

From: s.22

Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 12:04 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Subject: Min Wage \$15

We need an increase to the minimum wage because:

- if you work full-time, you shouldn't have to visit a food bank;
- women are over-represented in low-wage jobs that keep them below the poverty line;
- BC doesn't have a poverty reduction plan; and
- when low-wage workers have more money to spend, they invest it in their local community and that's good for business.

Its time hard working british columbians get what they deserve. You shouldnt have to be in poverty if you work full time. We live in Canada and should have higher standards for ourselves and be a leader in world wide scale when it comes to making sure we take care of our hard working often forgot about citizens and workers. Thanks

From: s.22  
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 12:07 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Cc: Minister, ABR ABR:EX; Minister, JTST JTST:EX  
Subject: BC employment - s.22  
Importance: High

Your Honours, and, Premier of BC,

s.22

1. Please tell me why minimum wage has not been raised ?
2. Please tell me why I cannot find a job in this province?
3. As well, please tell me why Aboriginal diversity and equity to employment does not matter in this province?

I have wrote before to the premier and each of the Ministers, but never got a response. I also am

aware that there is a turn around time for each of the ministers to respond to correspondence.

I would appreciate getting a response this time, from all Ministers within the set turn around response time that is set by the Ministerial Correspondence guidelines.

s.22

I see many temporary foreign workers, and immigrants, and people visiting BC on work visas, get hired before a Canadian and a BC permanent resident. This is not right.

Please also tell me why this is the way it is in British Columbia. s.22

s.22

Why do temporary foreign workers, and immigrants, and people with work visas get hired before Canadians do and a permanent resident of a province, who is qualified and educated, trained, skilled and have references.?

Regards,

s.22

cc. Minister, Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Minister, Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training  
Minister Responsible for Labour

From: s.22  
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 12:48 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: \$15 minimum wage!

Hi Christy,


It is far time to have BC minimum wage at least to \$15 an hour.

Thanks for listening Christy.

s.22

From: s.22  
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2015 11:05 AM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Cc: s.22  
Subject: Living Wage Policy

Sent from Windows Mail

s.22 the introduction of the living wage policy which has been adopted by a few businesses and with the City of New Westminster. I do believe this may be extremely popular with the voters of British Columbia given the high prices of housing. Why don't you offer a tax break to businesses that pay a living wage. This would redistribute some of the wealth and tax dollars would still be collected....maybe even at a higher rate 

Feel free to contact me if you would like more details.

s.22

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

From: s.22

Sent: Sunday, June 7, 2015 11:57 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; Foster.MLA, Eric LASS:EX

Subject: Minimum Wage

It's official. The state of Minnesota has the best economy in the US, attributed to increasing the minimum wage.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/carl-gibson/mark-dayton-minnesota-economy\\_b\\_6737786.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/carl-gibson/mark-dayton-minnesota-economy_b_6737786.html)

s.22

Coldstream, BC

From: s.22  
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2015 3:46 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: poverty in B.C.

Dear Premier.

I heard yesterday that your government now are in midterm, and you were claiming that B.C. had the best economic growth in Canada.

I would like to know why you and your ministers don't seem to care if we have poverty in B.C. Are you claiming that the province is so poor that we cannot afford to have a decent minimum wage, nor a decent pension for the handicapped.? I am so ashamed to be a citizen of such a province, and almost every time I read about you or your ministers in the newspaper I just can't understand .

how you can be so mean.. I feel so helpless, but at least I want you to know how your government's obvious meanness disgust me,

Sincerely yours s.22

s.22

From: s.22  
Sent: Saturday, May 30, 2015 5:50 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: Re: poverty in B.C.

I have received your email, and it reinforces my feeling of shame at living in a province which keep people in poverty, even if they work full time. I have not answered before because s.22 I showed her your email, and she couldn't believe that our minimum wage was so low, and to "coolly" admit to raising it by 20 cents! It's almost laughable if it wasn't so tragic for many people. I could also tell about B.C. having the most poor children of any province and about handicapped people born in B.C. who have to go to a food bank to feed themselves because the government do not care. She was surprised that Canada was such a poor country, and I told her that no, B.C. is not poor, it just are ruled by people who do not care for the poor. They apparently don't vote!  
s.22



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

From: s.22

Sent: May 23, 2015 9:08 AM

To: Clark.MLA, Christy

Subject: minimum wage

Dear Ms. Clark,

We need to raise wages in this province. At the very least, the minimum wage needs to be raised to \$15 in the city of Vancouver. Cities like Seattle, Los Angeles, and San Francisco are all in the process of implementing \$15 minimum wages and now even Alberta is increasing the minimum wage to \$15. There is an abundance of research demonstrating that the current minimum wage is not sufficient to lift working people out of poverty and that increasing wages is good for the economy (see the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives for info). Most people earning the minimum wage are not teenagers- they are over 25 and many have children. You have said that the economy is too fragile right now to raise the minimum wage to \$15- when will it be strong enough to provide living wages to citizens? We shouldn't maintain the status quo out of fear that an increase *\*might\** hurt business- the current wage system is *\*CURRENTLY\** hurting many individuals and families.

Thank you,

s.22

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

From: s.22

Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2015 9:50 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Subject: Re: minimum wage

Thank you for your response.

Even if we are providing better opportunities to move up and away from minimum wage jobs, there will always be people earning minimum wage, and it should be enough to keep them out of poverty. I know that your government is planning on increasing the minimum wage by 2% per year- I'm very happy with the idea of increasing the minimum wage every year to keep up with inflation. However, since we have not been increasing wages every year for the past 30 years, they have severely lagged behind the increased cost of living. The only reasonable thing to do is boost the minimum wage by a large amount (\$15) over a moderate period of time (3 years) and THEN increase it every year with inflation. I want to high-light that \$15 is actually a conservative amount- the amount that two parents with two children would need in Metro Vancouver is \$20.86(each).

The supports that are mentioned in the news release are about making the transition from living on assistance to working easier. I think that's a good thing to do, but it's not directly relevant to what I'm saying. The POINT is that people who are working full time should not have to be living on assistance. Employers should have to pay their workers a reasonable salary (especially for Vancouver) and not rely on the government to fill the gaps.

I would also like to mention that I think that your statistics on the news release are misleading: 57% are part time workers - companies often prefer to hire people part time so that they don't have to pay them benefits and people often have to get 2 or more part time jobs to make ends meet.

7,800 (7%) were defined as being the head of the family -- part of this is due to the fact that the majority of minimum wage workers are women, who are probably less likely to define themselves as 'head of the family' - by the way, what a STRANGE way to poll. They could have just asked if they were a parent.

57,800 (52%) lived with their parents - maybe because their wages are way too low to have a decent life on their own. How would you like to live on less than \$20 000 a year in the one of the most expensive cities in the world?

Of the minimum wage earners living with their parents, 47% were attending school-- I don't see why the fact that university students earn minimum wage is an argument against increasing it. University is financially straining and these are adults who are working hard for very little. We allowed universities to have a big boost in tuition shortly after the liberals took office- maybe we could do something similar for students (and everyone else).

I don't see how any reasonable person could look at the cost of living, especially in Vancouver, and tell me that \$10.45 is enough to live on for a single person, let alone anyone with a dependent or anyone who has any notion of saving for the future. If you refuse to increase wages across the province I think you need to consider how we could increase it in Vancouver

only. We are living in an affordability crisis right now.

s.22

From: s.22  
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 7:28 PM  
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX  
Subject: Some constructive feedback from a supporter

Christy,

I am a supporter.

I have also raised you a lot of money for the BC Liberals.

s.22

Having said that, I would like to provide some constructive feedback if we are to win the next election and if the BC Liberals are to do the right thing:

1) The increase of the minimum wage by 20 cents was a bad idea. Better not to raise it at all. This is an insult to many people I know of, single parents, low income people, seniors who cannot make ends meet and are forced back to work, and so on. That is the real world Christy. This is bad politics also. It was not the right thing to do. It was cruel. I would suggest that you install the same increase segments as you did - with great acclaim - good idea to \$10.25. For example, over three years increase to \$15 year 1 - \$12.50; year 2 - \$15.00. Then the election. Good politics. The idea that small business will be the loser is nonsense. I have been involved as a consultant to small businesses. Of course, if you ask them they are not going to say do not increase the minimum wage. They will argue against it. Hello. What I am suggesting would be a bold, popular move. Outfits like McDonald's would not like it but I know they make a lot of money including their franchisees, so lets not feel sorry for them.

2) Translink - s.22 Translink is an incredibly poorly managed company. They should be completely restructured and reorganized. Frankly also, I would not give them \$7.5BB as they cannot even manage a \$170mm compass program. Let's hope the referendum fails so you can pick up the pieces and organize \$10 BB to get the job done. s.22 . This is a lot of money and we have to get it right. I can help.

3) BC Ferries should come under Highways operationally - right now it also is mismanaged. It should reflect the value of tourism in its model and other stuff. It does not. It is structured as a stand alone. This is wrong headed. The model needs to be revamped to reflect its total value to the BC economy.

4) John Horgan is as smart well educated guy with solid political skills - he will crucify you on these things in the next campaign.

5) Mt Polley - this is really quite incredible. We need to be completely transparent in this. Take a look at who owns the company. Ask my MLA Andrew what he thinks about this. Ralph

s.22

Ask Ralph. This is incomprehensible. It needs a new governance model to protect our children and grandchildren. s.22

s.22 We need to protect.

6) I buy into your latest budget wherein you refer to a balanced budget based on an economy which has many facets not just LNG. This is good thinking. Look at Alberta with many of its eggs in energy. LNG is all good, but too narrow. As well, we need to look at fracking and its danger to our water.

Regards.

s.22

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

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

From: s.22

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 4:25 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; Minister, JTST JTST:EX

Subject: Reflections for Election Day

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



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

From: s.22

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:57 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; Minister, JTST JTST:EX

Cc: Gary Holman

Subject: a new minimum wage

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

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

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?

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

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

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: Fwd: Send Christy A Message - Twenty Cents Isn't Enough!

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=AejNoKRq00I>

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  
cc: VDLC Executive

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JH/kmr:cope378

