

WOMEN'S COMMISSION
POVERTY

WHEREAS the most recent statistics on low income show that:

- some 64,000 Nova Scotians live below the poverty line,
- that 13,000 of those in poverty are children,
- that half of all children with single mothers live in poverty,
- that an increasing number of Nova Scotians living in poverty are in fact employed full-time and
- that almost 30% of renters pay more than 30% of their income on housing; and

WHEREAS poverty is a multi-faceted phenomenon, keeping people from achieving their potential, and affecting physical and mental health, disability and life expectancy as well as educational achievement and participation in the labour market; and

WHEREAS persons living in poverty outside urban areas are frequently less visible and face serious problems in access to services, including housing, health, education and transportation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Government of Nova Scotia develop and implement an Anti-Poverty Action Plan with measurable targets, assigned responsibilities and defined outcomes, and that the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, October 17, be an annual date for reporting progress.