



SASKATCHEWAN
LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION

**Cuts to Statistics Canada
October 30th, 2014**

The Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA) supports the statement released by the Canadian Library Association (CLA) noting the damaging effects that the cuts to Statistics Canada will have on Canadians. The SLA advocates for the free exchange of ideas and easy, free access to information. We would like to see these values reflected in our communities, governing bodies, and government agencies.

CLA's response to the cuts notes that "Recent programme cuts and policy changes at Statistics Canada have made it more difficult than ever for Canadians to track changes to critical issues that affect their communities, such as unemployment rates or the education of our children. The replacement of the mandatory long-form census with the National Household Survey, at a significantly greater cost, and the cancellation of many social surveys has made it increasingly challenging, if not impossible, for municipalities, hospitals, schools, and government agencies to administer social programmes and to track their success. In some cases, municipalities are financing their own surveys to gather the critical data they once had access to through StatCan. StatCan cuts and changes are continuing to impede effective planning for all agencies, making future programming a costly gamble. Additionally, with all levels of government focused on social and economic innovation, it is imperative that municipalities have the ability to look back on trends in order to plan for the future with reliable data." (CLA - [Cuts to Statistics Canada are Harming Canadians](#)).

The SLA echos the response from CLA and asks for the Canadian government to restore proper funding to Statistics Canada.

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