

Dear Community of Faith Members:

The Face of Poverty Consultation works to increase awareness of poverty, to encourage action, and to advocate for government policy change to eliminate poverty. As you may know, the pandemic has exposed the significant inequalities that exist within our society.

We are writing to urge you to have your voice heard when it comes to creating a post-COVID-19 world that will address the gaps and leave no one excluded.

There are many opportunities to be involved in calling for a Just Recovery.

1. The Ecology Action Centre has created a five-question online survey and would like to hear how you envision a Just Recovery.

Ecology Action Centre Survey

<https://ecologyaction.ca/just-recovery-survey>

2. You could endorse the six principles Citizens for Public Justice have identified as essential to a Just Recovery:

- Put people's health and well-being first, no exceptions.
- Strengthen the social safety net and provide relief directly to people.
- Prioritize the needs of workers and communities.
- Build resilience to prevent future crises.
- Build solidarity and equity across communities, generations, and borders.
- Uphold Indigenous rights and work in partnership with Indigenous Peoples.

Citizens for Public Justice

<https://cpj.ca/cpj-calls-for-a-just-recovery/>

3. Familiarize yourself with the work of other groups calling for a Just Recovery. Write to your MP in support of the ideas.

Canadian Centre for Police Alternatives- Nova Scotia

<https://www.policyalternatives.ca/sites/default/files/uploads/publications/Nova%20Scotia%20Office/2020/05/Are%20you%20with%20us.pdf>

The Council of Canadians

https://canadians.org/analysis/demand-just-recovery_350.org

<https://350.org/just-recovery/>

4. Addressing inequalities through a Guaranteed Basic Income is being promoted by many, including faith communities and Canadian Senators. See the links below for their letters to the federal government.

Letter from Anglican and Lutheran Bishops

<https://www.elcic.ca/From-the-Bishop/documents/20200502-anopenletterguaranteebasicincome.pdf>

Letter from the United Church

https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/resources/ubi_letter_from_mod_to_pm_21-may-2020_en.pdf

Letter from the Canadian Senate (50 Senators)

<https://www.ubiworks.ca/post/50senators>

Currently, there is a petition for a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income being brought forward to the House of Commons.

Petition

https://www.leahgazan.ca/basicincomemotion?recruiter_id=28290

We hope that you will take some time to add your voice and join those seeking to build a more just world. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Carolyn Earle at 902-429-8347.

Peace and blessings,
Members of the Face of Poverty Consultation