



BCTF

British Columbia Teachers' Federation A Union of Professionals
100-550 West 6th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2 bctf.ca
604-871-2283 1-800-663-9163 

Antipoverty Month Resources Week 2: Poverty in our Communities (BC)

Issues

- housing
- working poverty (high cost of living in BC)
- childcare
- sustainable communities.

Addressing the issues

• Step 1: Awareness

- The BCTF [workshop](#) “Help End Child Poverty in BC’s Classrooms, Schools and Local Communities” can be booked for free.
- [First Call’s](#) 2018 BC Child Poverty Report Card is released on November 20.
- A March 30 [Bloomberg article](#) reports that four out of five of the least affordable housing markets are in BC!
- The 2018 [RBC Housing Affordability Report](#) states that the Vancouver area now has “the worst affordability levels ever recorded anywhere in Canada” (yes, it says “ever”).
- Find out what a [living wage](#) should be in your community.

• Step 2: Education

- See the [Lily and the Paper Man](#) lesson plan.
- The BC Poverty Reduction Coalition (BCPRC) has many great lesson ideas:
 - Does your school organize food drives? Try adding an upstream theme to a downstream effort with this BCPRC [lesson plan](#).
 - Do your students like cookies? Try the [BC Wealth and Inequality with Cookies](#) lesson plan.
- You can contact [BCPRC](#) or [Raise the Rates Coalition](#) to book a presentation for your class.
- Check your Head also has the workshops [Poverty and Income Inequality](#) and [Food Justice](#).
- The BCTF’s [Poverty Typology poster and lesson ideas](#) provide insight to the many types of poverty that exist.
- Interested in working towards systemic change? BCTF’s Antipoverty page has several [sustainable community](#) lesson plans.

• Step 3: Action

- The BC Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction has released a [report](#) on a poverty reduction strategy.
- Support the [Living Wage for Families](#) campaign.
- Support the [Fight for 15](#) campaign for a \$15 minimum wage in BC.
- Support the [All on Board](#) campaign for free transit for children and youth and a sliding scale monthly pass system based on income.
- Support the [10 a Day](#) campaign for affordable childcare in BC.
- Consider supporting a local business.