

## WHY DO WE NEED THE LONG-FORM CENSUS?

# ASK YOUR DOCTOR...



**The Long Form Census is good for your health... just 'Ask your Doctor'. It helps governments and health providers make decisions that impact you each and every day, such as:**

- Where should new hospitals and clinics go?
- What health issues are the greatest priority?
- Does a community need a maternity ward, or expanded services for seniors?
- What is the best way to deal with a pandemic in your community?
- What is the best way to deal with any services needed?

Medical researchers depend on long form census data to determine whether the samples they use to study diseases and health conditions such as diabetes, heart and stroke, cancer, MS, and many others are accurate. Losing this data will hamper research into treating and curing many of these life threatening illnesses.

Health care research and planning, without long form census information, is like a surgeon trying to operate with the lights out in the operating room. We need the long form census. **Our health depends on it.**

That's why over twenty-five medical organizations have called on the Government of Canada to bring back the long form census, including:

- Canadian Medical Association
- Canadian Nurses Association
- Canadian Public Health Association
- Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- Canadian Mental Health Association
- Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services
- CEO, Alberta Health Services
- Association of Ontario Health Centres
- Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario
- Canadian Association of Midwives
- Canadian Medical Association Journal
- Medical Health Officers Council of Saskatchewan
- National Specialty Society for Community Medicine
- New Heights Community Health Center
- North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit
- Peterborough Medical Officer of Health
- Regent Park Community Health Centre
- Registered Nurses Association of Ontario
- St. Joseph's Health Centre
- Toronto Public Health
- Womens' Hands Community Health Centre

## THEN ACT!

- **Contact your Member of Parliament**, and demand their active opposition to this decision. (And let us know you've called!)
- **Find out more** - [www.savethecensus.ca](http://www.savethecensus.ca), [www.ccsd.ca](http://www.ccsd.ca), [www.datalibre.ca](http://www.datalibre.ca), as well as the 'Keep the Canada Census Long Form' Facebook page are great places for updates on local and national action on this issue.
- **Tell your friends** – pass this information on.
- **Get involved!**

## IN OUR AREA:

If you, or your organization, want to get more involved in the campaign, please contact us at [info@savethecensus.ca](mailto:info@savethecensus.ca).

You can find your local Member of Parliament, by postal code, at <http://tinyurl.com/MPlookup>.

