Nishnawbe Aski Nation
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100 Back Street, Unit 200, Thunder Bay, ON P7J 1L2
Tel: (807) 623-8228 Fax: (807) 623-7730 www.nan.on.ca

NEWS RELEASE

Tuesday July 27, 2010 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

NAN RECOGNIZES IMPORTANCE OF CANADA'S CENSUS

THUNDER BAY, ON: Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Grand Chief Stan Beardy made the following statement as the Federal Government proposes changes to the way Canadians fill out Canada's census form.

"We do not agree with a monetary fine associated with not filling out a long census form however, we do recognize the long-term advantages that come with submitting it. In NAN's remote north, language is often a barrier and therefore it's important for NAN and the Federal Government to determine the best strategy to ensure full participation of our First Nations. We want to be full participants in the census process and for that reason the government needs to include us on a more practical level," said NAN Grand Chief Stan Beardy.

Nishnawbe Aski Nation is a political territorial organization representing 49 First Nation communities in James Bay Treaty 9 and Ontario portions of Treaty 5 – an area covering two thirds of the province of Ontario.

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For more information please contact *Amy Harris, Media Relations Officer – Nishnawbe Aski Nation (807) 625 4906 or (807) 252-2806 mobile or by email aharris@nan.on.ca.*