



CANADIAN
UNITARIAN
COUNCIL

CONSEIL
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Resolution on Economic Justice

BECAUSE as Unitarian Universalists we are covenanted to affirm and promote justice, equity and compassion; and

WHEREAS Canada is a country wealthy enough to afford just and compassionate social programs for those in need; and

WHEREAS all levels of government are making radical changes to budgets and social programs with the declared aim of controlling deficits and debts; and

WHEREAS in many cases budget cuts are unfairly focused on programs for the poorest and most disadvantaged in our society;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- that the Canadian Unitarian Council affirm the preferential option for the poor which calls for public policies to address and overcome disparities between rich and poor and which calls on governments to carefully consider all reasonable alternatives rather than adopting economic and social policies that require disadvantaged groups in society to make the greatest sacrifices.
- that the Council strongly urge its member societies to engage in study programs focusing on current social policy changes in relationship to employment, unemployment insurance, health, and the various social assistance programs.
- that the Council strongly urge its member societies to become actively involved in issues of economic justice in their local communities.
- that the Council cooperate with churches or other spiritual communities in addressing common concerns about social and economic justice in Canada, and that the CUC urge its member societies to engage in similar cooperative efforts.
- that the Canadian Unitarian Council Board be authorized to name a Monitoring Committee to regularly monitor social policy review issues and to advise the Board from time to time about possible actions or statements that might be appropriate for the Board to take or consider.
- that copies of this resolution be forwarded promptly to all member organizations and to the Prime Minister of Canada as well as all provincial Premiers and the national media.

**Passed by delegates at the Annual General Meeting, May 18, 1996
Canadian Unitarian Council**