

Provincial & Regional Partners:

ACT Autism Community Training Society
Adoptive Families Association of BC
Affiliation of Multicultural Societies & Service Agencies
Alternate Shelter Society
Association for Community Education BC
ACT – Autism Community Training Society
BC Aboriginal Childcare Society
BC Assoc. for Child Development & Rehabilitation
BC Association for Community Living
BC Association for Play Therapy
BC Association of Child Care Employers
BC Association of Family Resource Programs
BC Association of Pregnancy Outreach Programs
BC Association of Social Workers
BC Council for Families • BC Crime Prevention Association
BC Early Years Alliance • BC Farm Women's Network
BC Federation of Foster Parents Association
BC Government & Service Employees' Union
BC Institute Against Family Violence
BC Pediatric Society • BC Recreation and Parks Association
BC School Trustees Association • BC Teachers' Federation
BC/Yukon Society of Transition Houses
Boys & Girls Clubs of BC
Canadian Association for Young Children
Canadian Mental Health Association BC Division
Canadian Red Cross • Capilano Student Union
Cerebral Palsy Association of BC
Child & Family Counseling Association
Child & Youth Care Association of BC
Child Care Advocacy Forum
Children's & Women's Health Centre of BC
Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC
Council of Parent Participation Preschools BC
Deaf Children's Society of BC
Dietitians of Canada, BC Region
Early Childhood Educators of BC
East Kootenay Childhood Coalition
Family Services of Greater Vancouver
Federated Anti-Poverty Groups
Federation of BC Youth In Care Networks
Federation of Child & Family Services of BC
Fulcrum Project • Infant Development Program of BC
International Dyslexia Association, BC Branch
Justice Institute of BC
Labour Environmental Alliance Society
Learning Disabilities Association of BC
Literacy BC • McCreary Centre Society
MOSAIC • Nisika Community Services
National Council of Jewish Women
Pacific Association of First Nations Women
Pacific Community Resources Society
Pacific Legal Education Association /PARCA
Parent Support Services Society of BC
Penticton & District Community Resources Society
Public Health Association of BC
Self Help Resource Association of BC
Social Planning & Research Council BC
Society for Children & Youth of BC
Society for Public Education of BC
Society of Special Needs Adoptive Parents
Sunshine Coast Community Services Society
United Way of the Lower Mainland
Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre
Westcoast Family Resources Society
Working Group on Poverty
YWCA of Greater Vancouver

Community Coalition Partners: 100 Mile House, Abbotsford, Armstrong, Burnaby, Chilliwack, Delta, Duncan, Fraser North, Golden, Grand Forks, Houston, Kamloops, Kelowna, Langley, Maple Ridge/ Pitt Meadows, Port Alberni, Prince George, Salmon Arm, Smithers, Squamish, Surrey, Terrace, Vancouver, Vancouver Aboriginal Council, Vernon, Victoria, Williams Lake

June 27, 2007

The Right Hon. Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington St.
Ottawa, ON KIA OA2

Dear Prime Minister:

We are writing to express our support for the National Day of Action on Friday, June 29th 2007 as designated by the Assembly of First Nations. We are a member of Campaign 2000, a cross Canada coalition of over 120 organizations committed to ending child and family poverty in Canada. As such we join together with the Assembly of First Nations and all Aboriginal organizations to call for an end to First Nations poverty as a great social injustice in our country.

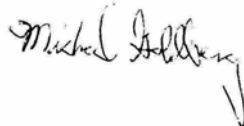
We call on your government to work in partnership with First Nations and to take urgent action to resolve long standing issues such as addressing poverty, setting land claims, and building First Nations economies. It is not acceptable that one in every four children in First Nations communities lives in poverty and that 40% of off reserve Aboriginal children are growing up below the poverty line.

We support justice and fairness for First Nations. We want the federal government to engage in constructive dialogue with First Nations and Aboriginal communities which will result in actions to improve the quality of life for all First Nations.

As a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, Canada's integrity is challenged by the continuing high incidence of poverty and social exclusion of Aboriginal children, youth and families. We must all re-double our efforts to ensure that the rights of all our children are respected and upheld.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Michael Goldberg
Chairperson

Cc: Vera Pawis Tabobondung, National Association of Friendship Centres
Chief Phil Fontaine, Assembly of First Nations
Hon. Jim Prentice, Minister of Indian Affairs