

-----Original Message-----

From: S22

Sent: Wednesday, December 24, 2014 6:05 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; deJong.MLA, Mike LASS:EX; Bond.MLA, Shirley LASS:EX

Cc: BC MLA Kwan

Subject: Suggestion: Minimum Wage

Why not tie the minimum wage to inflation. A base rate of \$10 would increase to about \$11 in 5 years if CPI were 2% per year. This approach would stop the annual carping from unions and poverty pimps.

The increase would be easily covered for employers since their prices would also be increasing by at least the CPI-as they always do.

Merry Christmas.

-----Original Message-----

From: Christy Clark.MLA [mailto:Christy.Clark.MLA@leg.bc.ca]

Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 11:46 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Subject: FW: wage

-----Original Message-----

From S22

Sent: February-19-13 11:28 AM

To: Christy Clark.MLA

Subject: wage

Hi Christy,

I'll cut to the chase, I own S22 in BC, the minimum wage increase is putting me out of business. I no longer can make a profit, the profit i was making is now gone. I am very sad as I've been in business for S22 years.

All the best and warmest wishes

--

S22

-----Original Message-----

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013 2:57 PM

To: S22

Cc: Minister, JTST JTST:EX

Subject: FW: wage

Thank you for your email. We appreciate the time you have taken to share your concerns and some details of your personal experience as a small business owner in BC.

In BC, the spirit of entrepreneurialism is strong and can be seen in the thousands of British Columbians who have started their own small business, creating jobs for families across the province. We recognize the value of small businesses and their contributions to our economy. As laid out in 'Canada Starts Here: The BC Jobs Plan', government is freeing-up more access to venture capital and apprenticeship training tax credits to create an environment that encourages more businesses to be innovative and create jobs. We also know one of the biggest barriers that small business owners face is unnecessary red tape. BC is leading the country in the fight against red tape, and we have reduced that burden significantly since forming government.

Public input is important and will help us in our efforts to improve policies and services. In that light, we have shared your correspondence with the Honourable Pat Bell, Minister Responsible for Labour, for his review. Please be assured your specific comments regarding the increases to the minimum wage will be included in any related discussions.

Again, thank you for writing. It was good to hear from you.

From: S22  
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2013 1:16 AM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: Wage Increase

Dear premiere of British Columbia I am writing you this email today into regards of wanting to raise some concerns that we as British Columbians have to face on a daily basis given the minimum wages have not been fairly adjusted here are some examples of how we as tax payers and every day workers see how the pay scale is set may1, 2011 the minimum wages were \$8.75 per hour then in November1, 2011 the minimum wage was then again adjusted to \$9.50 per hour so 7 months after the first increase it had only be a \$0.75 increase not much for those who are working hard in this province then again in may1, 2012 the minimum wage was again increased to \$10.25 per hour only making the difference \$0.75 making it a \$1.50 within one year of each other the provincial government takes more increases in wages than the actual tax payers in this province the premiere Christy Clark has done well for our province but had made a statement that how do we keep our people in the province instead of them going to Alberta well we have many differences Alberta is the heart of the oil country and gas distributor and they pay less in fuel prices the province of B.C. pays quite a bit for fuel for our automotive vehicles if it is anyone who should be paying these extreme fuel prices should be the united states of America not the British Columbians if we could actually have a decent minimum wage such as \$12.25 per hour making the increase to a whopping \$2.00 that is not to bad for all the hard workers who are just starting out lets work together and make a brighter future for our children of this province and stop making the provincial government look bad thank you for your time...

S22

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 2:30 PM  
To: S22  
Cc: Minister, JTST JTST:EX  
Subject: RE: Wage Increase

Thank you for your email on the matter of the minimum wage in British Columbia. We note that you would like to see a further rise to the minimum rate and we appreciate receiving your comments.

As you can appreciate, S22 there are many factors to be weighed when government makes decisions. We understand you are concerned about making sure there are enough good paying jobs in our province. We want to assure you that government is here to create a strong economy for a secure tomorrow. A major focus of ours is on job creation, because we understand the best way to ensure prosperity in our province is to make sure there are enough stable jobs out there.

Through our goal of developing a liquefied natural gas (LNG) export industry in BC, we will build on the foundation and successes of the BC Jobs Plan to create economic opportunity. LNG will create thousands of jobs and economic benefits. To learn more, we encourage you to visit the following website:

<http://www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/2013/07/action-plan-released-for-bcs-lng-sector.html>

Government monitors its services and programs to ensure that they are working as they should and your feedback is helpful in that process. We will be sharing your comments with our Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, and the Minister Responsible for Labour, the Honourable Shirley Bond, so that she, too, is aware of your assessment of the minimum wage.

Again, thank you for writing. It was good to hear from you.

cc: Honourable Shirley Bond

From: S22  
Sent: February-01-14 1:46 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: comment on cost living

PREMIER . MS CHRISTY CLARK.

When are you going address the cost living in BC. i checked on what the minimum wage used to be. in 1960 minimum wage used to one dollar an hour. this would buy an full size car then in 2000 hrs. now that same full size car costs 40,000 and you would have work 4,000 hours to pay for that same car on your 10 dollar minimum wages just on cars alone we are half wages. i have tried to get your office to address the problem of low wage workers. 20 dollar an hour wage would bring wages inline with cost living in BC.

S22

From: S22  
Sent: December-07-13 09:37  
To: Minister, MCF MCF:EX; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Cc: Foster.MLA, Eric LASS:EX  
Subject: Child poverty rate

Hello,

I find it unbelievable that BC has one of the highest child poverty rates in Canada. We are not a 'have not' province. It is time to step up and look after the poor. It is disgraceful that working people cannot feed their families.

Isn't it time to raise the minimum wage again? It seems to be easy to approve everyone raising their prices, so you have to raise wages in step with that.

It would also be helpful to allow mothers to keep at least a portion of the support sent by fathers to their children. Clawing it all back is like taking food off the table or presents from under the tree.

I hope you will act soon on this appalling problem.

S22

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Sent: December-11-13 1:59 PM  
To: S22  
Cc: Minister, MCF MCF:EX; Minister, SDSI SDSI:EX  
Subject: RE: Child poverty rate

Thank you for your email. We appreciate that you have sent us your concerns around child poverty.

We believe that the best way to lift people out of poverty is to make sure they have jobs and the skills they need to succeed at those jobs. That's why we are focused on job creation and training, as well as building a stronger economy which will, in turn, provide more revenue to government for spending on social services.

We do provide additional, direct assistance to those who are struggling: nineteen thousand families receive subsidized housing and a further 9,800 families receive rental assistance in the private market; we exempt over one million low-income British Columbians from paying income tax; and, more than 800,000 residents do not pay MSP premiums. We have increased the minimum wage to \$10.25 per hour, making it among the highest in Canada. We have also budgeted to start an Early Childhood Tax Benefit in 2015, which will make child care more affordable. It is worth noting that our child poverty rate has declined by 41 per cent since 2003 and remains at one of its lowest rates in more than three decades.

Poverty is a challenge, and we know there's more to be done. If you would like to keep abreast of government's efforts, we encourage you to check in often to our website at [www.gov.bc.ca](http://www.gov.bc.ca). To access news releases directly, go to [www.news.gov.bc.ca](http://www.news.gov.bc.ca).

Thank you again for your comments and we hope this information is helpful.



From: S22  
Sent: December-18-13 1:12 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: HAVE AN IDEA FOR GOV.

MS CHRISTY CLARK

Have an idea to link the minimum wage with HOUSE PRICES. in an ideal world for citizens for every 10,000 dollars in value for an house in bc. the minimum wage should pay ONE DOLLAR. so if house are 382,000 an minimum wage would be 38 dollars an hour.;; this minimum wage is necessary to cope the sky real estate values in bc to keep bc competitive an ratio of 20,000 dollars to one dollar in pay. could be the solution. 20 dollars an hour would allow workers to rent an house. at least the current 10 dollar an hour wage is geared to an realestate market of 100,000 dollars houses. if that was the case an 10 dollar an hour wage would be fine. in Vancouver right now I would say you would have to earn 78 dollars an hour to cope with the 780,000 dollar houses. so and if look at the economy. in BC less than 13% of workers are in mfg. so an higher minimum wage would not effect competitiveness .. 87% OF WORKER ARE OUTSIDE MFG. so I my mind. service workers are mainly buying services of other workers. and mfg good are imported. we are not like Germany or japan exporting finished goods. so to me the minimum wage could be lifted way above Canada wide levels. to a new bc level 20 dollars an hour would make us the highest minimum wage in world . Australia holds that title at 17 dollars an hour and it had no affect negative on mining. wages in that sector are way above the aussie minimum wage. I found pay as high as 100 dollars an hour paid for trades in the mines down under. because we are a service economy. we could

get away with an 30 to 40 dollar minimum wage. I guarantee the province would boom at that level . service workers who can not buy an car. could do so. and they could buy an house in lower cost areas. have the other idea of freezing the price of real estate. no speculation allowed. this was done in the 30s in Germany and it worked. worker pay went up and housing cost stayed reasonable. my concept though is to tie an service economy in pay to real estate market that way if it takes of like it doing worker pay follows the market higher. it makes sense and prevents an bubble from forming with limit on real-estate prices and it keeps the market affordable for workers..

what do you think of my idea--- write me at --

S22

best regards

S22

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Sent: January-03-14 9:09 AM  
To: S22  
Subject: RE: HAVE AN IDEA FOR GOV.

Thank you for your email, S22 We appreciate the time you have taken to share your ideas with us. Your input is important and will help us in our efforts to improve programs and services. Please be assured your specific comments about linking the minimum wage with housing prices will be included in any related discussions going forward.

Again, thank you for writing.

From: S22  
Sent: December-28-13 2:32 PM  
To: elizabeth.may@parl.gc.ca; john MP duncan; stephen harper; OfficeofthePremier, Office  
PREM:EX; McRae.MLA, Don LASS:EX; justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca; Thomas Mulcair  
Subject: living wage

Dear leaders,

I hope that you all have had a family-oriented, restorative Christmas season.

I believe that the issues discussed in my links below are of paramount importance to Canadians at this time. It is such a shame that more people don't know about the Dauphin, Manitoba experiment and that it was abandoned.

Far too many people have moved to the economic level which requires them to spend substantially more than the recommended maximum of 30% of their income for housing. This puts many more people of risk of falling over the line between the housed and the homeless. When they become homeless they become a burden on our social system, the health care system, and the legal system. They are removed from the consumer merry-go-round which so many of you support and which supports your campaigns. It will all have to come crashing down some time. The 1% can't sustain the economy of consumers by themselves.

When I worked at the S22 it was during the days of the old, extremely inadequate minimum wage. I remember reaching \$9.98/hour and being kept there during a year of wage-freeze as the corporation maintained the lie that they were trying to keep the company going. When the BC government finally raised the minimum wage to \$10.25 I was making \$10.28. I lived through the insult of making 3 cents more than a new cashier, having worked 4 different jobs within the company over 7 years. Well, that job that I had is the kind of job which many Canadians can expect to find nowadays.

<http://www.policyalternatives.ca/publications/commentary/work-life-living-wage>

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/1970s-manitoba-poverty-experiment-called-a-success-1.868562>

I hope in the New Year that those of you who think I am way off base pick up a calculator and punch in the numbers to compare the average rent/food/transportation in your area with what a low paid part-time worker can hope to make. Take part of that, for instance just the food budget, and live off it for a week.

Here's to a New Year of compassionate, grounded governing.

S22

From: S22  
Sent: January-08-14 12:13 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: minium wage

I would like to know if there is going to be any changes to minimum wage laws. I work at a restaurant where the owner has a liquor license so only has to pay us 9.00 dollars an hour. I don't think this is fair as were are making very few tips sometimes none. It is quiet right now ,sometimes the bar is busy but the owner looks after that himself. Shouldn't that wage be for people who serve only drinks for their job so would probably make more tips. Even though I think serving drunks you earn your money just like other high paid people . The girls who work the 8 to noon shift get to clean his bar for him for 9.00 dollars an hour umm..? Doesn't really seem fair to me . Please I would like some feed back about this. Thankyou S22

From: S22  
Sent: March-04-14 1:01 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject:

Hi My name is S22 I have small business. I just heard on the news that you plan to raise the minimum wage to \$13.00 per hour . How do you expect the owners of small businesses to survive and not layoff staff. Who do you think is going to pay in the long run. Am I to go to my clients and tell them I am increasing there monthly bill. They will tell me that it will have to go to tender and they will take the cheapest company they can find and then I will layoff the over priced unskilled staff. That would be my only recourse. then they will end up on UIC taking more tax dollars up. Then you will see more companies close ect. When is this going to stop small businesses are being beaten into the ground just because election time is coming. or the NDP have a whim. Thank you for your time S22

-----Original Message-----

From: S22

Sent: March-05-14 1:00 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Subject: Minimum wage

No way should someone at McDonald's be making \$13 an hour, instead make school more affordable. We need a Hand UP not a Hand out!!!

Thank you

S22

-----Original Message-----

From: S22

Sent: March-05-14 7:06 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Subject: British Columbia's minimum wage

Dear Christy Clark,

Upon hearing your reaction to the BC Federation of Labour's suggestion to raise the current minimum wage, I felt obligated to speak out. I understand your government's position is to create jobs for British Columbians. I won't comment on how often these jobs go to temporary workers rather than new immigrants or young people. Instead I'll simply say that if you believe that our current minimum wage is adequate, you are demonstrating just how out of touch you are with many of your constituents. I challenge you to live on minimum wage. I challenge you to balance rising rents, insurance premiums, gasoline costs, groceries, and the myriad of living expenses that have outpaced the rise in wages. When you try to tell British Columbians to sacrifice a potential wage increase for the good of creating jobs, you do so from a position of extreme privilege. This privilege undermines your credibility to speak with any authority on the issues facing our most vulnerable workers.

Sincerely,

S22



-----Original Message-----

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Sent: March-11-14 11:56 AM

To: S22

Cc: Minister, JTST JTST:EX

Subject: RE: British Columbia's minimum wage

Hello, S22 and thank you for your email. We understand that you would like to see increases made to the current minimum wage.

Often times, as government, we are called upon to make tough decisions. While we can't support any more increases to the minimum wage at this time, that does not mean we can't revisit this issue in the future. We know how important it is for individuals to be able to provide for their families, that is why we decided it was necessary to increase the minimum wage back in 2011. After we followed through on a commitment to consult with stakeholders and economic experts, the minimum wage is now \$10.25. We know there is more to be done, but this remains a very proud accomplishment for our government.

While we can't comment on specific situations at an individual's workplace, we do want to let you know we are committed to more regular review of the minimum wage. We will be sure to share your comments with the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, and Minister Responsible for Labour, for her consideration.

Again, thank you for writing. The points you have raised will be included in our ongoing related discussions.

cc: Honourable Shirley Bond

From: S22  
Sent: March-05-14 5:37 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Cc: S22  
Subject: NO - Do not raise the Minimum to 13.00

NO – Do not raise the Minimum to 13.00... Sinclair wants to kill the economy... It is a bonus for him!

S22

-----Original Message-----

From: S22  
Sent: March-07-14 3:24 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: Please raise the minimum wage

Dear Ms. Clark,

I have never written a letter to the Premier's office before, but I am writing to you now to urge you to raise the minimum wage in BC to at least the \$13 that Minister of Labour is recommending.

I am presently working for \$0.25 above minimum wage and it has occurred to me many times that even if I worked 7 days a week, I would still not earn enough to make ends meet if something should happen to my husband's health or income. Thankfully, S22  
and makes a moderately good living, though he now earns the same money at S22  
S22 almost 25 years ago. Just doesn't seem right, does it?

It would absolutely be the best and most righteous thing for you to help push through a minimum wage increase to at least \$13. I like to think that you try to do your job without basing your decisions on the results of the next election, but I'm sure you must realize that if you were to increase minimum wage, huge numbers of folks below the poverty line would be motivated to vote for you. I know I certainly would.

Please endeavour to do the right thing.

Thank you.

S22

-----Original Message-----

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Sent: March-11-14 12:57 PM

To: S22

Cc: Minister, JTST JTST:EX

Subject: RE: Please raise the minimum wage

Hello, S22 and thank you for your email. We understand that you would like to see increases made to the current minimum wage.

Often times, as government, we are called upon to make tough decisions. While we can't support any more increases to the minimum wage at this time, that does not mean we can't revisit this issue in the future. We know how important it is for individuals to be able to provide for their families, that is why we decided it was necessary to increase the minimum wage back in 2011. After we followed through on a commitment to consult with stakeholders and economic experts, the minimum wage is now \$10.25. We know there is more to be done, but this remains a very proud accomplishment for our government.

While we can't comment on specific situations at an individual's workplace, we do want to let you know we are committed to more regular review of the minimum wage. We will be sure to share your comments with the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, and Minister Responsible for Labour, for her consideration.

From: S22  
Sent: March-13-14 7:52 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: IDEA ON MINIMUM WAGE TO LOOK AT.

PREMIER CHRISTY CLARK

I have an idea on minimum wage. my idea is split the wage in a TIER ONE AND TIER TWO LEVELS.. one wage at 12 dollars an hour for small business and another at 18 dollars an hour for big business.. this would allow bc small business to compete and would be fair to big business to boosting overall sales in the BC ECONOMY. workers spend there pay check all of it the more they have the more they will spend. an wage of 20 dollars an hour and 30 an hour would be closer to cost living in BC. an house costs 400,000 on average so an 40 dollar wage would be needed for matching the cost living. so 20 dollars an hour is half that. so figuring house cost in it would better to have an wage that support the inflated realestate market..

S22

From: S22  
Sent: March-28-14 2:00 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: Minimum wage per hour

Dear Christy Clark,

My name is S22 I work in retail. As a sales associate me and my co-workers do a lot of work for the companies we work for, but we only get paid \$10.25/hr, because that's the minimum wage for BC, and as you know BC is a very expensive place to live in. So, would you please try to raise the minimum wage AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, so a lot of BC residents won't go on welfare or became homeless or won't get into uncontrollable debt.

Thank you for your time and I hope you can change peoples lives soon.

Sincerely,

S22

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Sent: April-02-14 3:17 PM  
To: S22  
Cc: Minister, JTST JTST:EX  
Subject: RE: Minimum wage per hour

Hello, S22 and thank you for your email. We understand that you would like to see increases made to the current minimum wage.

Often times, as government, we are called upon to make tough decisions. While we can't support any more increases to the minimum wage at this time, that does not mean we can't revisit this issue in the future. We know how important it is for individuals to be able to provide for their families, that is why we decided it was necessary to increase the minimum wage back in 2011. After we followed through on a commitment to consult with stakeholders and economic experts, the minimum wage is now \$10.25. We know there is more to be done, but this remains a very proud accomplishment for our government.

While we can't comment on specific situations at an individual's workplace, we do want to let you know we are committed to more regular review of the minimum wage. We will be sure to share your comments with the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, and Minister Responsible for Labour, for her consideration.

Again, thank you for writing. The points you have raised will be included in our ongoing related discussions.

cc: Honourable Shirley Bond

From: S22  
Sent: March-17-14 8:40 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: more info on minimum wage

PREMIER CHRISTY CLARK

You can note this that an minimum wage of 13 dollars an hour has the buying power of 1.30 in 1980 prices are up ten fold from then so correct minimum wage would be 2 dollars an hour then or 20 dollars an hour now. inflation has eaten up the currency people earn, an average house costs 400,000 dollars this would mean you need an 40 dollar an hour wage to buy the average house.. this is my argument for 20 dollars an hour minimum, this where we at. would an hamburger go up in price sure from 5 dollars to 6 or 7. I can live with alittle inflation but not on 10 dolllars an hour.

S22



From: S22  
Sent: March-18-14 12:42 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: adjust wages for house inflation

PREMIER CHRISTY CLARK

If you where to take take house prices as an bases for the minimum wage you would have an minimum wage at 40 dollars an hour on the bases of a 400,000 dollar average house price, this is the only way some one can pay for an average house now. current wage of 10 dollars an hour is useless to provide for housing in this market. if you cut the house price wage in half at least you could rent with an full time 20 dollar an hour job,,, I view an 13 dollar an hour job as useless too, this does not allow one to rent in this market. try setting an minimum wage between 20 and 40 dollars an hour this takes into account the cost living in BC. you current wage does not.

S22

From: S22  
Sent: April-15-14 18:57  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: info on inflation since 1980s

to premier Christy Clark

I would like to point out since the 1980s house prices have shot up from 40,000 for average house to 400,000 dollars now. if the minimum wage was 4 dollars an hour then ,, you would need an 40 dollar an hour minimum wage to match inflated house prices ,, if the minimum wage was tied to house price inflation this what the minimum wage would look like, if we had minimum to cover half the house price inflation an 20 dollar an hour minimum wage would be place,,, this whole problem with the economy the current minimum wage does not cover house prices

S22

From: S22  
Sent: April-29-14 6:35 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: Stuff!

I realize you probably get alot of complaints, but maybe use this simple anaolgy of mine. I live on vancouver island with S22 so I am not uneducated but only have a part time job in it. To supplement I work S22 for 10.25 per hour. I understand the teachers want more money for cost of living but I cry out to you to help us minimum wage workers also. S22 is not going to give me a raise, neither is S22 as a proffesional, but anyone who works for the government seems to get help with cost of living, and it comes out of my pocket of 10.25 per hour. Please help the non government people for a change and think about how far 10.25 per hour would get you. The government should take care of everyone not just their own. And a reminder I am a educated person just cannot land a job with the government so my neighbour can pay my wage. Well off to buy a loaf of bread and milk for 15.00, which incidently took 1.5 hours to work for. hank you for listening.

S22

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Sent: May-01-14 11:40 AM  
To: S22  
Cc: Minister, JTST JTST:EX  
Subject: RE: Stuff!

Hello, S22 and thank you for your email. We understand that you would like to see increases made to the current minimum wage.

Often times, as government, we are called upon to make tough decisions. While we can't support any more increases to the minimum wage at this time, that does not mean we can't revisit this issue in the future. We know how important it is for individuals to be able to provide for their families, that is why we decided it was necessary to increase the minimum wage back in 2011. After we followed through on a commitment to consult with stakeholders and economic experts, the minimum wage is now \$10.25. We know there is more to be done, but this remains a very proud accomplishment for our government.

While we can't comment on specific situations at an individual's workplace, we do want to let you know we are committed to more regular review of the minimum wage. We will be sure to share your comments with the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, and Minister Responsible for Labour, for her consideration.

Again, thank you for writing. The points you have raised will be included in our ongoing related discussions.

cc: Honourable Shirley Bond

From: S22  
Sent: May-01-14 12:13 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: Re: Stuff!

Thank you, be sure to mention that I am a professional who went to university as well so they know even schooled families are struggling ;)

From: S22  
Sent: May-16-14 7:19 AM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: Father of 2 against minimum wage hike.

Dear Ms. Clark

I decided to write you my thoughts about the minimum wage increase. I do not believe it it. I believe the minimum wage is an opportunity for young generation, student to start their work process and get an experience in work place. I started to work as an S22 for minimum wage. Same did my wife. We had to learn the value of money and value of work our employers had to create for us every day. And we got married and started a family. Now, I am a father of 2 daughters (in university age). They are looking for work to make some money for their tuition. And they can NOT find a job. One of them worked in S22 and was getting only 6-12 hours a week. She applied for other job positions in the spring, but most of them were for maximum 15 hours a week and all required 7 days per week availability. When she said she needs to schedule with her other part time job, she was not hired (in several places).

The fast food restaurants, retail stores and other businesses with startup job opportunities will rather hire many part time employees for few hours a week to avoid paying payroll deductions or hire foreign workers which will slave for the employer without complaining.

So giving the employees minimum wage but more hours would solve half of the problems and opposition claims for higher minimum wages.

Regards  
Your supporters

S22

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2014 11:46 AM  
To: S22  
Subject: RE: Father of 2 against minimum wage hike.

Thank you for your email regarding the minimum wage. We appreciate the time you have taken to share your comments and understand your daughters are experiencing difficulty finding employment. Your input is important and will help us in our efforts to improve programs and services. In that light, your correspondence has been shared with the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, and Minister Responsible for Labour, for her review as well. Please be assured your comments about guaranteeing adequate hours of work for an employee have been noted and will be included in any related discussions moving forward.

Again, thank you for writing. It was good to hear from you.

From: S22  
Sent: Tuesday, June 3, 2014 4:18 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Cc: Minister, JAG JAG:EX; EnquiryBC MTIC:EX; Minister, FIN FIN:EX; Minister, JAG JAG:EX  
Subject: MINIMUM WAGE

DEAR ALL.

AT LAST A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, YOU SHOULD ALL TAKE NOTE AND GET WORKING.

IN SETTLE WASHINGTON STATE, THEY HAVE JUST VOTED IN A \$15.00 MINIMUM WAGE.

ONE SMALL STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

YOU WILL ALL KNOW, THE THE AMERICAN \$ BUYS SO MUCH MORE THAN THE CANUCK \$, SO HOW MUCH DOES THE \$15.00 EQUATE TO CANUCK \$'S YOU DO THE MATH.

SO WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE B.C. WAY TOO FAR BEHIND!!!!

THE \$10.25 MINIMUM WAGE IS JUST TOO UNREALISTIC, IT IS 3 YEARS OLD AND MUST BE CHANGED.

b.c. HAS THE MOST UNAFFORDABLE PLACES TO LIVE, YOU ALL KNOW THAT, SO CHANGE THE MW AS SOON AS YOU POSSIBLY CAN.

EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE THE CHANCE OF EARNING A REASONABLE WAGE, A LIVING WAGE.

YOU ALL KNOW THAT \$10.25 DOES NOT CUT IT.

YOU ALL KNOW THAT AG WORKERS ARE RESTRICTED TO MINIMUM WAGE FOR THEIR WORKING LIVES. THEY CANNOT GET ANY OTHER JOBS, JUST LOOK AT ABBOTSFORD, THE FINANCE MINISTER IS SO WELL AWARE OF THIS, BUT LIKE A GOOD CHRISTIAN HE IGNORES IT.

HE IS FORCING, AND YOU OTHERS, PEOPLE TO LIVE OFF THE BACKS OF OTHERS. IF THE BUSINESSES CANNOT AFFORD A HIGHER MINIMUM WAGE; THEN THE GOVERNMENT IS ENFORCING SLAVE WAGES. THAT MEANS ALL OF YOU.

THERE ARE MANY SINGLE MOTHERS HAVING TO TRY AND EKE OUT A LIFE FOR THEMSELVES AND THERE CHILDREN ON MINIMUM WAGE, YOU HAVE FORCED THEM THERE.



TIME IS LONG PAST FOR THE MW TO BE INCREASED; GET OFF YOUR POTS NOW  
AND DO SOMETHING.

Yours sincerely,

S22

From: S22  
Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2014 4:46 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Cc: Bond.MLA, Shirley LASS:EX; Minister, FIN FIN:EX  
Subject: Minimum Wage

Dear Premier and Ministers.

I did write recently about B.C.'s minimum wage, but as there has been movement elsewhere I think I need to address the issue again.

Our current minimum wage has been fixed for three years now. The people earning minimum wage are the worst hit by rising prices. And prices are still rising.

You will know, that in some areas minimum wage is not just a starting salary; it is an ever ongoing salary. This, of course is very true in the agricultural farming areas. I'm sure the finance minister is very well aware of this fact, he lives in Abbotsford. He probably goes to church with the wealthy AG business owners and the successful farmers. But they all made their money off the backs of those forced to work on minimum wage.

Was that the purpose of minimum wage, is that what you intended?

S22 is one of those people in Abbotsford, forced to work for basically minimum wage, S22  
S22 a single mother with S22 children, forced to live on this ridiculous wage.

You all know that B.C. is the most unaffordable place to live, why do we suffer one of the lowest minimum wages in Canada? What do the public have to do to get a more even share of wages.

And don't be telling me, that S22 could improve her lot by schooling; she attended the University of S22 but having completed it.....there is no work here in Abbotsford for the skills she learnt; so now S22 years later!! Is this really what you intended by your policies? It really is too absurd. The rich getting richer of the backs of others and having to work in unsafe conditions to do it.

I wonder what your thoughts were on the farm truck accident in Abbotsford on HWY 1 a few years ago; or the accident at the mushroom farm!! Were they all the cost of doing business?

In Seattle, they have recently passed a \$15.00 minimum wage, which you all will be aware of; at least there, they have politicians with some common sense. And \$15.00 U.S. buys a lot more than what the Canuck \$ would do; so possibly equivalent to maybe \$18.00 Canadian, a number of people here in B.C. have talked about \$18.00 as being a more realistic minimum wage.

So I ask you once again, when will the minimum wage be raised, to give some people in B.C. able to afford a better standard of living; these people I am sure will consist of very many families, the people you deemed to do you very best to help, can we start now?

Yours sincerely,

S22

From: S22  
Sent: Sunday, July 6, 2014 2:42 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: minimum wages and economic development

Dear Premier,

Please take a few moments to read this interesting article, from the British Observer Newspaper, reprinted in the Guardian Weekly, on minimum wages and their effect on local and national economies. It raises some important questions about the future direction of our economy.

Yours sincerely

S22

From: S22  
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2014 8:59 AM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: Wages

Dear; Christy Clark

Know that you have out the teachers back to work. Maybe you can up the min. Wage to \$13.50 a hour.

It is real hard to make ends meet on 10.25 a hour, you should try it. Pay your rent, hydro, gas and phone, and see what you have left for food for two people there is not much. We would not have to go to the food bank if the wages were higher and food prices did not keep going up all the time. There are going to be more people out of homes with kids if you do not do something soon. I thought you were for the people not your self, you make good money doing your job, because we as the people pay you. So as our premier why do you not want to help us have a better live. Fast food places were suppose to

Be a stepping stone for jobs but know that is what we take as older people. We can not go to university for we

Don't make enough money to get there when we work, go to school and pay bills.. So do something and put the wages up it is about time to help the people that put you there.

Yours truly

S22

P.S. I would like an answers back from you not your secretary, thankyou.

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Sent: Wednesday, October 8, 2014 9:17 AM  
To: S22  
Cc: Minister, JAG JAG:EX  
Subject: FW: Wages

Hello, S22 and thank you for your email. We understand that you would like to see increases made to the current minimum wage.

Often times, as government, we are called upon to make tough decisions. While we can't support any more increases to the minimum wage at this time, that does not mean we can't revisit this issue in the future. We know how important it is for individuals to be able to provide for their families, that is why we decided it was necessary to increase the minimum wage back in 2011. After we followed through on a commitment to consult with stakeholders and economic experts, the minimum wage is now \$10.25. We know there is more to be done, but this remains a very proud accomplishment for our government.

We do want to let you know we are committed to more regular review of the minimum wage. We will be sure to share your comments with the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, and Minister Responsible for Labour, for her consideration.

Again, thank you for writing. The points you have raised will be included in our ongoing related discussions.

cc: Honourable Shirley Bond

From: S22  
Sent: Tuesday, October 14, 2014 4:49 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: Minimum Wage

Dear Premier, Are you in the future going to raise the Minimum Wage? As its getting very expensive to live here in Victoria. I am 68yrs and Still working and have always been a very Loyal employee  
but unfortunately My employer only pays minimum wage. Yours truly S22

---

This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.

From: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2014 8:54 AM  
To: S22  
Subject: FW: Minimum Wage

Hello, S22 and thank you for your email. We understand that you would like to see increases made to the current minimum wage.

Often times, as government, we are called upon to make tough decisions. While we can't support any more increases to the minimum wage at this time, that does not mean we can't revisit this issue in the future. We know how important it is for individuals to be able to provide for themselves and their families, that is why we decided it was necessary to increase the minimum wage back in 2011. After we followed through on a commitment to consult with stakeholders and economic experts, the minimum wage is now \$10.25. We know there is more to be done, but this remains a very proud accomplishment for our government. We do want to let you know we are committed to more regular review of the minimum wage.

Again, thank you for writing. The points you have raised will be included in our ongoing related discussions.



From: S22  
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 12:06 AM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: bright future of BC-Thanks!!!

Dear Christie,

I take immense pride to call myself a british columbian because of the steady progress BC is making in business,environment,transit and various other fields especially tourism.universities here do a good job of developing skills and providing b.c with a talented human resource which will build a society which will know to progress despite obstacles it faces.An obstacle is the low minimum wages of only 10.25/hr which puts high financial burden on people in that segment.it is very difficult to live in one of the worlds most expensive cities With current wages.Having scarce money after paying all bills creates a barrier in an individuals mind which stops it from thinking about future. There is more economical growth when spending increases.

Thanks

OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Sent: Thursday, November 27, 2014 2:57 PM  
To: S22  
Cc: Minister, JTST JTST:EX  
Subject: FW: bright future of BC-Thanks!!!

Hello, s22 and thank you for your email. We appreciate your taking the time to write.

We share your enthusiasm about the economic future of BC and we appreciate your comments about the progress we're achieving in areas like tourism, international trade, job development and skills training. This certainly is an exciting time for our province and we will be sure to share your positive comments with Premier Clark.

You also mention you'd like to see increases made to the current minimum wage. Often times, as government, we are called upon to make tough decisions. While we can't support any more increases to the minimum wage at this time, that does not mean we can't revisit this issue in the future. We know how important it is for individuals to be able to provide for their families, that is why we decided it was necessary to increase the minimum wage back in 2011. After we followed through on a commitment to consult with stakeholders and economic experts, the minimum wage is now \$10.25.

We do want to let you know we are committed to more regular review of the minimum wage. We will be sure to share your comments with the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, and Minister Responsible for Labour, for her consideration.

Again, thank you for writing. The points you have raised will be included in our ongoing related discussions.

cc: Honourable Shirley Bond

From: S22  
Sent: Monday, December 8, 2014 11:02 AM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: Re: bright future of BC-Thanks!!!

Thank You for your interest.Hoping this matter will be looked upon with earnest concern and knowledge from all resources will be utilized to improve the life of citizens.

From:

S22

Sent: Friday, November 21, 2014 10:09 AM

To: Government Liberal Party of Canada/BC; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX; Fassbender.MLA, Peter LASS:EX; Fraser.MLA, Scott LASS:EX; Lunney James; Harper Stephen; May Elizabeth; Government of Canada Liberal Party of; Mulcair Tom; Trudeau Justin

Subject: Minimum Wage

Interesting facts.

Cost of education goes up 1120% Real value of minimum wage drops by 25%. Does Canada want an educated populace?

Canada is a little better than the US. Our minimum wage is around \$10. How does Australia do it???? What do the “great leaders” of Canada have to say?

-----Original Message-----

From: S22  
Sent: Tuesday, November 25, 2014 7:42 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; Sultan.MLA, Ralph LASS:EX; oppositionleader@leg.bc.ca; Simpson.MLA, Shane L LASS:EX; bcfed@bcfed.ca  
Subject: Thank you Jim Sinclair: Vancouver Sun : Opinion on raising the minimum wage

Thank you Jim Sinclair for speaking the common sense that the BC Liberals don't seem to have. We have too many working poor in this province and government policies are contributing to the problem. These workers don't have any money to spend, therefore no money goes back to the local economy . Meanwhile the BC Liberals create P3s which should stand for " private poverty promotion" . P3's such as the privatizing of hospital services has taken reasonable wages from many workers and passed the wealth to corporations with the money going straight out of the economy. Has there been a savings to taxpayers? . I strongly doubt it and at what cost when these workers are living in poverty and not contributing to the economy. What will our society look like in 30 years when these people have to retire with no saved resources.

If the private sector P3's really are more efficient then let them prove it by paying decent wages and benefits to their workers and headquarter those P3 companies and their overpaid executives right here in Canada.

This government sends ferry contracts to Europe.. With taxpayer dollars going straight out of the economy. No spin off business , no wages spent here.

Christy Clarke if you really want to grow the economy raise the minimum wage and put dollars back in people pockets where it will be spent right here in BC. Forget fight for \$15... It should be fight for \$20.

S22

Sent from my iPad

From: S22  
Sent: Thursday, November 27, 2014 11:29 AM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: LATEST BLOG

**PREMIER CHRISTY CLARK**

Want to send information that in this province inflation on prices is up 20 fold since 1964.. That's when the minimum wage was a little more than DOLLAR An hour... so the minimum wage should be increased 20 times from then .. so I came with 20 dollar an hour minimum wage to deal with price inflation if did the inflation index on BC HOUSE PRICE the correct minimum wage to deal with house inflation would be 40 dollars an hour an average house is 400,000 dollar so if take a small percentage of that works out to 40 dollar minimum wage.. if you want all workers to be able to buy a house here in BC.. that shows how far off the current minimum wage is with price inflation on housing.. 20 AN HOUR would not be enough to buy the average house but one could pay their rent on that wage..

S22



December 8, 2014

S22

Dear S22

Thank you for your letter. I appreciate your taking the time to outline your thoughts about the current minimum wage in our province.

We want to make sure that British Columbia remains a great place in which to live, work, and invest – that's why, as one of my first announcements as Premier, I committed to raising the minimum wage. Since then, it has been raised three times. We can all agree that families in British Columbia need well-paying family-supporting jobs. As such, our number one emphasis is on ensuring new investment in this province so families can have the kind of wages they need.

The average hourly wage in British Columbia today for adults is over \$24 an hour, and the youth average hourly wage is over \$14 an hour. I think we certainly recognize that there are challenges for those individuals earning minimum wage, but we've also seen the number of workers earning minimum wage between 2012 and 2013 drop in BC. It's also important to realize that over half of those individuals earning minimum wage are youth and, of that number, half of those are at home with their parents.

We continuously monitor key information such as inflation, youth employment levels, average wage rates, as well as minimum wages in other jurisdictions. It's important to note that the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, and Minister Responsible for Labour regularly meets with business and labour to receive their input and advice on the issue. I will continue to encourage that engagement on the future of the minimum wage.

Again, thank you for writing. We do appreciate hearing from you and can assure you your comments will be included in our ongoing related discussions.

Sincerely,

Christy Clark  
Premier

October, 20th, 2014

The Honourable Christy Clark  
Premier of British Columbia  
Box 9041 Station  
PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Dear, Premier Christy Clark:

I would like to address my concerns to you about the minimum wage in British Columbia. I believe the working wage simply is not comparable to our living wage. The minimum wage that exists right now refuses to realize that employees are working below their marginal product of labor. For example, the \$10.25 an hour is not realistic for the high prices in BC. Employees are being paid poverty level wages and this is in fact inefficient.

People living in this province deserve to have a decent pay and decent lives. As a proponent it makes no sense for the price of gas, food and even rent to rise without raising the minimum wage as well. BC and Saskatchewan are the only provinces in Canada that do not balance the living wage with the working wage. Statistics show that the minimum wage has risen only three times in the last couple of decades, and I would argue that this has not been enough. Jim Sinclair has declared changes and wants to see the thousands of British Columbians at least brought up to the poverty line. It is astonishing how irrational the minimum wage is as of 2014. For example, statistics show that during the 1970's minimum wage was about twenty five percent higher than it is today, that is when the cost of living is factored in.

The current minimum wage acquires negative impact on families and communities throughout BC. Researchers believe that raising the minimum wage is the key solution to eliminating the provinces poverty rates. Studies have also said that in order for the average person to regionally live in the Metro Vancouver area and spend their working money on expenses such as food, clothing, shelter, transportation and child care, the living wage rate would need to be approximately \$20.10 per hour. This is almost double what the wage is today.

I understand that most people argue that if those getting minimum wage are not happy nor thriving well enough with this pay, then they should find a better paying job or go to school. This is simply not an option for most of these individuals. Some are striving to take care of a family and trying to work full time at these minimum wage paying jobs. Similarly, not everyone has the



resources to find a better job. For example, additional schooling is just not an option for some people. The prices of post-secondary is putting students in severe debt for a long time. In my opinion this is just cycle. For example, a parent living in poverty, which has been passed on from a previous generation, who has been struggling to raise their child who has not graduated high school will clearly not be able to pay for that youth's post-secondary schooling. Therefore, that youth will either not go to school at all or work for minimum wage, or they will have debt from school loans and may or may not find a job to then pay this debt off. Furthermore, these circumstances are very common and it's not just about finding a better paying job. It's frustrating to see people not factoring in these types of circumstances and the lack of empathy and support the community and the government often has.

Economically the inflation rate does not seem to be slowing down. Every year it raises and the minimum wage has only risen three times in the past. Therefore, the federal minimum wage needs to be raised in order to account for the past and current inflation. The cost of rent has gone up immensely. In the past two years is increased to an average of \$60 and similarly, the cost of daycare increased approximately by \$40 per month. Vancouver was voted one of the top ten most expensive cities in the world to live in. It's time to tackle poverty and income inequality.

Using the government's own estimates, a couple with no children who owns a house and takes transit to work would have to earn a combined minimum of \$64,613 to just barely get by living in Vancouver. That works out to \$16.57 an hour for each person, provided they work full-time hours all year.. Even then, that couple would spend their entire paycheque on basic living expenses with little to no money left over to spend or most importantly save.

Furthermore, I have three more additional reasons to support why I believe the minimum wage should be raised by at least two to three dollars. Firstly, additional income spent by consumers would ripple through the economy if there was a gradual increase in the minimum wage. Similarly, government expenses for social programs aimed at those below the poverty level would be reduced. Raising the minimum wage would be a good idea because consequently it may also result in slightly lower taxes for other Canadians. Lastly I believe there would be slightly more revenue for the government that would be generated from payroll taxes.

More revenue for the government would be substantial. Additionally, I'd like to argue against the fact that increasing the minimum wage would kill jobs and depress wages. I don't believe that by raising the minimum wage this will lead to a deflationary spiral because if people are earning more they are more than likely spending more. That is, assuming that the consumers behaviour would be to spend more when a better income was present.

If raising the minimum wage is completely out of the question. I would like to propose an alternative solution the negative effects of the current minimum wage. A living wage rather than

a minimum wage would benefit the people, the economy and the government as well. Unlike minimum wage, a living wage could be calculated using the cost of living in a specific municipality. The idea is that the salary you generate should be enough to cover the cost of not only of food and shelter, but also of transportation, basic medical care, household goods, school supplies and clothing needs. Additionally, differences in rent and food prices would meet the living wage rates which would vary across the province. Although I am aware that the idea of living wages actually exist in BC, I would like to see it implemented and fixed throughout the entire province.

Most importantly if people have the opportunity for a living wage and could be lifted out of poverty, I believe they have a higher potential to become more engaged, productive, contributing members of society in terms of the economic return they deliver.

Sincerely,

S22

## ISSUE NOTE

### Issue:

- Minimum Wage Review.

### Background:

- On March 16, 2011, Government announced a three-stage increase to the general minimum wage, the elimination of the “first job rate” (training wage), and the creation of a separate minimum wage for liquor servers.
- The general minimum wage increased from \$8.00 to:
  - \$8.75/hour effective May 1, 2011;
  - \$9.50/hour effective November 1, 2011; and
  - \$10.25/hour effective May 1, 2012.
- The new liquor server rate was established at \$8.50/hour effective May 1, 2011. It increased to \$8.75/hour effective November 1, 2011, and to \$9.00/hour effective May 1, 2012. Government’s intent in creating the liquor server rate was to allow the general minimum wage to increase while maintaining and supporting jobs in the food and beverage service sector, recognizing that liquor servers often earn a significant portion of their income through gratuities. Similar models exist in Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec.
- In addition, government announced that the minimum piece rates for hand harvesters of certain fruits and vegetables would receive an increase on May 1, 2011, of the same proportion as the first increase in the general minimum wage (i.e., 9.375%), but that any further increases would depend upon the results of a review of the piece rates. Following a review conducted in 2011/2012 and utilizing the services of an industry consultant, government decided that the piece rates would remain unchanged and stay at the May 1, 2011 level.
- Based on statements government made in 2011/2012, there is some public expectation that the minimum wage will be reviewed every two years<sup>1</sup>.
- Government made no commitment to a particular form of review, nor was there any commitment to tie future increases to particular measures such as inflation or changes in average wage rates. In addition, government made no specific commitment as to when a review would be completed.

---

<sup>1</sup> For example, during estimates in 2012 then Minister of Labour Margaret MacDiarmid stated: “What we have committed to do is to review the minimum wage. Prior to the last increase in the minimum wage it hadn't been increased for a number of years. We've made a commitment, starting this year and every two years thereafter, to review the policy.”

- 
- As of April 1, 2013, B.C.'s regular minimum wage of \$10.25/hour was tied with Ontario for the second highest among Canadian provinces. Nova Scotia's rate is \$10.30/hour (as of April 1, 2013). Yukon and Nunavut had higher rates of \$10.54 and \$11.00 respectively.

**Decision required:**

- **60 day issue for information.**
- Ministry staff have continued to gather and monitor statistics related to the minimum wage and can provide briefing material for senior executive and government outlining key issues and possible approaches for a minimum wage review, including a review of how other Canadian jurisdictions approach the minimum wage.