

2

Reduce and eventually eliminate poverty experienced by children and youth

We recommend that the provincial government take clear action to realize Articles 6, 24, 26, and 27 of the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* regarding the right to life, survival, and development; the right to enjoy best possible health; and the right to an adequate standard of living and appropriate social security.³

Action 3

Establish a provincial poverty-reduction plan to respond to the crisis of child poverty in Nova Scotia. The plan should include:

- A clear explanation of the policy levers that will be used in the short term to provide immediate relief to children and youth in the direst need. A data-driven assessment should be provided that outlines the anticipated impact of each new action.
- Medium-term and long-term targets and actions that will contribute to achieving the goal of reducing and ultimately eliminating child and family poverty in all its forms in Nova Scotia.

Action 4

Pass legislation to ensure that future governments continue to adhere to a plan for reducing and eventually eliminating poverty in Nova Scotia. Legislation should ensure that:

- Future plans be derived in consultation with important stakeholders, including children, youth, and other individuals with lived experience of poverty.
- Plans be publicly available and regularly reviewed.
- Plans include short-term, medium-term, and long-term targets based on a defined and comprehensive set of poverty measures and data sources and with a recognition of the higher rates of poverty experienced by certain groups due to broader inequities.
- Plans be established within a framework of accountability and transparency. This may include mandated annual reporting on a series of poverty measures, evaluation of the effectiveness of any efforts aimed at achieving set targets, analysis of how the provincial budget supports the plan, and an independent committee of experts appointed to provide external oversight and evaluation.