

## HOUSE OF COMMONS MISSES CHILD POVERTY DEADLINE BY A DECADE: CHURCHES ACT

On Tuesday, November 24, the House of Commons will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a unanimous 1989 resolution by Parliament to eradicate child poverty by the year 2000. Now, a decade later and on the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child, The Canadian Council of Churches formally endorses the Dignity for All campaign for a poverty free Canada. To indicate your support, sign on at [www.dignityforall.ca](http://www.dignityforall.ca).

Joe Gunn, Executive Director of Citizens for Public Justice says, “When we and our partners launched the campaign in 2009 we were hopeful for broad Canadian support. We know the churches have long provided services for economically marginalized communities, especially during this economic downturn. But the ecumenical witness of churches calling for a federal plan to end poverty in Canada - on Parliament Hill hosting the MP roundtable in May, appearing before the parliamentary committee in June, and now wholeheartedly endorsing the Dignity for All campaign - is truly inspiring.”

The Canadian Council of Churches, together with its partners in the Dignity for All campaign, wants:

- A federal plan for poverty elimination that compliments provincial and territorial plans
- A federal anti-poverty Act that ensures enduring federal commitment and accountability
- Sufficient federal investment in social security for all Canadians

The Canadian Council of Churches is the largest ecumenical body in Canada, now representing 22 churches of Anglican, Evangelical, Eastern Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox, Protestant and Roman Catholic traditions; together the Canadian Council of Churches represents 85 per cent of the Christians in Canada.

For further resources, please see the June 2009 brief, the Federal Contribution to Ending Poverty at [http://www.ccc-cce.ca/english/downloads/Brief\\_FederalContributionEndingPoverty.pdf](http://www.ccc-cce.ca/english/downloads/Brief_FederalContributionEndingPoverty.pdf).

For more information or an interview, please contact:

The Rev. Dr. Karen A. Hamilton  
General Secretary  
The Canadian Council of Churches

[hamilton@ccc-cce.ca](mailto:hamilton@ccc-cce.ca)

416.972.9494 x. 22