The Learning Agenda

The Poverty Reduction Summit: Every City, Province and Territory Working Together is an unprecedented gathering that will bring together senior leaders from across the country and beyond to align their efforts and merge their passion for poverty reduction.

Learn Together:

* About key poverty reduction strategies and those that are having the best results
* Policy changes in cities, provinces and territories making a huge difference in reducing poverty
* The role of business in poverty reduction and stories of great success
* The key role the media is playing in cities across the country
* High impact strategies for organizing for impact - Governance models for success
* How the ideas of Collective Impact are permeating cities with amazing results
* About evaluating and tracking outcomes
* How provinces and cities are supporting each other toward common success

2015 Poverty Reduction Summit Shared Outcomes

Our bold vision is to align 100 cities, all provinces and territories in a national strategy to reduce poverty for 1 million Canadians. We know this vision is possible if we work together. These are the shared outcomes for the 2015 Poverty Reduction Summit.

* Strengthen communication between cities, provinces and territories, and between provinces, territories and cities
* Increased alignment across and commitment to the poverty reduction strategies of provinces, territories and cities
* Foster awareness of national-level poverty reduction activities from a variety of national partners
* To create a vision for how working together as cities, provinces, territories and the Federal Government - over the next four years will reduce poverty for 1 million Canadians

Summit Learning Agenda

Wednesday, May 6

* 8:30-9:00 a.m. - Inspiration and opening the learning community - Mr. Paul Born, Tamarack and  Mr. Mark Holmgren, CEO, Bissell Centre
* 9:00-10:30 a.m. - Opening and Framing the Discussion
  + Welcome:
    - Why Poverty Reduction? - Mr. Alan Broadbent, Avana Capital Corporation
    - Why Vibrant Communities? - Mr. Stephen Huddart, President and CEO, The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation
    - Importance of Reducing Poverty in Canada - Senator Art Eggleton, All-Party Anti-Poverty Caucus
* 11:00 a.m. - Plenary Session: Reducing Poverty Together: Every City, Province and Territory
  + Hon. Deb Matthews, Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy, Deputy Premier, President of the Treasury Board, Government of Ontario
  + Mr. Don Iveson, Mayor, City of Edmonton
  + Response - Ms. Andrea Cohen Barrack, CEO, Ontario Trillium Foundation
* 12:30-2:00 p.m. - Learning Labs and Lunch
* 2:00-3:30 p.m. - Workshop A Streams: *Choice of one*
  + Leadership & Learning
  + Policy and Systems Change
  + Getting to Impact
  + Community Plans and Poverty Reduction Strategies
  + Vibrant Communities
  + Promising Practices Learning Carousel
* 3:30-3:45 p.m. - Break
* 3:45-5:15 p.m. - Workshop B Streams: *Choice of one*
  + Leadership & Learning
  + Policy & Systems Change
  + Getting to Impact
  + Community Plans & Poverty Reduction Strategies
  + Vibrant Communities
  + Tackling Tough Issues to Reduce Poverty Learning Carousel
* 6:30-9:30 p.m. - Gala Dinner at St. Anthony Banquet Hall
  + Keynote speaker: Mr. Tim Brodhead, Senior Fellow, SIG

Thursday, May 7

* 8:30-9:00 a.m. - Inspiration and framing the day - Ms. Liz Weaver, Tamarack, moderator
* 9:00-10:30 a.m. - Cities that Lead, Succeed
  + Mr. Naheed Nenshi, Mayor, City of Calgary
  + Panel - Cities Reducing Poverty:
    - Jeff Loomis - Voluntary Sector
    - Lisa Watson - Municipal Government
    - Celeste Licorish - Lived Experience
  + Response: Mr. Brock Carlton, CEO Federation of Canadian Municipalities
* 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. - Workshop C Streams:*Choice of one*
  + Leadership & Learning
  + Policy & Systems Change
  + Getting to Impact
  + Community Plans & Poverty Reduction Strategies
  + Vibrant Communities
  + Municipal Poverty Reduction Strategies Learning Carousel
* 12:30-2:00 p.m. - Networking lunch as regional roundtables
* 2:00-3:30 p.m. - Provinces that Lead, Succeed
  + Plenary Session: The Important Role of Provinces in Reducing Poverty
    - Mr. David Morhart, Deputy Minister of Human Service, Government of Alberta
    - Panel - Provinces Reducing Poverty
      * Ms. Aisling Gogan, Director, Poverty Reduction Strategy, Newfoundland and Labrador
      * Mr. Stephane Leclair, Director, Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation, New Brunswick
      * Ms. Karen Glass, Director, Poverty Reduction Strategy, Ontario
      * Ms. Lindsay Turner, Director, Poverty Reduction Strategy, Nunavut
  + Response: Mr. Jim Hughes, CEO, Graham Boeckh Foundation
* 3:30-4:00 p.m. - Break
* 4:00-5:30 p.m. - Workshop D Stream: *Choice of one*
  + Leadership & Learning
  + Policy & Systems Change
  + Getting to Impact
  + Community Plans & Poverty Reduction Strategies
  + Vibrant Communities
  + Skills Learning Carousel

Friday, May 8

* 8:30-9:00 a.m. - Inspiration and framing the day - Mr. Jim Hughes, moderator
* 9:00-10:30 a.m. - The Next Five Years
  + Plenary Session: Cities and Provinces Working Together to Reduce Poverty for 1 Million Canadians
    - Doing the Right Thing - Together - Mr. Dana Robbins, VP and Regional Publisher, Metroland Media
    - Reclaiming our Humanity - Together - Ms. Sherri Torjman, Vice President, Caledon Institute of Social Policy
* 10:30-11:00 a.m. - Break
  + Moving Forward Together
    - Learning Lab Discussions: Series of exercises that bring the learning together and begin to build a plan for moving forward
* 12:30-1:00 p.m. - Inspiration and Closing the Learning Community - Mr. Paul Born, Tamarack
  + Video - Next Steps for Poverty Reduction

A Celebration

The Summit is also a time to celebrate the achievements of every province and territory and nearly 100 cities (communities) with poverty reduction strategies and the new hope this provides for all Canadians. A gala celebration featuring awards, global speakers, and a very special guest will take place at the summit the evening of May 6. Stay tuned for more exciting details!

Workshops

Stream A: Wed, May 6, 2015 – 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Working for a Living Wage: Campaigns, Employers and Calculations

Panel Members: Deanna Ogle, Living Wage for Families (BC); Catharine Ludgate, VanCity Credit Union (BC); Greg deGroote-Maggetti, Living Wage Waterloo Region (ON)  
Host: Tom Cooper, Living Wage Hamilton (ON)

The members of the panel will explore a variety of community and corporate approaches to calculating and implementing living wage campaigns. They will share with participants the [Canadian Framework for Calculating a Living Wage](http://livingwagecanada.ca/index.php/about-living-wage/about-canadian-living-wage-framework/?__hstc=96422787.88af0b9ed2e83beed6d524fcd424a75c.1425420732353.1426894218349.1427495056694.4&__hssc=96422787.1.1427495056694&__hsfp=2713086401) and the unique variations required in local calculations.  
  
Crafting and Implementing Poverty Reduction Strategies  
  
Workshop Leader: Mark Cabaj, former Director Vibrant Communities Canada and President, Here to There Consulting (AB)  
  
Mark will discuss the critical underpinnings of developing and implementing a place-based poverty reduction strategy. He will draw from the lessons learned during the first phase of Vibrant Communities Canada (2002-2012). Participants will also understand the key steps and elements required when developing poverty reduction strategies to create impact.  
  
Upside Down Thinking to Reduce Poverty  
  
Workshop Leader: Mark Holmgren, Bissell Centre, Edmonton (AB)  
  
Upside Down Thinking is both a mindset and a tool to use to look at things in a totally different way. Mark will take participants down a winding path to understand this mind shift while offering creative tools along the way.  
  
Political Will – A Province and A City  
  
An Advanced Conversation Moderated by: Paul Born, Tamarack  
Workshop Panel: Honorable Deb Matthews, Government of Ontario (ON) and Mayor Don Iveson, City of Edmonton (AB)  
  
Join Paul Born as he moderates this lively advanced conversation with Minister Deb Matthews and Mayor Don Iveson about the critical roles of provincial and municipal governments in poverty reduction. Minister Matthews will share the lessons learned from the Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy and Mayor Iveson will discuss the emerging city-wide strategy in Edmonton.  
  
A Vision, An Experiment – Creating a Collective Impact in Vibrant Communities  
  
Workshop Leader: Liz Weaver, Tamarack  
  
Join with Liz as she highlights the Vibrant Communities experiment, lessons learned and how collective impact is at work. Liz will also share tips and trick for creating a common agenda and tell some great stories of success.  
  
Promising Practices Learning Carousel  
  
There will be four Learning Carousels during the Poverty Reduction Summit. Each Learning Carousel will be started by a kick off speaker who will provide instructions and an overview of the Learning Carousel topic. The first Learning Carousel is focused on Promising Practices. Participants will be able to participate in up to three topics during each Learning Carousel.  
  
Kick-Off Speaker: Michael Toye, CEO of Canadian Community Economic Development Network  
  
Promising Practices Carousel Topics:

* Community Food Centres with Kathryn Scharf, Community Food Centres Canada (National)
* Canada Learning Bonds with Nicky Norris, Canada Learning Bond Champions Network (National)
* Social Determinants of Health with Lori Kleinsmith, Bridges Community Health Centre (ON)
* Community Economic Development as Poverty Reduction with Michael Toye, Canadian Community Economic Development Network (QC)
* Reducing Stigma through Education Curriculum with Jo Ann Salci, Hamilton Public Health (ON)

Stream B: Wednesday, May 6, 2015 – 3:45 – 5:15 p.m.

Powerful Voice: Inclusion of Lived Experience  
  
Panel Members: Celeste Licorish, Speak Now Hamilton (ON); Ruth MacDonald, Citizens Voice St. John’s (NL); Kathy Manners and Trevor McAlmont, County of Simcoe (ON)  
Panel Moderator: Elizabeth McIsaac, CEO, Maytree  
  
Participants attending this workshop will learn from Ontario and Newfoundland approaches to including and supporting citizens to effectively share their voice and perspectives in the conversation about reducing poverty. Join in to learn how these approaches to citizen voice have had a powerful impact on policy decisions.  
  
Creating Systems Change through Campus-Community Partnerships  
  
Moderator: Karen Schwartz, Carleton University  
Panel Members: Colleen Christopherson-Cote, Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership (SK); Barry Galloway, Vibrant Communities Saint John (NB);  
  
Learn about how campus and community partners are collaborating together to move the needle on complex issues. Karen Schwartz, campus co-chair of the Poverty Hub and local partners from Windsor, Saskatoon and Saint John New Brunswick will share lessons learned from this innovative approach to community change. Over the past three years, the poverty hub has explored different models for effective campus-community partnerships.  
  
Art of Advocacy: Lessons Learned, Success Shared  
  
Moderator: Peggy Tallion, CEO, Canadian Council for Social Development  
Panel Members: Trish Garner, BC Poverty Reduction Coalition (BC); Diana Bronson, Food Secure Canada (CA); Alison Robertson, Poverty Costs Saskatchewan (SK)  
  
This lively session will focus on the role of national and provincial coalitions in moving forward policy change efforts. Learn about how to get to impact, use creative advocacy tools and more  
  
Evaluating Community-Wide Poverty Reduction Efforts – 5 Simple Rules  
  
Workshop Leader: Mark Cabaj, former Director Vibrant Communities Canada and President, Here to There Consulting (AB)  
  
Join Mark Cabaj to discuss how to effectively evaluate community-wide poverty reduction efforts and their impacts on communities. Mark was instrumental in leading the evaluation of the first phase (2002-2012) of Vibrant Communities. He will provide lessons learned and simple rules for evaluating complex community change efforts.  
  
Municipal Policies to Reduce Poverty  
  
An advanced conversation moderated by: Brock Carlton, FCM  
Panel Members: Randalin Ellery, Guelph-Wellington (ON); Varley Weisman, Medicine Hat (AB); Mike Bulthuis, Ottawa Alliance to End Homelessness  
  
This panel discussion will look at the important role that municipal governments can play in shaping poverty reduction efforts. Marc Todd will describe the impact of investment efforts made in priority neighbourhoods in the Niagara Region. Randalin Ellery will discuss the efforts in Guelph-Wellington to increase access to affordable transportation and Varley Weisman will discuss how changes in access to recreation have reshaped the City of Medicine Hat. Mike Bulthuis will talk about housing in the City of Ottawa  
  
Tackling Tough Issues to Reduce Poverty Learning Carousel  
  
There will be four Learning Carousels during the Poverty Reduction Summit. Each Learning Carousel will be started by a kick off speaker who will provide instructions and an overview of the Learning Carousel topic. The second Learning Carousel is focused on Tackling Tough Issues to Reduce Poverty. Participants will be able to participate in up to three topics (20 minutes each) during the Learning Carousel.  
  
Kick-Off Speaker: Liz Weaver, Tamarack (ON)  
  
Tackling Tough Issues to Reduce Poverty Carousel Topics:

* Payday Lending with Mike Brown and Joe Ceci, Momentum (AB)
* Bridges out of Poverty/Circles with Elaine Weir, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (ON)
* Food Security with Alison Homer, Vibrant Abbotsford (BC)
* Affordable Transit with Lisa Watson, Grande Priarie (AB)
* Microfinance with Adam Vasey, Windsor SOUP (ON)

Stream C: Thursday, May 7, 2015 – 11:00 – 12:30 p.m.

Financial Empowerment as a Poverty Reduction Strategy  
  
Workshop Leaders: Adam Fair, Prosper Canada (ON) and Jeff Loomis, Momentum (AB)  
  
Adam Fair, Prosper Canada and Jeff Loomis, Momentum will host a lively workshop presenting tools and techniques to build financial empowerment strategies for individuals living with low and limited income. Prosper Canada is the national charity focused on developing tools and resources to help Canadians Prosper. Momentum is an Alberta-based charity which has successfully changed the lives of individuals by supporting them in their financial journey.

Rural Issues Workshop to TBD

Creating Champions in Poverty Reduction Efforts  
  
Moderated by: Kate Gunn, City of Edmonton  
Panel Members: Bishop Jane Alexander, Edmonton (AB); Nick Saul, Community Food Centres Canada (National) + others TBD  
  
This panel will discuss the importance of creating champions to advance the work of poverty reduction. They will each share their perspective and engage the audience in a conversation around tools and messaging.  
  
Creating Political and Community Will: Engagment, Data and Dialogue  
  
Panel Moderator: Don Lenihan, Canada 2020 and Public Policy Forum  
Panel Members: Dana Robbins, Metroland Media (ON); Anne Makhoul, Caledon Institute of Social Policy (ON); Laura Cattari, Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction (ON)  
  
Effectively communicating the context of poverty and community change is a challenge particularly when there is so many stigmas attached to the issue. The three panelists will discuss strategies of effective engagement, data, and storytelling to create political and community will.  
  
Funders Role in Poverty Reduction  
  
An Advanced Conversation moderated by: Paul Born, Tamarack (ON)  
Panel Members: Elizabeth MacIsaac, Maytree (ON); Liz Gillis, Columbia Basin Trust (BC); and Tracey Robertson, Ontario Trillium Foundation  
  
This advanced conversation will focus on the funders role in poverty reduction. Panel members from a variety of foundations across Canada will share stories of how they have invested in efforts to reduce poverty or influence the policy change window. The funders will share lessons learned and their perspectives on what it will take to impact and reduce poverty in Canada.  
  
Municipal Poverty Reduction Strategies Learning Carousel  
  
There will be four Learning Carousels during the Poverty Reduction Summit. Each Learning Carousel will be started by a kick off speaker who will provide instructions and an overview of the Learning Carousel topic. The third Learning Carousel is focused on Municipal Poverty Reduction Strategies. Participants will be able to participate in up to three topics (20 minutes each) during the Learning Carousel.  
  
Kick-Off Speaker: Brock Carlton, Federation of Canadian Municipalities (ON)  
  
Municipal Poverty Reduction Strategies Carousel Topics:

* Peel Poverty Reduction Strategy with Adaoma Patterson and Alicia Wilson (ON)
* Calgary Poverty Reduction Initiative with Joe Ceci (AB)
* Living SJ: Social Renewal Strategy with Barry Galloway (NB)
* RQRI – a Regional Community Revitalization Strategy for Quebec with David Marshall (QC)
* City of Kingston - Bhavana Varma (ON)

Stream D: Thursday, May 7, 2015 – 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

The Role of Business in Poverty Reduction  
  
An Advanced Conversation moderated by: Paul Born, Tamarack (ON)  
Panel Members: Tom Gribbons, Business Community Anti-Poverty Initiative (NB); Catherine Ludgate, VanCity Credit Union (BC); Dana Robbins, Metroland Media (ON)  
  
Business is an influential member of a poverty reduction roundtable. Tom Gribbons, Catherine Ludgate and Dana Robbins will share stories and lessons learned about effectively engaging the business community and the pivotal role that business leaders can play in moving the needle on reducing poverty.  
  
Provincial Policies that Reduce Poverty  
  
An Advanced Conversation moderated by: Jim Hughes, Graham Boeckh Foundation (QC)  
Panel Members: Karen Glass, Government of Ontario (ON); Aisling Gogan, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador (NL); others TBD  
  
Participants will learn about provincial policies that have made an impact on reducing poverty. Four diverse approaches will be shared.  
  
When Provinces, Territories and Communities Work Together  
  
Moderator: Katharine Scott, Vice-President, Candian Council on Social Development  
Panel Members: Scott MacAfee, Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation (NB); Don Lenihan, Canada 2020, others TBC  
  
Across Canada, provincial governments are creating poverty reduction strategies with a focus on building community and regional capacity of citizens and organizations to collectively tackle poverty reduction. This panel will share the lessons they have learned in community engagement and how communities have shaped the provincial agenda.  
  
Reducing Poverty across Canada  
  
Moderator: Joe Gunn, Director, Citizens for Public Justice  
Panel Members: Peggy Taillon, CCSD, John Rook, Canadian Poverty Institute, Elizabeth Mulholland, Prosper Canada, + others TBD  
  
Across Canada, a number of pan-Canadian organizations are working to influence the poverty agenda. Panel members will share the impact that their organizations are having on the municipal, provincial and federal poverty agenda. Learn about the key policy and community investment strategies of Canada without Poverty, the Canadian Council on Social Development, United Way-Centraide Canada and the Canadian Poverty Institute.  
  
What is the data telling us? Measuring Impact  
  
Workshop Leader: Michel Frojmovic, Community Data Project, Canadian Council on Social Development (National)  
  
In this interactive workshop, Michel Frojmovic will highlight the important role that data can play in highlighting and communicating the issue and impact of poverty. Workshop participants will have an opportunity to access data sets which create a comprehensive picture of poverty and learn about tools to effectively use data for community change.  
  
Skills Learning Carousel  
  
There will be four Learning Carousels during the Poverty Reduction Summit. Each Learning Carousel will be started by a kick off speaker who will provide instructions and an overview of the Learning Carousel topic. The fourth Learning Carousel is focused on Skills and Learning. Participants will be able to participate in up to three topics (20 minutes each) during the Learning Carousel.  
  
Kick Off Speaker: TBD

* The Value of Social Finance and It's Instruments with Tim Draimin, SiG
* Outcomes Diary with Liz Weaver, Tamarack (ON)
* Basic Income Campaigns with Thomas Allgoewer, Basic Income Network Canada
* Calculating a Living Wage with Laura Tucker, Pathway to Potential (ON)
* Federal Anti-Poverty Plan with Janelle Vandergrift, Citizens for Public Justice and Michele Bliss, Canada Without Poverty