

Chauvin, Lindsay JTST:EX

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:42 PM
To: Minister, JTST JTST:EX
Subject: 108383 incoming Minimal wage increase

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Minister Bond,

A twenty-cent raise in the provincial hourly minimum wage, obviously intended to have close to zero impact on employers, also does nothing to improve the standard of living of people trying to survive at wages below the poverty level. Indexing the wage to the cost of living is a cruel and cynical move that simply guarantees that minimum wage workers will remain trapped below the poverty line.

I urge your government to implement a meaningful increase of the minimum wage in British Columbia to at least \$15.00 per hour.

Thank you,

--
s.22

Chauvin, Lindsay JTST:EX

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:44 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; Minister, JTST JTST:EX
Subject: 108385 incoming BC Minimum wage

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To: Christy Clark and Shirley Bond

Today your government announced a mere twenty cent increase to the minimum wage to \$10.45/hr, and will index increases annually to cost of living.

The BC Federation of Labour has been calling on the government to increase the minimum wage to \$15/hr, a wage that would lift a full time worker just above the poverty line.

Under the government's plan, the minimum wage in BC will not reach \$15/hr until 2034.

The announcement by your government today guarantees that hundreds of thousands of British Columbians will continue to live in poverty for years to come. Lifting the minimum wage to \$10.45 is nowhere close to what is needed, and indexing a poverty wage only entrenches people in poverty.

Increasing the minimum wage is an important investment in people, communities and our economy. No person working full time should be living in poverty.

What happened to your election promises of "families first" ?
Have you ever tried to live on \$10.45/hr or support a family on that same hourly rate? Are you aware that the lower mainland has the highest cost of living in Canada and BC has the highest child poverty rate in the country?

As leaders, you have the responsibility and the power to invest in people and improve the living conditions of the many hard working people of BC who are struggling to make ends meet. By your actions, you clearly display a complete unwillingness to shoulder your responsibilities as elected officials. By failing to put families first, you are also clearly reneging on your election promises. As women and mothers you should be even more ashamed of yourselves given these actions and the impact that they will have on mothers and children across the province.

I urge both of you to review your decision and show that you truly care about the people of BC.

Sincerely,

s.22

Envoyé depuis mon appareil mobile Samsung

Chauvin, Lindsay JTST:EX

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:57 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; Minister, JTST JTST:EX
Cc: Gary Holman
Subject: 108389 incoming a new minimum wage

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Premier,

I have just learned that a new minimum wage is being enacted, and that increases to this subpar wage will be indexed to the cost of living. This new provision of \$10.45 guarantees that BC's children will continue to have an intolerable percentage living in poverty.

You can do much better. Please make an effort.

s.22

Chauvin, Lindsay JTST:EX

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:09 PM
To: Minister, JTST JTST:EX
Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Subject: 108391 incoming Minimum wage to \$15.00 a hour

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

We believe the minimum wage should, as a matter of principle, bring people working 35 hours per week above the "poverty line, so they can support themselves and their families!!!

It is time to raise the minimum wage. It's only fair! TWENTY CENTS!!! IT'S NOT ENOUGH!!! hundreds of thousands of British Columbians will continue to live in poverty for years to come. Lifting the minimum wage to \$10.45 is nowhere close to what is needed, and indexing a poverty wage only entrenches people in poverty.

Increasing the minimum wage is an important investment in people, communities and our economy. No person working full time should be living in poverty. Will you and your colleagues live on \$10.45 and support a family and live and rent in Vancouver?

Chauvin, Lindsay JTST:EX

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:14 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Cc: Minister, JTST JTST:EX
Subject: 108392 incoming wage increase

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Christy Clark
Jobs Minister Shirley Bond

Re: wage increase of 20 cents.

Today Christy Clark and the BC Liberal government announced a mere twenty cent increase to the minimum wage to \$10.45/hr, and will index increases annually to cost of living.

The BC Federation of Labour has been calling on the government to increase the minimum wage to \$15/hr, a wage that would lift a full time worker just above the poverty line.

Under the government's plan, the minimum wage in BC will not reach \$15/hr until 2034

The announcement by government today guarantees that hundreds of thousands of British Columbians will continue to live in poverty for years to come. Lifting the minimum wage to \$10.45 is nowhere close to what is needed, and indexing a poverty wage only entrenches people in poverty.

Increasing the minimum wage is an important investment in people, communities and our economy. No person working full time should be living in poverty.

Sincerely,

s.22

Chauvin, Lindsay JTST:EX

From: Bond, MLA, Shirley <Shirley.Bond.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:17 PM
To: Minister, JTST JTST:EX
Subject: 108394 incoming FW: New submission from Contact Your Constituency

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

For your review and or response.

Thanks Katrina

From: shirley.bond.mla@leg.bc.ca [mailto:shirley.bond.mla@leg.bc.ca]
Sent: March 12, 2015 12:57 PM
To: Bond, MLA, Shirley
Subject: New submission from Contact Your Constituency

Name SHIRLEY BOND

Email s.22

Riding Riding*

Comments & Feedback

I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU AND YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS KEEPING MINMUM WAGE INCREASES AT REASONABLE AND PREDICTABLE, USING THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX...I EMPLOY^s. EMPLOYEE'S AND IF THE MINMUM WAGES WERE HIGHER THAN THE INDEX, WE WOULD BE SURELY OUT OF BUSINESS AND ^{s.22} PEOPLE WOULD BE FOR SURE ON UNEMPLOYEMENT...
NO SMALL BUSINESS NO MINMUM WAGES, NO EMPLOYEES, WE WOULD BE DONE AND LOOKING FOR JOBS AS WELL...
WE HAVE BEEN IN BUSINESS^{s.2} YEARS AND TRY AND SUPPORT OUR LOCAL SMALL COMMUNITY
MINMUM WAGE IS A (STARTING WAGE)!!!! NOT A CAREER OR LIVING WAGE!!!! PERIOD!!!
I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU FOR KEEPING OUR SMALL BUSINESS IN BUSINESS, AND OUR EMPLOYEE'S EMPLOYED.
JOB WELL DONE!
s.22

Chauvin, Lindsay JTST:EX

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:15 PM
To: Minister, JTST JTST:EX
Subject: 108403 incoming Minimum wage increase

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Minister:

The press release implies that the 20 cent increase was based on the change in the cost of living. But the Bank of Canada inflation calculator <http://www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/related/inflation-calculator/> shows that the rate should be \$10.56 if the past three years of inflation are to be taken into account. How do you account for the difference?

While I agree that minimum wages should be increased annually by the rate of inflation, the initial amount should be based on some criteria other than "well this is what it was the last time it was set." The problem is if the existing minimum wage is insufficient to meet some benchmark, then any change based on cost of living will just continue to make the inadequacy worse.

I would appreciate a response to both the question of what rate of inflation you were using and what criteria you feel should be used to establish the base minimum wage which would then be increased by the rate of inflation.

Sincerely

s.22

Chauvin, Lindsay JTST:EX

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:15 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; Minister, JTST JTST:EX
Cc: fightfor15@bcfed.ca
Subject: 108412 incoming Fwd: Send Christy A Message - Twenty Cents Isn't Enough!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Christy Clark & Shirley Bond

I am fortunate enough to make considerably more than minimum wage. I count myself both lucky and skillful. However, I am not unsympathetic to the plight of minimum wage workers in this province because I believe it affects wages of all workers.

However, the BC government's outright disregard for the working people of this province is flagrantly ignorant. While the **true** cost of living has soared, and high earners in this province reward themselves with pay raises and bonuses, low earners have seen their wages frozen and therefore, to some degree, their basic human rights completely disregarded. The effect of which has been salary stagnation for all low to middle income earners. Even my wage is likely 15% less than it should be, if not more.

I am utterly sick of the completely stupid argument that raising wages will cost business growth, when several studies have proven otherwise. In fact, giving people a living wage means more spending and **higher tax revenue!**

Ms. Clark, I won't even debase myself by offering more words on your obviously deaf ears. I am sure that many people like me have had enough of this, but I truly believe it is time for me take a stand against you and your government for the next election.

\$8 / week for a full time worker is your proposed raise. It is not just a slap in the face - it is gross.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBkBiv5ZD7s>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGz8g30RBd8>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ΛejNoKRq00I>

s.22

----- Forwarded message -----

From: BCFED <fightfor15@bcfed.ca>
Date: Thu, Mar 12, 2015 at 12:44 PM
Subject: Send Christy A Message - Twenty Cents Isn't Enough!
To: s.22

Today Christy Clark and the BC Liberal government announced a mere twenty cent increase to the minimum wage to \$10.45/hr, and will index increases annually to cost of living.

The BC Federation of Labour has been calling on the government to increase the minimum wage to \$15/hr, a wage that would lift a full time worker just above the poverty line.

Under the government's plan, the minimum wage in BC will not reach \$15/hr until 2034

The announcement by government today guarantees that hundreds of thousands of British Columbians will continue to live in poverty for years to come. Lifting the minimum wage to \$10.45 is nowhere close to what is needed, and indexing a poverty wage only entrenches people in poverty.

Increasing the minimum wage is an important investment in people, communities and our economy. No person working full time should be living in poverty.

We need you to send a message to Premier Christy Clark and Jobs Minister Shirley Bond that twenty cents is not enough!

Email: Christy Clark - premier@gov.bc.ca

and Jobs Minister Shirley Bond - JTST.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Tweet: @christyclarkbc @shirleybond @bcfed #fightforfifteenbc #bcpoli

Facebook: Send Christy a message - <https://www.facebook.com/ChristyClarkForBC>

BCFED

<http://www.fightfor15bc.ca/>

BC Federation of Labour · Canada

This email was sent to s.22

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Chauvin, Lindsay JTST:EX

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:50 PM
To: Minister, JTST JTST:EX
Subject: 108416 incoming Increase to minimum wage announced today.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Minister

I am writing to say i am outraged at the minimum wage announcement to 10.45 and increases according to cost of living index per year in the future.

I feel this a a outrage to all off us person's working for minimum wage full time and a disgrace.

I live in fort St.John, B.C, and works.22 and still only take home a net income of about \$1,700.00 per month. Rent for a Bachelor apartment is \$1,000. per month and a one bedroom is \$1,100.00 upwards, then you have the cost of heat and lights , also one needs to have a vehicle required for work and we have not even bought food and medications yet.

I feel very sorry for all the single parents trying to raise children on this amount, the only good thing this government has done is the announcement yesterday of helping single parents to go back to school , that i feel is a very positive move to get person's of the welfare roll.

Many s.22 have to work 3 jobs to survive.
The liberal party needs to reconsider this matter as soon as possible.

s.22

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Chauvin, Lindsay JTST:EX

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:57 PM
To: Minister, JTST JTST:EX
Subject: 180417 incoming \$15/hour Minimum

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To Ms. Bond:

Have you tried living on \$10.45 / hour? Have you even thought about how it might turn out for you if you were living on \$10.45 / hour? Perhaps empathy is not your strong suit.

So consider this--raising the minimum wage this pittance is insulting and useless, leaving people in poverty. Indexing poverty wages merely perpetuates and entrenches poverty. People working full-time, like you, deserve to make a living wage. The value of their 8-hour day is no less than the value of your 8-hour day. And they will spend a much higher proportion of their wages than you will, adding value to the economy. It's even possible they will pay more in provincial taxes than you people with your fat-cat accountants end up paying.

Any business that cannot pay an employee \$15 / hour is very likely poorly managed and deserves to go out of business. Let someone competent take up the reins.

Get real, Shirley.

s.22

Chauvin, Lindsay JTST:EX

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:03 PM
To: Minister, JTST JTST:EX
Subject: 108418 incoming Twenty Cents is not enough

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Minister Bond.

I am writing to express my support for increasing the the minimum wage to \$15/hr, a wage that would lift a full time worker just above the poverty line.

Under the government's plan, the minimum wage in BC will not reach \$15/hr until 2034

The announcement by government today guarantees that hundreds of thousands of British Columbians will continue to live in poverty for years to come. Lifting the minimum wage to \$10.45 is nowhere close to what is needed, and indexing a poverty wage only entrenches people in poverty.

Increasing the minimum wage is an important investment in people, communities and our economy. No person working full time should be living in poverty.

Sincerely,

s.22

Chauvin, Lindsay JTST:EX

From: s.22
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 4:25 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; Minister, JTST JTST:EX
Subject: 108464 Incoming Reflections for Election Day

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To Premier Christy Clark and Jobs minister Shirley Bond:

Twenty-cents is not enough. Not only is it not enough, but it is a slap-in-the-face insult to the people working diligently campaigning for a better tomorrow through a higher wage.

You are wrong that BC's economy is too fragile to support a higher wage. Your outlook is flawed: When people are paid more, they have more money to invest back into the businesses and economy to begin with, allowing business owners to keep up with the newly-raised minimum wage *without* increasing prices. You are looking at the problem through an extremely narrow scope and from the position of someone who has a secure life for yourselves and your families.

You are not where we are, and God willing you never will be. But there are too many people who *are* right here, right now, in trouble because the minimum wage in BC is no where *near* a livable wage based on what it costs to live here.

s.22 Nova Scotia at a time when the minimum wage was \$5.60 per hour. In BC I believe the wage was in the \$8-range. Now, 10 years later, Nova Scotia has a *higher* minimum wage than British Columbia, and yet has a lower cost of living and a worse-off economy.

How is that possible, Premier Clark, that BC has lagged *that* far behind? That the minimum wage in one province with a smaller more fragile economy could practically double, and the minimum wage in one of the most well-off provinces could barely scrape itself up a couple of bucks?

All you have done is indexed poverty, so when the cost of living rises, people who earn minimum wage will always be one step behind with no hope of *ever* getting out. And remember, it isn't just the people who make minimum wage you are impacting: People who make anything between minimum wage and under-\$15-an-hour are affected!

As someone who s.22 has been thrust into the miserable world of looking at living on even \$13 an hour for my industry, I am also affected by your poor judgment, narrow viewpoints, and short-term vision. You want to make it look as though you're doing something for the people at the bottom (the ones people step on to make it to the top), while at the same time doing nothing of *real* value at all.

In the next election, I will vote you out Premier Clark, along with a lot of other people I've no doubts.

We look forward to election day when we can get some small piece of justice in the face of your severely short-sighted injustice to us all.

Sincerely,
s.22



VANCOUVER and DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL



March 20, 2015

Premier Christy Clark
West Annex - Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4

Dear Premier Clark:

Subject: BC Minimum Wage Announcement

The Vancouver and District Labour Council represents 60,000 unionized workers with membership in over 100 affiliated unions in our region. We are strongly committed to improving the lives of all members of our community, regardless of whether they enjoy the benefits of a unionized job.

Lifting people out of poverty is one issue that impacts the whole community and significant improvements to the minimum wage must be implemented as steps towards a living wage for all.

It isn't just low waged workers who would benefit. Our provincial economy would be stimulated by a workforce able to buy more than bare necessities. Other benefits include reduced demands on our health care, social services, and other publicly funded programs.

Claims that small businesses can only survive if allowed to pay low wages are not borne out by experience. Further, it is mostly medium sized and large businesses that pay the lowest wages: 65% of the employers paying the minimum wage have 20 or more employees and nearly half have 500+ employees.

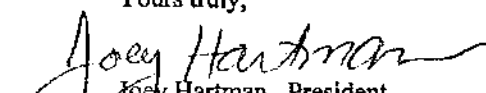
In this context we are completely dismayed by your March 12 announcement that the minimum wage would be increased by a miniscule 20 cents, and that these poverty wages would be further institutionalized by linking to the Consumer Price Index. Such indexing would be appropriate if tied to a reasonable starting point, but does not salvage your misdirected policy.

Women and their children are disproportionately impacted, as are immigrants and aboriginal people. These are people who have little voice in our society, which puts the onus on government to balance the inequality.

The VDLC will continue to promote and participate in the Fight for \$15 and Living Wage for Families campaigns because "work should lift workers out of poverty, not keep them there."

We urge you to revise your announcement with one that assures every British Columbian an immediate minimum wage of at least \$15.00 combined with a review system that maintains CPI increases combined with other factors with a living wage objective.

Yours truly,


Joey Hartman, President