

94.5 Review of the Role and Function of Social Programs

Whereas, The federal government has instituted limits to the funding of social programs; and,
Whereas, Many provincial cuts have been made through technical changes without an informed discussion of policy alternatives; and,
Whereas, Social programs were developed to ensure the health, welfare and education of individuals; and,
Whereas, Alleged savings to the federal government are an illusion, these costs having been passed on to the provinces and municipalities; and,
Whereas, Continued cutbacks may require more expensive remedies at a later date; and,
Whereas, The gap between the rich and poor in Canada is greater than in any G-7 country except the United States of America; and,
Whereas, The United Nations Economic and Social Council 1993 Report on Canada's performance as signatory under Article 10-15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights indicates serious concerns about Canada's poor record in reducing the impact of poverty; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, That The National Council of Women of Canada commends the federal government for undertaking a review of social programs, and urges the government to:

1. Halt the erosion of social programs;
2. Review the function and role of social programs with the provincial governments; and,
3. Continue with widespread consultation about new social program alternatives which will strengthen the Canadian social fabric and ensure the health and education of all citizens into the twenty-first century.