



Antipoverty Month Resources Week 3: Poverty in Canada

Issues

- child poverty
- working poverty
- shrinking middle class
- living wage
- homelessness.

Addressing the issues

- **Step 1: Awareness**
 - In 1989, the House of Commons put forth a [resolution](#) to eliminate child poverty in Canada by the year 2000.
 - [Campaign 2000](#) is a network that works to end child and family poverty in Canada. Their website has [news](#), [infographics](#), [national](#) and [provincial](#) poverty report cards, as well as ways to [take action](#) and much more.
 - The StatsCan 2016 Census reports [4.8 million](#) Canadians are living below the poverty line. A quarter of those are children.
 - A [2018 online Angus Reid survey](#) found that one in four Canadians experience notable economic hardship.
 - This [Huffington Post article](#) gives a detailed argument for a living wage.
 - Read about how [Ontario's minimum wage increase did not cause job loss](#) despite [assertions](#) made by the Keep Ontario Working Coalition (made up of business sector representatives), and how Ontario Premier Doug Ford is [planning to get rid of Bill 148](#) which would be providing a further increase in minimum wage as well as protections for workers.
- **Step 2: Education**
 - You can order the [Campaign 2000 Info Kit](#) for your school or have students take their [Poverty Quiz](#).
 - The BCTF's [Poverty Typology poster and lesson ideas](#) include the working class and working poor, reflective of a shrinking middle class.
 - The BC Poverty Reduction Coalition has many different activity ideas in their [End Poverty Days](#) activity sheet. They also have a [Poverty Income Budget](#) lesson idea.
 - You can find many lesson ideas in [Homelessness—A Teacher's Guide](#).
- **Step 3: Action**
 - The CCPA has created an [Alternative Federal Budget 2019](#) with aims to narrow the wealth gap. You can read it and, if you agree with it, share it on social media and/or call or write to your MLA or MP.
 - Support the [Dignity for All](#) campaign.
 - Develop a [living wage campaign](#) in your school district.
 - Support [Raising the Roof](#) through their [Toque Campaign](#).