

BRITISH COLUMBIANS ON POVERTY IN BC

British Columbians Want Action

The public desire for action is overwhelming.

According to a recent Environics poll (commissioned by the CCPA):

Over 90% of British Columbians believe that if other countries can reduce poverty, Canada can.

87% of British Columbians believe that now is the time for strong political leadership to reduce the number of BC and Canada's poor.

87% said the prime minister and the premier should set concrete targets and timelines to reduce poverty.

91% said they would feel proud if BC's premier took leadership on poverty reduction.

77% said that in the face of a recession, governments should focus even more effort on supporting the poor.

74% said they would be more likely to support a provincial political party that pledged to make poverty reduction a high priority. They would want the government to propose clear policies, targets and timelines aimed at reducing the number of poor people.

After years of strong economic growth and record low unemployment, it is inexcusable that 546,000 British Columbians live in poverty, and homelessness continues to rise. As we head into a global economic downturn, BC will not be spared, and poverty risks getting worse unless action is taken.
