



Supporting People with Diverse Abilities

May 8, 2019

Jody Siebert
Bethesda Christian Association
105-2975 Gladwin Road
Abbotsford, BC V2T 5T4

The Honourable John Horgan, MLA
Premier of British Columbia
Legislative Assembly of British Columbia
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC, V8V 1X4
VIA EMAIL: premier@gov.bc.ca

Dear Premier:

Re: Equality of Low Wage Redress for all Social Service Employees

As you are aware, we are very concerned about the Provincial Government's decision to fund unequal wage increases for union vs. non-unionized social service workers. I am imploring you to reverse your government's decision to not fund the Low Wage Redress for non-union workers.

Across the province the social services sector has been detrimentally affected by the decision to deny fair and equitable wage increases that were identified by government as critical to the fair treatment of social service workers (Low Wage Redress).

The discrimination is unacceptable and is a serious blemish on the government's image. It is impossible to justify treating people as different classes based on whether they are represented by a union or not. This is unfair and extremely damaging to the social services sector which is already experiencing critical recruitment and retention challenges.

Union and non-union workers across the province provide the same committed, critical care to residents in BC. Equal work deserves equal pay. The inequality in pay bears no relationship to the work that workers are doing. It only serves to add tension among those who work side by side every day caring for vulnerable people in this province, providing the same dedicated, quality, essential care that people need.



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I know you are aware of our collective effort to create a strong and sustainable social service sector in BC and we are grateful for your support. Please stand up for what is fair and right. I want to thank you in advance for ensuring fairness and equality for all. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jody Siebert".

Jody Siebert

Chief Executive Officer

Bethesda Christian Association

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Website: www.BethesdaBC.com

cc: Brenda Gillette, CEO, BC CEO Network
George Boer, Chair, Bethesda Board of Directors



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