

Moreover, comparing past data with more recent numbers allows us to see whether programs are working or whether adjustments need to be made, thus ensuring the funds being spent on municipal programs, as well as shared municipal/federal and municipal/provincial programs, make a positive impact and provide the best return on investment. By changing the form, long-term comparisons of census data which is vital to trend analysis and planning will no longer be possible.

I urge you and your government to reconsider the decision to eliminate the mandatory long-form census questionnaire in 2011 and beyond. The quality of municipal policies and programs depends on this data.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rick Zanussi', written in a cursive style.

Mr. Rick Zanussi, Chair
District of Parry Sound
Social Services Administration Board

Cc: Board Members
District of Parry Sound Municipalities
Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association
Ontario Municipal Social Services Association