CAMPAIGN 2000’S 10-YEAR ACTION PLAN FOR THE CANADIAN POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY (CPRS)

The CPRS must include:
- Authentic consultation, in particular, with those who have lived experience of poverty.
- Clear targets and timelines.
- Dedicated fixed and human resources.
- Accountability including transparent public reporting and robust data. Support for civil society organizations to analyze the effectiveness of the strategy.

1. Eradicate Poverty among Indigenous People
   - Full compliance with CHRT ruling. Action on the Truth & Reconciliation Commission’s 94 Calls to Action.
   - Increase discretion of First Nations over poverty reduction expenditures to assure self-determined solutions.

2. Stabilize Transfer Payments
   - Increase Canada Social Transfer funding based on standards of adequacy in social assistance, access to and quality of social services and childcare.
   - Remove growth restrictions. Assure stable and predictable funding that recognizes regional economic variations.

3. Strengthen Income Security Programs
   - Working Adults
     - Increase EI to 60% of wages using 12 best weeks of previous year.
     - 360-hour entry for basic EI claim anywhere in Canada.
   - Maternity & paternity leave benefit 70% of income with qualifying hours at 300 over the best 12 weeks.
   - All new parents included (adoptive, students, casual, self-employed, part-time).
   - Income/social assistance
     - Parents retain child support payments currently deducted from their income.
     - Child-related EI benefits should not be deducted from provincial income or disability benefits.
   - GST top-up for all
     - Create targeted GST credit top-up of $1,800 per adult & child living below the poverty line.
   - Basic income (BI)
     - BI designed to reduce poverty and income inequality by raising the income floor.
     - BI must complement a strong program of social services, a well developed strategy to create jobs and robust employment standards that help families escape poverty’s multiple dimensions.

4. Support for Workers
   - Adopt an agenda to address under-employment and enhance equity.
   - $15/hr minimum wage for workers in federally regulated industries.
   - Enhanced medicare program that includes pharmacare, dental care and rehabilitation services.
   - Good jobs strategy:
     - Access to post-secondary education, university, community college and apprenticeship.
   - Enhancements to the Working Income Tax Benefit (WITB).

5. Universal Early Child Education and Care (ECEC)
   - ECEC program for Canada collaboratively developed with provinces/territories and Indigenous communities. Include targets and sustained funding.
   - Long term goal to reach 1% of GDP earmarked for ECEC for children 0-5 years.

6. Housing for All
   - Ensure rent-geared-to-income subsidies continue over the long-term for households in need.
   - Prioritize setting targets for new units and maintenance of existing in the National Housing Strategy. Portable Rent Supplement program for tenants in need.
   - Indigenous Housing Strategy includes funding for urban and rural housing initiative.
   - Gender lens on housing to recognize women’s unique needs.

7. Leveling the Field for Marginalized People
   - Employment equity criteria for jobs created through federal investment.
   - Fast-track federal legislation for equal pay for equal work.
   - Social assistance funded through CST lifts recipients out of poverty.
   - Federal Accessibility Act removes barriers identified by people with disabilities.
   - Revitalize Canada’s Action Plan Against Racism. Respond to concerns about racial profiling of Black, Indigenous and racialized people.

8. Foster Social Infrastructure to Fight Poverty
   - Reinstate National Council of Welfare to collect information about social/income assistance to inform social policies.
   - Support civil society groups which raise awareness and advocate to address the causes and effects of poverty locally and nationally.
   - Invest in collection and analysis of data through Statistics Canada to ensure timely understanding of the state of poverty in Canada and the effectiveness of interventions.

2018
- Every person in Canada has an income that reaches at least 75% of the poverty line (LIM-AT).

2020
- Child and family poverty is reduced by 50%.
- Canada’s poverty rate reduced by 50% (including poverty of female lone-parent households, single senior women, Indigenous people, people with disabilities, recent immigrants, and racialized people).
- Deep poverty is also reduced by 50% (LIM-40).
- Reduce income inequality by lowering the share of after-tax income held by the wealthiest 10% of Canadians.

2026
- Canada’s poverty rate and deep poverty are reduced by 75%.
- There is sufficient stock of quality, supported, and affordable housing available for all Canadians.