



## **Census and Assessment to Take Place this Spring**

**April 15, 2011– *For immediate release***

**Chestermere, AB** – Although birds and flowers may come to mind when you think of spring, it also signals the time of year that Chestermere holds its census and collects statistics for the Town. In addition to the municipal census, residents should also be aware that this year there is also going to be a federal census and a Town wide assessment.

“Residents can expect up to three people knocking on their doors this Spring” said Mayor Patricia Matthews. “We sincerely hope that people will help us by providing important data for the Town through the questions asked in the two censuses as well as the property assessment.”

The Town holds a municipal census every year to collect information on the demographics and size of the population in Chestermere. The federal census occurs every five years and is designed to collect important information about the entire population of Canada as well as information about neighbourhoods, municipalities, and provinces.

For the municipal census, residents will be asked questions when a census enumerator comes to their door. If there is no answer, the enumerator will leave a number for absentee homeowners to call so they can answer the questions over the phone. For the federal census, residents will receive a notification in May that they will need to fill out the census form. They can do that either on paper or online with the code they will receive on their notification.

In addition to the two censuses that will take place, residents will also see representatives from Accurate Assessment Group Ltd. coming to reassess their property.

“While we do smaller segments of the Town assessments every year, I don’t know if the entire Town has ever been re-assessed” said Ray MacIntosh, Director of Finance at the Town. “This assessment will place every home at its accurate value in the same year so we have a more even playing field when it comes to property assessments.”

The assessments will take place mostly in May but will not affect the property taxes due this June. If there are any changes in assessments, they will come into force when the 2012 taxes are due.

Residents should be aware that census enumerators will have buttons and clipboards identifying themselves. They will be walking in the neighbourhoods and knocking on doors. The assessors will be driving in vehicles marked with the Accurate Assessment Group logo and have identification available. They will be taking pictures and video of the exterior of most homes in Chestermere. If they need more information, they may knock on doors, take exterior measurements or leave call back notices.

If residents see any suspicious activity in their area by anyone who does not match these descriptions (especially after business hours) they should notify the RCMP.

If residents have any questions about the municipal census or assessment, they can contact the Town office at 403-207-7050.

If residents have questions about the federal census, they may check the census website at [www.census2011.gc.ca](http://www.census2011.gc.ca) or call 1-866-773-2011.

The Town of Chestermere is a distinctive recreational lake community in Southern Alberta committed to being a safe, family oriented, and sustainable municipality.

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