

# A POVERTY REDUCTION PLAN FOR...

# HEALTHY PEOPLE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



## HIGHER WAGES

Most people living in poverty have a job, and almost half the poor children in BC live in families with at least one parent working full-time.

**Increase the minimum wage and index it to inflation, and encourage employers to adopt the Living Wage.**

## WELFARE

Welfare and disability benefits are far too low at \$610 for a single person and \$906 for a person with a disability.

**Significantly increase welfare and disability rates, and index them to inflation.**

## HOUSING

BC has the worst record of housing affordability in Canada and increasing numbers of homeless and under-housed people.

**Re-commit to building thousands of new social housing units per year.**

## CHILD CARE

The high cost of child care is a huge burden for many families and makes it completely inaccessible to others.

**Adopt the \$10/day child care plan.**

## HEALTH

Poverty is a fundamental determinant of health, and the health care costs of poverty add up to \$1.2 billion/year.

**Expand essential health services, like dental and optical, and enhance community health care for seniors and people with disabilities.**

## EDUCATION

Without meaningful, long-term training and education, people cannot access stable, well-paying jobs.

**Adequately fund schools and make post-secondary education and training more accessible.**

## FOCUS ON MARGINALIZED PEOPLE

Aboriginal people, immigrants and refugees, people with disabilities, single mothers and single senior women have high poverty rates.

**Focus on the structural barriers faced by each group.**

ILLUSTRATION BY SAM BRADD

**BC has the highest poverty rate in Canada, but is one of the last provinces left without a poverty reduction plan.**

# JOIN THE CALL AT [BCPOVERTYREDUCTION.CA](http://BCPOVERTYREDUCTION.CA)

We acknowledge the support of our funders:

