

Survey: Workplace Rivalries Hold Steady Despite Pandemic

More Than Three-Quarters of Employees Say Coworker Competitiveness at Same Level as a Year Ago

TORONTO, Aug. 5, 2020 /CNW/ - Though many teams continue to work remotely, a sense of workplace competition is still alive and well, new research from global staffing firm Robert Half shows. More than three-quarters of professionals surveyed (81 per cent) said the level of competition among employees at their company is the same as it was a year ago. More than 1 in 10 (13 per cent) reported an increase in competition, while only 6 per cent noted a decrease.

"Since healthy competition in the workplace can lead to an increase in engagement and productivity, as well as improved performance, it's exciting to see it is possible, even when your workforce is not physically together," said David King, senior district president of Robert Half in Canada.

"Whether individuals are working on-site or remotely, there are effective strategies managers and staff can implement that will lend to a healthy level of competition among teams while also promoting camaraderie and a collaborative culture," added King.

Robert Half offers three tips for encouraging healthy competition among dispersed teams:

- **Create a virtual challenge.** Organize a friendly contest where employees can win bragging rights or a small prize, such as a gift certificate or donation to a charity of their choice. Determine the goal to decide if it will be tied to performance or mainly recreational.
- **Make time to celebrate.** Host a video call "party" to recognize team and individual achievements and consider arranging for treats to be delivered to star performers. Rewarding employee wins can boost morale and inspire continued growth.
- **Watch for foul play.** Workers may feel more pressure to prove themselves in the current environment, but it should never be at the expense of themselves or others. Negative behaviors — such as failing to communicate and taking credit for others' work — are signs competition may have gotten out of hand.

About the Research

The online survey was developed by Robert Half and conducted by an independent research firm from July 7-30, 2020. It includes responses from more than 500 workers 18 years of age or older and normally employed in office environments in Canada.

About Robert Half

Founded in 1948, Robert Half is the world's first and largest specialized staffing firm. The company has more than 300 staffing locations worldwide and offers hiring and job search services at roberthalf.ca. For additional career and management advice, visit the Robert Half blog at roberthalf.ca/blog

SOURCE Robert Half Canada

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