

# Directed Research Project Proposal

Fall Session, 2023

## The Impact of Canada's High Population Growth Policy

Canada has been following a policy of high population growth for some time. Concerns are now being raised that this policy is being implemented without sufficient planning and involvement of provinces and municipalities to address the impacts of a high growth policy.

Most of the analysis of this subject that has been done to date has been anecdotal or single issue focused. The objective of this paper is to present a broader high-level examination of the issues arising from a high population growth strategy.

The paper will take as its starting point the analysis and goals set out by the Century Initiative. The Century Initiative is a lobby group / think tank founded in 2011. It argues that Canada's population needs to grow to 100 million by 2100. While not officially stated, this objective appears to have become government policy. Growing Canada's population at a pace of 500,000 plus people per year has implications for many key government services, most of which are provincial and municipal responsibilities. These include:

- Housing
- Infrastructure
  - Sewer and Water
  - Electricity
  - Roads / Highways
- Health Care
- Education
  - Schools
  - Colleges
  - Universities
- Daycare
- Justice system
  - Policing
  - Court System
  - Penal System
- Social Services
- Environment

Drawing from existing analysis where possible, the goal of the paper is to:

1. Present forecasts of future requirements in each of these areas.
2. Determine the increases in capacity needed to meet these requirements.
3. Outline the implications in terms of Labour and Capital
4. Offer conclusions regarding the scale of the challenges that this presents.

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