CONSENT FOR STUDY PARTICIPANTS

Purpose of Research: You are being invited to participate in an online survey to explore how residents in different regions of Ontario experience and view their community. The study is being conducted by the Population Health Analytics Lab at the University of Toronto. The purpose of this form is to provide you with information to make an informed decision regarding participation in this study. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this study, please reach out to the study staff, whose emails are provided in this document (see below).

Description of Study Procedures and Participation: If you agree to be a part of this study and participate in the online survey, you will be asked to answer a set of questions. It will take approximately 15 minutes to respond to all the questions, and all questions will be written in English. The survey will assess your experiences within your community. Survey questions, for example, will ask your satisfaction with your neighborhood, local services, other community members, and community leaders. Survey responses will help inform what is important to different community regions.

Participation and Withdrawal: Your participation is entirely voluntary, and you may decline to answer any of the questions if you wish. If you feel uncomfortable with something you have said at any point, you may ask to have all your response(s) deleted by emailing the research team at adrian.foster@utoronto.ca with the subject heading, "Community Wellbeing Survey – Withdrawal." Your participation and individual responses will not be shared with anyone outside of the research team, and your participation in the survey will have no impact on your standing with community organizations. **The last day to withdraw your responses is August 31st, 2023, after which you will be unable to do so.**

Protecting Your Information: All the information that you provide in this evaluation will be kept strictly confidential. Your name or any identifying details will not appear in any report or publication resulting from this study. Your information will be kept safe and secure at the University of Toronto. Study data, with no direct identifiers, will be stored and accessed on password-protected, encrypted computers and will be destroyed 5 years after the completion of the analysis.

Risks and Benefits of Participation: There are no known or anticipated risks associated with participating in this study. However, if you do experience any negative feelings, you may refuse to answer any question(s). While you may not benefit directly from participating in this study, the information gathered may provide benefits to improving aspects of the community or organizations within it.

Study Findings: Once survey responses are analyzed, the de-identified findings will be summarized in a report which will be posted on the Population Health Analytics Lab's website at: https://pophealthanalytics.com

Compensation: Each participant will be entered in a raffle to win one of eight gift cards valued at $50.00. The winner will be randomly selected and will be able to choose the gift card retailer from the following list: Tim Hortons, Uber Eats, Uber, Virtual Joker Prepaid Mastercard, Walmart, Ultimate Dining Card, Indigo, DoorDash, Esso, a variety of grocery stores, or a combined card to Winners/Marshalls/HomeSense. The odds of winning are approximately **1 in 250.**

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Research Team Contact: If you have any questions or concerns regarding the study, or to withdraw your responses (withdrawal must be before August 31st, 2023), please contact the study coordinator Adrian at adrian.foster@utoronto.ca or pophealthanalytics.dlsph@utoronto.ca with the subject heading, "Community Wellbeing Survey"

Research Ethics Board Contact: If you have any questions regarding your rights as a potential study participant, you may contact the Office of Research Ethics at ethics.review@utoronto.ca or 416-946-3273. The University of Toronto's Human Research Ethics Board (REB) approved the research protocol (RIS Human Protocol Number #41048).

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