

## **Tax breaks for the wealthy continued**

# **N.B. budget attacks the poor, violates human rights!**

More than 100,000 New Brunswickers live in poverty. Yet, New Brunswick's 2012-13 budget never once uses the word "poverty." While the budget is called *Rebuilding New Brunswick*, it actually cuts help to people most in need and violates the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The number of people needing social assistance in New Brunswick continues to increase, yet this year, the Alward government is:

- **reducing the social assistance budget** by \$7.5 million compared to 2011-12;
- **freezing social assistance rates** at 2008 levels despite four years of increases in food, clothing and shelter costs;
- **cutting basic health services** by almost \$1 million;
- **hacking \$1 million** from the Adult Learning Program; and
- **crippling the Public Housing Program** with cuts totalling almost \$5 million!



The Alward government is making life harder for people in need in order to give its 'special' wealthy friends big tax cuts. The budget keeps:

- **big corporate tax rate reductions** (about 40%) put in place in 2009; and
- **unfair tax cuts for wealthy individuals** put in place in 2009.

Today, New Brunswickers living in poverty are suffering more while the wealthiest get richer! New Brunswick cannot be rebuilt on the backs of the poor.

New Brunswick should not punish the poor to help the wealthy. It should return to the 2009 taxation system. Wealthy corporations should pay their fair share – just like everyone else!

### **UN Declaration of Human Rights**

#### Article 25:

**"Everyone has the rights to a standard of living adequate for the health and the well-being of himself and his family..."**

*By refusing to help the more than 100,000 New Brunswickers now living in poverty, the Alward government is violating the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. New Brunswick cannot be rebuilt by trampling on people's human rights.*

Today, about 10% of New Brunswick's children live in poverty.

In March 2011, more than 6,000 children needed food from a food bank.

Children in female single-parent families are 10 times more likely to live in poverty than children in a two-parent household.

Children must be included in rebuilding New Brunswick!

Photo: **Noel Chenier/**  
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