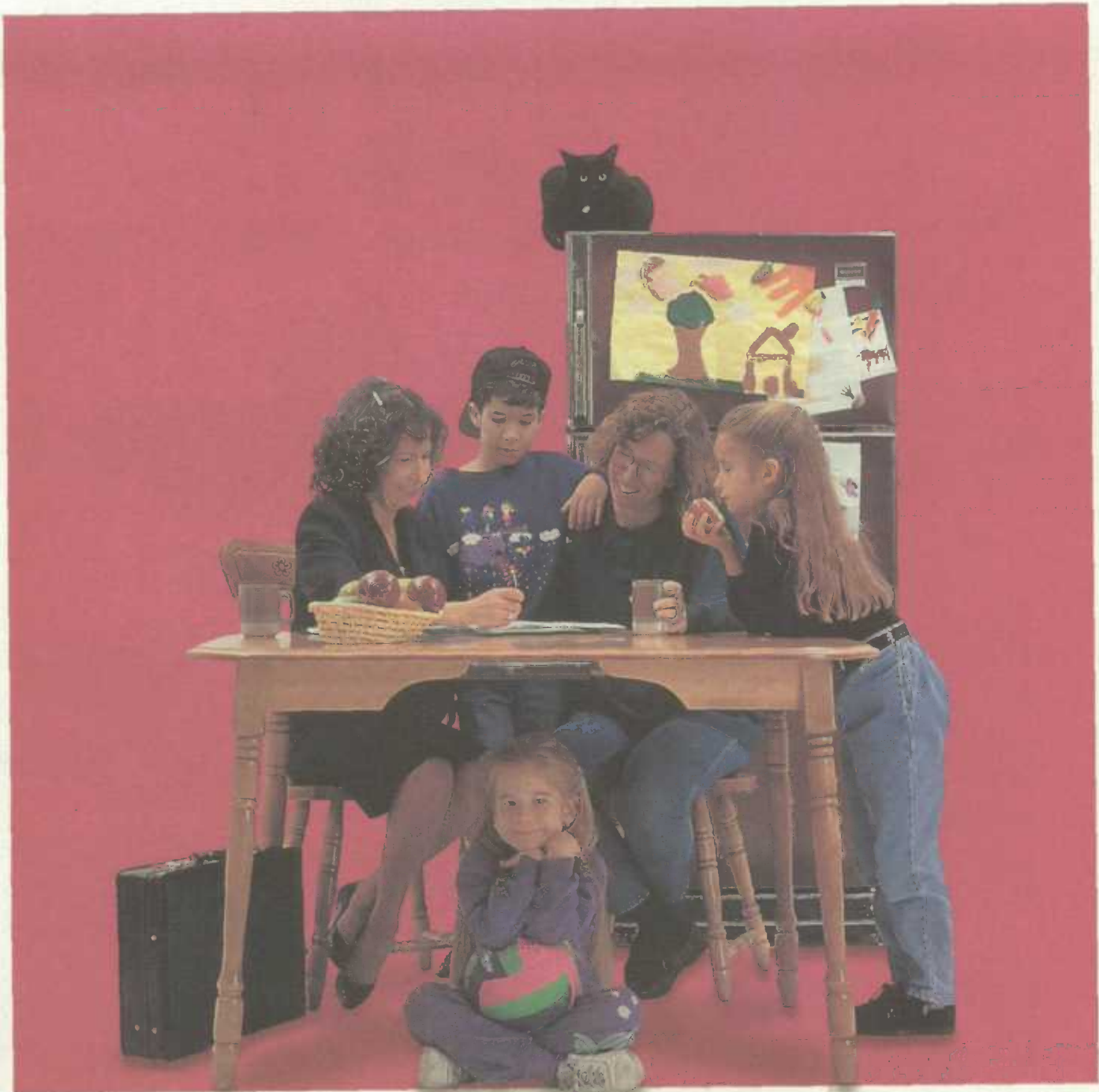
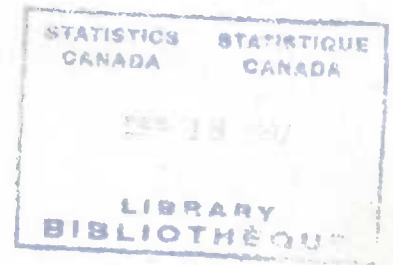




# Informed Consent Form

## The Self-Sufficiency Project

A Government of Canada research study to help people on income assistance in the province of New Brunswick to support themselves by working.



## **Self-Sufficiency Project Informed Consent Form**

I understand that Statistics Canada is asking me these questions as part of a research project. Government agencies participating in the project include Statistics Canada, the Department of Income Assistance, and Employment and Immigration Canada (EIC). The Social Research and Demonstration Corporation (SRDC) – a nonprofit organization – is conducting the project. SRDC is studying ways to help people on Income Assistance support themselves by working.

Through this project, I may be able to get additional money (an earnings supplement), if I find a full-time job within the next twelve months. This supplement will be added to the money I earn if I get a job.

I understand that I do not have to participate in the project. If I choose not to be part of the project, I will not have the chance to get the supplement. If I choose to be part of the project, I will have the chance to be selected to get the supplement. I understand that even if I agree to be in the project, I may not be chosen to get the supplement.

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By signing this form, I agree to be part of this study. The following was explained to me:

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### **The Project. Who's Doing The Research?**

The Self Sufficiency Project is being studied by the Social Research and Demonstration Corporation (SRDC), Statistics Canada and the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation (MDRC), a non-profit research firm.

Other researchers or firms may also be selected to work with SRDC. If they are, they must follow the same rules about keeping the confidentiality of information about me as outlined below (in the section called "What will Happen To My Information?").

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### **Selecting Volunteers. What Happens When I Volunteer For The Project?**

There are limited openings in the Self-Sufficiency Project. Only about half the people who agree to be part of the project will have the chance to get the supplement. These people will be chosen through a process called "random assignment." This is like a lottery or picking names out of

a hat; everybody has the same chance to be eligible for the supplement, but only half will be chosen. SRDC and Statistics Canada will collect information on both groups – those who can get the supplement and those who can't.

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### **Notification. How Will I Known If I'm Chosen?**

If I am selected to be eligible for the supplement, I will be contacted by Family Services of Saint John. They will run the project in New Brunswick,

and they will provide me with more information about the project and explain what I need to do to participate.

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### **Those Without The Supplement. What If I'm Not Chosen?**

If I am not chosen now, I cannot receive the supplement for the next four years. I will remain eligible for other programs and I can, of course,

try to join those programs or try to get a job on my own.



## **Interview Questions.**

### **What Will I Be Asked To Do?**

Both groups, those that can receive the supplement and those that can't, will be interviewed by telephone or in-person by Statistics Canada. This will happen a few times over the next five years.

During interviews, I may be asked some personal questions on things like my income, if I am on income assistance, or if I am working. I under-

stand that this information will be kept in strictest confidence. It will not be used to affect my grants or eligibility for any services.

I understand that I may refuse to answer any specific questions. This will not affect my participation in the program or lead to any other penalty or denial of benefits for which I am eligible.

## **Past and Future Information.**

### **What Other Information Will Be Collected About Me?**

#### **I agree to allow Revenue Canada to give Statistics Canada income tax information about me for the purpose of the project.**

Information from both groups, those that can receive the supplement and those that can't, will be used in the study. This means information on my earnings and income for the period, beginning four years before the date I sign this form and ending eight years after that date, will be collected.

#### **I also agree to allow Employment and Immigration Canada to give Statistics Canada unemployment insurance information about me.**

Information from both groups, those that can receive the supplement and those that can't, will be used in the study. This information may include records of employment, records of unemployment insurance benefits

I received and records of taxable earnings and taxes paid by my employer(s) for the period beginning four years before the date I sign this form and ending eight years after that date.

#### **I also agree to allow Statistics Canada to get information from the Department of Income Assistance.**

Information from both groups, those that can receive the supplement and those that can't, will be used in the study. This information will include: records of income assistance payments and child care subsidies received, identifying information such as Health numbers, and information on services received (like training programs) while I was on income assistance. This means information will be collected for the period beginning four years before the date I sign this form and ending eight years after that date.

## **Confidential and Anonymous.**

### **What Will Happen To My Information? How Will It Be Used?**

All information obtained by Statistics Canada will be kept in strictest confidence. It will be used only by the people doing the research on this project. Information collected from Income Assistance, tax and unemployment insurance records will be linked using my Social Insurance Number and will be put together into a file to which the same information will be added to over the next eight years.

Statistics Canada will release this file to MDRC, but it will not have my name,

address or any other information which would allow me to be identified individually. The information will be used to compare the experiences of the persons chosen to get the supplement with those chosen for the group that cannot receive the supplement. This will help to find out which types of people might be helped by programs like this in the future. My name will not be used in any report. No information about me will be released to others, except as described above.

## **Getting Answers.**

### **What If I Have Questions?**

If I have any questions about the research, I may make a collect telephone call to SRDC – (604)683-7308 or write to

Social Research and Demonstration Corporation, 400-905 West Pender Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1L6.

# Self-Sufficiency Project Informed Consent Form

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## Informed Consent. What Does It Mean If I Sign This Form?

I agree, by my signature below, to join in the study and consent to the disclosure and use of my personal information described in the sections called "What Other Information Will Be Collected About Me?" and "What Will Happen To My Information?".

The information provided below (name, address, phone number

and birth date) will be forwarded to SRDC and Family Services, so that they can contact me to tell me if I am eligible for the supplement. This information will also be given to the Department of Income Assistance so that they can provide me with the service for which I may be eligible under this project.

## Consent.

Statistics Canada Interviewer

Date

Name (please print)

Birth Date

Address (street address)

City, Province and Postal Code

Telephone Number

Signed

If Family Services has trouble contacting me about my eligibility

they can call	first name	surname
who is my	relationship	at ( phone )

