



THE WORLD-
Spectator



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Dear Judge:

Just a note about our entry.

This news story in 2023 is a development from a story the previous year. In 2022 we did some reporting around census numbers, noting that the household numbers included in the 2021 census for several local communities (which were released in 2022) was lower than the actual number of households we know to exist because of water connections and other municipal services we know to be provided to those households.

As well, we reported that in Moosomin, residents of some multi unit senior residences said no one in their facilities was counted, despite them calling StatsCan to try to be included.

In Esterhazy, our reporting found that Statistics Canada reported a drop in population based on a figure of 290 homes in Esterhazy being unoccupied, while the mayor noted that the town was booming and he knew of almost no unoccupied homes.

Some local municipalities, including Moosomin and Esterhazy, asked for the census numbers to be reviewed.

The lower reported census numbers had big costs for local communities. In Esterhazy, the lower number led to a cut of \$62,000 in provincial revenue sharing.

In Moosomin's case, Statistics Canada has decided that it did miscount, and in January 2023 adjusted the official numbers upward by 74 households and 117 people. As a result of the new higher census number, the town has received an additional \$100,000 in revenue sharing this year and will each year until the next census.

In Esterhazy's case, Statistics Canada informed the town in January 2023 that it will be reviewing the 2021 census numbers for Esterhazy.

We have done follow up stories in 2023 indicating that the majority of census revisions across the country have been in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, many within our coverage area. One was revised upwards to triple the original census count.

We believe our work in uncovering the census anomalies led to many towns questioning and appealing their numbers and receiving updated counts.

We thought this background would be helpful in assessing the impact of this news story.

Thank-you

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