



Ref: 95089

November 22, 2011

Mr. William Warren Munroe  
763 Beach Road  
Qualicum BC V9K 1S2

Dear Mr. Munroe:

The Honourable Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid has asked that I respond to your emails dated November 3 and November 9, 2011, regarding your views on the quality of population estimates for British Columbia and your dismissal from the BC Public Service in April 2006. As the Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for Service BC, I am happy to address these matters.

I understand that BC Stats brought to your attention in previous correspondence, that assertions you provided regarding (i) arbitrary manipulation of the estimates process, and (ii) the unreliability of the estimates information provided to clients and citizens, are incorrect.

The integrity and objectivity of the population estimation procedures and methods are guarded by BC Stats, and the quality of the resulting estimates is unparalleled. Statistics Canada, Canada's national statistics agency, holds in high regard the methodology and estimates produced by BC Stats: In a 2005 feasibility study prepared by Statistics Canada (STC) for Finance Canada, the agency concluded that:

*"...population estimates produced by three provincial/territorial statistical agencies (Quebec, British Columbia, Northwest Territories) were all found to be of better quality when compared with those based on any of the three STC methods."*

BC Stats' provincial ministry clients and Statistics Canada are quite satisfied with the underlying methodology and quality of outputs associated with BC Stats' sub-provincial populations estimates program.

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