

## **Critical Federal Government Measures Implemented 2016-2018**

*The United Church of Canada and the Bread Not Stones/Child Well-Being Initiative, together with many other organizations, consistently advocated for the following federal measures, which have now been implemented:*

- In 2016, our Federal Government raised the maximum Canada Child Benefit from \$3,687 to \$6400 a year for families most in need, on a sliding scale. That's an increase of \$2,713 per child and will help lift thousands of children out of poverty. This benefit has now been indexed to inflation.
- In 2016-2017 allocated 11.8 billion dollars to Indigenous peoples for education and infrastructure, spread over the next 3 years. In 2018, allocated \$4.1 billion for Indigenous peoples and communities, including \$172.6 million for clean drinking water. Agreed to end all drinking water advisories on First Nations Reserves by March 2021.
- November 22, 2017-Released a National Housing Strategy which includes the building of 100,000 new housing units and the repair and renovation of 300,000 existing units. \$11.2 billion will be allocated over the next 10 years. Roughly \$3 billion will be spent over the next 5 years and a rental supplement for low income tenants could be in place as early as within 2 to 3 years. Combined with investments from other levels of government, total spending could possibly reach up to \$40 billion over 10 years.
- Committed to a long-term partnership with provinces and territories, to invest \$7.5 billion in child care and early learning over the next 11 years. This plan could create up to 40,000 new spaces across Canada over the next three years.
- August 21, 2018-released the very comprehensive Canada Poverty Reduction Strategy, with the goal to reduce poverty in Canada by 20% by 2020 and 50% by 2030.
- Feb 1, 2018-Agreed to close the welfare funding gap for First Nations children on reserve.
- May 30, 2018-The House of Commons adopted the full implementation of Bill C-262, the acceptance of the United Nation's Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People. The bill was passed on third reading and has now been sent to the Senate.

*Respectfully submitted by Linda Woods, Co-chair with Laurel Kenney,  
Bread not Stones, London Conference*