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Gord Johns
Member of Parliament, Courtenay-Alberni
1209 Island Hwy,
Parksville BC V9P 2E5

Regarding: Equalization payments, formal policies and clear accountabilities to safeguard the integrity of Canada's Official Statistical Agencies analytic products

Dear Gord Johns, Member of Parliament Courtenay-Alberni,

Many people are not aware that Canada has 4 Official Statistical Agencies: one for Quebec, one for British Columbia, one for the Northwest Territories, and of course Statistics Canada.

These Official Statistical Agencies work together on such issues as figuring out the best methods to determine Canada's equalization payments including population estimates. Unfortunately for Canadians, at least one of Canada's Official Statistical Agencies provided false information to Statistics Canada for a feasibility study into methods and data to determine equalization payments.

In an effort to cover up the deception, people in control of the Provincial Government of British Columbia denied requests for the feasibility study containing the false information claiming "disclosure harmful to intergovernmental relations or negotiations"*** and later stated "we do not see value in continuing to respond to enquires of a similar nature"***.

Rather than referring to false methods and data accompanying unfounded numbers, an easy solution to safeguard against the dangers of monopoly and the intrinsic risks of government agencies falsifying information in order to support the ruling parties' directions and policies, is to allow external reviews and, to refer to numbers that are verifiable and reproducible, including population estimates and projection scenarios.

Will you advocate that Canada's Official Statistical Agencies agree upon formal policies and clear accountabilities as set out by Statistics Canada including external reviews of methods and data used to estimate and forecast population numbers?

Thank you for your efforts to address local and national issues as the Member of Parliament for Courtenay-Alberni and to ensure that government services and products are done properly.

Yours truly,



William Warren Munroe
Population Projections Project

* Analytic Activities At Statistics Canada, Ivan Fellegi, Statistical Commission And Economic Commission For Europe, Switzerland, 14-16 June 1999.

** Cindy Elbahir, Manager Central Agency Team Information Access Operations, Letter sent via email, June 22, 2012

*** Angelo Cocco Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Service BC Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services, September 16, 2013