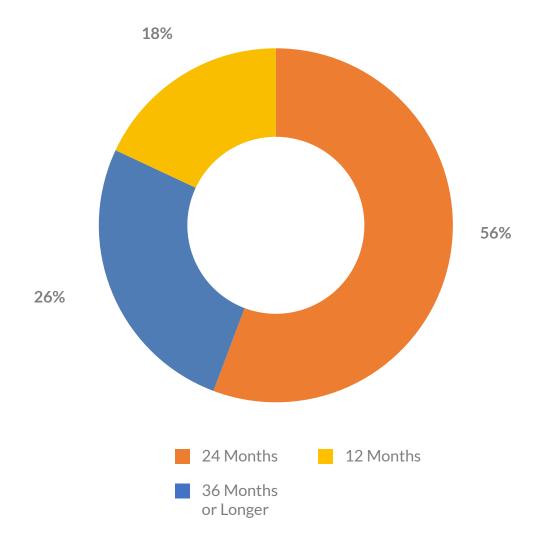
"office will remain important to culture"

Debt Markets





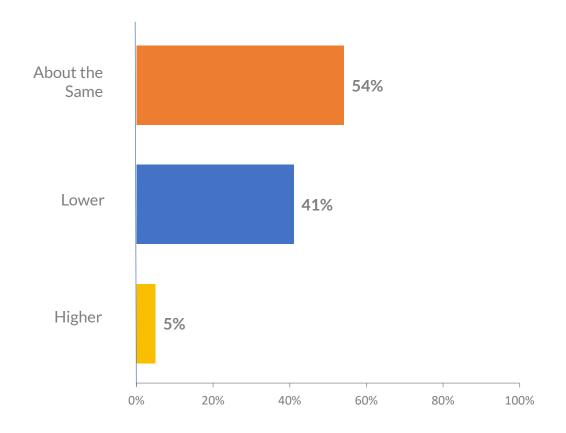
Positive leverage will be available in all asset classes in:







Overall company leverage will be:





Top 3 requirements investors will demand in 5 years?



Growth Growth Growth

- Stable and predictable positive cash flows
- Liquidity
- Top quartile growth profiles



Sustainability & ESG

- ESG disclosure and transparency on the requirements for achieving sustainability objectives including the path to net zero
- Social responsibility
- Environmentally friendly buildings
- ESG compliance and credentials
- Climate resiliency



Risk Management

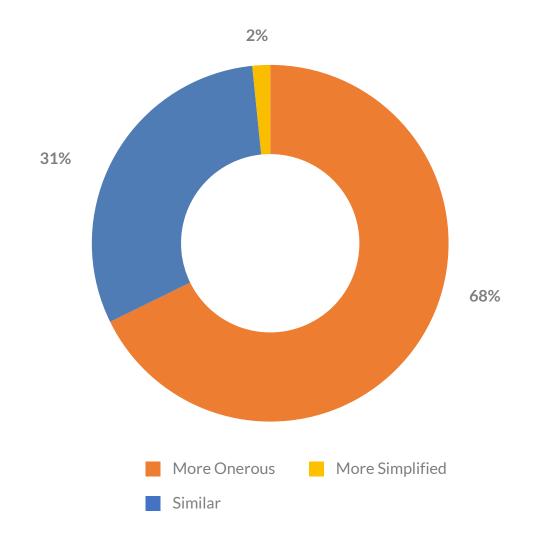
- Development
- Climate
- Cyber
- Credit
- Regulatory

Financial Best Practices



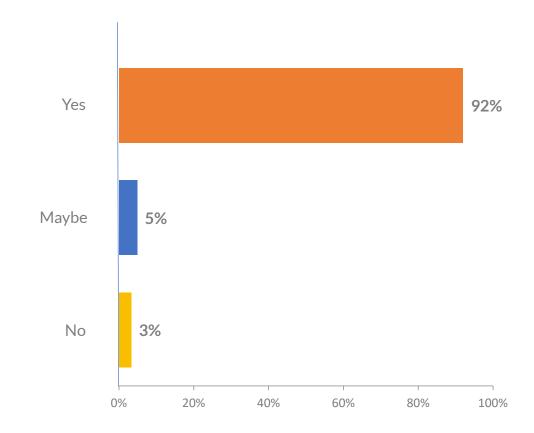


Accounting practices will be:





There will be more pressure to integrate sustainability into financial statements and MD&A:

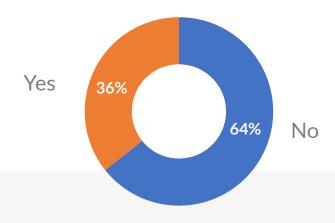








My company will be reliant on purchasing carbon offsets to achieve emission reductions:

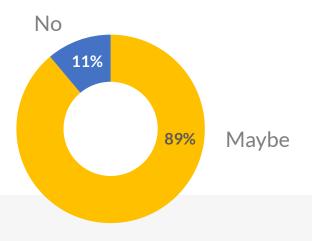


"We are focused on an actual decarbonization strategy. In time, offsets will be unanimously seen as greenwashing"

"Credits will still be part of our net zero strategy because some paths to net zero will never make economic sense"

"Carbon offsets are a distraction from making a real effort at reducing emissions and are not a credible strategy"

My company will be more socially responsible:



"Mental health is becoming a key focus to ensure employees are happy, productive and fulfilled in what they do"

"Continued journey for equity at all levels or organization and giving back to the communities in which we operate"

Innovation





In 5 years AI will be used for:

- Data analytics and improving construction efficiency
- Paperless transactions, accounting and reporting, finance, property management
- Chatbot assisted property management tools and tenant experience service apps
- Machine learning enabled forecasting, underwriting, valuations, returns, portfolio reporting, data management
- Robotics for food delivery and building cleaning

- IOT for care related interventions for seniors
- Renewal trackers for asset management (loans, leases, insurance)
- Real time utility and asset management processes
- Design and drawing review processes
- Cyber security and managing operational risk

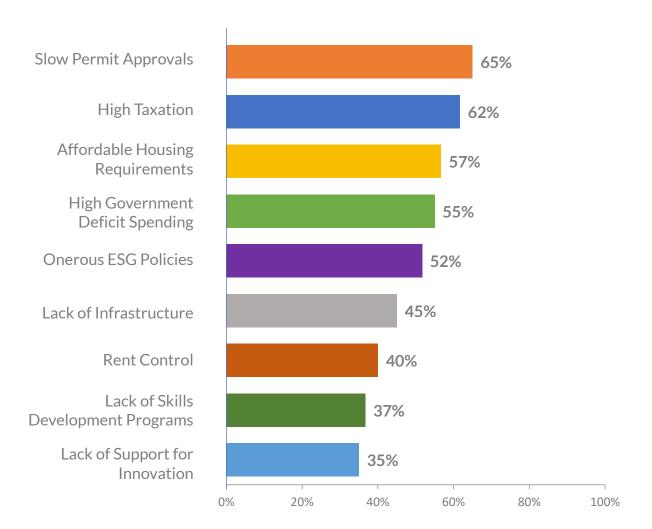


Government & Regulation





The following government policies will continue to constrain business:



Strategy





Top 3 Business Challenges over the next 5 years:



Attracting & Retaining Talent

- Lack of skilled labour and talent
- Attracting talent to the CRE industry
- Higher costs of labour



Financial Considerations

- Higher cost of labour
- Higher cost of financing
- Unprecedented higher cost of debt
- Availability of capital
- Persistent inflation
- High interest rates
- Increasing construction costs
- Market volatility
- Negative leverage
- Reduced liquidity options



Geopolitical Instability

- Global affairs
- Politics



Disclaimer & Copyright

Disclaimer

The information that may be contained herein has been obtained by, compiled by, or prepared by REALPAC from sources believed to be reliable, but no representation or warranty, express or implied, is made by REALPAC, its directors, officers, staff, or any other person for whom REALPAC is legally responsible, as to its accuracy, completeness, or correctness. Opinions, estimates, conclusions, or other information expressed or contained herein constitute REALPAC's judgment as of the publication date, are subject to change without notice, and are provided in good faith but without representation or warranty as aforesaid. Neither REALPAC nor its directors, officers, staff, or any other person for whom REALPAC is legally responsible, assume responsibility for the use of, effect of, or appropriateness of the language, wording, or information contained in this publication or any typographical or printing errors or omissions. REALPAC and its directors, officers, staff, or any other person for whom REALPAC is legally responsible, assume no liability for damage or loss arising from the use of information contained herein. REALPAC is not providing investment, environmental, legal, or tax advice. Readers use this information at their own risk and are urged to consult their own professional advisors for further confirmation and further information.

Copyright

REALPAC is the owner of all copyright in this publication. All rights reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, transmitted, or otherwise used in whole or in part in any form or by any means, without the express permission of REALPAC. Further, no person shall use this publication, in whole or in part, in any form or by any means, to create any precedent for resale or license for remuneration.