

*This letter was sent to 237 MPs regarding support for Bill C-626*

December 10, 2014

*NAME OF MP*  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

**Re: Cuts to Statistics Canada and the Long Form Census**

Dear *Ms./Mr.*,

The Canadian Library Association (CLA), the national voice of Canada's library communities, is gravely concerned about the cuts to Statistics Canada. Enclosed you will find a copy of the CLA's official statement on this issue.

Recent programme cuts and policy changes at Statistics Canada, such as the elimination of the Long Form Census are making it difficult for Canadians to track critical issues that affect their communities.

In January, Member of Parliament, Mr. Ted Hsu's private member's Bill, C-626, An Act to Amend the Statistics Act will be debated for the second time. CLA strongly encourages all parties to attentively listen to the research presented and to allow for a more thorough discussion by voting this bill through to committee.

According to a report in the Globe and Mail in September 2013, the National Household Survey (NHS) cost Canadian Taxpayers \$22 million more to operate than the Long Form Census, and generated significantly lower responses. In addition, the responses they did receive often missed certain demographics in the population such as those not fluent in either official language, the rich, the poor and people with disabilities. As a result, the NHS cannot be used to compare results with the Long Form Census.

The CLA urges the government to return Statistics Canada to its status as one of the world's most respected National Statistical agencies by restoring its funding and the long-form census. As a first step, we encourage you to look seriously at Bill C-626 and vote it through to committee for a proper examination.

Should you have any immediate questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (613) 232-9625 x306 or [vmckay@cla.ca](mailto:vmckay@cla.ca).

Yours sincerely,



Valoree McKay, CAE  
Executive Director