



For Immediate Release

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Community Group Releases a New Anti-Racism Lens to Assess Trudeau's Promised "Build Back Better" Plan for Canada

September 16/2020/Toronto / The Prime Minister has promised Canadians an economic and health recovery plan, one that he says will "Build Back Better" by keeping Canada healthier, safer, cleaner, more competitive, fairer and more inclusive. To hold Prime Minister Trudeau to his promise, the Chinese Canadian National Council for Social Justice (CCNC-SJ) is releasing a new tool to help Canadians, including social justice advocates, to review the anticipated recovery plan in the Throne Speech.

CCNC-SJ will reach out through social media and community organizations across the country to ask individuals and groups to participate in assessing the plan according to four criteria. A scorecard report will be developed based on the feedback gathered. The four criteria are as follows:

1. Does the plan acknowledge differential impacts of the pandemic on racialized communities?
2. Does the plan explicitly state combatting racism as one of its objectives?
3. Is an anti-racism strategy integrated into all actions and strategies – e.g. in health care, employment, social benefits and economic development, etc.?
4. Does the plan include engaging communities to combat racism and achieve equity?

In an earlier related [submission](#) about the upcoming federal budget, CCNC-SJ made a number of recommendations to combat racism through concrete actions in the allocation of resources. CCNC-SJ has also called on the government to explicitly include anti-Asian racism in [Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy 2019–2022](#). As noted in an earlier [CCNC-SJ Statement](#), Canada actually has a higher number of anti-Asian racism reports per capita than the United States. Over 600 incidents from across the country have already been reported on two of the websites set up to gather this information.

"Asian, Black, Indigenous and other racialized communities cannot afford to be let down by another empty promise from the government, as we have been disproportionately and seriously impacted by the pandemic in many ways. Percentage wise, more of us are infected and have lost our jobs. We are also subject to racist attacks just because

we are or look Chinese. We have to make sure that the recovery plan is one that covers ALL Canadians,” said Amy Go, President, CCNC-SJ.

“For a successful and fair recovery from this pandemic, our nation’s response must be bold and focused. Those who have suffered the most are often also those who have the least power and voice – we must not leave them behind,” said Gary Yee, Director, CCNC-SJ.

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