

Open Letter to Premier Pallister

September 29, 2016

AN OPEN LETTER TO PREMIER PALLISTER

IT'S TIME TO **GIVE LOW-INCOME MANITOBANS A RAISE**

Dear Premier Pallister,

This year, the minimum wage will increase in every province but two – Newfoundland and Labrador, and Manitoba. At \$11 per hour, Manitoba's minimum wage falls far short of what families need to get by.

Manitoba's new government has refused to commit to an increase in the minimum wage, which will force families to make impossible choices between paying rent or buying groceries, school supplies and other essentials.

Sixty percent of our province's minimum wage earners are women, many with children. Annual increases to the minimum wage help make life a little easier for our lowest earning families. They, in turn, spend nearly all of their income on basic needs at local businesses, helping grow our economy.

Manitoba's minimum wage usually increases on October 1st each year to help families at least keep up with inflation. Without an annual increase, inflation leaves minimum wage earners \$400 worse off, each year.

Premier Pallister, we call on you to cancel your freeze on the minimum wage and help more families make ends meet – because every Manitoban deserves a living wage.

1. AIL in Canada
2. ATU 1374
3. ATU 1505
4. BCTGM
5. Brandon & District Labour Council
6. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (MB)
7. Canadian Community Economic Development Network (MB)
8. Canadian Federation of Students (MB)
9. Canadian Labour Congress
10. CMHA Interlake Eastern
11. COPE 342
12. Conference of Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario – United Church of Canada
13. CUPE 110
14. CUPE 500
15. CUPE 737
16. CUPE 3473

17. CUPE 4270
18. CUPE Manitoba
19. CUPW Red River Local 819
20. CUPW Winnipeg Local 856
21. Dauphin & District Labour Committee
22. GMP Local 174B
23. IBEW 435
24. IBEW 2085
25. Immigration Partnership Winnipeg
26. Low Income Intermediary Project
27. Make Poverty History Manitoba
28. Manitoba Association of Rights and Liberties
29. Manitoba Building Trades & Allied Hydro Council Manitoba Eco-Network
30. Manitoba Federation of Labour
31. Manitoba Federaton of Union Retirees
32. Manitoba Teachers' Society
33. MGEU
34. Manitoba Nurses Union
35. North Point Douglas Women's Centre
36. Noth End Women's Centre
37. Operating Engineers of Manitoba Local 987
38. PIPSC-MAGE
39. Portage La Prairie Labour Council
40. PSAC Prairie Region
41. PSAC/NHU 50012
42. PSAC/UNDE 50705
43. PSAC/USGE 50026
44. Right to Housing Coalition
45. School of Social Work at University of St. Boniface
46. SMART Local 511
47. Social Planning Council of Winnipeg
48. **TEAM-IFPTE 161**
49. Thompson Labour Council
50. UA Local 254
51. UFCW 832
52. University of Manitoba Faculty Association
53. Unifor
54. Unifor 7
55. Unifor 191
56. Unifor 681
57. Unifor 830
58. Unifor 3003
59. USW 6166
60. USW 9074
61. Visions of Independence
62. Winnipeg Labour Council
63. West Broadway Community Ministry
64. West Broadway Community Services
65. Workers United
66. Youth Agencies Alliance
67. Youville Centre