Supporting Gender Equality

HIGHLIGHTS OF B.C. GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

» Gender equity is about eliminating barriers that prevent people from reaching their full potential.

» Often, women and minority groups disproportionately experience intersecting oppressions like poverty, racism, ableism and homophobia.

» Our government is working hard to make life better for everyone.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT US ONLINE:
GOV.BC.CA/GENDEREQUITY

POVERTY REDUCTION
Women and LGBTQ2S people are disproportionately affected by poverty. B.C.’s first poverty reduction strategy, TogetherBC, will reduce overall poverty by 25% and child poverty by 50% over the next 5 years.

TogetherBC will help break the cycle of poverty and build a fairer province by:
» Building more affordable housing
» Expanding access to education and training
» Increasing access to income
» Creating more opportunities so that everyone has a chance to be successful

CHILD CARE
More than $1.3B invested in quality, affordable, accessible child care.

» The Affordable Child Care Benefit helps all families earning up to $111,000 — saving them up to $15,000 per year, per child.
MINIMUM WAGE
Women make up a disproportionately large number of minimum wage workers. To help close the pay gap and enable everyone to pay for basic necessities, the minimum wage is being raised.

$15.20/hour in 2021
$11.35/hour in 2018

RECONCILIATION
Government is taking concrete action to support Indigenous peoples, and move towards true and lasting reconciliation. Support for programs that address violence and empower women, like the Moosehide Campaign and Giving Voice, ensures a safer future for Indigenous women and children.

GENDER DIVERSITY
The government is taking action to ensure that gender diverse British Columbians are recognized in a respectful way and have access to programs and services that meet their needs.

A new third option enables gender diverse people to choose “X” on their provincial government identification, rather than only male or female.

Expanded public funding is improving access to transgender health services, including for gender-affirming surgeries.

GOOD JOBS
71,000 job openings are expected in trades in British Columbia by 2028.

$1.8M invested to support women working in the building trades.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE
Tens of thousands of women, men and gender diverse people who need help are getting counselling and other assistance they need through the 70 community-based victim service programs and more than 240 violence against women programs funded by government.

SAFE HOUSING
Women and children facing violence need safe places to go. Building B.C.: Women’s Transition Housing Fund provides $734M over the next 10 years.

1,500 new transition homes.
Funding $734M to safe housing.

VictimLinkBC: 1-800-563-0808