

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION



CHEF DE L'OPPOSITION

National Social Work Month 2010
Social Workers Speaking Up: Poverty Costs

It is a pleasure for me to extend greetings to the Canadian Association of Social Workers and everyone celebrating 2010 National Social Work Month. I wish to congratulate all those who are in the honourable profession of social work and undertake to help the most vulnerable among us.

This year's theme, *Social Workers Speaking Up: Poverty Costs*, speaks directly to how everyone is affected by poverty, either personally or societally. My Liberal parliamentary colleagues and I believe that government has a role to play in helping to solve these problems. To this end we are using our time to consult with social justice advocates to assess the societal cost of poverty, what measures have worked in the past to help alleviate it, determine where Canada has come up short and look to what can be done moving forward.

Social workers play an important role each and every day across a multitude of institutions and areas of activity that touch people who need their expertise, skills and knowledge. Thanks to this hard work, Canadians in need receive the care, advocacy, teaching and programs they need.

Let me take this opportunity to thank everyone associated with National Social Work Month in the hope for a better future for all.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Ignatieff".

Michael Ignatieff, M.P.
2010