

RESOLUTION 1 - 2007

WHEREAS the federal minimum wage was eliminated in 1996 under the Liberal government; and

WHEREAS the number of people working for the minimum wage in Canada is increasing, which is a concrete sign of the growing prosperity gap under the Liberal and Conservative governments; now

THE FEDERATION WILL call on the Harper government to:

- immediately establish the national minimum wage at \$10 per hour;
- implement an increase to \$11 per hour one year later; and
- establish an indexing formula so that workers making the minimum can be assured of annual pay increases; and

THE FEDERATION WILL endorse and actively support the Canadian Labour Congress' \$10 NOW campaign to win a wage increase for Canada's lowest-paid workers.

RESOLUTION 2 - 2007

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour calls on the provincial government to raise the minimum wage to ten dollars an hour.

Campbell River Courtenay DLC

RESOLUTION 3 - 2007

BECAUSE of its punitive policy on the minimum wage in BC, the Campbell government is forcing over 250,000 British Columbians to work in poverty; and

BECAUSE many of these citizens are also post-secondary students, who are also struggling with mounting student debt as a result of the Campbell government's ill-considered policy of tuition fee de-regulation; now

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to broaden its minimum wage campaign by:

- Working with the Canadian Federation of Students to mobilize support within the student movement for a \$10 minimum wage;
- Working with faculty and staff in BC's post-secondary education system to increase the public's awareness and concern for the impact that the government's minimum wage policy is having on students and their ability to access and complete their post-secondary education.

FPSE

RESOLUTION 4 - 2007

WHEREAS NDP MP Peggy Nash has introduced a **National Minimum Wage Bill, C-375** to raise the federal minimum wage to \$10 per hour; and

WHEREAS \$10.00 an hour is the very minimum working families need to stay above the poverty line; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour support a National Minimum Wage of \$10.00.

Campbell River Courtenay DLC

RESOLUTION 5 - 2007

BECAUSE of pressure from employers to change the policies governing immigration to Canada, the federal government has accelerated the use of temporary foreign workers; and

BECAUSE of these policy changes, these workers are being effectively denied the basic protections and rights of citizenship; and

BECAUSE Canada has a longstanding commitment to support immigration policies that lead to full citizenship for new Canadians; now

THE FEDERATION WILL work through the Canadian Labour Congress to demand that the federal government overhaul its current temporary foreign worker programs by ensuring that these workers have full rights of citizenship, not just temporary access to jobs in Canada.

FPSE

RESOLUTION 6 - 2007

BECAUSE there is a history in Canada of exploitation, abuse and denial of rights, such as health and safety, employment standards and the right to organize workers; and

BECAUSE of recent exploitation of "guest workers" or "temporary workers" by employers; now

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to expose abuse of immigration programs by any employer; and

THE FEDERATION WILL launch a public campaign to ensure that citizenship and immigration programs are a key election issue during the next federal election with the purpose of ending "temporary foreign worker" programs so that those who choose to work in Canada have the opportunity to become full Canadian citizens.

BCGEU

RESOLUTION 7 - 2007

BECAUSE there has already been abuse of foreign workers in BC; and

BECAUSE the federal and provincial governments have signed an agreement to allow a greater number of employers to bring foreign workers into Canada; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby both governments to protect both local and foreign labour by setting a wage grid for all workers that cannot drop below the average non-union wage in the sector in which the worker is employed; and

THE FEDERATION WILL work with all member unions to ensure that foreign worker's rights are protected; and

THE FEDERATION WILL build coalitions that can assist foreign workers who want to join unions or need our protection.

CAW 114

RESOLUTION 8 - 2007

BECAUSE migrant workers are vulnerable to employer abuse and exploitation, are unaware of their rights under Canadian law, are uninformed about protection for workers in Canadian society and culture, and often have difficulty communicating in English; and

BECAUSE unions, ecumenical and community service organizations are the only groups intervening to help abused workers and because these organizations have limited resources to provide migrant workers adequate services; now

THE FEDERATION WILL direct its staff to plan for the opening of a full-time Migrant Workers' Advocacy Centre with legal and social work professional staff to represent as required and/or coordinate and provide support services; and

THE FEDERATION WILL seek funding from the federal and provincial governments to provide ongoing financial resources for the Migrant Workers' Advocacy Centre; and

THE FEDERATION WILL ask affiliate unions to provide interim funding to seed the start-up and initial expenses of the Migrant Workers' Advocacy Centre.

RESOLUTION 9 - 2007

BECAUSE many undocumented workers have built homes and lives with their families in Canada, and there is no effective or safe way for undocumented workers to apply for immigration status under present immigration policies and avoid deportation proceedings; and

BECAUSE many migrant farmworkers have done seasonal work for years in Canada and helped build our country's economy at much sacrifice to themselves and their families at home; now

THE FEDERATION WILL petition the House of Commons and demand that deportations of undocumented workers be stopped immediately; and

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the federal government to institute a full inquiry into its immigration program, end Ministerial exemptions to enact legislation and penalize employers for non-compliance of regulations and to set-up spot check monitoring teams; and

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the federal government to provide a path to landed immigrant status for migrant farmworkers and other temporary foreign workers after 24-months accumulated Canadian employment.

UFCW 1518

RESOLUTION 10 - 2007

BECAUSE the federal government is allowing employers to recruit migrant farmworkers and temporary foreign workers as a source of cheap labour that undercuts Canadian market rates of pay and benefits; and

BECAUSE the federal government is keeping statistics through HRSDC to determine the yearly wage rates to be paid to migrant farmworkers; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the federal government to enforce the provisions of Canada's Seasonal Agricultural Workers' Program (CSAWP) that state migrant farmworkers receive the same rate of pay as the provincial seasonal average wage rate; and

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the federal government through the Canadian Labour Congress to comply with the rulings of the Supreme Court of Canada and make it a condition of CSAWP that provinces bringing migrant workers to Canada allow these workers the right to the freedom to associate and bargain collectively.

UFCW 1518

RESOLUTION 11 - 2007

BECAUSE the health and safety and working conditions provided by some employers who recruit migrant farmworkers is deplorable; and

BECAUSE the language barrier experienced by many migrant workers does not allow these workers to determine whether the work practices in which they are engaged are adequately safe; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the federal government through the Canadian Labour Congress to make it mandatory that any and all written materials, instructions and signage - particularly in regard to workplace health and safety issues and chemicals/pesticide use and application - be provided in English, French, Indo-Canadian dialects, Spanish and other native languages as necessary.

UFCW 1518

RESOLUTION 12 - 2007

BECAUSE the living conditions provided by some employers who recruit migrant farmworkers is deplorable; and

BECAUSE the federal government is actively involved in the recruitment of migrant farmworkers through the Canada's Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (CSAWP);
now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the federal government to immediately ban the practice of housing migrant workers above or adjacent to greenhouses in recognition of the obvious dangers associated with living in buildings that house chemicals, fertilizers, boilers, industrial fans and/or heaters; and

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the federal government through the Canadian Labour Congress to immediately put in place an inspection and enforcement program to inspect all migrant worker housing prior to and following their occupancy and to terminate employers from CSAWP who are found to be in non-compliance with standards for adequate housing.

UFCW 1518

RESOLUTION 13 - 2007

BECAUSE British Columbia farmworkers do not enjoy many of the protections of other workers in British Columbia; and

BECAUSE injuries and deaths among farmworkers due to negligence continue at an alarming pace; and

BECAUSE all workers in British Columbia deserve the support of organized labour; now

THE FEDERATION WILL

1. Continue to campaign for effective health and safety protection for farmworkers including all rights enjoyed by other workers in BC.
2. Campaign against the farm labour contractor system in British Columbia that leads to many of the abuses.
3. Develop effective links with the minority communities that supply most farmworkers in BC and work together with these communities on joint projects aimed at advancing these issues.

Vancouver DLC

RESOLUTION 14 - 2007

BECAUSE the Gordon Campbell government has stripped farmworkers of overtime, vacation pay and minimum wages; and

BECAUSE the Liberal government has also reduced inspection and enforcement of health and safety regulations both at the workplace and on vehicles used to transport farmworkers; now

THE FEDERATION WILL demand that the BC government restore **Employment Standards Act** protection to BC farmworkers, including overtime, vacation pay and minimum wage protection; and

THE FEDERATION WILL demand that the BC government strictly enforce Health and Safety regulations at workplaces and on vehicles used to transport farmworkers.

USW 2171

RESOLUTION 15 - 2007

BECAUSE the BC Liberal government has slashed numerous provisions of the **Employment Standards Act** protecting workers; and

BECAUSE farmworkers are no longer entitled to statutory holidays or any overtime premiums; and

BECAUSE workers are no longer able to pursue the principles of bankrupt companies for lost wages or vacation pay; now

THE FEDERATION WILL demand the BC Liberal government restore the former provisions of the **Employment Standards Act**.

USW 2171

RESOLUTION 16 - 2007

WHEREAS youth, women, new immigrants and the poorest are those most likely to be intimidated by their employers and least likely to know their rights under the **Employment Standards Act and Regulations**; and

WHEREAS understaffing at the Employment Standards Branch prevents pro-active field site spot checks or even responses to complaints; and

WHEREAS the B.C. Federation of Labour has an opportunity to unite unorganized and marginal workers who need assistance in exercising their rights under the **Employment Standards Act and Regulations**; now

THE FEDERATION WILL assign a staff person to reach out, organize and coordinate new community alliances so as to initiate an Employment Standards campaign. The campaign will lobby for adequate Employment Standards staff and to re-establish compliance teams to educate and stimulate employers to comply with all laws and regulations.

RESOLUTION 17 - 2007

BECAUSE employers throughout BC demanded and got changes in provincial legislation that have eliminated mandatory retirement; and

BECAUSE in their rush to meet these employer demands, the BC Liberals have created loopholes in their legislation which allow employers and insurance companies to discriminate by refusing to offer health and welfare benefits to workers who are 65 years and older; now

THE FEDERATION WILL pressure the provincial government to amend the legislation to close these loopholes and stop these discriminatory practices by the insurance industry and by employers; and

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to advocate for policies and programs that lead to decent pension benefits for workers, as well as full health and welfare coverage for workers regardless of their age.

FPSE

RESOLUTION 18 - 2007

BECAUSE fifteen percent of Canadian women and nine percent of Canadian men provide health care to both a child and a senior; and

BECAUSE fifty-eight percent of Canadians indicate they do not have enough time for their families, and are suffering stress from work-family "overload"; and

BECAUSE in the past 12 years there has been a decrease in full-time private and public sector jobs with benefits, with increased unorganized part-time, self employment and multiple jobs, with equality-seeking groups numbering the highest of these percentages; now

THE FEDERATION WILL work to improve work-life balance through collective bargaining with such options as childcare, elder and dependent care, family and compassionate care, flexible work hours and same sex benefits; and

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby governments for public policy to support the balance of work and family responsibilities.

USW 2171

RESOLUTION 19 - 2007

BECAUSE in a multicultural society people practice many different religions, religious holidays fall at different times; and

BECAUSE it is problematic not to provide paid personal leave to workers who want to practice their faiths and require a day away from work to do so; now

THE FEDERATION WILL encourage affiliates to bargain paid personal leave for religious holidays.

Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association

RESOLUTION 20 - 2007

WHEREAS discrimination against women continues despite unions' best effort to attain pay equity gains at the bargaining table; and

WHEREAS the provincial government repealed pay equity to legislation; now

THE FEDERATION WILL make pay equity a priority; and

THE FEDERATION WILL demand that the provincial government reinstate proactive mandatory Pay Equity Legislation for all workers in British Columbia.

COPE 15

RESOLUTION 21 - 2007

BECAUSE workers do not have legal protection when they report on their employers for illegal or unethical activities; now

THE FEDERATION WILL support the passing of "whistle-blower" protection legislation that would protect workers who report their employers for illegal or unethical activities.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 22 - 2007

WHEREAS union density in BC and Canada continues to drop at an alarming rate; and

WHEREAS young workers, marginalized and immigrant workers continue to be exploited; and

WHEREAS every worker has the right to join a union of their choice; now

THE FEDERATION WILL work with all affiliates to step up organizing efforts; and

THE FEDERATION WILL encourage affiliates to send members to the Organizing Institute; and

THE FEDERATION WILL demand changes to the **BC Labour Code** to give workers a fair chance to exercise their right to join a union.

COPE 15

RESOLUTION 23 - 2007

BECAUSE Wal-Mart Corporation is the largest employer in North America; and

BECAUSE Wal-Mart has entrenched a corporate policy that deliberately denies its employees fair wages and benefits; and

BECAUSE the only viable method for Wal-Mart employees to obtain fair wages and benefits is to have a union represent their interests; now

THE FEDERATION WILL encourage all affiliates to continue their efforts to support and assist the United Food and Commercial Workers, Local 1518 in its continuing efforts to provide Wal-Mart workers in BC with union representation.

UFCW 1518

RESOLUTION 24 - 2007

BECAUSE political action must be an ongoing activity not just during election years;
and

BECAUSE it takes time for political action to have an impact on voters; now

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to undertake ongoing political action education in order to educate activists on how to work in political campaigns; properly participate in "all candidates" meetings by asking labour relevant questions; and educate their co-workers, friends, family and neighbours on the importance of electing labour-friendly candidates.

BCGEU

RESOLUTION 25 - 2007

BECAUSE global economic issues are fundamental to the interests of the labour movement; and

BECAUSE workers need to understand how the economy works in order to fully participate in the democratic process; and

BECAUSE the attacks on the working and living conditions of working people are justified as "economic necessities"; and

BECAUSE understanding the different economic perspectives is crucial in the fight to defend public services, safe workplaces and a liveable wage; now

THE FEDERATION WILL provide educational courses and materials to affiliates, to educate workers about the role of workers in the economy, the value of unions and the economics of public services.

HSA

RESOLUTION 26 - 2007

WHEREAS over the years the B.C. Federation of Labour has developed an excellent legislative program; and

WHEREAS much of the legislative program developed by labour has yet to be enacted; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Convention of the B.C. Federation of Labour require that all candidates and parties endorsed by labour be required to work for the implementation and enactment of the Federation's Legislative Program.

COPE 15

RESOLUTION 27 - 2007

BECAUSE "changing workplaces" means dismantling of key sectors of the economy, i.e., mills shut down while logs are exported; and

BECAUSE "changing workforce" means the loss of sustainable jobs in sustainable industries to part-time low-paid service jobs; now

THE FEDERATION WILL fight back against privatization and de-regulation and the sellout of Canadian resources; and

THE FEDERATION WILL make certain that any parties it may support will have clear policies on the re-nationalization of key sectors of our economy and regulations to protect citizen access to services, protections for the environment and clear policies on progressive tax measures, increased royalties on exports to support hospitals, schools and reduce college fees.

ILWU 500

RESOLUTION 28 - 2007

WHEREAS the provincial Liberal government has no intention to implement the results of the referendum on electoral reform; and

WHEREAS the BC electorate rejected the present "first past the post" system in favour of the BC STV system by a majority of 57 percent despite adverse odds; and

WHEREAS this democratic expression of the electorate removes any legitimacy for future elections that "first past the post" system may have had and establishes the STV as an exclusive democratic imperative to the next provincial election; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour press the provincial government to adopt the BC STV system for the next provincial election; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour urge the official opposition party to vigorously demand that this democratic decision of the people be honoured.

Kamloops DLC

RESOLUTION 29 - 2007

WHEREAS North Vancouver Island MP Catherine Bell has introduced **Motion 262** a private members **Bill** on Electoral Reform; and

WHEREAS all federal party leaders are committed one way or another to support Electoral Reform; and

WHEREAS an all party committee of the House was making good progress on this issue prior to the last election; and

WHEREAS most countries that adopt the British system of voting have now changed the First Past The Post method to a more fairer representational system; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the B.C. Federation of Labour through the CLC endorses **Motion 262** and request affiliates support the upcoming campaign.

Campbell River Courtenay DLC

RESOLUTION 30 - 2007

BECAUSE the negative effects of trends towards globalization has been to erode the rights and quality of life for both unionized and non-unionized workers which in turn has major social implications; and

BECAUSE it is important that labour organizations and social and human rights advocacy groups across the globe take an active role in establishing alliances to effectively challenge the negative effects of globalization while still permitting the gains achieved by workers in third world countries; now

THE FEDERATION WILL coordinate and participate in e-forums allowing organizations across BC to develop strategies and tactics that will restore the balance between people's rights and government and corporate power; and will work through the CLC to ensure ideas being developed at the national and international level are shared with BC activists.

BCGEU

RESOLUTION 31 - 2007

BECAUSE greenhouse gas pollution from human activity is widely recognized as a significant cause of global warming; and

BECAUSE global warming is the most serious environmental problem we face; and

BECAUSE global warming has been shown to have adverse effects on our environment, our health, our economies and our ability to maintain sustainable communities; now

THE FEDERATION WILL participate in initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our communities, our province and our country.

HSA

RESOLUTION 32 - 2007

BECAUSE Britain and Germany have reduced their Green House Gas emissions by close to 20 percent since 1990 and have already matched or exceeded their Kyoto targets; and

BECAUSE both the former Liberal and current Conservative governments have failed to make any meaningful effort to reduce Canada's emissions; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the federal government to meet Canada's Kyoto commitment; and

THE FEDERATION WILL build a coalition of union and environmental groups to work towards this goal; and

THE FEDERATION WILL support and promote a strategy that will help Canada meet its Kyoto commitment while protecting workers by supporting and promoting Green Jobs and Just Transition's strategies.

RESOLUTION 33 - 2007

BECAUSE many important steps to reduce our impact on the environment, recycle and halt global warming can be put in place at the community level; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby municipalities to buy local, to support farmer's markets and start community gardens; and

THE FEDERATION WILL also lobby municipalities to increase recycling incentive programs, start community composting and put in place other green initiatives; and

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the provincial government to increase funding to communities to support green initiatives.

BCGEU

RESOLUTION 34 - 2007

BECAUSE supporting local, socially responsible, agricultural businesses lessens the reliance on imported food sources and the impact of transporting such goods; and

BECAUSE support of local food producers can lead to improved health benefits through the freshness and quality of such products; now

THE FEDERATION WILL support programs that encourage local, socially responsible, food businesses especially local farming and food production operations in BC.

HSA

RESOLUTION 35 - 2007

BECAUSE an increase in the number of containers is coming into BC ports in the future; and

BECAUSE our roads are gridlocked and increasing the number of trucks on our roads will lead to increased gridlock and degradation of our infrastructure and environment; and

BECAUSE a vessel can move enough containers to take hundreds of trucks off of our roads and produce a fraction of the air pollution caused by trucks; and

BECAUSE setting up container warehouses up river, will result in employment that doesn't require commuting into the urban centers, further reducing air pollution; and

BECAUSE work in longshore, ship building and marine is mostly organized and well paid; now

THE FEDERATION WILL support Short Sea Shipping and demand that the provincial government make Short Sea Shipping a priority; and

THE FEDERATION WILL through the CLC demand that the Federal government make Short Sea Shipping a priority.

RESOLUTION 36 - 2007

WHEREAS the use of broadcast burns would stop immediately due to large air quality problems created by large controlled fires within our forest districts in BC; and

WHEREAS the use of portable mobile equipment would be allowed to go to areas within forest districts in BC, logged areas, and chip wood waste to either be hauled out for pulp/paper use or sprayed over landing or large areas to enhance soil enrichment faster; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour lobby for the BC Forest Districts and governments to change their position and policy of broadcast burns in our provincial forests to allow for mobile chipping and processing equipment of wood waste for better air quality and environmental issues.

Kamloops DLC

RESOLUTION 37 - 2007

BECAUSE the United Nations estimates the world population to reach 9.2 billion year by the year 2050; and

BECAUSE the immense growth of the human populations through the 20th century has had more adverse impact on biodiversity than any other single factor and will continue to do so unless this problem of an expanding population is recognized and addressed; now

THE FEDERATION WILL through the Canadian Labour Congress contact those organizations known as the "Green Lobby" such as Greenpeace, Friends of Earth, Oxfam, etc., the purpose being to seek their agreement in promoting a national and international awareness among the general public of the problem of an expanding global population that experts routinely identify as one the main engines causing global climate change and one of the major issues that no longer can be ignored if we wish to fight, and win, this battle worldwide.

UA 170

RESOLUTION 38 - 2007

BECAUSE global warming is an issue that requires action to be taken; and

BECAUSE Canadians want control of their energy production to remain Canadian; and

BECAUSE Canada has always been recognized as a leader in technological innovation; now

THE FEDERATION WILL support and encourage the use of Canadian developed and manufactured forms of alternative energy solutions; and

THE FEDERATION WILL insist that said solutions be constructed by and operated by our highly skilled and motivated unionized labour force; and

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the governments to ensure that Canada retain control of our energy production thru government operation of public utilities or at the very least 100 percent Canadian ownership.

RESOLUTION 39 - 2007

BECAUSE strong scientific evidence supports the theory of global warming; and

BECAUSE scientific evidence supports CO2 emissions as a significant source of the greenhouse effect; and

BECAUSE BCFL affiliates have considerable monies in their pensions looking for socially responsible investment opportunities; now

THE FEDERATION WILL work through the Shareholder Association for Research and Education (SHARE) to encourage pension plan trustees to strongly consider green investments in alternate energy sources.

HSA

RESOLUTION 40 - 2007

BECAUSE global warming will have long-term effects, unions need to make immediate changes to the way we communicate with members, and the amount of car and air travel we encourage; and

BECAUSE the labour movement needs to lead by example and educate our members to be more aware of the impact of our traditions on the environment; now

THE FEDERATION WILL explore teleconferencing and video-conferencing to reduce the pollution caused by using cars and airplanes; and

THE FEDERATION WILL encourage members to carpool to events like the Conventions, to charter buses and coordinate their travel from areas outside the Lower Mainland; and

THE FEDERATION WILL update their database and wherever possible will use their website and email to distribute bulletins, press releases, campaign and Convention material (including reports and resolutions) instead of mailing out "hard" copies and will lobby affiliates to the same.

BCGEU

RESOLUTION 41 - 2007

WHEREAS the Federation, as a member of the global community and a leader in progressive labour movement, must be a responsible organization that accepts a role in protecting that community and our membership from the negative impacts of global warming and climate change on our members, their families and community; and

WHEREAS the importance of environmental protection and the impacts of human beings on the environment is at a critical juncture due to the warming of the atmosphere by the emissions of green-house gases; now

THE FEDERATION WILL educate and lobby our members, governments and employers to join us in our efforts on reduction of green-house gases and will promote that our efforts are environmentally sustainable; and

THE FEDERATION WILL urge affiliates to measure their carbon footprint to set goals and targets of green-house gases we produce, and will strive for reduction of those green-house gases.

RESOLUTION 42 - 2007

BECAUSE the environmental impact of an organization's activities has been a neglected area of scrutiny for most organizations; and

BECAUSE environmental responsibility is becoming more a concern for rank and file members of the BCFL; now

THE FEDERATION WILL perform an environmental audit of its operations and report its findings to the 2008 Convention.

HSA

RESOLUTION 43 - 2007

BECAUSE global warming is an issue that confronts and effects all our members; and

BECAUSE members should expect their unions to take a leadership role in finding solutions and setting an example for the membership to follow; now

THE FEDERATION WILL encourage the use of domestically-produced union-made hybrid or alternative fuel vehicles by member locals for staff vehicles; and

THE FEDERATION WILL along with its member locals do their best to utilize energy efficient lighting and ensure new appliances and equipment are "energy star" compliant; and

THE FEDERATION WILL institute or expand recycling programs, use only recycled paper products and make greater use of electronic documents and communication in order to lessen the impact on our forests.

COPE 15

RESOLUTION 44 - 2007

BECAUSE standardizing lawn sign size would reduce waste, allow the lending of lawn sign wire frames, and create efficiencies in ordering and manufacturing; and

BECAUSE reusing and lending lawn sign wire frames would result in less waste, less material in landfills, less rusting away of old lawn sign wire frames; now

THE FEDERATION WILL coordinate with its affiliates and relevant political parties to order to standardize lawn sign size so that one size fits all.

BCGEU

RESOLUTION 45 - 2007

BECAUSE climate is directly linked to industrial activities: war machine, mining, logging, oil/energy, manufacturing, farming and transportation of products and growing populations; and

BECAUSE international inequalities are caused by the motives of growth, market domination, greed, short-term logic; now

THE FEDERATION WILL petition provincial and federal parties with a program for peaceful trade and sustainable development based upon the resolutions by Convention; and

THE FEDERATION WILL convene a committee to correlate environmental resolutions into "Labour's Program for a Sustainable Future"; and

THE FEDERATION WILL circulate the "Labour's Program for a Sustainable Future" to all affiliates for feedback and adoption.

ILWU 500

RESOLUTION 46 - 2007

BECAUSE the cost of gas and fuel is going higher in cost; and

BECAUSE this is a hardship to consumers; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the provincial government to expedite research into green fuels, example - ethanol/bio diesel, etc.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 47 - 2007

BECAUSE the rising cost of energy will play a critical role in the viability of the forest industry. There are currently wood-waste burning facilities that can and should be structured to generate electricity; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the government to give tax breaks as incentives to generate electricity from the burning of wood waste and to increase taxes or other form of penalty to those forest companies that burn wood-waste without generating electricity where it is economically feasible.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 48 - 2007

BECAUSE the taxes that we are paying on our gas is well over 40 percent at the present time. This money was to go towards the upkeep of our roads and there have been little or no repairs on most of them; and

BECAUSE that higher gas companies raise their prices, the more tax we end up paying; now

THE FEDERATION WILL petition the federal and provincial governments to lower the amount of their percentages and put regulations in place to limit how much the gas companies can charge the consumers.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 49 - 2007

BECAUSE it appears that there is price gouging and price fixing in regards to the price of fuel for vehicles; and

BECAUSE there are laws against this type of thing; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the federal and provincial governments to do a complete and in-depth investigation into price-fixing and gouging of auto fuels; and

THE FEDERATION WILL demand the government fiercely penalize any companies found to be price-fixing or price-gouging.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 50 - 2007

BECAUSE the international oil companies have dramatically increased the price of petroleum products in order that these corporations can make huge windfall profits; and

BECAUSE these unwarranted an unnecessary increase in petroleum product prices will cause an increase in prices for everyday products purchased by consumers; now

THE FEDERATION WILL through the Canadian Labour Congress demand that the government of Canada make petroleum a public commodity and require the international petroleum corporations to apply for, and justify, any increases in the base price of petroleum.

UFCW 1518

RESOLUTION 51 - 2007

WHEREAS our present outworn market system for setting prices for petroleum product gives license to the Oil Companies to engage in criminal unprecedented price gouging for all petroleum products, resulting in the attendant spiraling effect on virtually all consumer goods and services; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour through the Canadian Labour Congress call on the federal government to regulate the cost of petroleum products by placing the entire Oil Industry under the democratic control of the Canadian people through the process of nationalization.

Kamloops DLC

RESOLUTION 52 - 2007

BECAUSE BC and Alberta, without debate in either legislature, entered into a Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement; and

BECAUSE Canada, without any parliamentary debate is linking continental economic integration with US government security demands through the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America; and

BECAUSE these trade-related agreements limit democratically-elected governments in providing public services or regulating on behalf of their constituents; now

THE FEDERATION WILL continue working with affiliates to educate workers and the public about potentially harmful trade-related agreements, including the BC - Alberta Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement and the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America being implemented between Canada, the US and Mexico; and

THE FEDERATION WILL continue working with affiliates and national labour organizations to pressure the BC and Canadian governments, to ensure that these and other trade-related initiatives are not implemented without broad public consultation and full parliamentary debate.

HSA

RESOLUTION 53 - 2007

BECAUSE the provinces of British Columbia and Alberta have entered into a Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement which will go into effect on April 1, 2007 without and public debate in either legislature; and

BECAUSE the TILMA Agreement will create a legally binding process by which corporations and individuals can challenge municipal and provincial government programs and regulations if they "restrict or impair" investment; and

BECAUSE this agreement will lead to the possibility of lawsuits which challenge government programs if a company or individual feels it restricts their "trade" or "investment" rights; now

THE FEDERATION WILL support and conduct a membership and public education campaign on the content of the TILMA Agreement and the potential dangers it poses; and

THE FEDERATION WILL oppose the TILMA Agreement and campaign against the particular provisions of the agreement that are adverse to good public services and programs as their effects become clear.

Vancouver DLC

RESOLUTION 54 - 2007

WHEREAS the government of British Columbia signed the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) with the province of Alberta after secretly negotiating and seeking no input from the citizens of BC before signing on; and

WHEREAS this agreement will interfere with the BC government, corporations, democratically-elected municipal governments and school boards from putting forward policies that "may" restrict trade with Alberta; and

WHEREAS the provincial government of Saskatchewan would have no part of this deal, which they could clearly see was bad for workers, small businesses and communities, when they were asked to sign onto this agreement; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour demand the BC government to withdraw from the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation continue to inform the public of the potential consequences of this bad agreement.

Kamloops DLC

RESOLUTION 55 - 2007

BECAUSE the government of BC signed a new Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement with the government of Alberta that took effect April 2007; and

BECAUSE this new agreement will prohibit the BC government, Crown Corporations, municipal governments and school districts from implementing policies that "restrict" trade with Alberta; and

BECAUSE this free trade agreement will give new posers to corporations to challenge decisions of democratically-elected governments; and

BECAUSE the agreement will prohibit local governments from implementing ethical procurement policies if those policies reduce business for Alberta corporations; now

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to work closely with affiliates, municipal governments, school districts and social allies to help the public understand the negative consequences of this agreement for BC communities; and

THE FEDERATION WILL develop a community campaign to stop this new charter of rights for corporations.

CUPE BC Division

RESOLUTION 56 - 2007

BECAUSE Paul Martin, George W. Bush and Vicente Fox ratified a new Security and Prosperity Partnership for North America with little or no public discussion or input; and

BECAUSE the SPP goes well beyond NAFTA's goal of continental economic integration by including security and foreign policy issues; and

BECAUSE the SPP speeds up the process of regulatory harmonization in the interests of corporate globalization; now

THE FEDERATION WILL oppose the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America and call on all of our affiliated local unions to take similar action.

Vancouver DLC

RESOLUTION 57 - 2007

BECAUSE Canadians have a right to expect our elected officials to conduct trade negotiations and foreign affairs and not the Canadian Council of Chief Executives nor the North American Competitive Council; and

BECAUSE Canadians demand that such talks be transparent and include public input and debates; and

BECAUSE Canadians will not tolerate erosion of our sovereignty by way of agreements to lower our safety and health standards to match those of the United States or Mexico; and

BECAUSE the Canadian experience with NAFTA included resulting job losses particularly in the manufacturing sector; now

THE FEDERATION WILL support NDP trade critic Peter Julian's motion calling for public consultations and full Parliamentary oversight of the SPP; and

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the federal government to immediately cease SPP talks until the process becomes democratic and guarantees protection of Canadian sovereignty.

RESOLUTION 58 - 2007

WHEREAS the so-called Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America Pact was signed in March 2005 in Waco, Texas, by the leaders of Canada, Mexico and the United States at the behest of the corporate elite of these countries; and

WHEREAS this pact continues to be formulated in secrecy without any involvement from the citizenry of the involved 3 countries; and

WHEREAS this pact further forfeits our sovereignty to the point we would lose our social programs, energy supplies, water, national security and our right to reject unjust wars; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour mobilize the membership to put Canadian sovereignty front and centre in the lead-up to the forthcoming election.

Kamloops DLC

RESOLUTION 59 - 2007

BECAUSE employers are not training employees to do their job safely; and

BECAUSE WCB are not ensuring that workers receive proper training on how to do their job safely; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the WCB to enforce any WCB regulations dealing with the training of workers.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 60 - 2007

BECAUSE employees are not receiving adequate and proper training; and

BECAUSE this usually results in employees being injured; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the provincial government and the WCB to ensure that there are adequate regulations in regards to proper training for employees.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 61 - 2007

BECAUSE forty-three forest workers have been killed in the last year, and many will never work again due to serious injuries and work-related illnesses; and

BECAUSE many of the dead and injured workers are a direct result of the Gordon Campbell Liberal government cutbacks and deregulation and dismantling of the WCB; now

THE FEDERATION WILL demand the BC Liberal government Minister of Labour immediately order the WCB to restore and enforce the WCB regulations to full compliance by every forest employer in this Province.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 62 - 2007

BECAUSE employers have denied employment on the basis of past WCB claims history; and

BECAUSE the worker may have fully recovered and/or the injury does not impair their ability to perform the available work; now

THE FEDERATION WILL demand that the provincial government introduce and enforce legislation that will prevent employers from:

- a. Inquiring about past WCB claims or unrelated medical problems on employment application forms;
- b. Using WCB file information for reasons other than claim appeal purposes; and
- c. Denying employment on the basis of past WCB claims or medical history.

USW 2171

RESOLUTION 63 - 2007

BECAUSE the Gordon Campbell Liberal government has made changes to the **WCB Act** that eliminates disabled workers from continuing to receive pensions when they reach age 65; and

BECAUSE many injured and permanently disabled workers will have pain and suffering with severe consequences for the rest of their lives; now

THE FEDERATION WILL mount a campaign demanding the BC Liberal government restore the **WCB Act** to allow injured, disabled workers to continue to collect a WCB disability pension for pain and suffering for life as it was before the BC Liberal government made changes to the **Act**.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 64 - 2007

BECAUSE the Court Challenges Program of Canada was an independent agency funded by the Federal government; and

BECAUSE the Court Challenges Program funded constitutional challenges of federal laws that violated the equality rights of disadvantaged groups; now

THE FEDERATION WILL demand that the Federal government reinstate full funding to the Court Challenges Program of Canada.

Nanaimo, Duncan DLC

RESOLUTION 65 - 2007

BECAUSE the Court Challenges Program of Canada provided test case funding to allow poorer people to challenge the constitutionality of federal laws that violated the equality rights of Canadians; and

BECAUSE in the absence of the Court Challenges Program, the poor have little or no access to the courts to protect their rights; and

BECAUSE the Court Challenges Program has helped change Canada's laws to ensure the rights of minorities are respected; now

THE FEDERATION WILL work through the Canadian Labour Congress to condemn the federal government for cutting the Court Challenges Program of Canada and to demand that the program be reinstated.

FPSE

RESOLUTION 66 - 2007

BECAUSE the federal government has slashed 40 percent of Status of Women Canada's (SWC's) administrative budget, removed all references to "equality" from SWC's mandate, closed 12 of the 16 Status of Women Canada regional offices, cut the Court Challenges Program that funds test cases about equality rights, and changed the rules in order to disallow women's groups from doing advocacy or lobbying with federal funds; now

THE FEDERATION WILL work through the CLC to call upon the federal government to reverse the cuts and changes made to Status of Women in Canada and to other groups fighting for an equal society.

HSA

RESOLUTION 67 - 2007

BECAUSE the cut in funding for Status of Women Canada represents nearly 20 percent of the organization's budget, which has resulted in staff layoffs and a restructuring of the organization; and

BECAUSE the government will no longer support women's groups if they act as advocates or lobbyists. Clearly the government's priority is no longer to promote women's rights and equality; now

THE FEDERATION WILL demand that the federal government restore Status of Women Canada's funding and advocacy role.

Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association

RESOLUTION 68 - 2007

BECAUSE the budget for Status of Women Canada has been cut by 38 percent; and

BECAUSE this department will no longer be able to effectively develop policy or fund advocates working for equality rights; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the Federal government to fully restore funding to the Status of Women Canada.

USW 2171

RESOLUTION 69 - 2007

BECAUSE violence against women is an obstacle to the achievement of equality, development and peace, contrary to the fundamental principles of equality and security of the person enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and international instruments, like the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, to which Canada is a signatory; and

BECAUSE the Federal government has slashed the budget of Status of Women Canada, resulting in the closure of offices, and eliminating other tools for the advancement of equality, like Court Challenges Program; now

THE FEDERATION WILL reaffirm its commitment and increase efforts to lobby the provincial and federal government to re-instate and/or increase funding for programs to eliminate violence against women; and

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to support organizations committed to the elimination against violence against women.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 70 - 2007

BECAUSE Statistics Canada in "Measuring Violence Against Women: Statistical Trends 2006" details the continuing prevalence of violence against women; and

BECAUSE violence against women is an obstacle to the achievement of equality, development and peace, contrary to the fundamental principles of equality and security of the person enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and international instruments, like the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, to which Canada is a signatory; and

BECAUSE the federal government has slashed the budget of Status of Women Canada, resulting in the closure of offices, and by eliminating other tools for the advancement of equality, like the Court Challenges Program; now

THE FEDERATION WILL reaffirm its commitment, and increase efforts, to eliminate violence against women; and

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to support organizations committed to the elimination of violence against women.

USW 2171

RESOLUTION 71 - 2007

BECAUSE the Harper government has cut funding to the Status of Women; and

BECAUSE this is resulting in our national women's organizations having to close their doors, like CRIAW and NAWL and Child Advocacy; now

THE FEDERATION WILL through the CLC will demand the government reinstate funding to the Status of Women; and

THE FEDERATION WILL urge delegates to consider doing individual donations to these organizations; and

THE FEDERATION WILL make information available to the delegates who would like to make donations on the website.

HEU Local Penticton

RESOLUTION 72 - 2007

BECAUSE many women immigrate to this country for a better life for themselves and their families; and

BECAUSE many of these women work in job ghettos and have little protections from wage cutting and job loss through contracting out; and

BECAUSE the current federal and provincial governments have cut funding to many of the organizations that speak for women; and

BECAUSE these organizations - the National Association of Women and the Law, Child Care Advocacy Association of Canada, Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women and Canadian Feminist Alliance for International Action, need funding; now

THE FEDERATION WILL urge the CLC to coordinate a cohesive labour response to financially support the four national women's organizations and further submit a resolution to the next CLC convention.

CUPW Vancouver

RESOLUTION 73 - 2007

BECAUSE the BC Liberal government eliminated the Ministry of Women's Equality, took away basic protections for women workers, froze funding for childcare programs and cut subsidies for low-income parents; and

BECAUSE funding will cease for BC's entire network of Women's Centres, welfare was cut for single parent families; and

BECAUSE cuts to Legal Services, Victims Assistance/Rape Crisis Counsellors, and BC Human Rights severely reduce women's safety and access to justice and dignity; now

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to denounce the BC Liberal government for trampling on women's rights, demand the Ministry for Women's Equality be restored, and demand the BC government bring in legislation and programs to safeguard health, safety and economic security for all women and children.

USW 2171

RESOLUTION 74 - 2007

WHEREAS provincial government eliminated the Ministry of Women's Equality; now
THE FEDERATION WILL work to demand that the Ministry representing women and women's issues be reinstated.

COPE 15

RESOLUTION 75 - 2007

BECAUSE women are bearing the brunt of much of the BC Liberal government's cuts to programs and services like:

- women's centers;
- legal aid;
- welfare;
- aboriginal services;
- domestic and violence services;
- health care;
- social assistance;
- community health services;
- home support and home care; now

THE FEDERATION WILL call upon the BC provincial government to restore operational core funding to all women's resource centers and to the vital services and programs that protect the health, safety and livelihoods of women throughout the province.

HSA

RESOLUTION 76 - 2007

WHEREAS women's services have been drastically cut by the provincial government since 2001; and

WHEREAS resources for women living in undesirable and dangerous situations continue to be insufficient; and

WHEREAS the current provincial government has no interest in protecting human rights for those in need of protection; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour and the Canadian Labour Congress call on ALL federal parties to enact stiffer penalties for the perpetrators of violent crimes.

Kamloops DLC

RESOLUTION 77 - 2007

BECAUSE the BC Liberal government dismantled and fired the Human Rights Commissioner, many workers have been discriminated and violated with no access to file a complaint; and

BECAUSE many of these workers are female single moms with very little income and cannot afford a lawyer to file a complaint; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the BC Liberal government to reinstate and maintain a human rights commissioner, so that all workers have access to filing complaints and have them investigated at no cost to them.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 78 - 2007

BECAUSE a growing portion of the population of British Columbia is composed of aboriginals and workers of colour who are under-represented in the trade union movement; and

BECAUSE the future growth and influence of the trade union movement in BC depends on including these workers among our ranks; now

THE FEDERATION WILL:

1. Organize a working conference over the coming year to develop a strategic plan for how the labour movement can become more relevant to workers in the aboriginal and visible minority communities in BC, specifically targetting those communities with large populations in British Columbia.
2. Create an aboriginal and workers of Colour Working Group at the Federation to advise the Federation on implementation of such a strategy.
3. Work closely with affiliates to develop a campaign to organize workers in these target groups and successfully integrate them into the union leadership and structures.

Vancouver DLC

RESOLUTION 79 - 2007

BECAUSE Bills 20, 21 and 22 undermine the quality of education by placing pressure on boards and schools to emphasize testing and data collection; and

BECAUSE these **Bills** infringe on democratic control of public education through elected school boards; and

BECAUSE these **Bills** encourage privatization of education; and

BECAUSE these **Bills** increase centralized control of school boards and teachers; and

BECAUSE the processes of privatization inherent in these **Bills** will increase inequities in education; and

BECAUSE these **Bills** will make our education system more vulnerable to corporate interests in the global economy; now

THE FEDERATION WILL educate members as to the negative consequences of the changes resulting from the **Bills**; and

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby MLAs and government and encourage members to lobby MLAs and government to halt the processes of centralization, privatization and de-democratization of education.

Burnaby Teachers' Association

RESOLUTION 80 - 2007

BECAUSE recent legislation intensifies the government's relentless testing agenda and drive toward further privatization of our public education system; and

BECAUSE this agenda undermines the governance of local schools and teacher professional autonomy; and

BECAUSE this has resulted in standardized provincial, district-wide, and school-wide tests which increasingly narrow curriculum, teaching and learning; now

THE FEDERATION WILL renew its commitment to inform its members about the harm done of public education by the government's accountability policies and encourage trade unionists to support teacher initiatives that focus on teaching and learning rather than on testing, ranking and accountability; and

THE FEDERATION WILL encourage trade unionists to support initiatives that focus on support for teaching and learning rather than on testing and accountability; and

THE FEDERATION WILL support teachers in their opposition to the provincial FSA exams, and encourage parents to withdraw their children from FSA exams.

BCTF

RESOLUTION 81 - 2007

BECAUSE standardized testing has a negative impact on the quality of education; and

BECAUSE standardized testing is used to create false criteria of success in education; and

BECAUSE test results from Foundation Skills Assessments are used to create misleading data regarding comparative success of schools; and

BECAUSE the testing and data exacerbate inequities between schools and children; and

BECAUSE standardized testing is a cornerstone for privatization of education and vulnerability of education to corporate interests in the global economy; now

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to inform members about the negative effects of the Foundation Skills Assessment tests and the rights of parents to withdraw their children, and encourage members to withdraw their children from the Foundation Skills Assessment tests.

Burnaby Teachers' Association

RESOLUTION 82 - 2007

BECAUSE school districts do not receive adequate government funding to support the full cost of providing education to public schools' diverse learners; and

BECAUSE a significant amount of taxpayers money goes to the independent schools instead of public schools; now

THE FEDERATION WILL begin a public campaign to advocate for increased funding to the public education system and to end government funding of independent schools.

Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association

RESOLUTION 83 - 2007

WHEREAS the young girls who live in Bountiful are sexually exploited by older men and the young boys who live in Bountiful are banished from the community by the leader; and

WHEREAS the religious school in Bountiful promotes child abuse by the banishment of young boys from the community and the assigning of forced marriage and child bearing for young girls; now

BE IT RESOLVED that the BC government take steps to ensure that young people living in Bountiful are given opportunities for self-determination in making educational, career and family choices; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the government of BC withdraw funding for the religious school in Bountiful; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the government of BC investigate and monitor on an on-going basis any instances of sexual abuse at Bountiful with the full intention of criminal prosecution.

Surrey Teachers' Association

RESOLUTION 84 - 2007

BECAUSE the current system of providing all-day kindergarten for English as a second language, First Nations and students with special needs children results in student streaming and forms classroom ghettos; and

BECAUSE it does not make good pedagogical sense to group non-English speaking children in a class where there are few English speaking role models. The school community does not benefit from this segregation; now

THE FEDERATION WILL call upon the Ministry of Education and school districts to make all-day kindergarten available to every kindergarten student in BC.

Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association

RESOLUTION 85 - 2007

BECAUSE HIV and AIDS education are part of the elementary and secondary curriculum; and

BECAUSE age-appropriate and ESL learning resources addressing AIDS and HIV should be available for use in all classrooms so teachers can approach these topics more confidently; now

THE FEDERATION WILL call upon the Ministry of Education and school districts to make available accurate, age-appropriate and up-to-date learning resources to support the learning outcomes for intermediate grades pertaining to AIDS and HIV.

Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association

RESOLUTION 86 - 2007

BECAUSE adult basic education to grade 12 should be available free of charge to all adult students; now

THE FEDERATION WILL support the availability of the adult basic education free of charge.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 87 - 2007

BECAUSE tuition fees continue to increase at a rate that is preventing students to continue their education; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the provincial government to increase funding that is required for College & Universities, and to freeze student tuition.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 88 - 2007

BECAUSE the BC government's review of post-secondary education, Campus 2020, has recommended major changes to the access and management of post-secondary education; and

BECAUSE those changes do not address the underlying problems of affordability and insufficient funding of our public post-secondary education system; and

BECAUSE the Campus 2020 recommendations would also create a governance structure that effectively excludes public input to our public post-secondary education system; now

THE FEDERATION WILL support the efforts of unions in the post-secondary education sector to stop the provincial government from implementing the Campus 2020 recommendations by:

- endorsing the Better Funding - Better Futures campaign launched by the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators;
- providing affiliates with the information and research that is part of the Better Funding - Better Futures campaign;
- working with unions in the post-secondary education sector to mobilize public support for progressive change and increased funding in BC's public post-secondary education system.

FPSE

RESOLUTION 89 - 2007

BECAUSE the labour movement supports primary, secondary, and post-secondary public education as central to democracy and fairness to society; and

BECAUSE the BC Liberal government is underfunding public education and encouraging privatization; and

BECAUSE privatization takes the form of market competition, commodification, and commercialism, all of which undermine public education; and

BECAUSE schools built as Public Private Partnerships (P3s) actually add to the cost of buildings and weaken public control over public projects; and

BECAUSE fees charged for special programs exclude many of the 25 percent of children living in poverty in British Columbia; and

THE FEDERATION WILL oppose the construction of schools by using P3s; and

THE FEDERATION WILL oppose the charging of fees for students to take part in public school programs; and

THE FEDERATION WILL oppose the system of rebating students with public funds for fees spent on private education undertakings.

BCTF

RESOLUTION 90 - 2007

BECAUSE the BC Liberal government is blackmailing communities who need to access provincial tax dollars for projects to use public-private partnerships (P3s); and

BECAUSE P3s have proven to be failures in many communities, resulting in residents paying for the failed projects by tax increases and service reductions; now

THE FEDERATION WILL oppose the BC provincial Liberal government requirement that all provincially-funded capital projects exceeding \$20 million be examined by Partnerships BC, who continue to put private greed ahead of public good by insisting that the overwhelming majority of projects to be a public-private-partnership (P3); and

THE FEDERATION WILL work with affiliates, Labour Councils and activists to fight against P3s that are not in the best interest of the public; and

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to expose the real costs of public-private-partnerships and other forms of privatization to communities.

CUPE BC Division

RESOLUTION 91 - 2007

BECAUSE in 2001 the Campbell Liberal government dismantled one of the best publicly-supported systems of apprenticeship that supported vocational and technical training, comprising of public post-secondary institutions, business, labour and government and was known as "The Industry Training Apprenticeship Commission" (ITAC); and

BECAUSE in 2003 **Bill 34** enacted the Industry Training Authority Act, with no meaningful input from concerned workers, instructors, unions or even some business owners; and

BECAUSE BC is now facing a shortage of skilled workers resulting from technological change, the 2010 Winter Olympics construction and the migration of workers to neighbouring provinces; now

THE FEDERATION WILL raise awareness with workers of the apprenticeship and trades crisis in BC; and

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the government to restore a balance of equal party representation in the governance structure for trades training that makes labour a full and equal partner in the development of training policies and priorities.

CUPE BC Division

RESOLUTION 92 - 2007

WHEREAS the enactment of the **2003 Industrial Training Authority Act** contributed significantly to the critical shortage of skilled workers; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour demand that the Campbell Liberal government re-establish an adequate apprenticeship program.

Kamloops DLC

RESOLUTION 93 - 2007

BECAUSE Red Seal Apprentices are now allowed to apply for a \$500.00 dollar tax relief of tools needed for their trade within their first 2 years into their apprenticeship; and

BECAUSE certified trades people are not able to apply for any tax relief for the purchase of tools that are needed to perform their job in a safe and professional manner; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the provincial government to allow all trades people tax relief for tools that are needed for trades people to perform their job.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 94 - 2007

BECAUSE the provincial government is increasing public funding for health care services provided by for-profit, private facilities, such as for-profit surgical clinics; and

BECAUSE supporters of for-profit health care are working hard to convince the public that it doesn't matter who provides health care services, as long as the government pays for it; and

BECAUSE providing health care services through for-profit facilities costs more, provides poorer quality and less equitable patient care, and weakens the public system by draining away scarce financial resources and health professionals; and

BECAUSE the most effective way to improve health care is through investing in positive, public solutions; now

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to support the public delivery, as well as the public funding of health care; and

THE FEDERATION WILL help educate affiliates and the public about the negative impact of providing public funding for health care services provided by for-profit, private facilities.

HSA

RESOLUTION 95 - 2007

BECAUSE overcapacity protocols were developed to address emergency room overcrowding and are increasingly being relied on by government as a quick fix to emergency overcrowding; and

BECAUSE the use of overcapacity protocols has resulted in creating unsafe environments for patients and nurses (i.e., hallway nursing); now

THE FEDERATION WILL through its membership, actively lobby all levels of government in the unsafe implication of overcapacity protocols and hallway nursing for patient and nurses; and

THE FEDERATION WILL through its membership in the Canadian Labour Congress, further the well-being of working people by encouraging a national position on hallway nursing.

BCNU

RESOLUTION 96 - 2007

BECAUSE emergency rooms in BC are becoming increasingly overcrowded due to the serious under funding for medical geriatric, transitional core beds and preventative medicine; and

BECAUSE the BC government and physician bodies are relying on hallway nursing and initiatives such as the "pay for performance" as a quick fix to the emergency crisis; and

BECAUSE the BCNU has developed and endorsed a strategic plan to deal with the implications of hallway nursing and solutions to the emergency overcrowding; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the provincial government to adopt the BCNU strategic plan to put an end to the overcrowding and develop a five-year plan, including stable funding to put in place a network province-wide of multi-disciplinary primary health care clinics.

BCNU

RESOLUTION 97 - 2007

BECAUSE home support is a vital part of our health care system that allows seniors, people with disabilities or people with chronic health conditions to live independently and with dignity; and

BECAUSE home support has been found to be the most cost-effective program by treating health problems in the home before they develop into chronic health crisis requiring hospitalization; and

BECAUSE access to home support has decreased dramatically in the last few years; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the provincial government to halt further cutbacks, restore home support to 1994 service levels, ensure that user fees are eliminated and stem privatization; and

THE FEDERATION WILL further lobby the provincial government to improve and standardize training, implement competitive wages and develop an active recruitment program which includes new workers from aboriginal and ethno cultural communities.

BCNU

RESOLUTION 98 - 2007

BECAUSE there have already been serious incidents in the West and East Kootenays involving our seniors who were affected by the policies and procedures of the Interior Health Authority and by the actions of the provincial and federal governments; and

BECAUSE impact of these policies (e.g. first bed available), budgetary restraints, cost saving measures, moving to more privatization, etc., will only continue to hinder the elderly from receiving adequate health care in the future, and with the anticipation that our elderly population will rise to being 16 percent of the province's total in five years; now

THE FEDERATION WILL continue the lobby of the provincial and federal governments for better long-term care, affordable assisted living programs and just better health care conditions in general for our seniors.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 99 - 2007

BECAUSE "insite", North America's first and only supervised injection site, has been operating in Vancouver's downtown eastside since 2003; and

BECAUSE the Stephen Harper government is still considering this as a "pilot project" and giving the site extensions of the exemption under "Section 56" of the legislation; now

THE FEDERATION WILL through the CLC lobby the federal government to treat addictions to illicit substances as a health care issue and not as a criminal matter; and

THE FEDERATION WILL through the CLC lobby the federal government to continue to support and expand the "Four Pillar" approach to addiction treatment throughout Canada; prevention, treatment, enforcement and harm reduction; and

THE FEDERATION WILL through the CLC lobby the federal government to give permanent exemptions and status to the Vancouver "Insite" and expand supervised injection sites to other areas who have expressed a need.

BCNU

RESOLUTION 100 - 2007

BECAUSE there has been historically and is currently, inadequate health care delivery provided to the First Nations/Aboriginal Peoples of Canada; and

BECAUSE the health care outcomes for the First Nations/Aboriginal Peoples of Canada are statistically lower than that of the general Canadian population; and

BECAUSE poor working conditions and inequitable wages and benefits contribute to the challenges of delivering health care to First Nations/Aboriginal communities and therefore negatively impacts those health outcomes; now

THE FEDERATION WILL create an awareness of the disparities between working conditions and wages/benefits for health care workers on and off the reservations; and

THE FEDERATION WILL further lobby the provincial government and through the CLC the federal government to provide appropriate funding and accountability to correct these disparities.

BCNU

RESOLUTION 101 - 2007

BECAUSE the current trend in provincial and federal governments is to decrease, rather than increase funding for Early Learning and Childcare Services; and

BECAUSE this reduced funding decreases the number of spaces that are available, which in turn puts pressure on working families to find childcare alternatives, forcing some providers to close their doors, and takes away from our children the opportunity to get a head start with early learning, which is very crucial to their development; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the provincial and federal governments to reinstate and increase funding for Early Learning and Childcare Services in order for working families to have quality, affordable and accessible childcare.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 102 - 2007

BECAUSE the Conservatives campaigned on a commitment to create 125,000 new childcare spaces over five years, but to date have failed to create a single childcare space; and

BECAUSE the Childcare benefit introduced by the Conservatives is inadequate addressing the childcare needs of working families; and

BECAUSE there continues to be a need for accessible and affordable childcare spaces in Canada; now

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to work with labour and community partners for a National Childcare and Early Learning Program, similar to the program in place in Quebec, to effectively meet the childcare needs of working families across Canada.

USW 2171

RESOLUTION 103 - 2007

WHEREAS the Conservative government has reneged on its promise to Canadians regarding funding for childcare; and

WHEREAS Canadian families outside Quebec have no access to quality universal affordable daycare as a result of current federal and provincial government policies; and

WHEREAS federal taxes applied to the \$1200 subsidy for families with children in daycare leaves neediest families a substantially reduced after-tax subsidy; and

WHEREAS Canada must make the care of our children a priority; and

WHEREAS there are not enough childcare spaces nor childcare workers, leaving professionals overworked and underpaid; now

THE FEDERATION WILL demand that the Conservative government reinstitute the previous federal government's commitment of funding to all Canadian provinces and territories to provide access to quality universal affordable childcare; and

THE FEDERATION WILL stipulate that in provinces and territories with existing comparable or better programs, that jurisdiction may continue their existing program and receive the federal funding.

RESOLUTION 104 - 2007

BECAUSE the Softwood Agreement that Mr. Harper has agreed to is hurting our industry more than the duties and tariffs the US had imposed on us; and

BECAUSE this deal could collapse in 18 months and give the US lobbyists another chance to put their duties back on, using the money we gave them; now

THE FEDERATION WILL petition the federal government to cancel this agreement at the earliest possible time and negotiate an agreement that benefits Canadians and not the Americans.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 105 - 2007

WHEREAS there has been some talk of turning pine beetle affected forests into agricultural areas; and

WHEREAS annual allowable cuts should not be reduced; and

WHEREAS these areas should be replanted; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that these "bug kill" areas not be withdrawn from forestry tenures.

Kamloops DLC

RESOLUTION 106 - 2007

BECAUSE BC Forest Service, allocated the 20 percent clawed back Timber to BC Timber Sales; and

BECAUSE BC Timber Sales has failed to live up to the expectations set out by the Liberal government and its Ministry of Forest; and

BECAUSE well-documented information indicates that, as a result of these failures and bad decisions made on this issue by the BC Liberal government and its Ministry of Forest, it has left companies that were depending on the purchasing of the timber coming from BC Timber Sales scrambling to find enough timber to run their sawmills; now

THE FEDERATION WILL demand that the BC Ministry of Forest and BC Forest Service, return all the timber that was not harvested by BC Timber Sales under the rules set out by the annual allowable cut, to the companies that were depending on having this purchased timber from BC Timber Sales in order to keep their sawmills running for a full 12-month period.

RESOLUTION 107 - 2007

BECAUSE the BC Liberals have slashed major programs from the Forest Act, such as the Appurtenancy Clause, minimum manufacturing requirements and the reviews of mill closures; and

BECAUSE when a mill shuts down in a community that timber supply should stay with the community. They could then in turn sell the timber to a nearby mill that required the timber instead of having it go across to the US or make it available to someone who wanted to start up a new mill in their community; now

THE FEDERATION WILL petition the BC Liberal government to reinstate the Appurtenancy Clause and set up a review committee to govern mill closures, to make sure the timber supply stays in BC.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 108 - 2007

BECAUSE the provincial Liberal government has gutted the decades old "social contract" in the **Forest Act**, eliminating provisions like appurtenancy, cut controls, minimum manufacturing requirements and the mill closure review; and

BECAUSE the forest resources belong to the people of the province who are entitled to benefit from it in the form of jobs, economic opportunities and viable communities; now

THE FEDERATION WILL condemn the BC Liberal government for the changes made to the **Forest Act** and demand that the "social contract" be restored.

USW 2171

RESOLUTION 109 - 2007

BECAUSE hundreds of forest workers jobs have been lost due to a shortage of timber and mill closures impacted by the shortage of logs; and

BECAUSE the recent protests of log exports by concerned forest workers and other citizens, strongly indicates that log exports are becoming a very serious issue in BC; and

BECAUSE the provincial and federal governments have done nothing to stop the export of raw logs and cants; now

THE FEDERATION WILL stand in total opposition to the export of unprocessed logs and cants.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 110 - 2007

BECAUSE log exports are slowly but surely doing away with our manufacturing of the resource; now

THE FEDERATION WILL organize a one-day General Strike to protest the ever increasing problem of log exports.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 111 - 2007

BECAUSE workers and their families in BC continue to suffer as a result of job losses;
now

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to do all it can to eliminate the export of raw logs
and cants including those from private and federal lands and keep jobs in BC.

USW 2171

RESOLUTION 112 - 2007

WHEREAS the export of raw logs continues to have a long-term, detrimental, economic impact on British Columbia; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour demand the provincial government enacts legislation that would require all timber that is harvested in British Columbia to be processed in British Columbia.

Kamloops DLC

RESOLUTION 113 - 2007

WHEREAS North Island communities are facing devastating job losses due to federal and provincial government economic policies; and

WHEREAS social programs are being strained as a result of these policies; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour organize public forums in communities affected by these policies as part of the CLC Better Choice Campaign to expose these job losses and look at alternative initiatives for community sustainability.

Campbell River Courtenay DLC

RESOLUTION 114 - 2007

BECAUSE Canada's manufacturing sector is a critical part of the national economy and accounts for two-thirds of our national exports; and

BECAUSE over the past five years Canada has lost more than 250,000 manufacturing jobs; and

BECAUSE there is a lack of federal government attention to the critical issues of unfair trade, a high Canadian dollar and a strategy of de-industrialization; now

THE FEDERATION WILL call on the federal government to:

1. Take decisive action to identify the manufacturing industry as a strategic sector in Canada's economic development;
2. Undertake a comprehensive review of the causes and consequences of manufacturing job loss;
3. Establish a sectoral task force to review ways Canada can strengthen the manufacturing sector; and
4. Establish adequate programs such as enhanced unemployment benefits and transition programs to assist Canadian workers who are losing their jobs.

Vancouver DLC

RESOLUTION 115 - 2007

BECAUSE many of our membership work in the salmon aquaculture industry; and

BECAUSE the salmon aquaculture industry is under attack from some of the same protectionist groups that worked diligently to attempt to destroy the forest industry; and

BECAUSE steps must be taken to ensure that the salmon aquaculture industry is allowed to flourish in an environmentally sustainable way, as in many other jurisdictions;
now

THE FEDERATION WILL demand that the provincial government set up an advisory committee made up of workers, industry and communities to advise government on expansion and regulations in the aquaculture industry.

USW 2171

RESOLUTION 116 - 2007

BECAUSE retirees on CPP income pay income tax; and

BECAUSE CPP income is barely enough to live on after taxes; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the federal government to make the CPP pension income non-taxable.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 117 - 2007

BECAUSE employers and unions are increasingly bargaining for short-term Disability Insurance and away from individual sick leave plans; and

BECAUSE the Municipal Pension Plan does not recognize Short Term Disability Plans as Pensionable time while treating long-term disability as Pensionable time; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the provincial government through their pension group for the Pension Corporation to change the Municipal Pension Plan to allow Short Term Disability Plans as Pensionable service time.

CUPE 2081

RESOLUTION 118 - 2007

BECAUSE globalization is reducing the number of manufacturing jobs in Canada; and

BECAUSE Canadian manufacturing jobs are being lost to countries that have no labour rights and allow the exploitation of their workplace and their children; and

BECAUSE Canadian consumers are needed to educate on how their shopping habits negatively affect Canadian workers and unprotected workers around the world; now

THE FEDERATION WILL support the ongoing work of the CLC, Labour Councils, affiliates and community groups which are working to end sweatshops and encourage more Labour Councils and affiliates to join these campaigns; and

THE FEDERATION WILL distribute information from anti-sweatshop campaigns; and

THE FEDERATION WILL encourage union members to make informed consumer choices and actively pressure major retailers to ensure workers in the supply chain have fair wages and humane working conditions.

BCGEU

RESOLUTION 119 - 2007

BECAUSE there is no Statutory Holiday between January 1st and Easter; and

BECAUSE the United States and two other Canadian provinces have already instituted new Statutory Holidays in February; and

BECAUSE Canadian workers should share in the productivity gains of the last few decades; now

THE FEDERATION WILL call upon the Federal government to establish a new national holiday in February such as Heritage Day which was established but never proclaimed as a statutory holiday; and

THE FEDERATION WILL make this an issue in the upcoming federal election.

Vancouver DLC

RESOLUTION 120 - 2007

BECAUSE there currently is no Stat Holiday in the month of February in BC; and

BECAUSE provinces such as Alberta observe a Stat Holiday in February called Heritage Day; now

THE FEDERATION WILL direct a lobby initiative to lobby the provincial government to enact legislation that would provide an additional Stat Holiday in the month of February for British Columbians.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 121 - 2007

BECAUSE the provincial government has not acted to protect watersheds used for drinking water; and

BECAUSE the provincial government refuses to grant local governments the necessary authority to protect the watersheds used by their communities for drinking water; and

BECAUSE there are continuing conflicts over the use of community watersheds all over British Columbia, as exemplified by current conflicts in the Chapman Creek Community Watershed that provides drinking water for approximately 21,000 Sunshine Coast residents; now

THE FEDERATION WILL support the right of local communities to protect their drinking water sources from industrial and commercial activities that erode water quality.

HSA

RESOLUTION 122 - 2007

BECAUSE watershed damage is being done by corporations on privately-owned watershed land and private land adjacent to watersheds; and

BECAUSE private ownership of watershed lands allows private individuals or corporations the ability to dictate who can have access to water and at what costs; and

BECAUSE watersheds are essential to all life on earth and must be kept publicly-owned and protected; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the provincial government and local governments, and, through the CLC, the federal government to enact legislation that protects our watersheds and ensures that public interest overrides the corporate agenda and that currently publicly- owned watershed lands remain publicly-owned.

BCGEU

RESOLUTION 123 - 2007

BECAUSE most rural areas do not have public transportation; and

BECAUSE most people living in rural areas must use their vehicle to get to and from work; now

THE FEDERATION WILL lobby the provincial government to remove the "to and from work" insurance premiums for people in rural areas who have to travel to work.

USW 1- 405

RESOLUTION 124 - 2007

BECAUSE the percentage of children living in poverty in Canada is the 8th highest in wealthy countries according to a UNICEF report, "Child Poverty in Rich Countries 2008"; and

BECAUSE in May 2006, the United Nations committee on economic, social and cultural rights singled out BC, pointing out the recent increase in poverty among single mother-led households in BC and that 36 percent of lone mothers in Canada are considered poor, compared to 49 percent of lone mothers in BC; and

BECAUSE Canada has failed to get its poverty rate below 16 percent for a generation; and

BECAUSE poverty is considered to be one of the first determinant of population health; now

THE FEDERATION WILL continue to support initiatives to reduce poverty levels in Canada and in BC particularly.

HSA

RESOLUTION 125 - 2007

BECAUSE war has enormous implications on the global economy; and

BECAUSE these economic implications link war to corporate globalization, to privatization, to the destruction of the basics of life, public services, the environment, and democracy; and

BECAUSE the economic powers of the world are also the military powers and workers pay for wars in many ways while corporations profit; and

BECAUSE the World Peace Forum and Labour Peace Forum in June 2006 were a huge success and paved the way for Canada-US collaboration on peace issues; now

THE FEDERATION WILL become a sponsor of the Pacific NorthWest Regional Peace Forum to be held in the spring of 2008.

HSA

RESOLUTION 126 - 2007

WHEREAS the Mexican government is involved in the oppression of Human Rights Advocates in the Oaxaca region; and

WHEREAS many of these advocates have been violently eliminated; and

WHEREAS these trade unionists have called for international solidarity to oppose their government's actions; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour call for a travel boycott to Mexico and demand the Mexican government protect the Human Rights of all Mexican citizens.

Kamloops DLC

RESOLUTION 127 - 2007

WHEREAS Canadians have a proud history of committing our Armed Forces to the role of Peacekeepers dating back to the end of World War II; and

WHEREAS our young soldiers are dying in a war in Afghanistan in the role of invading army with no mandate from Canadian citizens or even a vote in the Canadian Parliament; and

WHEREAS the war in Afghanistan is an illegal war initiated by US President George W. Bush; and

WHEREAS there are no clear objectives, accomplishments or benefits for Canadians in this war in which dozens of young Canadians and hundreds of innocent Afghan citizens are being killed; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Convention call upon the CLC to demand all federal parties take steps immediately to implement the disengagement of the Canadian forces from the illegal war in Afghanistan.

Kamloops DLC

RESOLUTION 128 - 2007

WHEREAS the Bush administration in the United States (US) launched an illegal invasion in Iraq based on a dishonest claim that Iraq stockpiled weapons of mass destruction threatening the security of the US; and

WHEREAS the Bush administration continues to fan the flames of war to distract American voters from their diminishing civil rights and looming economic crisis during the forthcoming presidential elections; and

WHEREAS Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper's agenda ties Canada precariously to the US economy and foreign policy with no mandate from the Canadian public; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Federation of Labour and the CLC speak out forcefully against these policies of the Harper Minority government and insist that all federal parties that hold the parliamentary majority, reign-in the Prime Minister and his minority government to safeguard our economic future and restore our proud history as a respected force for peace throughout the world.

Kamloops DLC