

**The End of the Mandatory Long Form Census:
Anticipated Implications for Planning**

by

Simi Sandhu Jerez

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Department of City Planning

University of Manitoba

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Abstract

In June 2010, Canada's Conservative majority government made a controversial announcement that the mandatory long form Census of Canada questionnaire would be replaced by the voluntary National Household Survey, as the former was deemed to be too invasive to Canadians' privacy, threatening imprisonment for non-compliance. This practicum examines the anticipated implications of the Census change through an analysis of existing information – the repository of letters either supporting or contesting the elimination of the mandatory questionnaire. Planning processes are contingent upon understanding socio-economic conditions and demographic distribution. The long form Census is arguably an integral planning tool that provides an indication of community change. This research explores the role of information with respect to planning processes and the use of knowledge in enabling power within or over communities. Finally, this practicum provides suggestions for planners to mitigate changes to statistical information and adapt planning processes.

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this book would have been finished in half the time.

Promise me you'll always remember:

*You're braver than you believe,
and stronger than you seem,
and smarter than you think.*

— A.A. Milne

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Chapter 1: Introduction

Context

In June 2010, Canada's Conservative majority government announced that the mandatory long form Census of Canada questionnaire would be replaced by a voluntary survey in conjunction with the original mandatory short form questionnaire to collect basic demographic information excluding race, ethnicity, country of origin, disability or Aboriginality (Taillon, 2011). The mandatory long form was deemed by the Conservatives to be invasive to Canadians' privacy, probing into the personal lives of Canadians and threatening imprisonment for non-compliance. Stephen Harper's Conservative government would, instead, collect detailed public data regarding everything from religion and ethnicity to financial standing using the voluntary National Household Survey (NHS) during summer following the May 2011 Census. Critics warned that because data collected is on a voluntary basis it will not likely hold the integrity of previous Census data. This change in Canadian knowledge-building has given rise to concerns amongst statisticians, academics, social service providers, policy makers and planners that the portrait of Canada provided by the Census will be misleading because the data from which it draws will be incomplete and therefore unreliable.

Representatives from a broad range of professions and industries have decried the Census change, concerned that this decision was made without consultation with organizations and agencies that work closely with Statistics Canada data. The most vulnerable populations, many argue, will be the least likely to participate in a voluntary questionnaire due to a variety of barriers including literacy and language. If true, this would compromise information about Canada's underprivileged, disabled, Aboriginal, and new immigrant populations that is critical to

informed policy, decision making and funding supports, thereby contributing to further marginalization. As well, critics assert that rates of participation among privileged high earners will be low if the long form questionnaire is voluntary, further skewing representation and potentially concealing economic disparity. This is particularly concerning in these postmodern times, during which competing truths are substantiated by assumed facts available from a variety of sources such as Internet sites, many with questionable validity. Acquiring legitimate and comprehensive information about Canada's socio-economic conditions may be significantly more challenging with the Census change.

Research Objectives and Questions

The move to a voluntary long form Census is highly significant for Canadian planners, as it may affect information integral to planning work and may alter planning processes. The term planning is used in this practicum to refer to urban, community and regional planners whose work encompasses land use, social, economic and policy development in both public and private sectors (Beauregard, 1976, p. 187). The purpose of this project is to provide clarity on how the quality and availability of information in Canada may change with the shift from the mandatory long form Census to a voluntary National Household Survey, and to serve planning professionals and related stakeholders as a starting point to guide discussion toward finding solutions.

This practicum consists of two parts. The first part frames the Census debate, briefly describes the development of the Census through history, identifying some current trends, and provides the theoretical foundation of the research. This final component examines the importance of information with respect to planning processes; how it has evolved in planning

discourse; and, finally, how knowledge can enable power within or power over communities.

The sub-questions guiding this part of the practicum are:

1. What is the role of the mandatory long form Census in planning in Canada?
2. What is contested in the replacement of the mandatory long form Census with the voluntary National Household Survey?
3. What is the role of quantitative data regarding populations in planning processes, and how does data derived from the long form Census enrich planning in Canada?

The second part of this research examines the anticipated implications of the Census change through analysis of existing information – the repository of letters either supporting or contesting the elimination of the mandatory questionnaire. Letters were written by a significant number of agencies, organizations, institutions, local and provincial governments both to commend and contend the shift away from the mandatory long form Census to the voluntary National Household Survey. These letters, written by informed stakeholders, are publicly available and will be used as data for a qualitative content analysis of the expected outcomes for Canadian socio-economic information. The questions guiding this analysis are:

1. How will the extent and quality of statistical information about populations in Canada be affected by the end of the mandatory Census?
2. What do stakeholders anticipate will be the issues, benefits or challenges around the shift from the mandatory long form Census to the voluntary National Household Study and how might their work be affected?
3. How might planners address these changes to statistical information and adapt planning processes?

Themes emerging from the Analysis will be assessed to determine implications of the Census shift specific to planning and to discuss what strategies might be used to adapt to this new information environment. This practicum will apply planning theory to a current issue, using this lens to examine data that is not specific to planning. The stakeholders represented in this sample are not all planners, and so the emerging concepts and priorities may depart from planning theory, though they represent the concerns of their respective professions. This research is timely as the effects of the widely discussed Census change have not yet demonstrated their breadth and will only slowly emerge in the next several years.

Assumptions

This study is an examination of the Census change and its impact on Canadian socio-economic information as it relates to the planning profession. The assumption underlying this research process is that the shift to a voluntary long form questionnaire will have an impact on data quality and, therefore, on the work of the planning profession in Canada. The task of this work is to divine, from letters of opposition and support, perspectives on its expected scope and impact, and what stakeholders identify as ways to adapt, ultimately extending this to how planners should adapt.

Bias

This work assumes that the use of statistical information is a critical professional tool required for meaningful and representative planning on a variety of scales for Canada's diverse population. This study examines the arguments supporting and opposing the Census change, but with the view that the voluntary Census is not likely to replicate the results of a mandatory

survey, thereby altering the baselines, targets, priorities, trend information and evaluation of outcomes in planning processes. The mandatory long form Census is essential in creating a representation of Canada's population, needs and direction. Recognizing that objectivity is not possible, the intention of this practicum is to create a credible and persuasive case from the data that the changing nature of the census will be detrimental to the planning profession and to suggest strategies for mitigation.

Limitations

A key limitation of this research is that it is dependent upon an analysis of what stakeholders have stated they believe will happen as documented in letters to the federal government. Because the letters selected as units of study are a matter of opinion they are not a reliable indicator of what change actually will come with the elimination of the mandatory long form questionnaire, simply an estimation of the anticipated impact on population information. It should be further noted that proportionately few responses are from the planning sector, but will be analyzed with a planning lens. Inferring planning content from such general input is a challenge in this research. Theoretical concepts and principles guiding professional practice prevalent in other disciplines, but which differ from those of the planning profession, may be reflected in the results of the study.

The change instigated by the move away from the mandatory Census is still in process, and will not be fully evident until practitioners have worked with data released from the National Household Survey. Because it will take time for any change in data quality to become apparent, the functionality of data is not the concern of this research, but instead its reach and inclusivity. No analysis of Census data will be undertaken. This work is speculative and provides a

preliminary perspective, as only initial Census data has been released by Statistics Canada at the time that this project is being completed. In the future, analysts will be better equipped to assess the outcomes and shortcomings of the 2011 Census.

Regarding the use of letters as a unit of study, it should be considered that people may be more inclined to publically decry issues more often than they may applaud them. If true, this may partially account for the significantly larger number of negative than positive written responses. Because it is not likely possible to accurately quantify how many are for or against the Census change, the sample is potentially limited by this behaviour.

The context of this research is Canadian, and so too is context the empirical units for analysis, the letters by Canadian stakeholders. Furthermore, due to the limitations of the researcher, only English language text were examined.

This project utilized single source rather than triangulating multiple modes of communication, which would potentially lend itself to a deeper analysis in determining the outcomes of the Census change. The reason for this methodological decision is that the letters constitute readily available data that follow a consistent format of one to three pages, are similar in structure across the sample and therefore provide a standard unit of analysis. Methodological limitations are detailed in the *Research Methods* chapter.

The Significance of Census Data in Planning

The Census of Canada is a survey designed and conducted by Statistics Canada to collect information on the socio-economic characteristics of Canada's population. The Census is intended to provide a measure of the growth in the country's population and economy and illustrate social and cultural trends. Everyone living in Canada is enumerated, including native-

born and naturalized Canadian citizens, permanent and non-permanent residents and members of their families living with them in Canada. The Census includes both short form and long form questionnaires.

The short form Census is a mandatory population survey of eight questions undertaken every five years, distributed to 80% of Canadian households. The survey was revised in 2011, to include two additional questions regarding language, for a total of ten questions. Questions covered include basic demographic elements such as age, gender, marital status, household relationships and mother tongue. In addition, there is a question (introduced in 2006) asking for the consent of respondents to release their personal Census information to the National Archives after 92 years. The long form Census was a mandatory population survey of fifty-three questions undertaken every five years to 2006, distributed to 20% of Canadian households. This survey, eliminated by Order of Council in 2010, contained the eight questions from the short form plus 53 additional questions on topics such as education, ethnicity, mobility, income and employment. The mandatory long form was replaced by the National Household Survey (NHS), a voluntary long form population survey of sixty-five questions, introduced in 2011 in lieu of the mandatory long form Census of Canada. This survey is distributed to 30% of Canadian households.

Planning information, processes, and results stand to be directly affected by the elimination of the mandatory long form Census, as planning work is contingent upon consistent and universally recognized public data. The planning profession is fundamentally “knowledge-intensive” (Goodspeed, 2011, N.p.), reliant on various types of information, including statistics, for the broad range of activities comprising the work of planners. Planning processes are contingent upon demographic data and understanding socio-economic conditions and the long form Census is arguably an integral planning tool. It is a standardized data instrument that

provides planners with an indication of growth, decline and the nuances of change in families, communities, regions, and the nation. This information is the basis of most decision-making surrounding infrastructure, transportation, community and economic development, as well as the development of facilities and services for health, safety and recreation and more. Census data also facilitates an assessment of community impact on infrastructure and natural processes, guiding future development and mitigation strategies. Former President of the American Planning Association, Paul Farmer states, “Tools like the Census offer us the opportunity to do one of things planners do best: help engaged citizens and elected officials deal with problems and chart a path forward based on data and a solid, analytical understanding of the community”. This information, he argues, “...provides a critical framework for good governance, good planning, and a host of state and local policy decisions” (2010, N.p.).

Farmer provides a detailed description of how data from the American Community Survey, the information equivalent of Canada’s long form Census, guides federal spending allocation placing emphasis on significant federal assistance programs. Farmer states, “Beyond just the large amount of total funding at stake, there are particularly important implications for social equity and for some of the most vulnerable members of our society” (ibid, 2010.). Further, the data provided by the Census is critical to planning as it determines investment in infrastructure, “...transportation, housing and community development [which] make up the second largest category of [U.S.] federal expenditures directed by Census data[,] second only to health care” (ibid, 2010). Farmer points out that Census data is useful well beyond government in the business and non-profit sectors who, too, require information to assess trends. He comments that for community groups, “this knowledge about communities leads to better services, more efficient programs, and better quality of life” (ibid, 2010).

As in the United States, the Canadian planning profession is enriched by the information gleaned from the long form Census, which provides considerably richer data than the basic questions addressed in the short form questionnaire. The detailed data gathered in the long form facilitates an understanding and mapping of the state of communities and how they appear to be changing, and therefore forecasting and planning for opportunities and constraints. Statistics Canada, in a publication titled, *The Census: A Tool for Planning at the Local Level*, states that Census results,

...are an essential source of information for developing municipal planning strategies at the local level... Municipal planners can use Census information on population counts, rates of growth and density to create a broad profile of their entire municipality. The Census also provides the same indicators at the local level within individual municipalities (Statistics Canada, 2012, N.p.).

These indicators are also available at a neighbourhood scale, albeit determined by Census tracts, for all Census metropolitan areas (CMAs). With this data,

...municipal planners can analyze which local areas within their municipality have experienced the fastest population growth, and which local areas have in fact declined in population, thereby allowing for service delivery to be adjusted according to population changes. This information helps decision-makers to meet the various challenges of managing municipalities, including building infrastructure and housing, as well as improving transportation links, public services and the environment (ibid, 2012).

D’Vera Cohn, in, *Using Census Data to Map Change*, states, “A growing number of organizations... are producing Census-based interactive maps that allow users to choose the level of geography, topic or time period they want to display” (Cohn, 2011, N.d.). Planners frequently use mapping to communicate conditions and trends, as they are a “...vivid and dynamic way to show patterns of demographic change” (ibid, 2011), including sprawl, land use shifts, and neighbourhood decline past, present and as predicted for the future.

Population statistics are foundational for projecting and understanding dynamics of growth. Canada's increasing population, its diversity and its distribution generate numerous planning challenges, both in urban and rural communities. Growth is driven by a broad spectrum of factors and subsequently generates a range of benefits and issues. Planners assess statistical information to quantify and predict change to make effective decisions and recommendations, based on "...research [and] reasoned analysis[,] to both the public and the private sector..." (Canadian Institute of Planners, 2012, N.p.).

To illustrate the use of Census data in planning, we shall consider Winnipeg's current development plan, adopted by City Council July 20, 2011. Our Winnipeg: It's Our City, It's Our Plan, It's Our Time is a twenty-five year vision for sustainable growth for the city that was awarded the Canadian Institute of Planners 2011 Award for Planning Excellence for its process and ensuing plan. The plan is progressive in the consultation process used to inform its vision, as well as the scope of the document itself. It employs a holistic approach to sustainability which includes a plethora of factors Winnipeg residents identified as constituting vital and healthy communities, such as climate change, transportation, infrastructure, public health, housing community revival, employment and social inclusion.

Our Winnipeg sets goals and directives to meet a vision for Winnipeg for the subsequent twenty five years. Plans such as this rely on data to measure indicators to ensure implementation strategies for the outlined goals are effective. This plan will rely on community feedback and demographic, socio-economic, and cultural data such as employment, education, income, transportation modes, housing type and condition to indicate success or shortcomings, allowing for re-visioning and the development of more appropriate strategies. Census data serves as a foundation in assessing the state of the city, including its population growth, decline and

distribution. The plan uses several statistical charts in its introductory pages to provide contextual understanding of Winnipeg's present state and evolving conditions. A table is used early in the document to illustrate Winnipeg's composition, including the percentage of those who speak French and Tagalog, the proportion of those employed, those who use transit or walk to work, those of Aboriginal ancestry or who immigrated, who are visible minorities, those who are homeowners, and finally the average age (City of Winnipeg, 2011, p.6). To provide further examples, under the heading, *Living in a Changing City*, charts depict Winnipeg's population growth from 1991-2009 (ibid, 2011, p.7), long term growth projections from 1986-2030 (p.8), net migration from 1987-2031 (p.9), and the proportion of immigration that has been international, intraprovincial or interprovincial (p.10). Under the heading, *Living with Increasing Diversity*, statistics are used to show the number of immigrants arriving in Winnipeg each year from 1998-2007 and top source countries (ibid, 2011, p.12), as well as Winnipeg's Aboriginal population from 1996-2006 (p.13). Finally, under the heading *Living in an Age-friendly City*, a chart illustrates the forecasted population aged sixty-five and older from 2006-2030 (ibid, 2011, p.18). These baseline factors facilitate how directives are developed and ultimately decision making related to a number of municipal responsibilities, including programming, land use planning, infrastructure pressures, funding priorities.

This outcome oriented plan for a sustainable city includes an integrated community sustainability strategy with a framework for the development of sustainability indicators for each component of the plan and its corresponding strategic directives, in order to measure progress towards its visions. Two of the ten guiding principles in Our Winnipeg's Call to Action component are to "adapt and self direct" and to "measure progress" (2011, p.9). Such a holistic plan requires tracking of statistics along a broad spectrum of conditions and criteria to evaluate

community change, assess outcomes and determine when to self-correct in order realize its goals. For example, Census data regarding age, gender, ethnicity, income, education, housing type and condition may contribute to evaluation for the directive of working towards a more equitable city. The data required to assess outcomes risks being incomplete if gathered with a voluntary survey, thus affecting the usefulness of the sustainability indicators and making the plan less accountable. This plan provides an example of the breadth of ongoing, reliable Census data required for a continuum of planning processes, from establishing baselines and setting targets to evaluating outcomes and the efficacy of processes.

The National Statistics Council stated that the change to the long form Census, “...will likely result in Statistics Canada’s not being able to publish robust, detailed information for neighbourhoods, towns, or rural areas” (Norris, 2011, N.p.). Altering this means of data collection will have profound effects on information reliability that will change how planners conduct their work and its efficacy. This project will explore how the quality and availability of information in Canada may change with the shift from the mandatory long form Census to a voluntary National Household Survey and provide recommendations to planning professionals around seeking solutions.

Chapter Outline

This opening chapter sets the context of the Census issue for research and its relevance to planning, and outlines guiding questions and research direction.

Chapter 2 provides a planning theory lens for analysis, emphasizing the critical role and uses of information in planning. This chapter briefly reviews epistemological developments in planning theory and examines the role of quantitative data in planning practice. Key to this

discussion is the importance of statistical integrity and analysis to ensure equitable representation, particularly for marginalized populations. As well, this chapter explores the relationship between planning, knowledge and power, whether used for political purposes or community change through the development of information commons, and use of information as a lever for collective action.

Chapter 3 recounts a brief Census history with discussion of Modernist, social historical and postmodern perspectives on how such counts can serve to empower or disempower states and their populace. Recent historical developments from the United States and Great Britain are examined, with a view beyond the Census to changing models of collecting population data. This chapter then draws on news media, magazines, journals, and gray literature to provide an overview of the Census debate, describing arguments both for and against the change from the mandatory long form Census to a voluntary National Household Survey.

Chapter 4 explains the instrument selected for this research, a content analysis of letters of validation of and opposition to the removal of the mandatory Census in order to assess the perceived impact on population information. This chapter addresses the rationale for the chosen method, the supporting research tools, and the rules guiding data collection and analysis. Finally, the chapter describes the methodological revisions, and process of analysis to illustrate how themes were determined.

The results of the analysis are reported in Chapter 5, with an outline of themes that emerged across categorical sectors. Findings of the study are explored to establish relationships between themes, assess any anticipated implications of removing the mandatory long form Census and draw inferences as to how this may affect planning processes.

The final chapter summarizes the research, revisiting the questions guiding the study. This chapter reviews the expected outcomes of removing the mandatory long form Census, exploring how planners may adapt to a potential thinning of reliable centralized population data including alternatives to Census-taking, and offers recommendations for professional planning. Recommendations for further study are addressed in this final chapter.

Chapter 2: Planning and the Production of Information

The Evolution of Information in Planning

Epistemological debate has been central to planning theory since its inception from fields of design and social reform. Planning is a profession of knowledge gathering, analysis and brokering, relying on information input in a variety of forms to inform process, evaluate the successes and shortcomings of outcomes, and to ensure appropriate and productive recommendations (Dandekar, 2003, p.12). As with other disciplines, planning has undergone transformation in the twentieth century, from a rationalist paradigm, favouring large data sets and scientific analysis of a singular and objective truth, ultimately towards a collaborative approach that emphasizes the value of quantitative research and holds that diverse sources of information enrich planning processes.

Modernism emerged in the nineteenth century and by the 1920s had evolved into “...the belief in scientific and technical progress and instrumental rationality...” where progress in every realm of life was equated with scientific process (Faludi, 2006, p.6). Rationalism developed from this belief, with emphasis on expertise as critical to objectively formulate and execute planning and design solutions. In this technocratic model, the expert has the power to establish the factual basis for such solutions (Faludi, 2006, pp.6-7). To borrow from Ernest Alexander, the rationalist planning tradition, “...sees planning as a deliberative activity of problem solving, involving rational choice by self interested individuals, or homogenous social units (organizations, agencies, governments) acting as if they were individuals” (2000, p.247). Here, the planner or designer was still central in determining the appropriate information to guide solutions. This movement included comprehensive planning wherein grand city plans by

designers, engineers, evolving with the Social Reform movement into sweeping housing redevelopment intended to alleviate poverty. The creators of these urban renewal initiatives, in true Modernist fashion, expertly determined solutions for whole communities without considering existing community and family connections. The collateral effect of this prescriptive approach was typically displacement, erosion of social capital, and greater community impoverishment, reaching its zenith in the years following World War II (Sandercock, 1998).

From the late 1950s into the 1960s, growing discontent with a number of unsuccessful urban renewal programs in North America and Europe intersected with such liberal policy confrontations as the Civil Rights movement and challenged the rational planning model. This reaction gave rise to more collaborative models, such as advocacy planning, that placed politics as an integral part of planning. In the 1970s and 1980s, a view of the planner's role emerged as,

...one of identifying and mediating between different interest groups involved in, or affected by, land development. In this way, the town planner was seen as someone who acts as a kind of cipher for other people's assessments of planning issues, rather than someone who is specially qualified to assess these issues him- or herself (Taylor, 1999, p.335).

At the crux of collaborative approaches was the balance of relationships in planning which gradually evolved from planning for the public to planning with the public. With this came a shift in acknowledging the value of varied information sources, types, and methods – for example, community knowledge shared through storytelling. These approaches continued to embrace the use of quantitative data and previous forms of reasoning, but challenged some of the power dynamics imbued and added to the outcomes using data generated by alternative methods. As well, communicative action challenged the view that information is innately and readily useful, arguing instead that information is developed and contextual.

Concurrent with the emerging collaborative direction in planning, the 1970s was a time of technological advance in data collection, wherein large volumes of data were collected and manipulated with emerging software and computing capability. As Faludi states, “The relationship between knowledge based on evidence and action was the object of planning-theoretical debates in the 1970s and 1980s” (2006, p.8). He states that,

In the 1990s, there was much talk about a communicative or argumentative turn in planning... The starting point was that planning ought to be less technocratic and more of an interactive process (2006, p.4).

This approach, according to Faludi, draws from Karl Popper’s idea that validation of observations must arise from argumentation he likens to “juridical procedures”. Faludi states,

Translated into terms relevant to planning, this is one of the cornerstones of the so-called decision-centered view of planning... It says that the “definition of the decision-making situation” is itself the outcome of a series of decisions, among others about what to regard as relevant evidence, and, as such, it is necessarily value-laden and political. ...there can be no stringent separation between facts and values. Rather, the definition of the decision-making situation is a matter to be settled in an interactive process of argument involving give-and-take (2006, p.8).

The communicative turn in planning lends itself to the question of whether there is still a place in the profession for quantitative data analysis, given postmodern values of multiplicity and varied knowledges. Alexander asks if “...the postmodern relativism of socially constructed knowledge superseded the scientific certainties of progressive modernity”, but himself responds that this question is “irrelevant”. He states,

Planning is rational and cannot be otherwise; irrational planning is an oxymoron... This conclusion is inescapable when we recognize rationality for what it is: the application of reason to turn beliefs into knowledge, turn knowledge into decisions, and translate ideas into action in rational planning. Rationality takes various forms, other than its formal utilitarian stereotype that has been linked with rational, synoptic, and traditional comprehensive planning (2000, p.252).

Indeed, the value of quantitative data collection associated with rational planning is still in use, though linked to the context in which it is developed and employed. In the 2000’s there has been

a counter-movement supporting evidence-based planning, in response to demands for data in spatial planning. According to Faludi, this model differs from traditional rational planning in that, “evidence based planning remains an interactive communicative process”, which considers lessons of argumentation and collaborative planning and, “...operates through evaluation studies, works with indicators, and tries to spread good practices...” (2006, pp.4, 9). Faludi draws on the following quotation by Kooiman in illustrating this approach:

The production and utilization of governing knowledge can be seen as a social process ... To make such processes transparent, distinctions between ... data, ideas and arguments are useful. Each has its own arenas or communities. ... The societal actors for data are usually specialists in academic or professional circles. ... Governing ideas are mainly created and exchanged by people of mixed status at crossroads; ... knowledge formation and utilization as argument in governing is more “political” because it involves reasoning and convincing others. This type of knowledge is usually created in public domains: either explicitly defined roles, as between politicians and mass media commentators, or in less formalized arenas, as between members of “advocacy coalitions” (2006, p.4).

Evidence-based planning is still regarded with suspicion for its emphasis on data, for what may be admissible in this approach as “evidence”, and for what is potentially excluded:

Professional planners rely on several different information and knowledge sources to guide their work, including past experience, general professional knowledge, new data collection, formal education, and interactions with various decision makers and community members (Krizek et al., 2009, pp.459, 465).

Quantitative data remains relevant to planning as qualitative information, as demonstrated in Hemalata Dandekar’s, The Planners Use of Information, 2nd Edition, where Richard Crepeau’s chapter, *Analytical Methods in Planning* outlines the uses of quantitative data and its requisite analytical approach as follows:

For many applications, planners need quantitative information about and useful summaries and discussions about the data. Results of qualitative analyses may be summarized numerically, and cartographic and general graphic display of quantitative information requires some knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses of quantitative methods to accurately communicate results (Crepeau, 2003, p.127).

This analytical approach, Crepeau states,

... play[s] an integral role in the deciphering, organizing, processing, and summarizing of the data... This in turn can be used to inform the public as part of the process of clarifying goals and objectives. When feasible and proper, the future impacts of the plan and its alternatives are forecast and compared to determine which of the outcomes best address the goals and objectives stated earlier in the process (Crepeau, 2003, p.127).

In this second edition, Dandekar adds a chapter addressing the fact that, "...planning occurs in politically charged contexts and must be practiced with an acute awareness of that fact" (2003, p.xii). Dandekar further describes in her preface, that many chapters have been revised to address "...the fact that direct public input as a source of information has become as central to a planner's functioning (particularly in the public sector) as the use of Census information, secondary sources, inventory of physical context and structured surveys of attitudes and perceptions" (2003, p.xii). Techniques for public engagement, with particular sensitivity to "...an increasingly diverse population..." have been included in several chapters (2003, p.xiii). Despite movement in planning theory towards the significance of quantitative information statistical data remains an important tool, albeit as one of many in the figurative "planner's toolbox", as it aids in assessing conditions at the onset of work and evaluating progress.

Planners require information to build knowledge, which may vary in appearance between stakeholders such as community members, policy makers and administrators. Information builds knowledge, as raw information or data distils facts to support knowledge, a tenuous "truth". This truth is susceptible to dominant facts; hence, knowledge is potent and volatile; at its best it empowers communities to participate in or lead planning and development, and at worst can facilitate the exertion or misuse of power. Planners depend on information and play a key role in shaping and applying knowledge.

Planning Information and Indicators

In her introduction, Dandekar suggests that the planner's work falls into three key categories:

1. collecting and synthesizing information about the problem at hand
2. analyzing the information to generate alternatives for action, and to define and formulate a strategy for intervention
3. communicating these observations and findings, in various forms, to different groups and constituencies (2003, p.12)

These categories, she states, "...are not mutually exclusive or sequential but are iterative and ongoing (2003, p.12). Planners seek information from a variety of means including primary sources (information collected by the investigator) such as surveys, interviews and focus groups, and such secondary sources as published statistics (wherein the investigator uses data collected by someone else). In their chapter titled *Information Sources from Secondary Sources* in the same book, Maria Yen and Grace York illustrate how primary and secondary sources of information are complimentary using the example of a planner seeking to determine the underuse of a city park in a neighbourhood experiencing population resurgence. The planner, in this example, is aware that,

...observations using field methods, interviews and surveys will provide valuable primary, first-hand information on the community's recreation needs. However, he [sic] also knows that basic background information might be available from secondary sources. Finding this information could put the park's low usage in context and help identify the kind of additional information needed to remedy the situation (2003, p.84).

The authors state,

Finding and using secondary sources of information enable a planner to quickly develop relatively inexpensive background information and analyses on particular planning issues and sections of the city (2003, p.81).

Secondary sources can provide foundational knowledge for community engagement, creating a baseline picture of existing economic and social conditions and a starting point for discussion.

The authors highlight Census data in particular as particularly valuable because it is a comprehensive in its scope and range providing data on a variety of topics from neighbourhood to national scale.

Planners, to use an example, often use Census data in addition to several other tools to build an understanding of a community prior to working with stakeholders to assess what might be a valuable development or strategic direction. As with development plans and visioning documents for cities, data drawn upon usually pertains, though is not limited to, information about age, disabilities, ethnicity, language, education, income, employment, family size and the number of residents in each housing unit. This assists in developing both knowledge and further questions along many axes, including stakeholders' priorities (perhaps childcare is a more critical issue than community third places) or the likelihood of community involvement (how can this be equitable if a significant number of community residents are elderly or disabled? What can a community do to be welcoming if language is a barrier?). Planning practice, ideally, aims to be outcome oriented, drawing on information to ensure appropriate outcomes. Information may come in many forms, from open-ended community feedback, to responses to closed ended survey questions, to raw quantitative data from statistical reports. Indicators are often developed and reviewed against statistical data to track changes, whether in growth, income, concentrations of minority populations, and numerous other factors. This monitoring allows the development of recommendations for policy revisions, fiscal adjustments, and reprioritizing programming to ensure community needs can be more adequately addressed.

Yen and York indicate that the use and availability of secondary information sources are growing due to demand from public and private sectors and from communities to support effective planning. They suggest that while the Census and other public agency information

constitute the primary pool of secondary data, access to statistical data is growing because of such alternate sources as private companies who can cater to the specific requirements of clients. The authors also cite as a data source non-profits which track statistical information for the communities they serve (2003, p.81). As well, Yen and York discuss increasing access to information at a local geographic scale with the expanding reach of internet capacities. This democratization of information can enrich community based planning, enabling individuals and organizations to advocate, plan and shape their own communities. Community groups, which often work in partnership with planners, benefit from statistical data in their community planning efforts, programming, and evaluation, as they can access the same neighbourhood level statistical information as can a professional planner, provided “they both have access to a computer and an Internet connection...” (2003, p.81). As with internet access, mapping software is becoming less remote from the public, allowing for statistical data to be more accessible to its readers:

Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping and analysis, computer animation and virtual reality programs are some of the tools planners can use to breathe life into dry statistics. These technologies, along with guidance on searching for and using secondary source materials, can be made available to community groups, empowering them to understand the challenges and potentials facing their neighborhoods. In this way, the high-tech world of the Internet, and the tools to analyze and display data, serve to further the core mission of planners: to help improve the communities they serve (2003, p.81).

Yen and York go on to describe the increasing occurrence of government, local institutions and community groups joining to establish community data networks or consortiums in order to pool information and data tools. They state, “Community groups and individuals can use the tools and data made available on community networks in many ways to improve the local quality of life”, providing a potential scenario of residents of a Los Angeles community who can use property tax delinquency data through their local network. The authors state that in this instance, “...residents can create maps that depict the spatial distribution of these properties and

link these to Census data, showing a disproportionate number of abandoned structures in low-income or minority communities (2003, p.82).

Yen and York cite several limitations with using secondary data sources, including the limited breadth of data collected specific institutional purposes, and continuity of data tracked in the face of shifting funding and priorities (2003, p.83). They identify the validity of data based on source reliability, particularly with regard to information obtained from the Internet (2003, p.85). They state that,

“... while the World Wide Web offers the potential for quicker and more comprehensive searches of secondary source information, access to greater quantities of information does not necessarily translate into higher quality data for planning purposes. Not all data presented on the Web are accurate, updated and thorough. Given the time and effort needed to keep updated records on the Internet, some organizations simply allow their Web sites to languish, leading to stale information that should not be used in constructing fresh planning initiatives” (2003, p.85)

The verity of information on the web may be dubious, as information assumed as fact may only be relevant in, and perhaps even shaped for, specific contexts. Information literacy for data users is increasingly important, as internet access allows for an increase in a variety of data sets to support multiple, often conflicting realities. As analysts and as information brokers, planners are in a position of assessing gaps in data when narrating the characteristics and requirements of communities. Further along these lines, an emerging role for planners is working with clients and the public to build information literacy. Information literacy is an important addition to the planning toolbox, whereby practitioners can critically evaluate the source and scope of information, then review to assess its legitimacy and inclusivity (Dudley, Information Sources in Planning: Introduction; ...Principles, 2012).

Planning and Representation

Planning has had a troubled relationship with objectivity, challenged by some stakeholder groups who felt their interests were not represented in traditional rationalist planning. Statistical representation, including the Census, has been similarly challenged in its treatment of marginalized populations. This in turn affects the perceived needs of communities and funding allocations for responsive programs and services (Edmonston, 2001, pp.44-45). American Census questions have been under scrutiny and critiqued for their limited scope and wording, which does not adequately capture such issues as ethnic and Native American origins (Cummings, 1999, p.48). Canadian Census questions and headings have been developed and revisited over time to address inclusion, adding, for example, a response for marital status that includes gay or lesbian couples. Issues of representation may be inherent in the Census data model, a concern that is under ongoing review and consideration by Statistics Canada, hence broad public articulation about bias introduced with the voluntary National Household Survey.

Despite historical shortcomings, statistical information can be particularly useful in planning work regarding social- economic justice and representation. In an ideal role as agents of equitable public interests and social justice, governments and planners are responsible for ensuring appropriate representation, whether in the collection of data, the ongoing process of data analysis and application, or in decision-making outcomes. By extension, representative information sources are critical to the planning process. Planning work is inherently political, as planners inform public decision-making, affecting a broad cross-section of stakeholders. Planners are not without limitations and do not always endeavour to or succeed in being inclusive. However, it is the responsibility of the profession to ensure appropriate representation, particularly of marginalized groups whose interests may be excluded or underrepresented in

planning processes. As such, one of the key issues linking the planning profession to critics of the Census change is that of public accountability through representation.

Power and politics permeate issues of planning, information, and representation. How information is gathered about particular groups affects the subsequent portrait of a community's strengths and challenges, and the support it receives in improving its social, economic and physical well-being.

The Creation of Knowledge, Power and Community

In a postmodern age of multiple truths, the internet availability of information allows "...individuals, groups and entire political factions to select their own array of convenient "facts" ..." to support their beliefs and interests (Dudley, "...Principles", 2012, N.p.). There are many possible versions of truth and information has become unstable and politicized. Without discussion and debate, self-reinforcing "facts" deemed as legitimate information could serve to corroborate ideology. Confirmation bias is an important concern with the accessibility of such information, whereby individuals or groups tend to give greater attention to information that supports their views, finding facts to support their reality (Dudley, "...Principles", 2012).

Researchers could similarly support beliefs by posing, rephrasing, or simply omitting questions to support desired outcomes. Power can also distort legitimacy, elevating information as objective and factual if it comes from an institutional source. Again, as with planning, objectivity does not ensure that all voices are accounted for and that knowledge is based on a complete body of information. Just as knowledge can be engineered to support political agendas, information can be eclipsed in the face of opposing interests, in order to limit contrary

arguments. As such, critics argue that Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Conservative Government has dramatically narrowed what information Canadians are required to share.

Conversely, the creation of knowledge, whether through a Census or participatory engagement, has the potential to support democratic processes and community empowerment by structuring collective memory and identity. Collective knowledge building can lend itself to community cohesion and a greater unity in articulating interests. This common ground, referred to at times as information commons, can become a lever for collective action. Ireland's Central Statistics Office notes that the Census is such a tool for building collective memory and knowledge:

The Census is fundamental to our way of life because it records who we are as a nation, our history and culture. It provides the knowledge that informs how we govern ourselves, [enabling] us to track developments over a long period with considerable accuracy. The Census is therefore a fundamental part of our national heritage and collective knowledge (Central Statistics Office Ireland, 2011, N.p.).

Along the same lines, the Canadian Centre on Social Development states,

The Census is a collective civic moment where Canadians share individual information for the benefit of our great nation. It is the only tool we have that tells us who we are at not only national, provincial, and city scales, but also the rural county and neighborhood level (CCSD, 2010, N.p.).

Collective knowledge and identity is vital to thriving communities because it can foster belonging and stewardship, which can in turn leverage participation in planning and democratic processes. Citizens and communities are better enabled to engage in planning processes to ensure rich and responsive solutions. In, *The Construction of Information in Planning*, Judith Innes suggests that data can support dialogue and can direct mutually negotiated and debated conclusions. This process of debating data and facts in a social process contributes to building "Knowledge that is accepted as true... produced by methods and people that are accepted as legitimate" (1989, p.11). An informed public can participate more effectively in public debate

(Sawicki, 1996, p.513), and engage planners, policy makers, government representatives and media in ensuring results, for example, the implementation of community driven plans and community identified programming needs. Knowledge can make planning processes more accessible even in the formal domain, whereas limited knowledge can alienate and marginalize citizens (Wagemans, 1990, pp.83-84).

Communities can build knowledge through participation in as broad an effort in information collection as the Census, provided the questions and results mirror the community appropriately and adequately. That is, the information gleaned becomes meaningful if communities or populations feel they are represented in the data and their community assets and gaps outlined, providing a statistical picture that can subsequently be illustrated using visual tools including charts and mapping. The democratization of data and tools can contribute to responsive community planning. Some forms of collective knowledge building, such as focus groups, storytelling, and collective community mapping, may be more effective than compiling data sets. Information obtained by qualitative methods, states Innes,

...can have more pervasive and potent, though less visible, roles in the planning process. Information may take the form of stories, even myths with little basis in provable fact, which nonetheless link policy ideas to community experience and values, make sense of complex realities, and motivate collective action. [It] can influence because it becomes part of the total planning process and shapes the thinking and actions of those involved, even when no one uses it directly as a criterion for a decision (1989, p.6).

Qualitative and quantitative information can each complement the other and used in conjunction can achieve richer and more resonant processes and outcomes for stakeholders.

Former StatsCan Chief Statistician Ivan Fellegi states of the Census that, "... the knowledge it offers forms the backbone of our society, an information society that needs and wants to know about itself" (Charlottetown Guardian, 2011, N.p.). The creation and application of information is imbued with power and can serve a spectrum of interests, from dominant to

grassroots. Statistical and analytical debate and discussion are important to ensure integrity and equitable representation in the creation of knowledge. The potential effects of a voluntary Census survey are especially critical in an information age in which the flurry of facts available can make knowledge and power more elusive. It remains to be seen whether or not the statistical portrait of Canada generated by the NHS is inclusive, representative and publicly accountable for any shortcomings.

Chapter 3: Census Histories, Census Trajectories

The Census and Nation-building

The Census has a long history of serving as a register of state leadership interest in population, production and assets. The earliest known Census took place in Babylon in 3800BC as a count of agricultural assets and output including livestock and products such as wool, butter and honey. Nearly a millennium later, Egypt conducted a population count in order to assess its labour force availability when undertaking the construction of the pyramids. Roughly two thousand years later, in 1491BC, Israel conducted a population count for the purpose of taxation and assessing who qualified for military duty. In 550 a Chinese Census was undertaken by Confucius to obtain information on the status of the country with respect to commerce and production (Statistics Canada. "History of the Census", 2011, N.p.).

In 5th century Rome, Servius Tullius (reign c.578 – 535 BC) applied the information gathered under the Census to distribution of voting rights and military supplies amongst the population according to their status, as based on wealth and property (Linehan, 2009, N.p.). By the time Caesar Augustus reigned the Roman Empire (27 BC –AD 14), a Census was taken every 5 years across the Empire for the purposes of taxation. The Census declined with the collapse of the Roman Empire, until William the Conqueror took a Census in 1086, when England was defending against Danish invaders, in order to determine taxation. Heads of families, servants, land, livestock and any other assets considered taxable were accounted for. This Census, abandoned in 1087, became the Domesday Book, a significant historical document which describes the troubles arising in England from heavy taxation, which reduced much of the country to serfdom (Linehan, 2009, N.p.).

Modern history characterizes the Census as a celebrated achievement in nation-building and modern science, allowing for accurate representation yet it has been subject to suspicion and scrutiny in its treatment of marginalized populations. Similarly, traditional Modernist planning practices conducted upon society have been retrospectively regarded as exclusionary, isolating and elitist. Both planning and Census processes valued expert objectivity, exercising the power to determine which observations hold true. In her doctoral dissertation, The Impeachment of Census 2000, Janet Cummings states that modern accounts, "...document the march of progress and population growth", citing work that focuses on, "...how the Census became modern by expanding the types of information collected and adopting improvements in methods" (1999, p.44).

Postmodern historians and theorists have been more likely to regard Censuses and planning as measures of control, arguing for more effective representation and engagement that gives voice to all populations (Sandercock, 1998, pp.42-44; pp.70-71). Ethical practices in empirical research and planning have been revisited signalling a shift to being more inclusive, collaborative and socially responsive. The Modernist notion of objectivity has been discredited in favour of multiple accounts of fact, reality, and truth, which cannot be adequately captured by quantitative processes alone.

Cummings details the view of former American Census executives that, "the Census became political when public policy began to focus on the use of Census data, including data on race, in Great Society programs, and civil rights law" (1999, p.45). She argues that in fact the Census has always been political, referencing Margo Anderson's book, The American Census: A Social History as follows:

Issues of race and religion, growth and decline, equity and justice have been fought in Census politics over the centuries, although because decades may pass between flare-ups

of particular issues, the participants are often unaware of relevant earlier debates (1999, p.45).

Cummings suggests that representation and population have historically been a politically charged and complex issue and that the Census has served as a political vehicle for related concerns and argues that its validity may be discredited by the concerns of multiple publics as well as by general public suspicion of this demographic data instrument.

Cummings proposes that mistrust of Census taking may be rooted in our collective subconscious, viewing the Census in a Jungian psychological lens as an archetypal tool for the exercise of power (p.44). She examines the Judeo-Christian accounts of Censuses, most notably King David's count, to illustrate historical resistance to this process. Pursuant to the rise of Christianity, most western civilizations resisted Census counts well into the Age of Enlightenment (1790-1900) for fear of divine retribution, as the Bible references a Census of Israel and Judah called by King David (c. 1040–970 BC) against the wishes of God. Angered, God is said to have unleashed a plague which killed 70,000 in punishment (Guzik, 2002, N.p.). Andreas Faludi refers to the Roman Census which brought Mary and Joseph through Bethlehem in stating that, "filling the public coffers has been a frequent reason for collecting data". He quotes Scott, stating, "Such surveys contribute to... the "legibility" of the state's domain: "To tax or to conscript, to educate or to punish its population, the state must first be able to see them."'" (2006, p.5).

Beyond representing state efforts to amass information about its public, taking an inventory of military power, or determining a nation's tax base, Census taking has negative historical precedents that support its reputation as a coercive mechanism. It has been both implemented and disbanded under tyranny. Hitler used his Census as a taxonomy of Germany's population and to further his agenda of purification (Deonandan, 2011). On the other hand,

Chilean dictator General Augusto Pinochet banned the Census recognizing its potential support for transparency and public empowerment (Neuman, 2003, p. 484). In the preface to Statistics for Social Change, Lucy Horwitz and Lou Ferleger state that,

Statistics originally developed as a political tool of eugenics enthusiasts. They have been politically used ever since by advocates of every possible position. At present, statistics are used to convince us of any number of politically expedient lies: the oil companies are losing money, the unemployment problem is being solved, inflation is being brought under control, and so on (1983, p.vii).

Horwitz and Ferleger suggest that,

Most people, bombarded by daily reams of statistical data, have conflicting reactions. They feel that all that mathematical data is beyond their comprehension, but being numerical, they must contain some truth. At the same time, there is a deep feeling of distrust. Numbers don't lie but statisticians do (1983, p.vii).

However, as the authors, who state the purpose of their work as developing statistical literacy as statistics dominate many aspects of life, also state, "...statistics can also be used to ferret out the truth" (1983, p.vii).

Censuses have been powerful in the ideological responses they generate, both positive and negative. The Census is inherently linked with power, whether used as an instrument for state exertion of power and authority or for the empowerment of democratic process.

A Retrospective on the Census and Population Statistics in Canada

North America's earliest Census was that of New France was initiated by King Louis XIV in 1665 who directed Intendant Jean Talon to undertake the task of counting the inhabitants of what would become Quebec and Nova Scotia, in order to amass information to organize and guide development of the colony. Talon himself participated in door to door enumeration, recording, at each place of residence, names, age, gender, marital status, trade and occupation. Information was also gathered regarding cultivated land and livestock assets. Completed in

1666, the Census counted 3,215 people, with the exception of First Nations peoples and royal troops, settled primarily in Montréal, Trois-Rivières and Québec (CBC, 2010).

Over the ensuing Censuses conducted under French command until 1739, questions were added regarding dwelling type, agriculture, and industrial production. As well, an inventory of weaponry began to be amassed “...due to the frequent threats to peace” (CBC, 2010, N.p.). Questions related to religion and origins were introduced in 1767; in 1817, information was collected regarding inhabitants’ birthplace.

Once British occupation began, the Census was expanded to New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Upper Canada and Lower Canada. They were held on an irregular basis in 1765, 1784 and 1790, and became fairly frequent after 1817, at which point an annual Census of Upper and Lower Canada was conducted from 1824 to 1842. In 1851, the first national decennial Census was established, and under legislation, a Census was required to be taken in 1851, 1861 and every tenth year after (Statistics Canada, “History...”, 2011).

After Confederation, the *Constitution Act, 1867* (formerly the *British North America Act, 1867*), mandated that the Census counts be used to determine the appropriate number of provincial representatives in the House of Commons, adjustments for electoral district boundaries, and set dates for a decennial Census. The count would take place no later than May 1, except in districts difficult to access, where it could not be held until July. In 1871 the first Census of the Dominion was conducted in both English and French, as it has since been (Statistics Canada, “History...”, 2011). In 1905, the Census office became a permanent part of the Canadian government, and in 1918, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics was established under the *Statistics Act*. In 1956, Census frequency was increased from every ten years to every five years to better gauge urbanization and growth, as Canada was beginning to rapidly change.

In 1971, the *Statistics Act* was passed, under which the Census became mandatory nationwide and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics was renamed Statistics Canada, a body which is alone responsible for the Census and “... all statistical activities of the state...” unlike the United States, where this responsibility is devolved to a plethora of federal agencies (Thompson 2010, p.380). Furthermore, Thompson states,

By operating under a single law, Statistics Canada is able to share data with other government agencies; by contrast, in the United States confidentiality and disclosure provisions sometimes preclude the ability of statistical agencies to access data. Each of the ten provinces has a statistical office that works closely with Statistics Canada, and interdepartmental coordination is often conducted through project teams with specific data collection or analytical tasks... (ibid, 2010, p.380).

The *Act* establishes the civil service aspect of StatsCan and its staff, and the role of the Chief Statistician of Canada as a deputy minister responsible for advising and reporting to the Minister appointed responsible for Statistics Canada (*Statistics Act*. 1970-71-72, c. 15, s. 1). Thompson refers to the Chief Statistician as a “senior civil servant”, operating at arm’s length from the Minister, and states,

These safeguards are magnified by one of the central tenets of our Westminster model of government, the notion of a professional, non-partisan public service... (Thompson 2010, p.380).

Further to this,

A long-standing tradition holds that deputy ministers, including the Chief Statistician, are retained through changes in government; for example, Dr Ivan Fellegi held his position as Chief Statistician in Canada from 1985 to 2008, through numerous changes of the party in power (Thompson 2010, p.380).

In addition to the relative autonomy afforded to StatsCan through the *Statistics Act*, the Census is constitutionally mandated: while many nations have chosen different means to collect population statistics, the Census is somewhat secure. Thompson, however, argues that StatsCan’s independence is precarious, recalling the cancellation of the 1986 Census under Prime Minister

Brian Mulroney's Conservative government as a fiscal decision. This was met with contention from federal departments dependent on data for administering funding. This, in addition to the constitutional requirement for a mid-decade count, obligated the reinstatement of the Census (Thompson 2010, pp.379-80).

While the agency's autonomy may seemingly be constitutionally enshrined, Statistics Canada has been subject to budget scrutiny and reductions:

Statistics Canada has... been influenced by tirades against Big Government from Conservatives and Liberals alike: like other federal departments, its budget was cut during the government-wide program review in the 1990s and more recent incarnations of slashed government spending (Thompson 2010, pp.379-80).

Statistics Canada has also undergone recent gradual cuts to smaller surveys, resulting in a substantial thinning of information about marginalized populations within the past decade. Both the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada, which tracked settlement patterns and integration of Canadian newcomers, and the Participation and Activity Limitation Survey, which supported an exploration of barriers and inclusion for Canadians with disabilities, ended in 2006 (Public Service Alliance of Canada, 2010, N.p.). In addition, the Aboriginal Children's Survey, designed to provide extensive data on the early development of Aboriginal children and the social and living conditions in which they [were] living and growing... in urban, rural, and northern locations across Canada" was introduced but conducted only once in 2006 (Statistics Canada, 2008, N.p.). Statistics Canada's budget appears to have been the only route for direct federal intervention into data produced, though like any other federally funded department or agency it can endeavour to defend its budget. Still, Thompson argues, "...our statistical agency has guarded its autonomy from the ideological agendas of the government in power" (Thompson 2010, p.380).

Over time, the Census has evolved in response to shifts in the nation's political structure, budget priorities, and cultural mores. As Romanow illustrates,

From 1710 to 1760, a major focus of the Census was on the number of household armaments, such as muskets and swords. The 1931 Census gauged the extent and severity of unemployment so that its causes could be analyzed and policy responses prepared. The 1941 Census was the first that linked the urban poor with the development of urban planning. It was also critical to new federal-provincial fiscal arrangements such as equalization payments, and transfers for health care and postsecondary education (2010, N.p.).

Changes were made to headings and the survey has become increasingly inclusive of socially relevant questions. For example, the term "head of household" was deleted in 1981. Common-law status and non-permanent residents of Canada were added in 1991, followed by questions about unpaid work and mode of transportation to work (1996), same-sex couples and language of work (2001) (Linehan, 2009, N.p.). In *Aboriginal Census Data in Canada: A Research Note*, James Saku speaks about the evolution of questions regarding Aboriginal peoples in the Census towards greater inclusion. He cites a fundamental shift initiated with the 1981 Census, prior to which the Census only allowed for a single response regarding ethnic origin.

Specifically, the question used to identify Aboriginal Canadians in 1981 was "to which ethnic or cultural group did you or your ancestors belong on first coming to this continent?" Respondents with Aboriginal origins were to indicate whether they were Status or registered Indian, non-Status Indian, Métis or Inuit. The question was changed in 1986 and became "To which ethnic or cultural group(s) do you or did your ancestors belong?" In 1991, the question changed again slightly, becoming "To which ethnic or cultural group(s) did this person's ancestors belong?" For the 1996 Census, the question asked directly if the person is an Aboriginal person: "Is this person an Aboriginal person, that is, North American, Indian, Métis or Inuit (Eskimo)?" (Saku, 1999, p.369).

Further, respondents were previously permitted to report only on their paternal ancestry, limiting their ethnicity to one origin. The 1981 Census permitted multiple responses, allowing several mark-in boxes in conjunction with one write-in. This expanded in 1986, to allow two write-in responses for ethnic origins not included in the mark-in list provided (Saku, 1999, p.371). Saku

notes that this complicates longitudinal research, but that this is a critical improvement. He states,

Changing Census questions over time is a necessary requirement to reflect current social and cultural aspirations of the people. In preparing Census questions, a balance has to be maintained between the current relevance and the historical continuity of the data (Saku, 1999, p.369).

In 1971, Canadians were for the first time permitted to independently respond to questionnaires by mail rather than responding to a door to door survey. In 2006, Canadians were able to complete their household questionnaire online, which placed Canada as a Census leader (Statistics Canada, “History...”, 2011). The Census has evolved not only in its scale and reach, but also in the development of significant headings and categories. While its inclusivity may not necessarily be complete, it has been under ongoing scrutiny to optimize representation.

Census Controversy in the United States and Great Britain

The recent Census change and ensuing commotion in Canada is not unprecedented, and, as Debra Thompson comments, it is not the first instance in which party interest has attempted to shape information about a nation:

While the Census and the statistical agency responsible for it are supposed to be ideology free and nonpartisan, the Census and the policy consequences that arise from its results often have effects on partisan politics, linked to the two central concerns of government: money and representation (Thompson, 2010, p.378).

The United States and Great Britain are primary examples of Census manipulation and contention.

In the United States the Census is frequently viewed with scepticism due to its politicized nature, as discussed in detail in Cummings’s suitably titled dissertation, The Impeachment of Census 2000 (1999). The issue of Census adjustment to offset undercounts most clearly

demonstrates U.S. Census controversy. The U.S. Census Bureau which once enjoyed considerably greater independence, stirred controversy with its autonomous decision to bypass adjustment following the 1980 Census (Thompson, 2010, p.378). Thompson states that,

...in recent decades the Bureau's autonomy has eroded significantly. Former Census Director Barbara Bryant complained that there was a "bureaucratic takeover" of the Census Bureau by the Department of Commerce in the late 1980s and 1990s. When several cities sued the Secretary of Commerce, the Department of Commerce, and the Census Bureau over urban undercounts, Census adjustment decisions were moved away from the statistical arena into the congressional realm... (Thompson, 2010, p.378).

The Department of Commerce and Congress became increasingly involved in Census affairs through the 1990s, reaching new heights leading up to the 2000 Census. The United States Census is a constitutionally mandated function that ensures representative democracy by confirming appropriate apportionment in the House of Representatives, "...determining legislative boundaries and districts, as well as the racial and ethnic balance required by the Voting Rights Act" (Farmer, 2010, N.p.). Ahead of the 2000 Census, the Bureau was under scrutiny caught in the crosshairs of congressional debates and hearings.

The issue of Census adjustment became the target of partisan animosities in congressional committees since the populations that have historically been undercounted by the Census are disproportionately racial and ethnic minorities living in urban areas and are far more likely to vote Democrat than Republican (Thompson, 2010, p.378-9).

U.S. Census bureaucracy has become subject to ongoing inquiry and its administration subject to broad public critique. Public scrutiny may be related to John Lorinc's notion that in the United States,

...suspicion of government is a permanent fixture of politics. [It's] not a stretch to think that many Americans believe the personal information they denote on Census forms finds its way into the wrong hands. A Zogby poll released in March 2010 revealed just that: fully 49% of those polled said they weren't confident that the information would remain confidential (survey of 2,218 Americans, with a 1.5% margin of error) (Lorinc, 2010, N.p.).

In Great Britain, ideological concerns over privacy have shaped Census questions since Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's move to eliminate questions from the 1981 Census she regarded as intrusive and "completely unnecessary", such as "...whether one was working, retired, or a housewife..." (Thompson, 2010, p.379). Thompson quotes Secretary of State Patrick Jenkin statement that Thatcher was "very concerned about the intrusion into the private affairs of individuals and feels strongly that the Government will lay itself open to justifiable criticism unless it can be shown that these questions are really necessary for policy analysis and decisions" (UK PRO 1979) (Thompson, 2010, p.379). Thompson, who suggests that Thatcher "...foreshadowed the Canadian Tories' argument that Census questions are an unwarranted incursion of the state into the private lives of individuals", follows Jenkin's statement:

This neo-conservative concern about Big Brother in Britain continues in more recent incarnations of Census politics. While in opposition in 2009, the Conservative Party called the Census "invasive and intrusive" (Thompson, 2010, p.379).

Unlike the apparent ideologically driven Census change in Canada, Thompson suggests that Great Britain initiated a Census transformation spurred largely by concerns over the veracity of data produced by the Census.

After several government reviews questioned the quality of the statistics being produced by Government Statistical Service (GSS), and the Royal Statistical Society (1990) noted that there was a serious erosion of public confidence in UK official statistics, the government centralized responsibility for statistics in a new Office for National Statistics (ONS) in 1996 (Pullinger 1997). Since this development the British government has furthered its pursuit of an autonomous statistical agency (Thompson, 2010, p.379).

In 1999, after nearly two years of public debate and stakeholder consultations regarding the direction of the statistical system, the government introduced revised guidelines for structure and accountability, and the advent of an independent UK Statistics Authority (Thompson, 2010, p.379).

In July 2010, British Cabinet Office Minister Francis Maude revealed in July that the 2011 Census would be Britain's last, and in April 2011, the *Beyond 2011* Program was launched to research and test alternative models to the traditional Census for amassing detailed population data. The UK Statistics Authority was charged with the task of reviewing options under three categories -- Census, survey and administrative data options – and to report findings and recommendations to Parliament in 2014 (Office for National Statistics, “Background to Beyond 2011”, 2012). Recommendations, states the Office for National Statistics’ (ONS) description of Beyond 2011,

...will be informed not only by the statistical viability of the potential solutions, but also by a full understanding of user requirements, public burden, costs and public acceptability. The outcomes will have implications for all population-based statistics in England and Wales and potentially, in the longer term, for the statistical system as a whole (Office for National Statistics, “Background...”, 2012, N.p.).

The ONS provides several reasons as the impetus for *Beyond 2011*, including increasing cost and the currency of a decennial Census, particularly with challenges to Census taking such as growing residential mobility and “...the increasingly complex ways in which people live...” (Office for National Statistics, “Background...”, 2012, N.p.).

Though a broad range of models are under consideration, “...including the option of retaining some form of traditional Census...” the stated focus of this research are those options related to administrative data consisting of computerized records about individuals and the services they access. Such records are becoming readily available and appealing sources of current data due to technological advances and tracking in nearly all public and private spheres of life. Though the ONS states that this category is their research focus because it is the least understood with regard to cost and outcomes, they acknowledge that,

A system that makes use of these administrative sources to collate information already held about the population has the potential to provide a more cost-effective way to provide more

frequent statistics, with reduced public burden (Office for National Statistics, (Office for National Statistics, “Background...”, 2012, N.p.).

Thompson, noting that Scandinavia and some Western European countries have moved to the administrative data model, considerably less costly than the traditional Census, “...some believe that the Census is a vital resource that cannot be replicated even by pooling other sources of administrative data” (Thompson, 2010, p.379). Thompson notes that Great Britain’s *Beyond 2011* Program followed years of consideration, informed by extensive cross-sectoral public consultation, whereas the recent decision against the mandatory long form Census in Canada has consistently disregarded public and stakeholder input (Thompson, 2010, p.379).

The Census Debate in Canada

The Census Change

The Census of Canada, undertaken every five years, is the country’s broadest survey providing a statistical portrait of Canada, its inhabitants, and the conditions in which we live. Every five years, to 2006, 80% of Canadian households were required to complete the short form survey of eight questions, while 20% of households received the mandatory long form survey, consisting of fifty-three questions (Statistics Canada, 2009). By Order of Council, the federal government eliminated the mandatory long form questionnaire. In 2011 Canadian households were asked to complete a mandatory short form Census of ten questions, increased from the initial eight to add two questions regarding language, while 30% of households were asked to voluntarily complete the long survey of sixty five questions.

This change has stirred ardent controversy giving rise to written responses from those in favour and those opposed to the shift from the mandatory Census, several petitions, and even the

resignation of Canada's former Chief Statistician, Munir Sheikh, appointed by Prime Minister Stephen Harper, on July 21, 2010 in protest of the Conservative government's change in policy. Sheikh's predecessor, Ivan Fellegi, appointed under Progressive Conservative government of Brian Mulroney, said that he too would have resigned had this change occurred during his time at StatsCan (Ditchburn, "Former StatsCan Head...", 2010).

StatsCan itself has identified the potential shortcomings of the NHS, acknowledging the high non-response bias, issues with data quality, and the potential problem of statistical underrepresentation. StatsCan also identifies areas where sampling error may be lower due to the broader dissemination of the NHS, and the potential for mitigation of sampling this error. (Statistics Canada, "National Household Survey: Data Quality," 2011). The number of selected households that would respond increased from an initial estimate of 50 percent to a best case scenario of a 65 to 70 percent, according to one Statistics Canada official, provided the survey would be followed with prompting and assistance as required, which, as he states "...is still not an acceptable outcome for a Census" (Whittington, 2010, August 10, N.p.). Incomplete or partial responses of as few as ten of sixty-five completed questions are acceptable to StatsCan without further contact or clarification (Ditchburn, 2011)

To offset anticipates risks, StatsCan increased its distribution from one in five to one in three (4.5 million) homes. Preliminary compliance with the 2011 NHS proved more successful than anticipated. Statistics Canada indicates that at August 24, 2011, Canada's overall collection response rate was 98.1% (Statistics Canada, "2011 Census: Response Rates", 2011), up over a full percentage point from 96.5% in the 2006 Census (Statistics Canada, "Census of Population: Detailed information for 2006 (Data accuracy)", 2007). This figure is based on a higher proportion of households solicited to respond. Of the 4.5 million homes that received surveys by

mail, electronically, or otherwise, 2.6 million Canadian households responded, constituting 69% (Murphy, 2011; Proussalidis, 2011).

Though both critics and proponents of the Census change have cited fiscal concerns as part of the rationale for the shift to the National Household Survey, this is not something that has been central to Conservative messaging. In fact, in its efforts to offset non-response bias through promotion, a larger sample of households and follow-up increased the cost significantly, estimated at \$660 million. This is significantly higher than in 2006, when “...the Census cost \$573 million in 2010 dollars, including a \$43-million purchase of software and equipment” (Ditchburn, “Government Slashes Funding...”, 2010, N.p.). The National Statistics Council, a government appointed advisory group, criticizes this increased expense, particularly as it holds that regardless of such mitigation efforts, NHS results will not prove comparable (Whittington, 2010, August 12).

Proponents applaud the elimination of the mandatory long form Census, taking the position that it is an intrusive, costly and outmoded form of data collection. Some other nations have done away with Census taking, opting for other forms of centralized information such as public registries. Along these lines, many Census questions are seen as redundant, when information could be gleaned from other records, such as income tax records. Support for the Census change comes from individual politicians and journalists, and from three organizations, the Fraser Institute, the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, and the National Citizens Coalition. The Fraser Institute is a research institute whose focus is on economics and the effects of public policy on society. The latter two organizations appear to be characterized by a desire to reduce “Big Government”, “...a term generally used by political conservatives, *laissez-faire* advocates or libertarians to describe a government or public sector that they consider to be excessively large,

corrupt and inefficient, or inappropriately involved in certain areas of public policy or the private sector” (Big Government, 2012, N.p.). Public support for this change is limited in comparison to the responses against the voluntary Census, though it is important to note that the proportion of responses in either camp may not be an accurate indication of public opinion, but more likely speak to which interests that spark an active response.

Those who oppose the change represent a broad range of interests, fields and disciplines including academics, research institutes, natural resource management, environmental scientists, healthcare, community and economic development organizations, foundations, municipal and provincial governments, administrators, policy makers and planners. The cross-cutting concern amongst these areas is that the portrait of Canada provided by the Census will be incomplete or misleading because the reliability of data it draws from will be unreliable and therefore inconclusive. This in turn affects decision making about funding allocation, programs and services, the understanding of how Canada is faring socially and economically, and where to focus priorities.

In addition to media reports and letters to the federal government condoning or contesting the Census change, many interested parties prepared detailed reports to explore the implications of this shift. Letters and some reports describe how particular professions are affected by the Census shift. The objective of this chapter is to summarize from accounts in media and reports, the key issues in the Census debate. These are summarized under the following three headings, based on the author’s observations: privacy, representation, and the notion of good government.

State Intrusion into Privacy

On July 13, 2010, Minister of Industry, the Honourable Tony Clement, issued a statement, in which he says,

In the past, the Government of Canada received complaints about the long-form Census from citizens who felt it was an intrusion of their privacy. The government does not think it is necessary for Canadians to provide Statistics Canada with the number of bedrooms in their home, or what time of the day they leave for work, or how long it takes them to get there. The government does not believe it is appropriate to force Canadians to divulge detailed personal information under threat of prosecution. For this reason, we have introduced changes for the 2011 Census (Industry Canada, 2010, N.p.).

Privacy is the primary rationale for the Conservative government decision to replace the mandatory long form questionnaire with a voluntary long form survey, but few of the questions that allegedly lay bare details of Canadians' private lives changed in the National Household Survey. Melanie Ferrier suggests that the mandatory long form Census questions "...were personal, but it does not follow that the Census was an invasion of Canadian privacy", offering a definition of privacy in Canada as provided by the 1983 *Privacy Act*. (Ferrier, 2011, N.p.). Further, the *Act* delineates government access and use of personal information, including consensual disclosure. Ferrier states,

According to Section 3 of the act, personal information includes details relating to race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, marital status, education, medical history, criminal history, employment history, financial transactions, address, fingerprints and blood type. Almost all questions in the 2006 long form Census fell under one or more of these categories. Only 16 questions were not covered, including five of the more contentious questions on household activities and housing specifics (ibid, 2011, N.p.).

The Act, she further states,

...does not prohibit the government from collecting personal information, but limits collection to information that will be used by the government to inform operational programs and institutional activities (Section 4) and/or any decision-making process that directly affects the individual from whom the information has been collected (Section 5) (ibid, 2011, N.p.).

In "The Politics of the Census: Lessons from Abroad," Debra Thompson points to the fallacy of this rationale, stating,

In spite of the Conservative government's consistent references over the summer months to their goal of protecting privacy, there is a prominent disconnect between rhetoric and evidence... the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada has revealed that just three complaints were filed about the Census over the past decade, and Federal Privacy

Commissioner Jennifer Stoddart testified before the parliamentary committee that there have been 50 complaints about the Census over the past 20 years (Thompson, 2010, p.378).

Furthermore, Statistics Canada is legislatively bound to protect the privacy of Canadians and has developed a worldwide reputation in this regard as well as for the quality of data it produces.

In this information age, concern for information security is growing, and the collection of socio-economic information through Census surveys may challenge individuals' desire to guard personal information. This rationale has resonance with some of the dialogue among Libertarian interest groups who mistrust government, preferring instead to remain tight-lipped with details of their personal lives. Raywat Deonandan suggests, in *The Mandatory Census: Tension Between Individual Rights and the Public Good*, that there have been a number of historical precedents that contribute to wariness towards public data gathering. He cites examples of internment camps in Nazi Germany and the United States during the Second World War, as well as more recent incidence of locating and monitoring Arab-Americans "...for the purpose of domestic surveillance" (2011, p.415). He states that while there is not necessarily any precedent of "organizational abuse of data" in Canada, these examples demonstrate that a source of information as comprehensively detailed as the Census can be vulnerable to "...some of the more dishonorable characters who may rise to power; and that modern, Western liberal democracies are not immune to authoritarian impulses, especially in terms of perceived crisis, such as when in a state of war or when under threat by domestic terrorism" (2011, p.415). John Lorinc argues otherwise, as per his comments quoted in the earlier discussion about the Census controversy in the United States. He states, "...therein lies Stephen Harper's miscalculation" about the willingness of Canadians to disclose their personal information. He argues that many Americans

mistrust their government and cites the results of a Zogby poll in which 40% of 2,218 Americans polled did not believe that personal information they disclose in the Census would necessarily be secure (Lorinc, 2010, N.p.). He states,

For all of Harper's efforts, however, Canadians don't generally despise their governments, nor does our public sector labour under the taint of conspiracy theories and other ideological delusions (Lorinc, 2010 N.p.).

Indeed, Prime Minister Harper's government has been criticized for fear-mongering, using a screen of security to promote individual rights over collective interests. Deonandan suggests that, "The Census issue is ultimately one of engagement", and that Canadians are due for public consensus building regarding what constitutes public good, what is in violation of individual rights, and "...whether a particular public good warrants the curtailment of specific civil rights" (2011, p.415).

Privacy has been discounted as a substantial reason for a change as drastic as the elimination of the mandatory long form survey, given legislative provisions surrounding the collection, storage and use of statistics by Statistics Canada. The Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD) argues that Canadians trust the privacy measures offered by StatsCan and are in compliance with the Census for its contribution to our own best interests as well as to public good (CCSD, 2010, N.p.). "As for those who argue that the Census is "invasive and coercive", states Roy Romanow of the Canadian Index of Wellbeing Advisory Board, "I would say that it is less so than an income tax return, airline security check, passport or mortgage application. Surely we aren't planning on making any of these voluntary – are we?" (2010, N.p.).

Representative Data

The voluntary NHS carries a high non-response bias that may diminish data quality, dilute the ability to apply Census data in assessing changing trends and emerging issues, and compound the problem of statistical underrepresentation. Critics fear that the accuracy of data produced by the NHS will be threatened due to the presumed demographics of responses. That is, responses volunteered will likely be affected by socio-economic status and lifestyle.

Economist Don Drummond argues that a voluntary survey "...will over-represent certain groups... The middle class white population will be over-represented. The core visible minorities, aboriginals and the very wealthy will be under-represented" (Nickle, 2010, N.p.). The most vulnerable populations will be the least likely to participate in a voluntary questionnaire due to a variety of barriers including literacy and language. If true, this would compromise information about Canada's underprivileged, disabled, Aboriginal, and new immigrant populations that is critical to informed policy, decision making and funding supports, thereby contributing to further marginalization (Jennifer Ditchburn, "Former StatsCan Head...", 2010; Canadian Public Health Association, 2010). Non-urban areas are at risk of underrepresentation as well, as a compromised response rate will affect data for less densely populated such as neighbourhoods and rural areas, resulting in diminished understanding of small community needs.

In their commentary, *Losing Our Census*, Michael Darroch and Gordon Darroch argue that because self selective non-response will result in inadequate picture of those at Canada's extremes, and furthermore, "...it will not be possible to adequately estimate the differences between the non-representative sample and the population it is intended to represent" (2010, p.612). They state,

Broadly, then, we have every reason to think that the results of the NHS will make Canada appear to be a country of greater moderation – less variant, less unequal, more middling – than a Census of the population would reveal (2010, p.612).

Issues of representation are linked to political economy in the Census debate, with critics suggesting that questions that have been eliminated have little to do with privacy and are more closely related to fiscal supports. For example, questions about unpaid work have been eliminated from the NHS, which previously asked about care for children, elders and one's self. This most significantly affects socio-economic data about women in Canada, particularly low income, immigrant and Aboriginal women, who often engage in unpaid work. This in effect disregards the contributions of individuals who support the society and the economy informally, and risks under serving the socio-economic needs of those who do not formally "work". Another example is the question of languages: two of three questions were initially eliminated from the short form Census, reintroduced after the Federation of Francophone and Acadian Communities of Canada took legal action against this change. The argument was that an accurate count of francophones across Canada is critical to ensure services continue to be provided in French.

Representation and accuracy in Census findings may also be impaired by responses driven by activism. In a report titled, *Come to Your Census!*, Urban Futures argues, "...activist stimulated responses, where members of a group within a community are exhorted to respond in order to increase their representation in the data", should be equally acknowledged for potentially skewing data. This, in effect, means that "...the entire pool of responses becomes tainted by interest group activism rather than the impartial provision of information on the composition of our communities" (Urban Futures, 2010, p.2). Such group distortion in responses misrepresents the composition of communities and Canadian society. This has tremendous

impact on the allocation of resources, and ultimately upon who is seen and served and who is not.

It follows that representative distortion in the NHS will affect other statistical research in Canada. Deonandan, among many others, expresses concern that potential changes to the integrity of data, often described as a “gold standard”, affects the benchmark by which all other research in Canada is evaluated and corrected. Long form Census data is regarded as the most reliable reference point for other statistical studies to cross check for problems such as oversampling. It is widely anticipated that the NHS will not provide such a reliable marker for the soundness of research.

While the Census may need optimization and continual review to ensure representativeness, many argue that this it provides a comprehensive and unparalleled knowledge of Canadians. James Saku states,

...the Census of Canada provides the most comprehensive information on Aboriginal people of Canada... [offering a] systematic and consistent data collection effort. Chartrand (1993), for example, observed that apart from the Census, no other sources of data have a higher standard of consistency in the collection and reporting of data overtime. (Saku, 1999, pp.367-369.)

StatsCan Census Manager Marc Hamel has reported that the response rate from newcomer communities and low-income households was in fact good, as areas considered vulnerable in response rates were strategically targeted for follow up (Proussalidis, 2011). At the time of writing, there is no evidence to support or contradict this information.

The Census and Good Government

John Lorinc describes the Census as having merit beyond the functional data it distils. It is also, “...an institution that imposes quantitative order on government and society, and therefore it supports our apparent craving (frequently unsatisfied) for “good government” (i.e., good =

rational)” (Lorinc, 2010, N.p.). That is, Canadians expect responsible evidence-based decision making and the Census has supported this by providing a comprehensive and largely accurate picture of Canada. The knowledge provided by the Census, it is argued, supports and holds accountable government decisions about fiscal allotment and program priorities. As Thompson states,

The statistics produced through the Census and other surveys must be objective and accurate in order to inform decision-making inside and outside government and to allow the society to question and judge whether or not the government is acting in its best interests (Thompson, 2010, p.381).

Deonandan further states that this affects, “...the power of watchdog groups to validate quantifiable claims made by the government. [This] point suggests a role for Census data as a control against state duplicity...” (2011, p.414).

Statistics Canada works with a cross section of stakeholders to determine data needs and to ensure appropriate methods and the salience of research results with as little partisanship as possible. Representatives from a broad range of professions and industries have decried the Census change concerned that this decision was made without consultation with organizations and agencies that work closely with Statistics Canada data. As a result, the political economics of this decision have been a frequent topic in media and public outcry. Some argue that Harper’s government is attempting to privatize information, wherein statistical information would eventually have to be purchased, reducing this fiscal burden on the federal government and leaving many social services and non-profits without access to data. As well, other levels of government will likely be affected by changes to Census data collection and quality because,

Though the highly centralized statistical system works to facilitate the horizontal sharing of data among government departments, federalism poses significant challenges for the independent collection and dissemination of statistical data by the provinces. Only Quebec’s Institut de la Statistique has the capacity to fill some of the many statistical gaps that the elimination of the mandatory long form will leave. All provinces and territories

including Quebec rely heavily on Statistics Canada's collection of raw data. Simply put, the fiscal federal structure makes some alternative data collection arrangements infeasible and the government's recent decision all the more troubling (Thompson, 2010, pp.380-81).

The Census change, some critics argue is much more ideological, shrinking knowledge and therefore informed debate that may counter Conservative values and decisions. Thompson takes this further, referencing political scientist Paul Saurette's perception that,

...this latest development is not the short-sighted policy decision it appears to be but rather is part of Harper's longer-term ideological goal, "the transformation of the broad public philosophy of Canada and the cultivation of an enduring set of conservative values and philosophical principles in Canadians" (Saurette 2010) (Thompson, 2010, pp.378-9).

To this end, comprehensive and accurate data would prove problematic and thorny, hence speculation that information control is the mode of operation under the current party. Indeed, the environment for information and research in Canada is changing drastically, and the Census change is seemingly the beginning of a trend. In recent months, a growing number of federally funded research bodies across Canada have experienced extreme budget reductions, termination, or simply lapsed. Among these are key federal research agencies and umbrellas as the Social Sciences and Humanities research Council, the National Roundtable on the Environment and the Economy, and the First Nations Statistical Institute.

The first results of the long form Census will not be available until 2013 so the profundity of this change will not be borne out for some years. The mandatory Census model has imperfections regarded sometimes as a burdensome obligation, even intrusive. Yet it has been acknowledged in numerous issue papers, reports and media pieces as an unparalleled barometer of Canada's social, economic and political well-being, and providing direction forward.

Chapter 4: Research Methods and Analysis

Rationale for Quantitative and Qualitative Content Analysis Method

The empirical method selected for this research project was a content analysis of letters to the federal government expressing either opposition or support of the elimination of the mandatory long form Census in favour of the National Household Survey. The content analysis method is a well-developed research technique for assessing documents, whether textual or visual, wherein the researcher probes pre-existing material, or data, with the aim of discovering embedded themes. This method was chosen because it is ideal for studying the value of such ideologically rich text as letters and manifestos (Wesley, 2009). As well, this technique is useful in studying something from which the researcher is removed by time or space, such as historical events (Neuman, 2003). In this case, there is already an existing database of open letters to the federal government both in support and opposition of the shift to the NHS. This work employed a qualitative inductive process to extrapolate information about how and to what extent planning information in Canada is perceived to be affected by the Census change.

Data Sources and Collection

Many organizations submitted letters to the federal government articulating reasons why the shift away from the mandatory long-form Census would be detrimental or positive. These include academic institutions, social policy and research agencies, non-profit organizations, planning organizations, municipal and provincial governments, among others. These letters are publicly available and constitute a pool of data generated by informed stakeholders.

The units of analysis were letters selected from two websites that list organizations and sectoral representatives both in agreement with and against the elimination of the mandatory long form Census. The websites from which these letters were drawn belong to Datalibre and the Quebec inter-University Centre for Social Statistics (QICSS). Datalibre identifies its focus as advocating the public accessibility of statistical information, as Census data is collected using taxed public dollars and therefore should not be restricted. The QICSS promotes social statistics research, and "...offers support, training and activities designed to disseminate research findings" (QICSS). QICSS was created in July 2000 as part of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and Statistics Canada joint development, the Canadian Initiative on Social Statistics (CISS). Six educational institutions were involved in establishing QICSS to address the need for a better understanding of social issues including income and poverty, social determinants of health, child development, newcomer integration and others. These universities include l'Institut national de la recherche scientifique, Concordia University, l'Université Laval, McGill University, l'Université du Québec à Montréal and l'Université de Montréal, as well as l'Université de Sherbrooke, which later joined the organization. These institutions are represented on the Management Committee, while an External Advisory Committee meets annually to determine priorities. Current representation includes Quebec and Canada's statistical institutes; provincial and federal government departments and agencies (Ministère de l'éducation, du loisir et du sport du Québec, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Ministère de la Solidarité Sociale du Québec, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada); non-governmental organizations (Social Research and Demonstration Corporation, Canadian Council on Social Development); and academic researchers working on projects at the QICSS. QICSS appears to present information on its website objectively, providing links to letters, actions, and media

stories both supporting and condemning the move to a voluntary Census. Both sites attempt to be representative of support of and opposition to the Census change, listing organizations and letters on both sides of the figurative fence, but each represents specific vested interests in the Census issue.

Analysis included all letters available through these websites and internet searches. For the sake of consistency, no direct communication with individuals or organizations was undertaken to obtain letters. The sample of letters in support of the shift from the mandatory long form Census to the voluntary National Household Survey is significantly smaller than those opposed. Letters contesting the change number nearly five hundred, while there are only eleven letters of support. Some of the letters listed are in fact position papers, reports or media interviews and were excluded from study, with the exception of those in support of the Census change as this portion of the sample is very small. An inventory of all individuals and organizations listed is included in Appendix A, noting if letters are available in English.

Coding Process and Data Analysis Techniques

A qualitative approach to coding and analysis was used to identify themes in and across letters in order to survey how organizations and individuals use Census information and what they expect outcomes of the Census change may be for information about Canadians. As work progressed so too did some methods for analysis to better manage the large sample of 168 submissions. Analysis was done first for each letter; second, by sector; and finally, cross-sectorally. Data was reviewed for what is apparent on a superficial reading of the text, such as the occurrence of key words or phrases, and then for a latent analysis, which considers embedded meaning in the text. This combination of manifest and latent coding accommodated greater

flexibility in capturing detail (Neuman, 2003). Letters were read in three passes for the purposes of open coding, axial coding, and selective coding (Wesley, 2009).

In a preliminary scan, organizations were grouped into sectors or professional realms to facilitate analysis of sectoral themes. These categories are neither concrete nor conclusive, as several organizations may straddle two or more sectors. In the initial scan, statements in support of the government decision to abrogate the mandatory long form Census were grouped together. Organizations were correspondingly grouped on the coding spreadsheet for sectoral analysis of documented themes.

The first reading allowed for open coding, wherein all submissions were reviewed to extract immediately recognizable themes determined by a population of key words, phrases, sentences or paragraphs. As well, in this reading letters were scanned for similarities with a template provided by the Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD). The CCSD lists concepts and phrasing for adaptation to support the mandate and values of a variety of organizations in developing their own submissions. A small number of letters borrowed paragraphs directly from this template, while more often, some of the same or very phrasing was used. This template, in conjunction with CCSD's *Save Our Census* campaign may partially account for the high number of responses from those opposed to the Census change. As well, one organization heavily borrowed from the broadly circulated letter submitted by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, while several other organizations, municipalities and regional governments referenced the letter or used direct quotations.

A second reading facilitated axial coding to an extract sub-themes, while some themes were consolidated and the growing list distilled to eliminate redundancy. These were then used to populate the coding spreadsheet (Appendix B) along one axis, while organizations were listed

by sector or group along the other axis. Themes were colour-coded to aid in a visual assessment of where relationships tended to emerge. During the third reading, themes were tracked directly on the letters using coloured pens, as per the colour-coding determined after the second reading.

Finally, a third reading allowed for confirmation of labelling, known as “selective coding” (Wesley, 2009), as well as an assessment of common themes between stakeholder groups by sector. Coding decisions were tracked on the coding spreadsheet, intended to show both protocol and process. Thematic relationships and patterns in the arguments for and against the Census change became especially clear as the coding spreadsheet was completed. Concept mapping was planned for use within and across letters in the sample to provide a more inclusive illustration of ideas, groupings and the relationships between themes (Ryan & Bernard, 2003). Because thematic and sectoral relationships were evident in reviewing the colour coded responses and the sorted spreadsheet, the cognitive mapping was altogether bypassed.

Together, the colour coding and coding spreadsheet facilitated greater analytical transparency and support the validity of this research. As well, this combination of techniques supported the development of a narrative regarding the outcomes of the Census change as they pertain to statistical information in Canada. This narrative illustrated the themes that emerged in analysis of selected stakeholder letters using key quotations for support.

Sectoral Grouping for Analysis

The largest group of letters, totalling twenty-six, fell under the category of municipal and regional governance, which includes municipal associations in addition to governments at both levels. The second largest group constituted the broad category of social planning, research and services. This group of twenty five letters includes, among others, organizations serving

families, women, immigrants and refugees, as well as foundations and community development and community economic development organizations. The next largest group to respond to the Census change fell under the category of health, including public health and epidemiology, mental and general health, and professional associations related to this sector, for a total of eighteen letters.

For the purpose of analysis, letters from professional planning associations, numbering three, were grouped with those from organizations related to transportation and infrastructure, and urban and regional research, as they align in their emphasis on land development and management. This decision was made because of the substantial number of letters in the category of social planning, research and services which together constitute a meaningful group for analysis.

Other submissions were grouped as follows:

- Research organizations and associations (12)
- Unions and professional organizations (apart from health care and academic associations) (12)
- Statistical and data organizations, including committees, networks and collectives (8)
- Chambers of commerce and economic development organizations (7)
- Academic institutions, faculty associations and student unions (7)
- Libraries and library associations (6)
- Faith based organizations (6)
- Ethno-cultural organizations (4)
- Non-profit housing organizations and associations (4)
- Provincial ministries and agencies (4)

- Members of Parliament (2)
- Human rights (2)

Two letters were jointly submitted representing a cross section of sectors. The first was led by the United Way of Canada and co-signed by representatives from the fields or professions of economics, management, healthcare, housing, public policy, social development, planning, regional development research, and academia, as well as labour unions, immigrant serving agencies and polling organizations. Two public policy researchers and former Clerks of Privy Council, Mel Cappe and Alex Himmelfarb, were signatories on this letter as well as the other joint letter, submitted in conjunction with former Chief Statistician of Canada, Ivan Fellegi, and David Dodge, the former Governor of the Bank of Canada and former Deputy Minister of Finance. These letters are considered independently of the groupings outlined above.

The group of submissions in support of the elimination of the mandatory long form Census included nine pieces for analysis. As discussed, this sample is a fraction of those opposed to the Census change, and was therefore broadened to include editorials, statements, and blog postings. This group was separated and had its own thematic headings. Responses and themes emerging were later contrasted with analysis of responses by those opposed to the Census change.

Limitations of the Content Analysis Approach to the Study

The letters chosen for this study cannot capture all of the arguments, just those in the selected sample, drawn from sources determined by their apparent attention to both advocates and opponents of the voluntary Census. As well, some letters were no longer available online through the sites selected for collection, as with time, some of the links have not been

maintained. This was not a significant barrier, as due diligence was conducted to source letters listed in internet searches.

Despite efforts to remain impartial, confirmation bias is a risk associated with content analysis, as researchers may unintentionally lend greater attention to information that supports personal beliefs or biases. Similarly, less detail may be inferred from the data that discredits such beliefs or preferences. Like confirmation bias, inferential bias, while ideologically neutral, may lend greater prevalence to some details in analysis if the researcher is expecting to find certain results. For this reason, a coding spreadsheet was utilized for greater transparency and accountability in this research piece. Still, a similar study with multiple coders may different results due to different influences.

Chapter 5: Perceptions Regarding the Census Change in Canada

The following analysis is based upon analysis of the letters in support of and opposition to the shift from the mandatory long form Census to the National Household Survey. This sample was taken from internet searches and is not exhaustive, based on a sample of 168 submissions generally between one and three pages long. This sample was meant not to provide a proportionate indication of what Canadians believe about the Census change, but to glean what the concerns are to those in favour of and those against the mandatory long form Census.

The themes that emerged in analysis aligned, for the most part, with the observed arguments in the media debates regarding the census change. These were outlined in Chapter 2 under three headings: privacy, representation, and the notion of good government. Concerns about privacy, the reach and accountability of government, and representation are key arguments in the sample, in addition to comments about information related to the creation of a knowledge based, accountability, the planning and development effective programs and services. As well, themes were identified regarding the importance of the census as a cornerstone for further research, and democratic access to information.

While there were some more specific examples from various sectors about how the potential change in data about Canadians, there was little variation between sectors in the concerns expressed. The group of responses in support of the Census change expressed distinct concerns, including a mistrust of government, the feeling of being coerced into an intrusive survey of private details, sometimes regarded as serving specific interests or “Big Government” control. In addition, the cost, validity and usefulness of the Census were questioned, with a number of respondents suggesting that such alternatives as administrative data might be more

suitable. The concerns of this group have been addressed in discussion of the outlined themes in order to contrast responses.

The concerns expressed in the responses analyzed are not planning specific and often employ terms or concepts generally not used in current planning. One such example is the concept of “public good”, which was a hallmark of Modernist planning and is problematic in contemporary planning theory, which holds that there is no singular “public good”, as different groups and sub-groups have distinct characteristics and needs. This concept, as well as “progress” and “Big Government” were not used by planners. If the sample consisted of a larger number of responses from the planning sector, results may have been considerably different.

Privacy and the Public Good

Individuals and organizations who supported the abrogation of the mandatory long form Census all indicated that it was an intrusion on Canadians’ right to privacy. One author heavily emphasized concern about security breaches and the inability of government or StatsCan to keep his personal information confidential. These concerns were accompanied, by all but one author, with the argument that the mandatory Census is coercive, forcing Canadians to divulge intimate personal details under threat of fine or imprisonment. Interest groups and elites use data, some argue, but everyone must comply and pay for Census data. One author suggested that the penalty associated with non-compliance is disproportionate to the act and supported its removal.

Some of the letters opposing the Census change suggested -- and even gave the government credit for -- removing the non-compliance penalty, though couched in the assertion that this does not necessitate the cancellation of the mandatory long form Census.

Many of those opposed to the Census change refute this argument, holding that the protection of privacy is a Statistics Canada priority. Furthermore, the penalty StatsCan employees face for violating confidentiality is significantly greater than that for non-compliance. Some authors suggested that privacy concerns are second in importance to accurate Census data. A number of authors suggest that the mandatory Census is a reasonable requirement, with analogous references to such other civic duties as fulfilling jury duty and completing income tax forms. Yet another way in which the public good was acknowledged was with the notion that accurate data supports progress, while a lack of dependable data thwarts it. Many suggest that having accurate population data provides a clear image of the country for Canadians, a few suggesting that ultimately this strengthens national identity. Two letters expressed concern that the shift to the NHS may lead to compliance issues with the mandatory short form Census, compounding the problem of statistical accuracy generated by the Census change.

Big Government or Good Governance?

Two authors supporting the Census change indicated a mistrust of government, which brings to mind the discussion in Chapter 2 about poor historical precedents, even a deep rooted mistrust of state surveys. One such response stated that the ones who rely on Census data are those “...who have the desire to control, regulate, engineer, sort, direct and legislate the behaviour of their fellow citizens.” More than half of this group applauded the Census as a move to reduce “Big Government” activity. Two thirds of the letters supporting the move away from the mandatory Census indicated suspicion about how Census information was used, often with the example of validating affirmative action, which they vehemently opposed, and interest group funding.

On the other hand, the issue of jurisdiction was addressed by several of the letters opposed to the Census change, suggesting that the federal government had overstepped boundaries by interfering with StatsCan's work. The agency and its Chief are responsible for issues of methodology and technique, they argued. Two strongly stated, "keep politics out of statistics". Some suggested that the public trusts official Census statistics and is confident in Statistics Canada to fulfill its role as an agency. This was often addressed in conjunction with dismay with the lack of stakeholder consultation prior to this decision. StatsCan has an elaborate consultation process and network in place to review Census questions and methods, but this was sidestepped entirely in what was characterized as a unilateral decision to remove the mandatory long form Census.

Most of the organizations who upheld the mandatory long form Census as a necessity suggest that it supports good governance. One representative of the public health field states, "We believe that Canadians understand the social contract that provides high quality effective public services in exchange for this information." Further to this, another organization states,

We note that Canada was founded on "peace, order and good government". To this end, in the interests of the public good, the duty to provide information that is protected under the law is necessary. Further, as a democratic country, accountability and transparency are principles that are integral to our governance; a representative method of gathering data is foundational to satisfying these principles.

One research organization goes as far as to say,

Given the critical importance of the Long Form data to Canada... we would argue that requiring a random sample of 20% of households to spend maybe half an hour once every five years to fill out a survey is hardly an onerous or intrusive task. Rather, it is a necessary task of citizenship. Canada actually asks relatively little of its citizens: don't break the law, pay your taxes. Asking some of them once in a while to, in addition, provide a little information about themselves so that we can all build a better Canada does not seem to be too much to ask of anyone.

The Census, most argue, is critical to fact based assessment for public policy and decision making. The effectiveness and responsiveness of public policy will be compromised at all levels of government, degrading decision making capabilities. Without accurate data, they suggest an unacceptable governance model of trial and error public policy will ensue. As well, it is feared that inaccurate data will affect the structure, funding and priority given to equalization allocations and funding programs.

Municipalities and regional governments opposing the Census change cite the data provided by the mandatory long form Census as key to managing growth, planning infrastructure and transit, planning healthy communities, developing crime prevention strategies, setting and monitoring green house gas (GHG) and sustainability targets, and providing rationale for fiscal allocations. A letter from a District Administration Board states that Census data is used to:

- Identify local workforce and development trends
- Monitor changing family demographics
- Understand trends in migrations and immigration
- Determine affordable housing needs for their community
- Plan for services for children and families.

Small municipalities, in particular, fear that information provided by a voluntary survey will not provide information at a local-municipal scale, and their data needs will therefore not be met.

Accountability

For government as well as in most of the sectors identified, accurate Census data was cited as important to support accountability and evidence based decision making. For government, this is related to policy-making, program development and fiscal allocation. A letter from a municipal association states, "...over 25 pieces of federal legislation alone require Census data in order to allocate funds and target and evaluate services, with many more

examples at the provincial, territorial and municipal levels.” For government and its agencies, Census data was identified as requisite to support legal and legislative mandates for such other purposes as upholding equality and human rights. Further, a few organizations argue that accurate Census data supports equality and social justice, and is required to identify and measure and promote awareness of gaps in equality.

Most sectors suggest that the accurate data provided by the Census supports outcome based decision making, usually required for statistical reporting to justify funding. As well, accurate data is used for monitoring or providing indications of change, for measuring progress toward targets, and for evaluating program effectiveness and strategies.

A Knowledge Based Economy

The argument arises in several letters largely by economists and related organizations, that accurate Census data supports a knowledge based economy, which one points out is a federal goal. The Census change affects knowledge about the workforce, argue the broader spectrum of unions, professional organizations, and economic development organizations. This lack of information impairs business forecasting and development, which subsequently affects local employment and economy. Opponents to the change argue that accurate, comprehensive information about the labour market is critical for the development of economic and social policies. Conversely, inappropriate or miscalculated initiatives are costly in development and losses; private market research does not match the breadth of criteria about consumers, the workforce and opportunities for development the Census provides. Furthermore, private data collection agencies refer to mandatory long form Census data to frame and verify their research.

With regard to the workforce, one organization speaks to the importance of accurate Census data in providing information about the history of labour and income in specific areas. Another suggests that economic information viewed in the context of other factors provided by the mandatory long form Census is important for establishing “prevalent wages” as required by HRSDC, which in turn informs wage negotiations and adjustments.

Effective Program and Service Planning

All service sectors argued that accurate Census data not only supports, but is required in order to plan effective and focussed programs and services. This applies not only to areas described by Census opponents as interest groups, but to such critical services as disaster mitigation and epidemiology. Especially important in these areas is the relevance of the Census in supporting investment and operating decisions, such as how many staff and what degree of fiscal supports are required in an underserviced regional hospital. The data provided by the mandatory long form allows for large scale community assessment for service with regard to health, language services, program planning and other social and economic actions and strategies. For example, one author from the health sector states, “public health units, through the work done by Epidemiologists and other, use these Census data routinely for population health assessment, program and service planning, program, evaluation and the identification of priority populations for intervention.” Further to this, another organization from the same sector states that they are, “...specifically required to gather data on socio-demographics including population counts by age, sex, education, employment, income, housing, language, immigration, culture, ability/disability among others.” Furthermore, mandatory long form Census data “is the

sole source of much of this required information, and in turn is applied to planning for effective and efficient delivery of programs and services.”

A prevalent argument in these sectors was that mandatory long form Census data facilitates that services are appropriately tailored to reflect the current and anticipated needs of communities, families and individuals. Program development and planning are dependent on an understanding of the unique needs of various groups, whether distinguished by age, gender, ethnicity, income or a variety of combined factors. A few social service organizations indicate that because of the breadth of variables it collects, the mandatory long form Census is the only source of trend information beyond individuals to how Canadian families are faring.

As well, knowledge of the changing demographics of communities and neighbourhoods and the direction in which they appear to be going is important for planning social programs as well infrastructure, health and employment services, business development, and a plethora of other social, economic and land use responses. One municipality states that the Census change, “will harm the integrity and quality of the Canadian statistical system and undermine the backbone of programs, businesses, and municipalities...” A letter from the planning sector further states,

It is not an exaggeration to say that this data is the single most important source of information, and the basis of most important decision-making in cities relating to land-use, community change management, services and infrastructure, transportation and transit, schooling and children's services, services to marginalized populations including social housing, policing, recreation and other civic facilities, economic planning and development..., retail planning, investment and economic planning, real estate development and so on...

Another author states,

Planners depend on accurate, timely and consistent data on Canadian communities and households to support the provision of transportation, infrastructure, social services and economic development across Canada. Demographic information helps determine the

location of community and commercial facilities, the feasibility of land use plans and zoning designations.

Nearly all letters of opposition argue that trend related analysis and change management will be significantly challenged with a voluntary Census.

Along these same lines, accurate Census data, it was argued, provides an indication of community well being across diverse criteria. For example, the breadth of data is important “to identify and assess the impacts of social determinant, such as income, geographic locations, migration status, and ethno-racial background, on the mental health of Canadians and how to address needs.” The Mandatory long form Census was often cited across sectors as being vital in gauging vulnerability. Charitable organizations indicated their dependence on long form Census data to determine support both “geographically and demographically.” Similarly, faith based groups argue that their ability to determine areas in need of outreach or advocacy would be considerably limited.

Not only does this information mobilize services, programs and funding, but three organizations suggested that the picture of community well-being provided by Census data informs and encourages community action, such as volunteerism and philanthropy. A small number of organizations proposed that this information ultimately serves to strengthen social cohesion.

Misrepresentation

From the group of submission in support of the shift from the mandatory long form Census, one author singled out the Census as inadequate in representing the (?) population. His identity, he argues, would be misrepresented because “Canadian” was not listed as a response to the question of ethnicity. Another author cited the example of a recent Census in which 21,000

Canadians indicated their religious affiliation as Star Wars' Jedi Knights, distorting the resulting image of faith in Canada. The mandatory long form, they argue, does not provide an accurate representation of Canada's population.

All of the letters opposing the Census change indicate that data accuracy is not adequate without mandatory compliance. The anticipated impact of lower quality data expected from a voluntary survey was manifested differently, depending on the needs of the profession represented. The issue of representation is central to most of these arguments, suggesting that voluntary participation produces a response bias, wherein the marginalized and high earners are less likely to respond. This will result in a misrepresentation, or middling, of the Canadian population and the needs of various communities. Because information about at risk groups is compromised, vulnerable communities will be further marginalized. The representation of other small group characteristics, such as language, will be compromised due to the effect of non-response bias on smaller sample sizes.

This concern relates to those about representation of regions with lower population densities. These areas already pose some difficulty, along the same lines as small group data. The geographic challenges of capturing adequate data for less dense areas, argue several opponents to the Census change, will be exacerbated with a voluntary Census. Municipal and regional governments, as well as planners, transportation and infrastructure engineers, the healthcare sector, and community and regional development researchers often depend on detailed small area data to support work with small communities and broad geographic areas. According to one municipal association, "A lack of current, accurate Census data will be especially challenging in Northwestern Ontario where sufficient information has traditionally been less attainable, even with the previous mandatory collection system." Another counterpart suggests

that "... a voluntary survey is unlikely to deliver adequate representation from vulnerable citizens, such as our seniors and economically disadvantaged", implying that spatial representation compounds the problem of representing at risk populations, a concern echoed by the health sector. "Incomplete or skewed data," the letter continues, "will have serious implications for the land-use planning process." For example, wastewater infrastructure requirements of small rural communities may be underrepresented, and could lead to threats to community health. As well, mapping and spatial analysis will be impaired due to changes in sample size in sparser geographic areas. Some argue that the mandatory long form is the only valid source of local land data available in Canada.

Census Data as a Foundation for Study

The representation of Canada constructed with voluntary Census data is misleading and inadequate, argue a broad cross-section of its opponents, affecting further research. One organization describes the results of a voluntary survey as not necessarily "valid, appropriate, defensible, relevant and complete." The accurate data provided by the mandatory long form Census is a foundation for more specific secondary studies, described repeatedly as a "gold standard" or "benchmark" for weighting, methodological review and for evaluating accuracy. Many voluntary surveys, it is reported in several responses, use mandatory Census data to establish baselines and sample frames. As one planning related research organization states,

Not only is the Long Form information itself invaluable, but loss of this information will critically compromise countless other surveys conducted by Statistics Canada and numerous other agencies, businesses and researchers across the country that complement and extend the Long Form data and that also significantly contribute to our ability to understand our country and our people. This is because the Long Form data provide the statistical basis for the design of other surveys' sampling procedures and for the weighting of these surveys' results to obtain statistically reliable estimates of population

characteristics: it is the Long Form data that provide the rock-solid statistical foundation for many other surveys undertaken annually within the country.

The comprehensive nature of mandatory long form Census data allows for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn between diverse variables. As one provincial government letter states, it is through the data from the long form questionnaire that we can understand the linkages between postsecondary education and labour market outcomes...” The interrelationships established by comparing a cross -section of variables allows for richer interdisciplinary research. A professional association provides the following examples:

... without the kind of data collected by the long form version of the Census we would not know that for each extra daily hour spent in the car, the likelihood of being obese increases by 6% and that rates of fire deaths increase significantly as dwellings become more crowded.

A voluntary survey, many stakeholders argue, cannot provide reliable data and therefore impairs the study of relationships between variables.

The results of a voluntary Census not only narrow research, but are not comparable and undermine international comparisons of systems, programs and progress. Because “Canada will no longer be in line with international standards,” states one social service agency,

...making it impossible to compare Canadian data with that of similarly situated countries, such as the United States where the Census continues to be mandatory. This will undermine research aimed at comparing systems and programs across borders in order to identify best practices.

The issue of comparable continuity over time was also cited as a concern by many organizations; because the data produced by a voluntary Census will not be equivalent previous Census data the continuity of information will be disrupted leaving a gap in longitudinal studies and trend analysis.

The characterization of mandatory long form Census data as key research was refuted by proponents of the Census change. Five of the nine opponents of the mandatory long form

Census studies refer to it as irrelevant, outdated or simply not useful, most arguing that it supports the needs of special interest groups. This argument was, in all cases, accompanied by critiques of such policies as affirmative action. This argument occurred in most cases in conjunction with critiques of the legitimacy of information requested and the accuracy of results, as earlier referenced with the example of Canadians who responded “Jedi Knight” to the question of religion. This, the author suggests, implies that Canadians neither care to answer nor see the relevance of such questions. Another author criticizes the importance placed on the mandatory long form Census, stating that it is not “sacrosanct”. Another describes the long form Census as being “an antiquated and flawed system”, asking, “Should our government really be funding such a system?” Some argued that the long form Census is redundant and that relevant data collected could be collected by more suitable alternatives, such as income tax information. One author suggests that funding decisions should be based on outcomes measured by stakeholders themselves. Two suggested that the Census is a burdensome requirement and that it is simply unnecessary to collect such personal data about Canadians.

Access to Information

Several opponents of the Census change suggest that the shift from the mandatory Census limits Canadians’ democratic access to information about themselves. This limits the ability of communities to accurately gauge their gaps, their needs and determine subsequent action for improving conditions. The Census change, many suggest, will force stakeholders from various professions, industries, non government organizations and other levels of government to pay for their own data. This privatization of information will not produce data comparable to that from the mandatory long form Census, and will require too great a cost for most stakeholders to

burden. The NHS is more costly yet less reliable. Three authors reference the example of the United States, where the decision was made to maintain the mandatory American Community Survey because the cost associated with ensuring reliability would be too great.

The argument follows that such a massive data collection effort and its analysis cannot be replicated. As a result, information required for infrastructure, policy, and various other capacities will be set back. The mandatory long form Census is not perfect, argue several authors, and it requires optimization but despite problems it is considerably better option than the NHS. No other source of information, argue all those opposed to the change, adequately captures information to serve their sector, profession, or population target group. Some stakeholder suggest that this change will have long term economic impacts and that the societal cost of Census change will be carried across all sectors and vulnerable populations for decades to come. Decentralization of data, these groups argue, is not practical or affordable, and therefore exclusive.

A few organizations provided suggestions for alternatives to proceeding with replacing the mandatory long form Census with the National Household Survey, a decision described by one group as unpopular “across party lines and across the country.” Some stakeholders not only spoke about the Census change, but requested the development of additional or improved information about their field of work through revised or added questions, through specific surveys, or through the elimination of the provision to consent to release of Census information after 92 years.

Conclusions from the Empirical Research

The objective of the empirical research was to understand how stakeholders characterize the issues, benefits or challenges around the shift from the mandatory long form Census to the voluntary National Household Study, and how they expect the extent and quality of population statistics in Canada will be affected by the end of the mandatory Census. Key findings of this portion of the research included the following:

1. The dominant argument against the mandatory long form Census was the right to privacy, which was strongly refuted by opponents to the Census change. The latter argued that, first, confidentiality is of paramount priority to Statistics Canada, and second, that the public good or societal benefits afforded by the Census steeply outweigh concerns about privacy articulated by a few individuals. Letters from both sides of the argument suggested that the penalty associated with non-compliance requires attention.
2. The Census has been described as a mechanism for both “big government” and for good governance. While two authors suggest that government should not wander into the personal lives of Canadians, a significant number of responses to the Census change indicate that the long form Census is essential to responsive and accountable government.
3. Accountability was further addressed by organizations and agencies citing the Census as critical for monitoring a spectrum of programs, services and policies.
4. The Census was cited primarily in economic development and government sectors as critical in informing a knowledge based economy. Determining development, markets and an appropriate workforce requires the data across a variety of variables collected by the mandatory long form Census.

5. The accurate data provided by the mandatory long form supports the development, delivery and evaluation of effective program and service planning. Without this data, all sectors state, information supporting planning and programs is restricted and programming is at risk of being inappropriate, and at worst dangerously unprepared for critical situations.
6. Misrepresentation was a concern across all sectors, arguing that a non-response bias is particularly concerning for the groups that are already least likely to reply to a voluntary survey. This includes populations such as immigrants, ethnic minorities, senior citizens, low and very high income earners, thereby skewing data results in favour of Canada's mainstream middle income population. Small populations such as these groups and low density geographic regions are also at risk of being underrepresented in data. As a result, work across all sectors will not be appropriately tailored to suit the needs of all Canadians, particularly those in need.
7. Census data is a foundation for further studies, serving as a standard for methodology, weighting, and accuracy. Furthermore, longitudinal and international comparability of data are expected to be compromised, affecting work supporting trend analysis and best practices. This concern was predominant with healthcare, academia, social services, data organizations and networks, and planning related organizations.
8. Finally, the accessibility of accurate and appropriate information about Canadians was a recurring theme, especially around the privatization of information, which would leave most users without access.

It is important to reiterate that one of the limitations associated with this research sample is that it is not necessarily representative of the way Canadians feel about the Census change.

There were very few submissions in favour of the removal of the mandatory long form Census, which constituted a small fraction of the total sample collected. The sample does not account for ambivalence or indifference in response to the Census change. The large sample of letters opposing the census change represents concerned stakeholders who report that there is much at risk with the shift to a voluntary Census. As well, it is important to acknowledge that the analysis may have appeared different if research had been conducted with additional coders whose influences might have been different.

The overarching conclusion from the empirical work is that the mandatory long form Census is essential for planning purposes in terms of creating a reliable representation of Canada's population, needs and direction, and to inform and monitor a broad number of processes ensuring appropriate outcomes. The implications of the Census change for planning cut across almost all areas of planning concern as population data that often supports planning work is highly likely to be skewed, thereby affecting such planning functions as analyzing trends, forecasting growth, establishing baselines and targets, and evaluating planning process and outcomes. Accurate, representative Census data is of crucial importance to planning given Canada's size and economic, linguistic, ethnocultural, density and distribution, and can only be ensured with mandatory compliance. Despite efforts to increase participation, the voluntary National Household Survey will not be capable of replicating the breadth and scope of data previously established through the mandatory long form Census.

Chapter 6: Discussion and Summary

Revisiting the Research Questions

The goal of this study was to determine the expected implications of the Census shift, to extract concerns related to the planning profession, and to discuss what strategies might be used to adapt to this new information environment. A literature review provided insight regarding the role of information, quantitative data, and indicators in planning processes. Themes from the analysis were assessed to determine what stakeholders anticipate as benefits and challenges associated with the removal of the long form Census. The questions guiding this research are addressed as follows:

What is the role of the mandatory long form Census in planning in Canada? What is the role of quantitative data regarding populations in planning processes, and how does data derived from the long form Census enrich planning in Canada?

Planning work relies upon knowledge in a variety of forms, including recognized and reliable public data. Planning processes very often reference demographic data to understanding socio-economic conditions and the long form Census arguably constitutes an integral planning tool. It is a standardized data instrument that provides insight on growth, decline and population change across a multitude of variables. From this, planners forecast and develop required services, infrastructure land use development appropriately; to develop policy, program and funding recommendations; and to assess societal impact on infrastructure and natural processes to plan for future development and improvements. Quantitative data, particularly that provided by the long form Census provides a baseline to guide the development of indicators in order to measure the relevance and effectiveness of planning work. Accurate socio-demographic

population data facilitates appropriate planning responses along such lines as housing, retail and industrial development, transportation, community services for children and high-needs groups, and for setting and meeting sustainability targets. Data also aids in planning communication of needs and direction, particularly through mapping. Finally, democratic access to data can facilitate richer and more effective planning processes, can lead to more meaningful community engagement, and empower community groups to lead their own planning and development.

What is contested in the replacement of the mandatory long form Census with the voluntary National Household Survey?

A review of media reports revealed that three major areas of concern dominated discussion about the Census change: concerns about Census questions infringing on Canadians' privacy, concerns about the inadequate capability of a voluntary Census survey to represent Canada's socio-economic conditions, and the role of the Census in ensuring good governance by supporting transparency, accountability, informed decision making. This information was corroborated and elaborated in the analysis of letters responding to the Census change.

How will the extent and quality of statistical information about populations in Canada be affected by the end of the mandatory Census? What do stakeholders anticipate will be the issues, benefits or challenges around the shift from the mandatory long form Census to the voluntary National Household Study and how might their work be affected?

Many opponents to the Census change cite the data provided by the mandatory long form Census as especially relevant in Canada, a country of great geographic expanse in which the socio-economic make up is becoming progressively more diverse. It has been argued that it is not possible for the ratio of responses to the voluntary National Household Survey to accurately

reflect the makeup of Canada's social and economic conditions, and the results are not comparable to those of the mandatory long form questionnaire. While responses to the National Household Survey may have exceeded expectations, the sample is based on an increased percentage of households surveyed and does not necessarily reflect the proportionate demographic composition of Canada.

The development, implementation and measurement of policies, services, infrastructure and funding are expected to be challenged by diminished demographic data accuracy. Government accountability and decision making capabilities have been cited as concerns, as well as the result of inadequate data to support a knowledge based economy. The validity of data expected from the voluntary questionnaire has been characterized as detrimental knowledge building in Canada, affecting subsequent research which has relied on accurate Census data for reviewing weighting, methods, and baselines. As well, the comparability and continuity of data for international or longitudinal studies is expected to be compromised.

Those who support the Census change suggest that the shift from a mandatory Census is appropriate as the penalty for non-compliance is disproportionate to the crime; that Canadians should not be coerced to divulge personal information, particularly under threat of penalty; and that this shift reduces the reach of big government. Many of these individuals or organizations cite mistrust of government and scepticism of the Census process as concerns. Those of a libertarian stripe suggest that the collection of personal information be altogether eliminated. The rationale of concern regarding individuals' privacy has been refuted as erroneous as well as secondary to the societal benefits ensured by mandatory long form Census data.

The implications of the Census change for planning cut across all sectors identified in the empirical study. The analysis of responses to the Census change established that the population

data that often supports planning work is highly likely to be skewed, despite efforts to mitigate non-response bias. The voluntary Census is not likely to replicate the results of a mandatory survey, thereby altering the baselines, targets, priorities, trend information and evaluation of outcomes in planning processes.

How might planners address these changes to statistical information and adapt the planning process?

While this practicum focuses on an exploration of the expected planning outcomes of the end of the long form Census, two key recommendations emerge from the literature review, theoretical foundation and empirical pieces about how planners may adapt to the expected changes in statistical information. Planners are adept in working collaboratively and cross-sectorally and with a multitude of interests and voices. Planners, as potential proponents of communicative action, are in a position to consolidate the interests of various fields of practice to find strategies for mitigating changes in demographic data. The analysis and results compiled in this study can facilitate discussion within the profession and with sectoral partners about ways to adapt to changes in Canadian demographic information. Planners can facilitate discussion about collaborative adaptation strategies and networks developed for strategic action can explore means to audit or augment data produced by the National Household Survey. This role serves to encourage and balance debates in the creation of information, tempering the engineering of knowledge to support varied rather than dominant interests. This collective knowledge building can become a potent lever for collective action, building on the networks and joint opposition that emerged in the 2012 Census debate. The long list of respondents to the Census change can serve as a starting point to determine partnerships in this process. Because planning work intersects with most of the professional fields addressed in the empirical work in this practicum,

planners can aid in bridging sectoral information. Data collectives, whether sector specific or cross-sectoral, such as the Winnipeg Data Consortium, will likely become increasingly relevant now, given concerns about the continuity and accuracy of data that emerged in analysis and in light of imminent changes to Canada's information landscape due to research cuts during 2012.

In conjunction with data collectives and stakeholder networks, planners can play a multifaceted role, providing advocacy and encouraging public participation in ongoing Census debate and in the National Household Survey. For example, the American Planning Association's (APA) legislative priorities for 2012 include ensuring "...that communities can adequately plan for future needs by providing high-quality data" (APA, 2012, N.p.). To this end, the Association partnered with the U.S. Census Bureau to increase awareness and encourage participation in the 2010 Census and the American Community Survey (ACS), and was a founding partner in establishing *The Census Project*, network stakeholder organizations convening to hold that the development, process and participation in the Census and ACS are inclusive and progressive. The APA works in partnership to preserve the integrity of data, particularly in light of emerging fiscal cuts in the United States. They state, under this legislative priority, that, "efforts to undermine the quality of critical federal data, such as the American Community Survey, by weakening standards should be rejected" (APA, 2012, N.p.). As stated earlier, one of the key issues linking the planning profession to critics of the Census change is that of public accountability through representation. Ideally, planners act as agents of various public interests and social justice, particularly for marginalized or underrepresented groups, and can support this by working to ensure appropriate representation in the collection of statistical information, in data analysis and application, and in decision-making outcomes.

As well, planners can support multiple planning audiences, information stakeholders and the public in building information literacy. If Canadian demographic information is challenged and not necessarily accurate, this is especially important for data users. As discussed in Chapter 3, internet access allows for an increase in a variety of data sets to support multiple, often conflicting realities. Because planners are adept in navigating different types of information systems, filtering and analyzing multiple narratives, they are in a position of assessing gaps in data when delineating the characteristics and requirements of various communities.

Finally, following Deonandan's suggestion that, "The Census issue is ultimately one of engagement" (2011, p.415), planners can initiate public consensus building with the cross-section of public, private and community organizations or groups regarding what constitutes the public good, what is in violation of individual rights, and which activities supporting the public good, including the Census, supersede concerns the right to privacy.

Further Research

A number of countries use alternative methods to the Census to collect socio-demographic population data, as outlined in *Chapter 2*. A research project to examine global precedents and how planners in these jurisdictions work within their systems would be timely and useful for Canadian planning practice to determine approaches for adapting to systemic changes in Canadian information.

A further dimension to this area of study would be to examine the accessibility, usefulness and concerns surrounding the use of real-time data alternatives, such as "smart city" data and management. Companies such as IBM and Cisco have ventured into this field, offering "...super-efficient new-generation computerized information and control systems" (Peirce, 2012,

N.p.). IBM, in partnership with the University of Memphis' Department of Criminology, developed crime tracking and control software by applying "predictive analytics" software to existing records regarding frequency, location and particular details of offenses, perpetrators and victims. Memphis subsequently established a "Real Time Crime Center" to utilize this software to quickly establish relationship between different crimes, identify developing conditions that might give rise to offenses and to accordingly dispatch police (ibid, 2012, N.p.). IBM has identified as future development priorities, transportation, water infrastructure and utilities, and has already begun to develop software to guide and manage such areas as water management. This work has been focused on cities, which Neal Peirce describes as, "...often burdened with bureaucracies drowning in data" (ibid, 2012, N.p.). It would be valuable to examine how planners are responding to this information shift that intersects with several areas of their work, and what they anticipated are the benefits and challenges with this emerging information development.

Census results have been gradually released in the last several months. In the coming years, community, urban and regional planners may be able to better to respond to how data appears to have changed and how they are coping with this change. Such a study could serve to gauge the actual effects of the Census change on planning work and develop recommendations for a professional response.

This might provide better insight for subsequent focus groups to develop recommendations about how planners contribute to data collectives to bridge sectoral information. The destabilization of information in Canada has been alluded to as a trend in current politics, with what has been characterized in media reports as strategic cuts to organizations and programs that produce environmental, social, scientific information (Dudley,

“End of an era...”, 2012). It would be useful to explore if planners believe this is the case and how they in turn expect that their work will be further affected. This may be useful not only in building recommendations for action or remediation, but to build capacity in the profession to address limitations on information with cohesive action.

Conclusion

Through an analysis of themes emerging in letters supporting or contesting the Census change, this practicum has evaluated what is contested in the replacement of the mandatory long form Census with the voluntary National Household Survey, what is at stake for planning, and how planners might adapt to changes in information about Canadians. A number of strategies were suggested in this study for planners to mitigate any anticipated shortcomings in Census data and to aid in enhance the quality of information they may require for their work.

Many of the issues that emerged are beyond the scope of the planning professions but because planning practice often connects with many other disciplines, planners are in a suitable position to bridge and facilitate coordination for as complete as possible a system of information regarding populations. These actions and dialogue are critical to the profession, for, as the American Planning Association states, “good information is the backbone of good planning” (APA, 2012, N.p.). This practicum may serve as a starting point to assess commonalities in data requirements and concerns, and to initiate conversations about adaptation and strategic action.

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Appendix A: Organizations and Representatives For and Against the Census Change

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services	N	Blog post and media comments
Alberta Health Services, CEO Dr. Stephen Duckett	N	
Alberta Professional Planners Institute	N	Media comments
Alex Himelfarb, former Clerk of Privy Council	J	Joint letter with Mel Cappe, former Clerk of Privy Council
Algonquins of Pikwakanagan Family Health Team	N	
Alliance canadienne des personnes retraitées	N	
Ancestry.ca	N	Media comments
Andrejs Skaburskis, Queen's University	N	Media comments
Anglican Church of Canada / Église anglicane du Canada	N	Media comments
Anne Johnston Health Station	N	
Association canadienne française pour l'avancement de science (ACFAS)	N	Media comments
Association des Soeurs du Canada	N	
Association des statisticiennes et statisticiens du Québec	F	
Association féminine d'éducation et d'action sociale (AFEAS)	N	Media comments
Association francophone pour le savoir (Acfas)	N	
Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA)	Y	
Association of Canadian Economists / Association canadienne des économistes	N	
Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives (ACMLA) / Association des carto-thèques et des archives cartographiques du Canada	Y	University of Toronto
Association of Educational Researchers of Ontario	N	
Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada	Y	
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA)	Y	
Association of Municipalities of Ontario / Association des municipalités de l'Ontario	Y	
Association of Ontario Health Centres	Y	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario (APHEO) / Association ontarienne d'épidémiologie et de santé publique	Y	
Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario (ASPHIO)	Y	
Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada/ Association des universités et collèges du Canada	N	
Association ontarienne des chercheurs et chercheuses en éducation au ministre Clement (AERO)	F	
Atlantic Provinces Economics Council / Conseil économique de province de l'atlantique	N	
Atlantic Provinces Library Association	Y	
Barrie Community Health Centre	N	
BC Chamber of Commerce	Y	
BC Council for Families	Y	
BC Cycling Association	Y	
BC Government and Service Employees' Union	N	
BC Government Employee Union (BCGEU)	N	Blog post and media comments
BC Library Association	Y	
BC Non Profit Housing Association	Y	
Black Centre for Youth Resources (The Youth Centre)	N	
Black Creek Community Health Centre	N	
Blake Poland, Associate Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto	N	
Bloc Québécois	N	Government opposition and media comments
Bridges Community Health Centre	N	
Brock Community Health Centre	N	
Burlington Chamber of Commerce	Y	
Burnaby Family Life	N	
C.D. Howe Institute	N	
Caledon Institute of Social Policy / Institut Caledon des Politiques Sociales	J	Joint letter with United Way of Canada
Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations	Y	
Calgary and Red Deer City Planners	N	Media comments
Calgary Herald (Editorial)	N	Editorial
Canada Census Committee	N	
Canada West Foundation	Y	
Canada Without Poverty Advocacy Network	N	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)/ Alliance canadienne des étudiants (CASA)	Y	
Canadian Anthropology Society	Y	
Canadian Arab Federation	N	
Canadian Association for Business Economics (CABE) / Association canadienne des économistes d'affaire	Y	
Canadian Association of Certified Planning Technicians	Y	
Canadian Association of Geographers / Association canadienne des géographes	N	
Canadian Association of Journalists / Association canadienne de journalisme	N	
Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM)	Y	
Canadian Association of Professional Employees	Y	
Canadian Association of Public Data Users (CAPDU) / Association canadienne des usagers de données publiques	Y	
Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) / Association canadienne des bibliothèques de recherche	N	
Canadian Association of Retired People (CARP)	Y	
Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW)	Y	
Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) / Association canadienne des professeurs d'université	Y	
Canadian Bar Association/ Association du Barreau canadien	Y	
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) / Centre canadien pour des politiques alternatives	Y	
Canadian Chamber of Commerce	N	
Canadian Conference of the Arts	Y	
Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops	Y	
Canadian Consortium for Research	Y	
Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD)/ Conseil canadien du développement social	Y	Remarks to Standing Committee on Industry Science & Technology; Provided hub and template for protest, but no letter.
Canadian Council for Refugees	Y	
Canadian Dental Hygienists Association	Y	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Canadian Economics Association	Y	
Canadian Evaluation Society / Association canadienne d'évaluation	F	
Canadian Federation of Demographers / Association canadienne des démographes	Y	
Canadian Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences / Fédération canadienne des sciences humaines et sociales	Y	
Canadian Federation of Independent Business / Fédération canadienne des entreprises indépendante	N	
Canadian Federation of Students	N	
Canadian Healthcare Association	Y	
Elizabeth Hanson, Yukon NDP Leader	N	Media comments
Canadian Historical Association / Société historique du Canada	Y	
Canadian Housing and Renewal Association	N	
Canadian Human Rights Commission	Y	
Canadian Index of Wellbeing	N	Blog and call to action for petition
Canadian Institute of Actuaries / l'Association canadienne des actuaires	Y	
Canadian Institute of Planners / Fédération canadienne des urbanistes & Statement by Marni Cappe	Y	
Canadian Institute of Transportation Engineers	N	
Canadian Islamic Congress	Y	Open letter
Canadian Jewish Congress / Congrès Juif Canadien	Y	
Canadian Labour Congress / Congrès canadien des travailleurs	Y	
Canadian Library Association	Y	
Canadian Marketing Association / Association canadienne de marketing	N	
Canadian Medical Association	N	Media comments
Canadian Medical Association Journal	N	Editorial
Canadian Mental Health Association	Y	
Canadian Network of Metropolis Centers / Réseau canadien des centres Metropolis	Y	
Canadian Nurses Association / Société des infirmières du Canada	J	Joint letter with United Way of Canada
Canadian Pharmacists Association	Y	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Canadian Population Society / Association canadienne de population	N	
Canadian Psychological Association	Y	
Canadian Public Health Association / Association canadienne de santé publique	J	Joint letter with United Way of Canada
Canadian Research Data Network Centre / Réseau des centres de données de recherche	Y	
Canadian Restaurant and Food Services Association	N	Media comments
Canadian School Board Association	N	
Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics (CSEB) / Société canadienne d'épidémiologie et de statistiques	Y	
Canadian Sociological Association / Association canadienne de Sociologie	Y	
Canadian Taxpayers Federation	Y	Blog post - against mandatory Census so within scope
Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) / Syndicat Canadien de Fonction Publique (SCFP)	N	Blog post
Canadian Unitarian Council	Y	
Canadian Urban Institute / Association canadienne de développement urbain	Y	
Canadian Urban Libraries Council	Y	
Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA)	Y	
Canadian Women's Foundation	Y	
Capital Regional District (in B.C.)	N	
Carefirst Famil Health Team	N	
Carleton University Academic Staff Association (CUASA)	N	
Carleton University Graduate Student Association (GSA)	N	
Carleton University Sprott Centre for Social Enterprises, Sprott School of Business	Y	
Carlington Community Health Centre	N	
Catholic Civil Rights League	N	
Catholic Women's League of Canada	N	
Central Toronto Community Health Centres	N	
Centre de santé communautaire de Kapuskasing et région	N	
Centre de santé communautaire de l'Estrie	N	
Centre de santé communautaire de Sudbury-Est	N	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Centre de santé communautaire du Grand Sudbury	N	
Centre de santé communautaire du Temiskaming	N	
Centre de santé communautaire Hamilton/Niagara	N	
Centre for Study of Living Standards / Centre de recherche pour niveau de vie	N	Position statement
Centre francophone de Toronto	N	
Centre interuniversitaire québécois des statistiques sociales / CIQSS-QICSS / Quebec Inter-University Centre for Social Statistics	N	Position statement
Centretown Community Health Centre	N	
Childcare Resource and Research Unit	N	
Children's Aid Society of Toronto	N	
Chinese Canadian National Council	Y	
Cities Centre – University of Toronto Research Institute	Y	
Citizens Engaging Democracy, Newmarket-Aurora	N	
City of Brampton	Y	
City of Burnaby	N	Resolution to support Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD)
City of Calgary	N	
City of Charlottetown	N	
City of Cornwall	N	
City of Dieppe	N	
City of Edmonton	N	
City of Fernie	N	
City of Fredericton	N	
City of Greater Sudbury	N	
City of Hamilton	Y	
City of Kelowna	N	
City of Kingston	N	Resolution
City of Kitchener	N	
City of Kitimat	N	
City of Lac Mégantic	N	
City of Langley	Y	Resolution
City of Laval	N	
City of Merritt	N	
City of Mississauga	N	
City of Montreal	N	
City of Moose Jaw	N	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
City of Mount Pearl	N	
City of Nanaimo	Y	
City of New Westminster	N	
City of North Vancouver, and Minutes	N	Resolution
City of Ottawa	N	
City of Owen Sound	N	
City of Penticton	N	
City of Pitt Meadows	N	Resolution
City of Port Colborne	Y	
City of Prince George	N	
City of Red Deer	N	
City of Richmond Hill	N	
City of Sault Ste. Marie	N	
City of Spruce Grove	N	
City of St. Albert	Y	
City of St. Catharines	N	
City of Surrey	N	Resolution
City of Toronto, and other info.	N	Resolution
City of Vancouver	N	Resolution
City of Vernon	N	
City of Victoria	N	
Cityspaces Consulting Ltd.	N	
Coalition Québécoise pour l'avenir du recensement	F	
Collectif de bibliothécaires du Québec (Jo-Ann Belair, Annie Bérubé, Stéfano Biondo, Joë Bouchard, Chantal Beauregard, Pierre Carrier, Pierre Chicoine, Nancy Drolet, Alain Gendron, Catherine Jalbert, Guy Julien, Christian Lacroix, Dominique Lapierre, Marie-Denise Lavoie, Louise Leblanc, Sonia Léger, Véronique Paré, Normand Pelletier, Marcel Plourde, Gaston Quirion, Rose-Marie Racine-April et Chantal St-Louis)	N	
College of Family Physicians of Canada	Y	
Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse	N	
Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies	J	Joint letter with Statistical Society of Canada
Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (82 Cities)	N	
Community and Primary Health Care – Lanark, Leeds & Grenville	N	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Community Development Council Durham	N	
Community Development Halton (Ontario)	Y	
Community Foundations of Canada	Y	
Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria	N	
Concordia Student Union	Y	
Confédération des associations étudiantes de l'Université Laval (CADEUL)	N	
Conference Board of Canada	N	
Conference des Lecteurs et Principaux des University de Quebec / Conference of Rectors and Principals of Quebec Universities (Association of Universities in Quebec)	N	
Conférence régionale des élus (CRÉ) de Laval	N	
Conseil consultatif sur la condition de femme du Nouveau-Brunswick	N	
Conseil des agences servant les immigrants	N	
Conseil permanent de la jeunesse (CPJ)	N	
Conseil Québécois des Coopératives et des Municipalités	N	
James Rajotte, MP (Conservative)	Y	
Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada / Fédération Canadienne des Coopératives de Logement	J	Joint letter with United Way of Canada
Cornwall Agape Centre	N	
Council for Canadian Urbanism	Y	
Country Roads Community Health Centre	N	
Daily Bread Food Bank (Toronto)	N	
Davenport Perth Community Health Centre	N	
David Murakami Wood, Queen's University	N	
Delhi Family Health Team	N	
Département de démographie of Université de Montréal	N	
Dilico Family Health Team	N	
District of Kent	Y	
District of Mackenzie	Y	
District of Maple Ridge	N	
District of Nipissing Social Service Admin Board	Y	
District of Parry Sound	Y	
District of Thunder Bay	Y	
Doctors Nova Scotia	N	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Don Drummond; former chief economist of TD bank, former ADM of Finance	J	Joint letter with United Way of Canada
Dr. McKeown, Medical Officer of Health, City of Toronto	N	
Dr. Robin Fitzgerald, Research Fellow, Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance, Griffith University, Canadian Scholar Downunder	N	
Dr. Sylvia Ostry, Former Chief Statistician	N	
East End Community Health Centre	N	
East Wellington Family Health Team	N	
Economic Development Association of British Columbia (EDABC)	N	
Edmonton Journal, Editorial	N	Editorial
Elgin County	N	
Engineers Canada	Y	
Environics Analytics	J	Joint letter with United Way of Canada
Équipe de santé familiale communautaire de l'Est d'Ottawa	N	
Evangelical Fellowship of Canada / Alliance Évangélique du Canada	Y	
Ezra Levant, National Post	Y	Editorial against mandatory Census
Faculty Association of the University of St. Thomas	Y	
Fair Share Peel	N	
Family Service Association of Toronto	N	
Family Service Toronto	N	
Fédération canadienne de démographie	F	
Fédération des associations étudiantes du Campus de l'Université de Montréal (FAÉCUM)	N	
Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec	N	
Fédération des Communautés Francophones et Acadiennes du Canada (FCFA)	N	
Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec	N	
Fédération étudiante collégiale du Québec (FECQ)	N	
Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec (FEUQ)	N	
Federation of Canadian Municipalities / Fédération canadienne des municipalités (Letter)	Y	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Federation of Post-Secondary Educators of BC	N	
Federation of Prince Edward Island Municipalities	Y	
Federation of University Women – Samantha Spady	N	
Fédération Québécoise des Professeurs et Professeures d'Universités	N	
Feed Nova Scotia	Y	
Flemingdon Health Centre	N	
Four Villages Community Health Centre	N	
Frank Graves, EKOS Research (polling)	N	Blog post
Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD)	Y	
Free Education Montreal	N	
Front d'action populaire en réaménagement urbain (FRAPRU)	N	
Gateway Community Health Centre	N	
Gizhewaadiziwin Access Centre	N	
Glendon School of International and Public Policy	J	Joint letter with the United Way of Canada
Globe and Mail Editorials	N	Editorial
Government of Nunavut	N	Government opposition
Grand Bend Area Community Health Centre	N	
Grand River Community Health Centre	N	
Greater Fredericton Social Innovation	Y	
Greater Halifax Partnership	N	
Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce	Y	
Greater Victoria Community Indicators Network	N	
Green Party of Canada / Parti vert du Canada	N	Government opposition
Greg Finnegan, director of the Yukon Bureau of Statistics	N	
Grey Bruce Health Unit - Public Health Grey Bruce	Y	
Grey County	N	
Guelph Community Health Centre	N	
Halifax Chronicle-Herald, Editorial	N	Editorial
Halton, Region of	Y	
Hamilton Community Foundation	N	
Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction	N	
Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre	N	
Hamilton's Settlement and Integration Services Organization	N	
Headwaters Communities in Action (HCIA)	N	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Imagine Canada	Y	
Information and Communications Technology Council	N	
Institut de statistiques Quebec / Statistical Institute of Quebec	F	
Institute for Community Entrepreneurship Development	Y	
Institute for Research on Public Policy	N	
International Association for Impact Assessment - Western and Northern Canada Affiliate (IAIA-WCN)	Y	
International Association for Social Science Information Service and Technology (IASSIST)	Y	
International Statistical Institute	N	
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami / Association nationale Inuit (du Canada)	Y	
Ivan Fellegi, Former Chief Statistician, Statistics Canada	J	Joint letter with Mel Cappe, former Clerk of Privy Council
JJ McCullough	N	
John Pliniussen, Queen's University	N	
John Rafferty, MP	N	
Kawartha North Family Health Team	N	
Kelly McParland (editor of Full Comment, the National Post)	N	Editorial
Kenora Area Health Access Centre	N	
Kenora Mayor, Len Compton	Y	Media comments supporting NHS
Kevin Milligan, economist at University of British Columbia	N	
Kingston Community Health Centre	N	
Kitchener Downtown Community Health	N	
Lakeshore Area Multi-Service Project (LAMP)	N	
Lanark Health and Community Services	N	
Langs Farm Village Association	N	
Larry Bagnell, MP Yukon	N	Media comments
Liberal Party of Canada / Parti Libéral du Canada	N	Government opposition
London InterCommunity Health Centre	N	
Lorne Gunther, National Post	Y	Editorial against mandatory Census
Lower Mainland Local Government Association	Y	
Lumina Research Valuation and Advisory Services	N	
Maclean's Magazine (Articles)	N	Editorial

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Mark Warawa, Langley MP	Y	
Marketing Research and Intelligence Association (MRIA) / Association de la Recherche et de Intelligence Marketing (ARIM)	Y	
Martin Prosperity Institute	N	
Martin Simard, laboratoire LERGA, Département des sciences humaines et CRDT, Université du Québec à Chicoutimi	N	
Mary Berglund Community Health Centre	N	
McGill's Post-Graduate Student Society (PGSS)	N	
Medical Health Officers Council of Saskatchewan	N	
Mel Cappe, President, Institute for Research on Public Policy, and former Clerk of the Privy Council	Y	Joint letter with Alex Himmelfarb (Director, Glendon School of Public and International Affairs, and former Clerk of the Privy Council), Ivan Fellegi (Chief Statistician of Canada Emeritus) and David Dodge (Senior Advisor, Bennett Jones LLP, former Governor of the Bank of Canada, and former Deputy Minister of Finance)
Merrickville District Community Health Centre	N	
Metcalf Foundation	N	
Métis National Council (MNC)	Y	Remarks to Standing Committee on Industry Science & Technology; Provided template for letters
Metro Vancouver (AKA GVRD)	N	Resolution
Metro Vancouver Housing Committee	N	Resolution
Mike Moffatt	N	
Misiway Milopemahtesewin Community Health Centre	N	
Municipality of Huron East	N	
Munir A. Sheikh, Former Chief Statistician of Canada	N	Media, report, resignation statement
N'Mninoeyaa Community Health Access Centre	N	
Nanos Research (polling)	N	Joint letter with the United Way of Canada
National Citizens Coalition	Y	Blog post against mandatory Census
National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC)	Y	
National Post Editorial	N	Editorial
National Specialty Society for Community Medicine	J	Joint letter with the United Way of Canada
National Statistics Council/ Association statistique du Canada	Y	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Nature International Editorial	N	Editorial
New Brunswick NonProfit Housing Association	Y	
New Democratic Party of Canada / Nouveau Parti Démocratique du Canada	N	Government opposition
New Heights Community Health Centres	N	
Niagara Falls Community Health Centre	N	
Noojmowin Teg Health Centre	N	
North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit	Y	
North Hamilton Community Health Centre	N	
North Hastings Family Health Team	N	
North Lambton Community Health Centre	N	
North West Territories	N	Government opposition
Northwestern Health Unit	Y	
Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association	Y	
NorWest Community Health Centres	N	
Nova Scotia Association of Social Workers	Y	
Oak Park Neighbourhood Centre	N	
Office of the Ombudsmen, City of Toronto	N	
Ontario Chamber of Commerce	N	
Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants	Y	
Ontario Council of University Libraries	N	
Ontario Deputy Finance Minister Peter Wallace	N	
Ontario Genealogical Society	Y	
Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC)	Y	
Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association (OPNHA)	Y	
Ontario Professional Planners Institute	N	
Ontario Public School Boards Association	N	
Ontario Library Association	Y	
Ontario-Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA)	Y	
Ontario Public Health Association	Y	
Opportunities Waterloo Region	N	
Orillia Packet and Times (Editorial)	N	Editorial
Oshawa Community Health Centre	N	
Ottawa Citizen Editorial	N	Editorial
Pacific Community Resources	Y	
PARC (Toronto)	N	
Parkdale Community Health Centre	N	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Patricia J. Martens PhD, Director, Manitoba Centre for Health Policy; CIHR/PHAC Applied Public Health Chair; Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba	N	
Paul Roumeliotis-Eastern Ontario Health Unit	N	
Peel Children's Aid / Aide à l'enfance région de Peel	N	
Peel District School Board	Y	
Peel Poverty Action Group (PPAG)	N	
Peel Regions Public School board	N	
Peel, Regional Municipality	Y	
Petawawa Centennial Family Health Team	N	
Peterborough's medical officer of health	N	
Pickard & Law Firm	N	
Pillar Nonprofit Network	Y	
Pinecrest-Queensway Health & Community Services	N	
Planned Parenthood of Toronto	N	
Planning Council of Cambridge and North Dumfries (Cambridge, Ont.)	N	
Planning Institute of British Columbia (PIBC)	N	Statement
Port Hope Community Health Centre	N	
Portage La Prairie, Municipality	N	
Poverty Free Halton	N	
Prentice Institute at University of Lethbridge	N	
Province of Manitoba	N	Government opposition
Province of Manitoba - Minister Peter Bjornson, Entrepreneurship Training & Trade	Y	
Province of New Brunswick	N	Government opposition
Province of New Brunswick - Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons	Y	
Province of Ontario	N	Government opposition
Province of Ontario - Joint letter from Three Ministries: Training Colleges & Universities; Education Recreation & Sports; Employment & Social Solidarity	Y	
Province of Ontario – Office of Francophone Affairs	Y	French Language Services Commissioner of Ontario / commissaire aux services en français de l'Ontario
Province of Prince Edward Island	N	Government opposition
Province of Quebec	N	Government opposition

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC)	N	
Quebec Community Groups Network	N	
Quebec English School Board Association	N	
Queen's University	N	
Queer Ontario	Y	
Rafe Mair, Columnist	Y	
Red Deer MP Earl Dreeshen	N	
Regional District Central Kootenay	N	
Regent Park Community Health Centre	N	
Region of Durham	Y	
Region of Kootenay	N	
Region of Mount Waddington	N	
Regional Municipality of Waterloo	Y	
Regional Municipality of York	Y	
Regional Health Authority — Central Manitoba Inc.	N	
Regional Planning Commissioners of Ontario	Y	
Registered Nurses Association of Ontario	Y	
Renfrew County Child Poverty Action Network (CPAN)	Y	
Research Centre on Digital Inclusion / Centre de recherche et d'expérimentation sur l'inclusion numérique (CREIN)	N	
Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario (RCCAO) / Alliance de la construction résidentielle et civile de l'Ontario	N	
Rexdale Community Health Centre	N	
Richard Florida, University of Toronto	N	Media statement
Roger Martin, Rotman School of Management	J	Joint letter with the United Way of Canada
Roman Catholic Bishops	N	
Royal Society of Canada	Y	
Ruby Dhalla, MP	Y	
Rural Ontario Institute (ROI)	N	Blog, Call to Action
Sandwich Community Health Centre	N	
Sandy Hill Community Health Centre	N	
Saskatchewan School Board Association	N	
Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU)	N	
Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Services (SAVIS)	N	
Shkagamik-Kwe Health Centre	N	
Simcoe County	Y	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Social Development Council of Cornwall and Area (SDC)	N	
Social Planning Council of Kitchener-Waterloo	N	
Social Planning Council of Ottawa	N	
Social Planning Council of Sudbury	N	
Social Planning Council of Winnipeg	N	
Social Planning Network of Ontario	Y	
Social Planning Toronto	Y	
Social Policy in Ontario	N	
Société de l'Acadie du Nouveau-Brunswick	N	
Société franco-manitobaine	N	
Somerset West Community Health Centre	N	
South Riverdale Community Health Centre	N	
South-East Ottawa Centre for a Healthy Community	N	
Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre	N	
SPARC BC (Social Planning and Research Council of BC)	N	
St. Joseph's Health Centre	N	
St. Stephen's House	N	
StarPhoenix [Saskatoon] Editorial	N	Editorial
Statistical Governance Advisory Board (Established by the European Parliament in 2008)	N	
Statistical Society of Canada	Y	
Statistics Canada Advisory Committee	N	
Statistics Canada Advisory Committee on Demographic Statistics and Studies / Comité consultatif sur les études et les statistiques démographiques de Statistique Canada	N	
Stephen Gordon, economist Université Laval	N	
Stonegate Community Health Centre	N	
Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU)	N	
Sudbury Star, Editorial	N	Editorial
Surrey Board of Trade (BC)	N	
Syndicat des employés internationaux unis (SEIU)	N	
Table régionale des organismes communautaires autonomes en logement de Laval (TROCALL)	N	
TAIBU Community Health Centre	N	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Tasha Kheirridin	N	Editorial
Teen Health Centre	N	
Terence Corcoran, Columnist National Post	Y	
The Fraser Institute	Y	
The Hill Times editorial	N	Editorial
The Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada	N	
The Province Newspaper	N	
Tilbury District Family Health Team	N	
Tom Flanagan, University of Calgary	N	
Tom Ostler: Manager, Policy and Research, Toronto Planning Dept.	N	Media comments
Toronto Association for Business Economics	N	
Toronto Board of Health	J	Joint letter with the United Way of Canada
Toronto Board of Trade	N	
Toronto Community Housing	Y	
Toronto District School Board	Y	
Toronto Immigrant Employment Data Initiative (TIEDI)	N	
Toronto Public Health / Directeur de santé publique de Toronto	N	
Toronto Public Library	Y	
Toronto Real Estate Board	Y	
Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council	Y	
Toronto Social Research and Data Consortium (30 health, community and multi-service social agencies)	Y	Canadian Social Data Strategy
Toronto Star Editorial	N	Editorial
Toronto Sun editorial	N	Editorial
Toronto Women's Housing Co-op	N	
Town of Caledon	N	
Town of Halton Hills	Y	
Town of Kindersley	N	
Town of Langley	N	
Town of Milton	N	
Town of Oakville	N	
Town of Penetanguishene	N	
Town of Scucog	N	
Town of Smith Falls	N	
Town of Springwater	N	
Town of Woolwich	N	
Township of Brock	Y	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Transportation Association of Canada / Conseil du transport urbain du Canada	N	
Ukrainian Canadian Congress / Congrès Canadien Ukrainien	Y	
Union of BC Municipalities	Y	
United Church of Canada	Y	
United Steelworkers	Y	
United Way of Calgary	N	
United Way of Canada - Joint Letter	Y	United Way of Canada/ Centraide Canada Canadian Association for Business Economics and Chief Economist, TD Bank Canadian Nurses Association Caledon Institute of Social Policy Canadian Institute of Planners Institute for Research on Public Policy, and former Clerk of the Privy Council Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada Canadian Labour Congress Canada West Foundation Specialty Society for Community Medicine Environics Analytics United Way Toronto Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto Nanos Research Canadian Public Health Association School of Public Policy and Governance, University of Toronto Canadian Association of University Teachers Canadian Council on Social Development Canadian Economic Association Toronto Board of Trade Don Drummond – <i>Donald Matthews Fellow and Distinguished Visiting Scholar, School of PolicyStudies, Queen’s University, former Chief Economist of the TD Bank and former ADM of Finance</i> Alex Himelfarb – <i>Director, Glendon School of Public and International Affairs, and former Clerk of the Privy Council</i>
United Way of Greater Simcoe County	N	
United Way of Kitchener-Waterloo and Area	N	
United Way Toronto	J	Joint letter with the United Way of Canada
Université de Toronto	N	
University of Waterloo Association of Graduate Planners	Y	
University of Western Ontario	Y	

Organization	Is Letter Available? (Yes/ No/ Joint letter/ Only in French language)?	Notes
Urban Futures	N	
Urban Public Health Network	Y	
Urban Transportation Council	Y	
Valerie Preston, director of CERIS research centre on immigration and settlement issues York University	N	
Vancouver Board of Trade	Y	
Vanier Institute of the Family	Y	
Vaughan Community Health Centre	N	
Vaughan Social Action Council	Y	
Village of Haines Junction	N	
Volunteer Toronto	N	
Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health	N	
Waterloo Region Immigrant Employment Network (WRIEN)	Y	
Waterloo Students Planning Advisory	Y	
Wellesley Institute	Y	Presentation to Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities (HUMA)
Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Board of Health	Y	
West Elgin Community Health Centre	N	
West Hill Community Services	N	
West Toronto Support Services	N	
Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus	N	
Windsor Family Health Team	N	
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority	N	
WoodGreen Community Services	N	
Woolwich Community Health Centre	N	
York Community Services	N	

Appendix B: Coding Spreadsheet

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability, legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis
MUNICIPAL/ REGIONAL GOVERNMENT & ASSOCIATIONS (26)																														
City of Brampton						1	1										1						1							
City of Hamilton						1	1	1									1	1	1				1							
City of Langley				1		1	1										1						1			1				
City of Nanaimo				1			1										1	1	1				1					1		
City of Port Colborne						1	1										1			1			1							1
City of St. Albert						1	1				1					1	1	1												
Town of Halton Hills						1	1							1			1											1		
Township of Brock				1			1										1													
County of Simcoe						1	1	1										1			1		1							
District of Kent						1	1					1																1		
District of Mackenzie						1	1			1								1												
District of Parry Sound				1		1	1										1						1							
District of Thunder Bay						1	1	1									1										1			
Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD)				1		1	1										1	1					1							
Region of Halton						1											1						1							

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability, legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis
Peel, Regional Municipality						1	1												1	1	1			1						1
Region of Durham					1	1	1	1											1	1	1	1		1			1		1	1
Regional Municipality of Waterloo						1	1	1										1	1	1										
Regional Municipality of York						1	1											1	1											
Association of Municipalities of Ontario						1	1							1				1	1	1										
Federation of Canadian Municipalities	1					1	1											1	1	1	1	1		1						
Federation of Prince Edward Island Municipalities	1					1	1											1	1	1	1	1		1						
Lower Mainland Local Government Association				1		1	1											1	1											
Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association						1	1											1	1		1	1								
Regional Planning Commissioners of Ontario						1		1										1												
Union of BC Municipalities						1	1				1			1																
SOCIAL PLANNING, RESEARCH & SERVICES (25)																														

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability, legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis			
BC Council for Families						1	1										1														1		
Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations	1						1												1					1							1		
Canadian Association of Retired People (CARP)											1																						
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA)			1			1	1	1				1						1	1		1	1		1			1						
Canadian Council for Refugees							1														1							1					
Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD)	1					1	1					1						1						1									
Canadian Women's Foundation					1	1		1	1										1	1		1											
Community Development Halton (Ontario)	1						1		1	1			1								1										1		
Community Foundations of Canada						1	1											1						1	1								
District of Nipissing Social Service Admin Board	1				1	1	1			1					1																		
Feed Nova Scotia									1								1	1				1											
Greater Fredericton Social Innovation							1											1	1	1													
Imagine Canada						1	1																	1		1							

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability: legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis
National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC)						1				1							1	1	1					1						
Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants				1	1	1	1	1		1							1				1									
Ontario-Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA)					1	1	1	1		1							1	1		1			1			1		1		
Pacific Community Resources						1																	1			1				
Pillar Nonprofit Network	1				1	1											1				1	1								1
Queer Ontario	1				1			1					1		1	1					1							1		
Renfrew County Child Poverty Action Network (CPAN)			1	1	1	1	1													1		1	1							
Social Planning Network of Ontario	1					1				1																1				
Social Planning Toronto	1					1				1																1				
Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council		1								1							1	1	1				1					1		
Vaughan Social Action Council	1				1	1	1	1									1	1												
Waterloo Region Immigrant Employment Network (WRIEN)				1																			1							

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability: legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis
HEALTH (18)																														
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA)					1	1	1										1									1	1			
Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario (APHEO)	1				1	1	1	1										1	1				1	1		1	1	1	1	1
Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario (ASPHIO)	1	1				1	1	1																						
Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics (CSEB)	1	1	1			1	1										1	1	1						1					
Grey Bruce Public Health Unit					1	1	1	1									1						1							
Ontario Public Health Association	1				1	1	1	1										1	1						1			1	1	
Urban Public Health Network	1	1	1			1	1											1						1		1				
Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada						1	1											1	1											
Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM)						1	1											1	1					1						
Canadian Healthcare Association						1	1	1										1	1				1	1	1	1		1		
Canadian Mental						1	1	1											1	1			1	1		1				

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability: legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis		
Health Association																																
Canadian Pharmacists Association																	1						1			1						
College of Family Physicians of Canada						1	1											1	1				1						1			
Registered Nurses Association of Ontario	1	1				1								1				1	1	1						1		1				
Association of Ontario Health Centres	1					1	1	1				1						1						1	1	1		1				
North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit	1			1	1	1	1							1				1								1						
Northwestern Health Unit					1	1	1											1														
Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Board of Health						1	1	1															1			1		1				
RESEARCH (12)																																
Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA)	1	1				1	1							1									1							1		
Canadian Anthropology Society																		1						1	1							
Canadian Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences		1		1	1	1	1											1											1	1		

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability, legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis
Canadian Historical Association						1	1		1						1			1		1									1	
Canadian Network of Metropolis Centers	1																	1					1					1	1	
Institute for Community Entrepreneurship Development		1	1		1			1	1		1	1			1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1						
International Association for Impact Assessment - Western and Northern Canada Affiliate (IAIA-WCN)				1	1	1	1	1			1							1		1	1			1						
International Association for Social Science Information Service and Technology (IASSIST)	1					1								1				1								1	1	1	1	
Ontario Genealogical Society															1			1												
Royal Society of Canada	1		1			1																								
Vanier Institute of the Family	1	1																1		1	1		1			1				
Wellesley Institute	1	1	1		1	1	1	1										1	1	1	1	1			1	1				1

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability: legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & UNIONS (12)																														
Canadian Association of Professional Employees			1		1	1	1					1					1	1	1	1	1									
Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW)							1										1	1	1											
Canadian Bar Association/ Association du Barreau canadien	1		1		1	1	1										1	1	1	1	1			1						
Canadian Conference of the Arts						1	1										1					1	1	1	1	1		1		
Canadian Dental Hygienists Association						1	1	1									1	1	1		1		1					1		
Canadian Institute of Actuaries			1	1	1	1	1										1	1												
Canadian Labour Congress				1		1											1		1	1						1				
Canadian Psychological Association	1	1		1	1	1	1	1									1	1	1				1					1		
Canadian Sociological Association				1	1	1	1				1			1	1			1	1	1	1				1	1	1	1	1	
Nova Scotia Association of						1	1										1		1				1				1		1	

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability, legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis	
Social Workers																															
Toronto Real Estate Board				1																			1	1					1		
United Steelworkers	1						1				1							1													
PLANNING, INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION (10)																															
Canadian Institute of Planners	1					1	1											1													
Canadian Association of Certified Planning Technicians				1			1											1			1										1
Canada West Foundation	1												1					1													
Canadian Urban Institute				1														1	1				1		1						
Cities Centre – University of Toronto Research Institute	1	1		1		1	1							1				1	1			1	1	1	1						1
Council for Canadian Urbanism				1		1	1	1								1		1	1				1								
Engineers Canada					1	1	1	1															1								
Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA)						1	1											1					1						1	1	
Urban Transportation Council				1		1	1	1										1													

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability: legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis
BC Cycling Association						1	1										1	1					1				1	1		
DATA ORGANIZATIONS & NETWORKS (8)																														
Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives (ACMLA)	1	1				1											1	1		1	1			1	1				1	
Canadian Association of Public Data Users (CAPDU)	1					1	1										1	1		1	1	1						1		
Canadian Research Data Network Centre	1	1		1	1	1	1										1						1		1					
Canadian Consortium for Research	1			1		1	1										1													
Canadian Federation of Demographers												1		1																
National Statistics Council											1	1		1		1	1				1				1				1	
Statistical Society of Canada	1											1									1									
Toronto Social Research and Data Consortium		1			1	1	1																			1		1		
ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS, FACULTY/ STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS																														

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability: legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis	
(8)																															
Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)						1		1				1					1	1					1	1	1						
Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT)			1	1		1								1			1	1	1		1			1							
Carleton University Sprott Centre for Social Enterprises, Sprott School of Business	1																	1										1	1		
Concordia Student Union								1	1			1						1						1		1		1			
Faculty Association, University of St. Thomas				1		1												1					1			1					
University of Waterloo Association of Graduate Planners			1				1	1						1				1											1		
University of Western Ontario						1	1			1								1	1												
Waterloo Students Planning Advisory						1	1	1	1	1									1		1	1		1					1		

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability: legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis
CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVT ORGS(7)																														
BC Chamber of Commerce	1			1		1					1							1								1				
Burlington Chamber of Commerce				1		1	1							1				1	1					1	1					
Canadian Association for Business Economics (CABE)				1		1	1				1			1				1	1		1			1					1	
Canadian Economics Association	1			1		1	1											1	1		1	1		1					1	
Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce				1	1	1	1											1	1	1										
Marketing Research and Intelligence Association (MRIA)						1		1										1	1			1		1	1	1				
Vancouver Board of Trade				1			1				1			1		1		1				1			1					
LIBRARIES/ LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS (6)																														
Atlantic Provinces Library Association	1					1	1											1	1											
BC Library Association							1											1	1	1										
Canadian Library Association	1			1	1	1							1																1	
Canadian Urban							1								1															

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability, legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis		
Libraries Council																																
Ontario Library Association						1									1		1	1					1		1	1			1			
Toronto Public Library						1									1				1	1			1	1								
FAITH BASED ORGS (6)																																
Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops	1	1				1															1											
Canadian Islamic Congress					1			1		1							1	1	1		1				1							
Canadian Jewish Congress	1	1				1			1								1						1									
Canadian Unitarian Council			1												1																	
Evangelical Fellowship of Canada						1	1			1							1	1			1		1									
United Church of Canada						1		1	1								1						1									
ETHNOCULTURAL ORGS (4)																																
Chinese Canadian National Council						1		1										1	1		1											
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami	1					1		1	1								1	1	1	1	1								1	1		
Métis National Council (MNC)						1	1											1	1		1									1		
Ukrainian Canadian Congress						1	1											1														

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability, legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis				
NON-PROFIT HOUSING ORGS (4)																																		
BC Non Profit Housing Association						1	1												1		1		1	1										
New Brunswick NonProfit Housing Association																		1	1															
Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association (OPNHA)			1	1	1	1				1									1	1				1	1									
Toronto Community Housing						1	1												1	1		1												
PROVINCIAL MINISTRIES & AGENCIES (4)																																		
Province of Manitoba - Minister Peter Bjornson, Entrepreneurship Training & Trade	1			1	1	1				1			1				1				1		1						1	1				
Province of New Brunswick - Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons						1				1							1		1				1											
Province of Ontario – Ministries of Training Colleges & Universities; Education Recreation & Sports; Employment			1	1	1	1											1	1	1					1		1			1					

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability: legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis	
& Social Solidarity																															
Province of Ontario – Office of Francophone Affairs					1	1											1	1			1		1	1		1					
MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (2)						1	1											1	1				1								
Ruby Dhalla, MP																	0														
James Rajotte, MP																															
HUMAN RIGHTS (2)																															
Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC)					1			1	1	1							1														
Canadian Human Rights Commission					1			1	1								1	1	1												
SCHOOL BOARDS (2)																															
Peel District School Board						1	1															1									
Toronto District School Board						1	1										1														
JOINT LETTERS (2)																															
Mel Cappe			1		1							1		1																	
United Way of Canada				1	1	1	1	1										1	1	1	1	1			1			1	1		

Organization	Critique of privacy argument	Mandatory long form Census is a public good/ civic duty	Good governance	Knowledge based economy	Accountability, legal/legislative mandates	Evidence based decision making	Planning of effective/ focussed programs and services	Monitoring change/ progress (evaluation/ indicators)	Supports equality/social justice	Indication of community well-being	Concern re: decentralization/ privatization of information	Jurisdiction/ politicization of stats	Adjust/ remove non-compliance threat	NHS may lead to compliance issues with mandatory short form Census	Lack of stakeholder consultation	Democratic access to information	NHS is more costly yet less reliable	Voluntary survey will result in lower quality data	Representation a. Marginalized groups/ high earners less likely to respond, so info compromised	Vulnerable communities will be underserved and further marginalized	Geographic data challenges will be exacerbated	Small group data compromised (language, minority groups, etc.)	Important source of trend information about families instead of individuals	Trend related analysis and change management is challenged	Supports specific secondary studies	Serves as a benchmark for other research (weighting and methodology)	Comprehensive data for cross-tabulation and correlations to be drawn	International comparisons of systems and programs undetermined	Comparable continuity problem affects longitudinal studies/trend anal.	Changes in sample size in sparser/smaller geographies impair mapping/ spatial analysis			
Organization	1. Mistrust of government	2. Intrusion on right to privacy	3. Coercion	4. Burdensome	5. Not a useful tool/ outdated/ irrelevant and requires reform	6. Suspicion re: use	7. Accuracy/ legitimacy of information collected	8. Redundant/ More suitable alternatives	9. Costly	10. Only useful for interest groups/ elites	11. Reduce big government																						
SUPPORT FOR CENSUS CHANGE (9)																																	
Canadian Taxpayers Federation		1	1				1	1		1																							
Rafe Mair, Columnist	1	1	1			1			1																								
Kenora Mayor, Len Compton		1	1				1																										
Lorne Gunther, National Post	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1																							
Terence Corcoran, Columnist National Post																																	
The Fraser Institute		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1																							
Mark Warawa, Langley MP		1	1				1																										
Ezra Levant, National Post		1			1	1	1				1																						
National Citizens Coalition		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1																						

Appendix C: Comparison of 2006 and 2011 Mandatory Short Form Census

2006 Short Form Census	2011 Census
<p>1. Name</p> <p>2. Sex</p> <p>3. DOB</p> <p>4. Marital Status</p> <p>5. Is this person living with a common-law partner?</p> <p>6. Relationship to Person 1</p> <p>2006 long Form Only</p> <p>2006 long Form Only</p> <p>7. What is the language that this person first learned at home in childhood and still understands? If this person no longer understands the first language learned, indicate the second language learned.</p> <p>8. The Statistics Act guarantees the confidentiality of your Census information. Only if you mark "YES" to this question will your personal information be made public, 92 years after the 2006 Census. If you mark "NO" or leave the answer blank, your personal information will never be made publicly available.</p> <p>Source: http://www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/instrument/3901_Q1_V3-eng.pdf</p>	<p>1. Same</p> <p>2. Same</p> <p>3. Same</p> <p>4. Same</p> <p>5. Same</p> <p>6. Same</p> <p>7. Can this person speak English or French well enough to conduct a conversation?</p> <p>8. (a) What language does this person speak most often at home? (b) Does this person speak any other languages on a regular basis at home?</p> <p>9. Same</p> <p>10. This question is for all persons including children younger than 15. If you are answering on behalf of other people, please consult each person. This question is for all persons including children younger than 15. Only if you mark "YES" to this question will your National Household Survey responses and family history be part of the historical record of Canada. A "YES" means your responses will be available to family members and historical researchers, 92 years after the 2011 National Household Survey, in 2103. If you mark "NO" or leave the answer blank, your responses will never be made available to future generations.</p> <p>Source: http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2010/2010-08-21/html/order-decret-eng.html</p>

Datalibre. "2006 Short-Form Mandatory Census Compared to the 2011 Mandatory Census." *Datalibre.ca*. N.p., n.d. <http://datalibre.ca/2010/10/11/2006-short-form-Census-and-2011-Census-comparison/>.

Appendix D: Comparison of 2006 Mandatory Short Form Census and 2011 National Household Survey

2006 Mandatory Long-Form Census	2011 Voluntary National Household Survey
Questions 1 - 17	Same
18. Is this person an Aboriginal person, that is, North American Indian, Métis or Inuit (Eskimo)?	18. Is this person an Aboriginal person, that is, First Nations (North American Indian), Métis or Inuk (Inuit)?
19. Is this person: White, Chinese, South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.), Black, etc. This information is collected to support programs that promote equal opportunity for everyone to share in the social, cultural and economic life of Canada.	19. Is this person: White; South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.); Chinese; Black; Filipino; Latin American; Arab; Southeast; Japanese ;Other - Specify Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Malaysian, Laotian, etc.); West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan, etc.); Korean.
20. Is this person a member of an Indian Band / First Nation?	20. Is this person a Status Indian (Registered or Treaty Indian as defined by the Indian Act of Canada)?
21.	Same (Order differs)
NOT in 2006 but in 2001	22. What is this person's religion?
Education Qs 26-32	Same Qs 27-33
33. Last week, how many hours did this person spend doing the following activities: (a) doing unpaid housework, yard work or home maintenance for members of this household, or others (b) looking after one or more of this person's own children, or the children of others, without pay? (c) providing unpaid care or assistance to one or more seniors?	Removed
LABOUR MARKET ACTIVITIES (Qs 34-39)	Slightly Modified Wording (Qs 34-38) Q 39 Same
Employment Qs 41., 42. & 43.	Same
Employment Q 44.	Slightly Modified Wording
Employment Q 45.	Same
Employment Q 46.	Slightly Modified Wording
Employment Q 47.	(a) Same (b) NEW How many people, including this person, usually shared the ride to work in this car, truck or van?
NEW	48. (a) What time did this person usually leave home to go to work? (b) How many minutes did it usually take this person to get from home to work?
Questions 48., 49. & 50.	Same (Qs 49., 50. & 51.)
NEW	52. In 2010, did this person pay for child care, such as day care or babysitting, so that this person could work at his or her paid job(s)?
NEW	53. In 2010, did this person pay child or spousal support payments to a former spouse or partner?
INCOME Qs 51. & 52.	Slightly Modified Wording and new Government Programs included (54-55)
Dwellings Qs 1. & 2.	Same
New - was grouped in another questions	Dwellings 3. Is this dwelling part of a condominium development?
Dwellings Qs 3., 4. & 5.	Same (Qs 4., 5. & 6.)
NEW	Dwellings 7. Is this dwelling located on an agricultural

2006 Mandatory Long-Form Census	2011 Voluntary National Household Survey
<p>Dwellings 6. Dwellings 7. Dwellings 8.</p> <p>Q. 53 The Statistics Act guarantees the confidentiality of your Census information. Only if you mark "YES" to this question will your personal information be made public, 92 years after the 2006 Census. If you mark "NO" or leave the answer blank, your personal information will never be made publicly available.</p> <p>Source: http://www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/instrument/3901_Q2_V3-eng.pdf</p>	<p>operation that is operated by a member of this household? Same (Q 8.) Same (Q 9.a) NEW (b) Is this dwelling subsidized? Slightly Modified Wording (Q 10)</p> <p>F1. This question is for all persons including children younger than 15. If you are answering on behalf of other people, please consult each person. This question is for all persons including children younger than 15. Only if you mark "YES" to this question will your National Household Survey responses and family history be part of the historical record of Canada. A "YES" means your responses will be available to family members and historical researchers, 92 years after the 2011 National Household Survey, in 2103. If you mark "NO" or leave the answer blank, your responses will never be made available to future generations.</p> <p>Source: http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/NHS-ENM/ref/Questionnaires/2011NHS-ENM-eng.cfm</p>

Datalibre. "2006 Mandatory Long-Form Census Compared to the 2011 Voluntary National Household Survey."
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