

To Planning Committee  
Feb. 21, 2017  
1724 # 3



February 20, 2017

To: Mayor and Council, City of Richmond.

CFUW Richmond (Canadian Federation of University Women) has been part of the Richmond community since 1967. CFUW has developed national policy on issues relating to poverty, which are supported by clubs in every province. We are aware that BC is the only province without a poverty reduction strategy.

CFUW BC Council has focused on child poverty for the last 4 years. CFUW Richmond has brought our concerns to MLA's and provincial cabinet ministers.

Locally, our club has had members on the Richmond Poverty Response Committee and members served on the Richmond Children First committee looking into child poverty. It produced a Report entitled "It's Not Fair" which told stories of what it is like for families in Richmond living in poverty. We are currently involved in the breakfast program at Brighthouse School, as we know that feeding children who live in poverty will contribute to their success in school.

We participated in the Richmond Childcare survey by completing a key informant interview, as we know that providing affordable childcare is an important part of lifting families out of poverty.

We are here today in support of the Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee Report as the Planning Committee considers the staff report on Municipal Responses to Child/Youth Poverty Report. The health of our community and especially its children would benefit greatly from a coordinated plan to reduce poverty.

CFUW Richmond encourages you to work with community partners to develop a Richmond poverty reduction strategy and to support the development of such a plan for the province of BC.

Regards,

Brenda Denchfield, CFUW Richmond President

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Schedule 2 to the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of Richmond City Council held on Tuesday, February 21, 2017

