

# FACTS & INSIGHTS 5

## PUBLIC SERVICES

■ Public services provide families with social and income security and during tough times families rely on these services more than ever. That is why we must make sure that services like health care, education, child care, community-based social services and elder care stay accessible and of the highest quality.

■ Canada has a twin-engine economy: a private sector engine and a public sector engine. The private sector engine is at half-throttle right now. Cutting back the public sector engine at the same time will slow the economy down even more. We need a strong public sector because it plays an important stabilizing role in the economy during turbulent times.

■ Investing in public services is the most effective way to create new jobs. A recent study by Infometrica proves it. For every billion dollars spent on tax cuts 5,600 jobs would be created. For every billion spent on physical infrastructure projects 15,800 jobs would be created. For every billion spent on public services (like health care, child care and education) about 20,000 jobs would be created.

■ Public employees spend their wages in local communities at local businesses. The more money in the local economy, the more businesses hire workers, and the more taxes government collects from consumers and businesses. It's important for local businesses, communities and our overall economy that we have good-paying jobs in the public sector.

## OBVIOUS SOLUTIONS

- The federal and provincial governments must:
- ◆ Maintain all existing transfers to provinces and cities for public services;
  - ◆ Make new investments to protect, strengthen and expand Canada's public Medicare system;
  - ◆ Develop a pan-Canadian public early childhood education program;
  - ◆ Provide more funding to colleges and universities for education and training;
  - ◆ Increase funding for community-based social services and raise social assistance rates;



- ◆ Make new investments in home care and long-term care for the elderly.

## TAKE ACTION

■ Visit [www.peoplesresponse.ca](http://www.peoplesresponse.ca) so you can:

- ◆ Find out about town hall meetings in your community;
  - ◆ Connect with like-minded people and get involved with a virtual campaign;
  - ◆ Make your voice heard by sending an email to your Member of Parliament, completing a short survey, and posting your own note or video;
  - ◆ Download information and other resources such as fact sheets, videos and podcasts.
- Invite your friends, family and colleagues to get involved and speak out.