

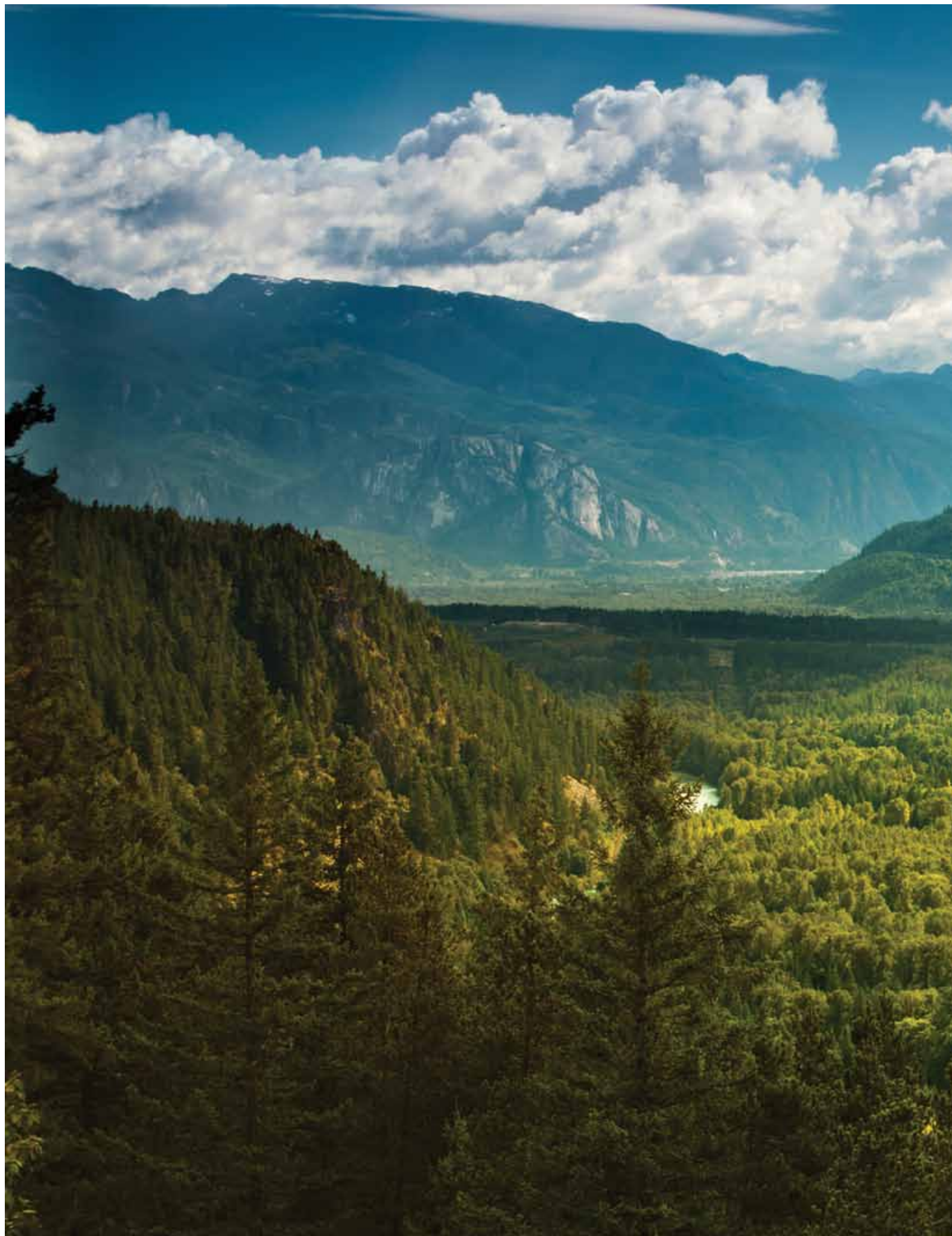
GIVING BRITISH COLUMBIA FAMILIES A BREAK

ELECTION 2011 BC PLATFORM

Jack Layton

Jack Layton
 **NDP**





MY COMMITMENT TO BRITISH COLUMBIA FAMILIES: LEADERSHIP BC CAN TRUST

British Columbia is a province with boundless potential.

But with Stephen Harper, Ottawa is not focused on your priorities.
That's how you got the HST.

Together, we can change that.

I invite you to read the New Democrat BC Platform. It speaks directly to the unique issues facing the province and the people who make it great.

You will find that New Democrats have a plan to create jobs, improve health care, protect our environment, and make life more affordable for BC families.

It's a practical, affordable plan and it speaks directly to the issues that are important to British Columbians.

You know where I stand.

And you can count on me and my BC team to fight for you and your family – each and every day.

It's the kind of leadership British Columbians deserve – leadership you can trust.

Sincerely,



Jack Layton
Leader of Canada's New Democrats



“BC has the highest household debt in Canada.”

MAKING LIFE MORE AFFORDABLE FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA FAMILIES

Jack Layton and New Democrats will:

- Ensure BC is not forced to pay Stephen Harper's \$1.6 billion penalty if voters scrap the HST in the June referendum;
- Cap credit card rates at 5% above prime to give BC families a break on credit card bills;
- Restore the energy retrofit program to promote jobs and help families make their homes more energy efficient;
- Remove the federal sales tax from home heating; and
- Make post-secondary education more affordable by reducing tuition fees and increasing the Education Tax Credit.

PARTNERING FOR BETTER HEALTH CARE FOR ALL BRITISH COLUMBIANS

Jack Layton and New Democrats will:

- Train and hire more doctors and nurses to tackle hallway health care in our hospitals and ensure every British Columbian has access to a family doctor;
- Add home care and long-term care to the Canada Health Act and ensure annual dedicated transfers to BC; and
- Negotiate a new ten-year health care accord with the Government of BC to guarantee a continued strong federal contribution.

HELPING TO CREATE AND PROTECT JOBS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Jack Layton and New Democrats will:

- Lower the small business tax rate from 11 to 9 per cent;
- Create a Job Creation Tax Credit for every new job created in BC;
- Extend broadband access to every corner of BC;
- Establish a national shipbuilding strategy that will ensure BC shipyards stay busy; and
- Fight to protect jobs by restricting raw log exports.

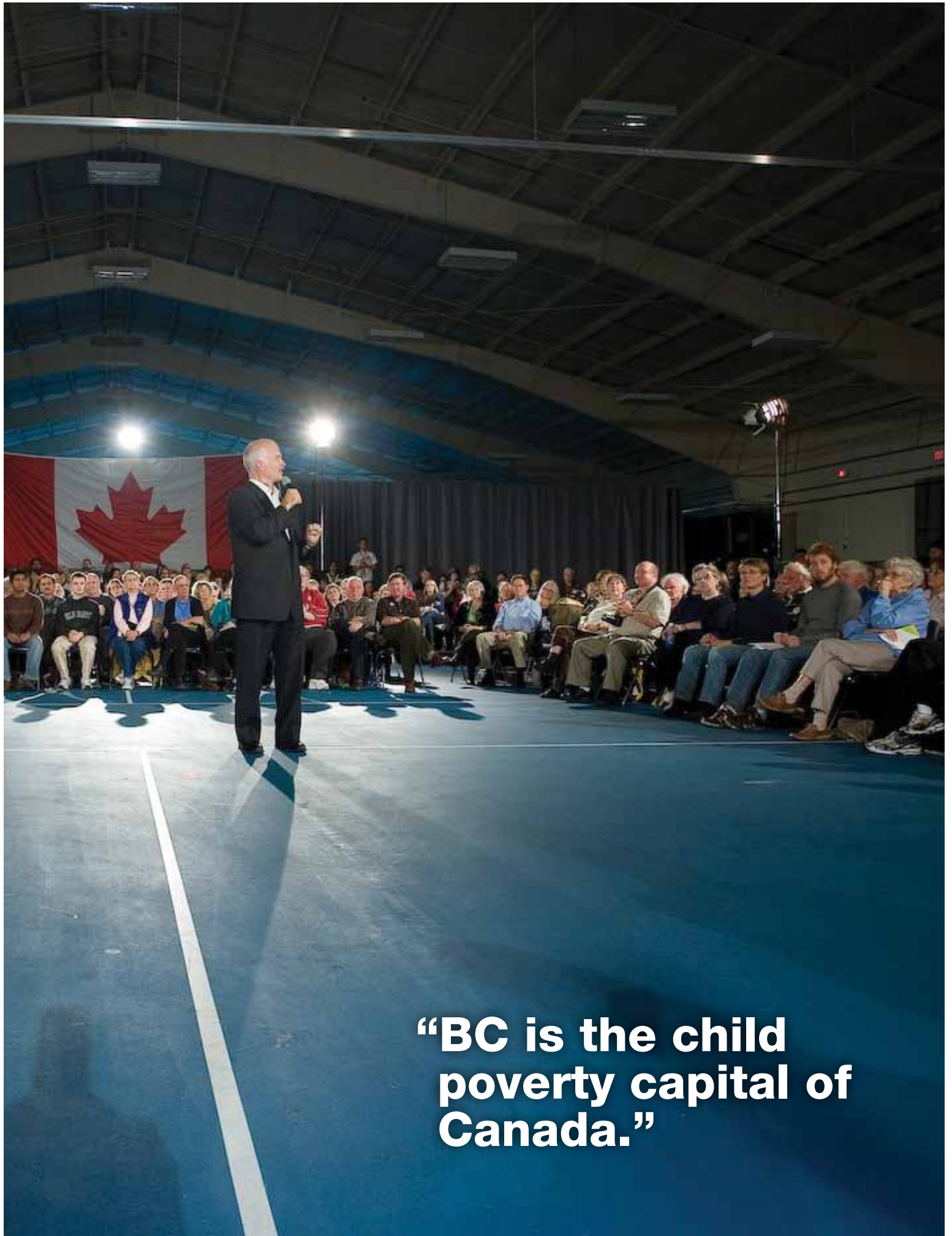


“Jack Layton’s transit plan will mean \$240 million for British Columbia over the next four years.”

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT BRITISH COLUMBIA

Jack Layton and New Democrats will:

- Establish a national transit strategy to reduce traffic congestion and fight climate change;
- Devote, permanently, the equivalent of another cent of the gas excise tax to predictable, stable funding for BC's transit infrastructure;
- Fight BC's growing homelessness crisis by bringing in a national affordable housing strategy;
- Commit to the BC Treaty process so First Nations communities and BC businesses can thrive with the certainty settled treaties bring;
- Commit to firebreak protection for communities, including First Nations, in pine beetle-affected areas;
- Stop the cutbacks to coast guard service and restore marine emergency response services on our coast;
- Ensure a seat at the table for BC municipalities in all federal/provincial/territorial negotiations dealing with their interests;
- Begin work immediately with provincial, territorial, and municipal partners to develop a long-term infrastructure investment strategy to replace the Building Canada Plan when it expires in 2014;
- Enact New Democrat MP Denise Savoie's green commuter Bill C-466 to make employer-provided benefits for transit, carpooling and cycle commuting tax-free;
- Enact New Democrat MP Libby Davies' Bill C-304 to bring all levels of government, Aboriginal communities, and civil society together to develop a national housing strategy with timelines, targets and review mechanisms to enable Canada to meet its obligation to ensure affordable, adequate housing for all;
- Begin addressing the municipal investment implications of federal water and wastewater standards with an investment of \$200 million per year over the next four years; and
- Maintain the Gateways and Border Crossings Fund.



“BC is the child poverty capital of Canada.”

BETTER STEWARDSHIP OVER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Jack Layton and New Democrats will:

- Promote local manufacturing and generate BC jobs by restricting the export of raw logs and other resources;
- Protect our coast and waterways by banning oil super tankers on the rugged north coast, maintaining the moratorium on west coast oil and gas exploration, and stopping the Enbridge pipeline;
- Protect wild salmon and ensure long-term sustainable jobs by moving fish farms to closed containment;
- Invest in habitat protection for all fish species;
- Make BC a world leader in generating alternative energy and a new, green economy; and
- Establish a national transit strategy to reduce traffic congestion and fight climate change.

SAFER BRITISH COLUMBIA NEIGHBOURHOODS

Jack Layton and New Democrats will:

- Keep our communities safe from crime by investing in a balanced, effective approach based on prevention, policing and prosecution;
- Prevent gang violence and youth recruitment to gangs with more police resources, gang diversion programs and youth support programs;
- Reduce neighbourhood crime with community policing and crime prevention programs, including alternative courts and better mental health programs in corrections; and
- Double and make permanent the Police Officers Recruitment Fund – this will help BC municipalities with the cost of policing, and provide a long-term funding commitment to put more police on the streets.

SUPPORTING BRITISH COLUMBIA FAMILIES IN NEED

Jack Layton and New Democrats will:

- Improve our public Canada Pension Plan and lift all seniors out of poverty by strengthening the Guaranteed Income Supplement;
- Help fight child poverty in BC by increasing the Child Tax Benefit by up to \$700 per child over the next four years;
- Focus immigration priorities on family reunification, and speed up processing times for immigration applications; and
- Establish and fund a Canada-wide child care and early learning program leading to the creation of 12,000 new child care spaces in BC over the next four years.

Authorized by the registered agent for Canada's NDP.

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