

Facts about Women in Canada

- There are 67 percent more women than men in the lowest (\$0-\$30,000/yr.) and middle-to-upper (\$30,000-\$100,000) income groups, and 336 percent more men than women in the high-income group (\$100,000 or more). (Source: Victoria Status of Women Action Group)
- Women still earn, on average, only 72 cents for every dollar a man earns for the same work. For women with disabilities, Aboriginal women, and women of colour, the differences are even greater.
- Much of women's work is not just underpaid – it is entirely unpaid. Women perform two-thirds of unpaid caregiving work in Canada, worth up to \$319 billion to the economy annually.
- Some Canadian statistics suggest that women *without* children earn as much as 97¢ for every dollar earned by men, while women *with* children earn as little as 52¢.
- Half of women aged 65 and over in Canada who live alone, live in poverty because they have no pension of their own.
- Women make up two-thirds of minimum wage earners. In fact, women consistently find themselves in low-status, low-paying jobs with few opportunities for advancement and are overrepresented among part-time workers and in the informal sector. (UNPAC-UN Platform for Action Committee Manitoba)

What the Conservatives have done to erode women's equality and participation in Canadian society:

- Cut the operating budget of Status of Women Canada by 43 percent, while removing the word "equality" from the mandate of its Women's Program.
- Eliminated funding for the Court Challenges Program that low-income women used to fight discrimination.
- Axed the \$1-billion annual Liberal early learning and child care agreements, and the Kelowna Accord which would have provided much-needed health and education funding.
- Eliminated the National Child Supplement.
- Failed to produce their 'Action Plan' – announced in Budget 2008 – to advance equality for women by improving their economic and social conditions and their participation in democratic life.
- Ignored a November 25, 2008, motion passed unanimously in the House of Commons to develop a violence against women prevention strategy.