

The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos
Minister of Families, Children and Social Development
Government of Canada, House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A

June 30, 2017

Re: Submission to Canadian Poverty Reduction Strategy Consultation

Dear Honourable Minister Duclos,

On behalf of [Dignity for All, the campaign to end poverty in Canada](#), [Canada Without Poverty](#) (CWP) and [Citizens for Public Justice](#) (CPJ) are pleased to make this submission to the consultation process for the Canadian Poverty Reduction Strategy (CPRS). Please consider this letter and the attached publication, [Dignity for All: A National Anti-Poverty Plan for Canada](#) as our submission.

The Dignity for All campaign began in 2009 and has the broad support of over 11, 500 individual supporters and almost 700 social policy organizations, faith communities, unions, anti-poverty groups, and academics. For almost a decade Dignity for All has called for the development of a national anti-poverty plan. We are very pleased you have initiated the process to develop a national strategy.

In collaboration with partners across the country, Dignity for All spent several years in consultations to develop our own model of what a national plan should look like. We had leaders from a wide variety of communities, including those with lived experience of poverty, come to consensus about policies necessary in a national anti-poverty plan. We held a series of six policy summits, hearing from people with expertise in the following areas: Income security; housing and homelessness; healthcare; food security; employment; and early childhood education and care.

Out of these consultations, we developed a model national anti-poverty plan, grounded in a human rights approach and outlining concrete policy recommendations. This plan was released in February 2015 on Parliament Hill at an event hosted by the All Party Anti-Poverty Caucus.

Having embarked on a consultation process for a model anti-poverty plan in the past, we are keenly aware of the challenges in convening the diversity of voices across the country. With this in mind, we are hopeful that you will use the Dignity for All plan as a starting point in the development of the CPRS.

We have also been actively engaged in the CPRS consultation process. For example, we have offered the opportunity for members of the public to share their experiences and their voices about

what they want to see in the CPRS. Through our online form, 850 electronic submissions have been made to ESDC.

Dignity for All has been a critical convener of voices in the lead up to the CPRS. We look forward to seeing the results of the consultations in the fall, and the plan itself in time with funding outlined in the 2018 Budget. We would be pleased to act as a resource as you review what you have heard from people across Canada about the need for a comprehensive and effective CPRS that respects and promotes the dignity and human rights of all people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Gunn", with a horizontal line underneath.

Joe Gunn
Citizens for Public Justice

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Harriett McLachlan", written in a cursive style.

Harriett McLachlan
Canada Without Poverty