

Municipal resolution: Call for a Poverty Reduction Plan for British Columbia

WHEREAS:

1. The poverty rate in British Columbia continues to be among the highest in Canada at approximately 1 in 10 using the most conservative estimate (Low Income Cut-Off – After Tax), and child poverty rates in BC are still 1 in 5;
2. Many impacts of poverty are experienced at the local level, and local residents pay for poverty in increased health care costs, higher crime, higher demand for community, social and charitable services, lack of school readiness, reduced school success, and lower economic productivity;
3. 78% of British Columbians want the provincial government to implement a poverty reduction plan;
4. BC is the last province in Canada to have a commitment to a poverty reduction plan.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT this council advocate to the provincial government to develop and implement a provincial poverty reduction strategy to reduce the number of people living in poverty in BC by setting concrete targets and timelines to reduce poverty.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

THAT this council support the resolution that will be brought to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities in September 2016, urging the Government of BC to adopt a comprehensive and accountable provincial poverty reduction strategy to reduce the number of people living in poverty in BC by setting concrete targets and timelines to reduce poverty.

For more information:

Contact: Trish Garner, Community Organizer, BC Poverty Reduction Coalition

Email: trish@bcpovertyreduction.ca

Phone: 604-877-4553

Website: bcpovertyreduction.ca