

Resolution #3

UNIVERSAL PUBLIC DENTAL CARE

Whereas 32 percent of Canadians have no dental insurance, and six million Canadians avoid visiting the dentist every year due to cost; and

Whereas poor dental health is linked to health conditions including cardiovascular disease, dementia, diabetic complications and premature birth; and

Whereas the omission of dental coverage from our universal healthcare system is both a pressing public health concern and a social justice issue;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Federation of Retired Union Members (BC FORUM) call upon the Government of Canada to take the necessary steps to establish a universal public dental care program so that all Canadians have access to medically necessary dental care; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that BC FORUM work with the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC), the Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC), the National Pensioners Federation (NPF) and other allies to have them lobby the Government of Canada to establish a universal public dental plan.