



What are the 13 Canadian Demands to the federal government?

- 1. Restore federal funding to health care and enforce the rules against the privatization of our health care system.**
- 2. Keep the promise to spend an additional \$1.5 billions over five years for affordable housing. Build 25,000 new affordable housing units every year for the next five years.**
- 3. Implement a publicly-funded and publicly accountable, not-for-profit national child care system.**
- 4. Increase Old Age Security payments to provide older women with a decent standard of living.**
- 5. Use the surplus from the Employment Insurance Fund to increase benefits, provide longer payment periods and improve access, as well as improve maternity and family benefits.**
- 6. Support women's organizing for equality and democracy by:**
 - allocating \$50 million to front-line, independent, feminist, women-controlled groups committed to ending violence against women, such as women's centres, rape crisis centres and women's shelters;
 - recognizing and funding autonomous national Aboriginal women's organisations to ensure full participation in all significant public policy decisions and providing adequate funding to Aboriginal women's services, including shelters, in all Aboriginal communities;
 - funding a national meeting of lesbians to discuss and prioritise areas for legislative and public policy reform; and
 - providing \$30 million in core funding for equality-seeking women's organizations, which represents only \$2.00 for every woman and girl in Canada.
- 7. Fund consultations with a wide range of women's equality-seeking organizations prior to all legislative reform of relevance to women's security and equality rights, beginning with the Criminal Code and ensure access for women from marginalized communities.**
- 8. Implement a progressive immigration reform to:**
 - provide domestic workers with full immigration status on arrival;
 - abolish the "head tax" on all immigrants; and
 - include persecution on the basis of gender and sexual orientation as grounds for claiming refugee status.
- 9. Contribute to the elimination of poverty around the world by:**
 - supporting the cancellation of the debts of the 53 poorest countries;
 - increasing Canada's international development aid to 0.7% of the Gross National Product
- 10. Adopt national standards which guarantee the right to welfare for everyone in need and ban workfare.**
- 11. Value women with disabilities and end their exclusion from economic, political and social life and take the first step of ensuring and funding full access for women with disabilities to all consultations on relevant issues.**
- 12. Establish a post-secondary education transfer and increase funds to a national system of grants. Freeze and lower tuition fees for post-secondary studies. Eliminate boutique programmes like the Learning Bond and the Millennium Scholarship Foundation and reject Income Contingent Loan Repayment Schemes since they would ultimately harm women and other marginalised groups in Canada.**
- 13. Immediately introduce and adopt proactive pay equity legislation based on the federal Pay Equity Task Force's Recommendations.**