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TOWN OF SYLVAN LAKE

A Town For All Seasons

NEWS

TOWN OF SYLVAN LAKE 2007 CENSUS TO HIGHLIGHT AFFORDABLE HOUSING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sylvan Lake, April 23, 2007: The Town of Sylvan Lake will be conducting a census in 2007. “A Municipal Census can do more than provide the Town with population information – it is also a great opportunity to learn about the residents” said Census Coordinator Pam Marchesi, “the Town continues to grow very quickly and this has a significant impact on the services that the Town provides.”

Kick off day for census in Sylvan Lake is May 07. All information collected by the enumerators must be relevant to that day. Enumerators will be canvassing door to door during the hours of 10:00 am – 9:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 1:00 pm through 5:00 pm on Sundays. Enumeration is expected to be complete by June 04, 2007. Enumerators will be able to provide a letter identifying them as a Town of Sylvan Lake Enumerator and will be wearing identification badges.

“The amount of time needed to complete the questionnaire should be minimal – only a few minutes” says Marchesi. The questionnaire is comprised of three parts – geographic information, demographic information and specific questions. The geographic and demographic information are standard questions used for population counts while the specific questions are new for the Town this year.

Four specific questions are being asked for the benefit of the newly created Social Housing Advisory Committee (Affordable Housing). The Committee has been tasked with increasing the community’s awareness of housing issues and encouraging the development of a healthy, sustainable community and will also stimulate the development of diverse housing options for low to average wage earners in Sylvan Lake.

One question being asked pertains to childcare and will determine the number of users for licensed and non licensed childcare. The remaining questions will be used collectively to determine existing affordable housing and identify the need for more affordable housing in Sylvan Lake. They include gross annual household income and monthly amount of housing or rent payments. "Respondents will be asked to provide answers from a supplied range and all answers will be kept in the strictest confidence" said Marchesi, "names are not associated with the Census responses".

All data gathered will be used by Town administration to create a jump off point for committees to work on local issues. Everyone is encouraged to cooperate and respond to all the questions. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Census, Marchesi can be contacted at 318-6608 or contact Legislative Services at 887-1185 extension 241.