## END POVERTY REGINA QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES IN THE PROVINCIAL ELECTION

- 1. As of October 1, Saskatchewan's minimum wage will be \$15 an hour—the lowest minimum wage in the country. If you are elected, will you call for the minimum wage to be raised to a living wage: \$19 an hour?
- 2. Questions concerning Saskatchewan's two income assistance programs: Saskatchewan Income Support or SIS, a "program [that] helps people in need meet their basic needs while they become more self-sufficient and independent to the best of their abilities"; and Saskatchewan Assured Income For Disability, a "program for people with significant and enduring disabilities."
  - a) Will your party raise SIS rates above the poverty line? Currently, an individual on SIS gets \$1,005 a month, well below the poverty line. The poverty line for a single adult in Saskatchewan is \$1,868 a month.
  - b) In addition to being inadequate, SIS does not cover utilities. Will your party ensure that SIS, or any replacement for it, covers utilities?
  - c) Will your party raise SAID rates up to full time minimum wage level? People with a disability frequently incur extra expenses. Currently an individual on SAID receives on average \$1,382 a month. A full-time minimum wage worker earns \$2,240 a month.
  - **d)** Will your party commit to no claw back on any existing disability income supports upon implementation of the Canada Disability Benefit?
- **3.** Will your party take immediate action to make the approximately 3,000 vacant Sask Housing units across the province immediately available for occupation?
- **4.** Will your party implement rent control legislation? 80% of Canadians live in jurisdictions with rent control.
- **5.** Will your party ban renovictions?
- **6.** Will your party reinstate funding for harm reduction services—including providing clean new needles and drug use paraphernalia—as well as funding more treatment services?
- 7. What can the Government of Saskatchewan do to make Saskatchewan—and the world—a better place for everyone who lives here?