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MEDIA RELEASE

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USSU Concerned Over Recent Changes to the Statistics Canada Census

The University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU) Executive today expressed its disappointment with the Government of Canada's recent changes to the Statistics Canada Census. By making the long census form voluntary the Government of Canada has fundamentally altered the sampling method used by the census.

USSU VP of External Affairs Blair Shumlich, speaking on behalf of the Executive, stated why they are disappointed by the changes made to the census.

"By making the long-form of the census voluntary, the government has spoiled a vast source of information, undermining the ability of both faculty and students to conduct research, the foundation upon which post-secondary education is built."

The information collected by the census is vital to the research done at Universities. Researchers from a wide variety of fields--History, Health Sciences and Urban Planning, to name a few--rely on the data to supplement, evaluate and guide their work. This information benefits students, not only by helping their professors stay current, but by assisting them in their own research. Research is what drives post-secondary institutions, and is critical in helping Canada stay competitive in a knowledge economy.

The USSU lends its voice to the long list of organizations urging the Government of Canada to reconsider its actions.

For more information about this media release, please contact:

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