

WHY DO WE NEED THE LONG-FORM CENSUS?

ASK YOUR FAITH LEADER...



"In spiritual terms this loving human response comes by the Grace of God, but in practical terms it is emboldened and upheld by reliable information and sound methodologies that are pillars of our social infrastructure."

Anglican Church of Canada

"The long-form census also contains questions related to religion, it would be a great loss to faith communities and to the country in understanding the multiplicity and richness of the spiritual makeup of Canada."

United Church of Canada

"This is one of the only ways in which we, at the national, regional and diocesan levels, can gain knowledge of the demographics and identify the geographic areas where our services are required"

Bishop Pierre Morrisette, President, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

Census taking is firmly rooted in many faith traditions. Jewish scholars believe the process is grounded in the concept of collective society and helps a community maintain a sense of identity. "Every Jewish federation in the country signed a letter ... to Prime Minister Stephen Harper asking that he reverse the census decision. Without that demographic data, we just can't plan properly."

Bernie Farber, CEO, Canadian Jewish Congress

"The census in recent years has become very important for churches and religious charities...in understanding their neighbourhoods, and how to intelligently do more outreach within their neighbourhoods... We're not going to be able to understand how the religious landscape in Canada is changing."

Rick Hiemstra, Centre for Research on Canadian Evangelicalism

Faith groups recognize the power Canada's statistical information has to help transform thought into action in profound and life giving ways. Census data allows for long-term planning for charitable fundraising, for implementing programs and services that support everything from cultural to social, health care, education, housing, to recreational needs.

The information compiled from the compulsory long form census is the only reliable, detailed source of information about Canadians. Where we live, how old we are, what languages we speak, our incomes, employment, disabilities, housing, health, and other key factors.

That's why a growing number of Faith groups have called on the government to bring back the long form census, including:

- Anglican Church of Canada
- Canadian Jewish Congress
- Catholic Council of Bishops
- Evangelical Fellowship of Canada
- United Church of Canada

THEN ACT!

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

IN OUR AREA:

If you, or your organization, want to get more involved in the campaign, please contact us at info@savethecensus.ca.

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

