

June 21, 2013

CL 8-2013, June 20, 2013
ICPC 9-2013, June 12, 2013
Report ICP 57-2013

Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk
City of St. Catharines
P.O. Box 3012
St. Catharines, ON L2R 7C2

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

2011 National Household Survey – First Release
ICP 57-2013

Dear Ms. Nistico-Dunk,

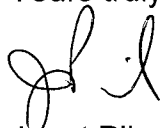
Regional Council, at its meeting of June 20, 2013, approved the following recommendations of its Integrated Community Planning Committee:

That Report ICP 57-2013, June 12, 2013, respecting 2011 National Household Survey – First Release, **BE RECEIVED**; and

That a copy of this report **BE CIRCULATED** to all Niagara municipalities.

A copy of Report ICP 57-2013 is enclosed for your information.

Yours truly,



Janet Pilon
Regional Clerk
:nld

cc: C. Kett, Town Clerk, Town of Fort Erie
H. Soady-Easton, Town Clerk, Town of Grimsby
W. Kolasa, Dir. Corp. Services/Town Clerk, Town of Lincoln
D. Iorfida, City Clerk, City of Niagara Falls
H. Dowd, Town Clerk, Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
N. Bozzato, Town Clerk, Town of Pelham
A. Grigg, City Clerk, City of Port Colborne
S. Daniels, City Clerk, City of Thorold
S. Luey, CAO, Township of Wainfleet
C. Raby, City Clerk, City of Welland
C. Langley, Township Clerk, Township of West Lincoln
P. Robson, Commissioner, Integrated Community Planning
G. Bowie, Policy Planner, Regional Policy Planning
C. Benson, Manager, Regional Policy Planning
M. L. Tanner, Associate Director, Regional Policy Planning
S. McPetrie, Administrative Assistant, Integrated Community Planning
N. Smagata, Administrative Assistant

Niagara Region

REPORT TO: Integrated Community Planning Committee

SUBJECT: 2011 National Household Survey – First Release

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That this report **BE RECEIVED** for information.
2. That a copy of this report **BE CIRCULATED** to all Niagara municipalities.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide information to the Integrated Community Planning Committee about the recent release of the 2011 National Household Survey. This report provides background on the new Survey, an overview of the results for Niagara and a discussion on the accuracy and comparability of the data for future work and historical analysis. Information about Niagara provided through the Survey is important to Council Business Themes 1) Responsive Region and 2) Healthy Community.

BUSINESS IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report. According to Statistics Canada (who publishes the survey), the quality of the data produced by the survey will not allow for a sound statistical comparison to previous census years. The continued use and reliability of this data will have future implications on regional business as this information is used to understand the local community, identify current and future socio-economic needs and characteristics of the population. Consideration will need to be given on how we compare the National Household Survey results to previous census surveys.

REPORT

The National Household Survey (known throughout this report as the 2011 Survey) is a voluntary and self-administered survey designed to replace the long-form census questionnaire - formally known as Census Form 2B. Prior to the 2011 Survey being conducted, Regional Council supported ICP 48-2010 recommendation to send a request to the federal government to maintain the 2B Questionnaire. The federal government went ahead with the voluntary 2011 Survey and replaced the mandatory Census Form 2B.

The first National Household Survey was conducted between May and August 2011 and is being released in three stages throughout 2013 (May 8th, June 26th and August 14th).

The first stage, released on May 8, 2013, focuses on the Aboriginal, Immigrant and Ethnodiversity variables. Results for the Niagara Region are summarized in Appendix 1.

Quality and Applicability of the National Household Survey Results

The National Household Survey is a voluntary survey. According to Statistics Canada, there are issues with the statistical accuracy and comparability of the data. For example, comparing 2006 long form Census to the 2011 Survey is less accurate and this accuracy gets worse in smaller geographies. For Census Subdivisions (Cities and Towns) with a population of less than 25,000, comparing census results between years is difficult due to the likelihood of higher non-response¹ rates which creates a bias. This means for municipalities in the Region with less than 25,000 population (Lincoln, West Lincoln, Wainfleet, Port Colborne, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Thorold, Pelham) comparisons using the 2011 Survey data cannot be relied upon. This is a real consequence of the abandonment of the 2B Census form.

Appendix 2 shows the global non-response rate for the Niagara Region and local municipalities. The non-response rate for the Niagara Region was 28.6% (which is higher than the Ontario rate of 27.1%). Appendix 2 also contains a comparison between the National Household Survey population estimate and the 2011 Census Population count. This comparison shows how the sampling method used in the 2011 Survey produced varying accuracies between municipalities.

The difficulty with a voluntary survey is not the number of respondents, but rather, who is filling it out. Voluntary surveys may be responded to more so by certain age groups or nationalities, thus creating a biased or skewed sample of the Canadian population. The mandatory long form census was a more controlled sampling method that led to a better representation of each geography level compared to what has been seen so far with the 2011 Survey.

Due to the varying global non-response rates and warnings from Statistics Canada, it may be difficult to derive accurate depictions of trends in Niagara when comparing historic census results to the 2011 Survey. Comparing Census Division data (the Niagara Region as a whole) will be more appropriate than census subdivision data (local municipalities).

Comparability between historic census trends and results from the National Household Survey will be consequential for Niagara 2031, the Region's growth management strategy. Population and employment projections used in Niagara 2031 are based on trends from previous census surveys and most notably the 2A Census of Canada data. The former 2B data was used for household analysis, dwelling unit information, and other important demographic indicators such as income, education, and housing quality. The 2011 Survey results must be used with caution in any analysis of growth management issues and housing demographic issues because of its voluntary nature

¹ Statistics Canada uses a quality indicator known as the "global non-response rate", which is used to assess the quality of NHS estimates and the extent to which estimates can be compared to the 2006 census results. The global non-response rate combines household and item non-responses. If the non-response rate is above 50%, the data will likely contain errors and, therefore, is not released by Statistics Canada.

and the lower return rate, particularly in certain communities in Niagara. As additional results from the 2011 Survey are released, Regional Council will be provided this information through similar reports.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

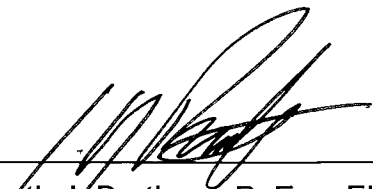
- ICP 48-2010 – Recommendation Report – Impact of Proposed Changes to 2011 Census; July 28, 2010

Submitted by:



Patrick Robson
Commissioner
Integrated Community Planning

Approved by:



Kenneth J. Brothers, P. Eng. FIWA
Acting Chief Administrative Officer

This report was prepared by Greg Bowie, Policy Planner and reviewed by Curt Benson, MCIP, RPP, Manager of Policy Planning and Mary Lou Tanner, MCIP, RPP, Associate Director, Regional Policy Planning.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1	2011 National Household Survey Results for Niagara	Page 4
Appendix 2	Global Non-response Rate for the Niagara Region and Local Municipalities	Page 5

2011 National Household Survey Results for Niagara

Population and Citizenship

- The total population in private households in Niagara was 422,805.
- 96.6% of Niagara's population are Canadian citizens.

Immigration

- Immigration to Niagara is on the rise, 2001-2011 saw the largest number (11,025) of immigrants coming to Niagara since 1971-1980 (10,650)
- The immigrant population in Niagara is 69,715 (16.5% of Niagara's population). 31,990 immigrants arrived in Niagara before 1971 and 11,025 arrived between 2001 and 2011
- The largest proportion of Immigrants coming to Niagara are between 25 and 44 (making up 34% of the immigrant population)
- There was a significant increase in the proportion of Asian immigrants moving to Niagara, accounting for 33.5% of new immigrants (14.3% of all immigrants in Niagara). Conversely, there was a decrease in the proportion of European immigrants moving to Niagara. Europeans accounted for 16.8% of new immigrants but 62.7% of all immigrants in Niagara
- The Niagara Region is made up of 72,975 First Generation citizens, 95,870 Second Generation and 253,965 Third Generation or greater
- 6.6% of Niagara's population was classified as a visible minority
- 16% of Niagara's population in private households speak a non-official language (a language other than English or French). Italian is the predominate non-official language spoken by 15,145 people or 22.5% of the non-official language speaking population.

Religion

- Religion in Niagara is composed of 75% Christian, 23% No Affiliation and 2% Non-Christian. The highest non-Christian religion in Niagara is Muslim, representing 4,375 people.

Aboriginal Peoples

- The Niagara Region is home to 9,055 Aboriginals, 3,125 of which are Registered or Treaty Indian.

Global Non-response Rate for the Niagara Region and Local Municipalities

Municipality (CSD*)	Population Estimate (National Household Survey)	Population Count (Census)	Difference (Census - NHS)	Global Non- Response Rate (%)
Niagara-on-the-Lake	14,705	15,400	695	40.3
Port Colborne	17,975	18,424	449	36.2
Thorold	17,545	17,931	386	33.5
Fort Erie	29,375	29,960	585	31.7
Welland	50,065	50,631	566	29.6
Niagara Falls	81,300	82,997	1,697	29.5
Wainfleet	6,300	6,356	56	29.2
Pelham	16,230	16,598	368	28.5
St.Catharines	128,770	131,400	2,630	27
West Lincoln	13,800	13,837	37	24.9
Lincoln	21,705	22,487	782	21.6
Grimsby	25,045	25,325	280	21.4
Niagara (CD**)	422,805	431,346	8,541	28.6

CSD = Census Subdivision*
CD = Census Division**