

## **WHY SHOULD YOU FILL IN YOUR CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE? BECAUSE...**

### **THE CENSUS IS IMPORTANT TO everyone who lives in CANADA**

In Canada, a census is taken every five years. The next census is in May 2011.

A census includes everyone who lives in Canada. When Statistics Canada receives your answers to the census, it adds your answers to the answers of everyone else living in Canada. Together all our answers are used by Canada, our province and our communities to prepare for the future.

### **THE CENSUS MEANS SERVICES FOR your community**

The answers you provide on the census are used by your community to plan services such as schools, seniors housing, health care, daycare, police services and fire protection. These services are important to every one of us.

Census information also helps identify communities which need English and French as second language programs and heritage language classes.

### **OUR PROGRAMS DEPEND ON IT**

In addition to community services, the census helps to determine how much money is transferred to your province for health care, education and other social services. But that's not all. The 2011 Census will also help decide how many Members of Parliament are elected to Parliament in Ottawa.

### **THE LAW IS ON YOUR SIDE**

Statistics Canada is required by law to protect the information you provide on your census questionnaire. Only Statistics Canada employees working directly with the census will ever see completed census forms.

## **WE DEPEND ON YOU!**

Completing the census is both a civic responsibility and a legal requirement for all people living in Canada. When you fill in your census questionnaire you continue a tradition that goes back over 340 years – from a few pioneer villages in 1666 to today's large and prosperous country.

### **If you need help:**

Please call our free telephone service at 1-877-777-2011 from May 2 to 31 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. **Operators who speak other languages will be available.**