



Woodwards Social Housing Coalition

2648 Cambridge Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5K 1L5 Ph: (604) 215-2287

We hope you will consider attending the upcoming Friday, October 17th workshops on social housing and poverty in BC.

We see the ever increasing signs of homelessness and poverty as more and more people find themselves removed from provincial income assistance. We see food lines getting longer as restaurants sit empty, we see more people sleeping on the streets as vacancy rates increase in SROs, and a higher level of frustration and anger as people can't afford the basics of life.

As a business person you must realize that these cuts are affecting more than just the poor and disintitiled. This is what we are witnessing today as the effects of the first wave of these cuts takes hold. When you change one thing, all things will change. When money is removed from the system, people buy less, the vacancy rate increases, crime from theft increases, anger and frustration increases. All things react.

We imagine you share our fear that the cuts scheduled for April 1, 2004 will only amplify the problems we face today, and cause all of us further financial hardship.

It's not rocket science. By the end of April thousands of people in our community will have much less to spend on everything. If your business depends on the patronage of the poor you are also going to be suffering hardship. Stores will be empty of customers, and hotels will be vacant of tenants.

In other jurisdictions, where this experiment in social prudence has been tried, it has failed. In British Columbia today, we can see why.

We encourage you to join us in this important workshop to explore and plan ways to address this issue. We need to find ways to slow down or stop this cruel and misguided legislation.

We hope to form a broad based coalition, reflective of the composition of our community and ultimately reflective of our province. For this reason we have invited people from all segments of our community. The poor and homeless, church members, union members, students, business people, advocates and community activists Just as each of us brings special skills and expertise to the community, so too can we bring those tools to a coalition to fight cuts which will cause hardship for all of us.

Please attend this important workshop. Please post our notices in your store windows, hotel lobbies, elevators and bulletin boards.

For further information please call Jim Leyden at 604-215-2287 or RVSVP e-mail nomorecuts@hotmail.com

Sincerely;

Jim Leyden
for October 17th Workshop to Stop the April Cuts.

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e-mail nomorecuts@hotmail.com Cuts Hurt Everyone !!!**