



Board of Directors
Board of Trustees
Citizens Research Council of Michigan
38777 Six Mile Road Suite 208
Livonia, MI 48152-3974

It is with great pleasure that the Michigan Townships Association (MTA) congratulates the Citizens Research Council of Michigan as you celebrate your Centennial in April of 2016!

As Michigan policymakers at all levels of government struggle to craft sound public policies to effectively lead in a manner consistent with the values and expectations of an informed and engaged citizenry, the Citizens Research Council of Michigan has been a reliable beacon of thoughtful and accurate information, insights and perspective for all who believe that knowledge-based governance best serves the greater good.

Celebrating your 100th anniversary milestone is an appropriate opportunity for people from all walks of life, who cherish democracy at every level of government, to reflect on the essential role of CRC to bring light to virtually every significant public policy issue. In 2002, CRC was the lone voice to accurately predict a long-term state budget crisis while others saw only a garden-variety cyclical downturn. CRC's tenacious promotion of government efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability push those who are responsibly engaged in public policy to build their advocacy on knowledge, facts, and logic and less on appeals to emotion and ideology. CRC's publications and reports on emerging issues are highly anticipated and your major conclusions seldom disputed.

The Michigan Townships Association's mission, "to advance local democracy by fostering township leadership and public policy essential for a strong and vibrant Michigan," would be all the more daunting without the knowledge, integrity and independence of the Citizens Research Council of Michigan. MTA is proud to proclaim the Citizens Research Council of Michigan an essential force for government of which people throughout our beloved state can be proud!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. Lawrence Merrill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'M' at the end.

G. Lawrence Merrill
Executive Director