



Preliminary Program



Rewarding Life
FOR 25 YEARS



Canadian Council on Social Development
Conseil canadien de développement social

Bios for Plenary Speakers are available at
www.ccsd.ca/csf/2009/program/allspeakers.pdf

May 19 to 22, 2009
[Telus Convention Centre](#)
Calgary, Alberta
www.ccsd.ca/csf/2009

See what Alain Noel has to say about the “inevitability of poverty”

10:15 – 10:45am

MORNING BREAK

During the morning coffee break, stop by the “Speakers Corner” in the lobby and videotape your opinions about a poverty-free Canada.

10:50 – 11:00am Video: Voices from the Forum

11:00 – 12:15pm

Table Talk (Plenary #2)

Living With Poverty: Hoops, Mazes and Barriers

(Organized by Canada Without Poverty [formerly known as NAPO], in conjunction with CCSD)

The road out of poverty is a minefield of obstacles that exhaust and undermine even the most determined.

Moderator Richard Shillington travels that road with Canadians who share their stories, their wisdom, and their wishes.

Ruth MacDonald, a single mom from Newfoundland; Shirley Soleil, coping with a disability in small town Nova Scotia; and Michael Creek, a Toronto cancer survivor, engage Forum participants in a passionate and pragmatic planning session for changing lives and building social policy that works.

Confirmed Speakers:

- [Richard Shillington](#), Infometrica Limited
- [Michael Creek](#), Voices from the Street
- [Ruth MacDonald](#), School of Social Work, Memorial University and Lone Mothers Building Social Inclusion project
- [Shirley Soleil](#), Establishing a home-based business
- [\(tba\)](#)

This session will invite comments and questions from the audience.

12:15 – 1:15 pm

NETWORKING LUNCH

1:15 – 1:20pm Video: Voices from the Forum.

1:20 – 1:25pm Introduction to Speaker

1:25 – 1:45pm Steve Snyder, Chair of the Alberta Secretariat for Action on Homelessness

2:00 – 3:30pm
Concurrent Sessions

Change Your World, One Workshop At a Time

Want updates on promising practices and interventions?
Interested in the latest in policy research?
Not quite sure how to use technology to tell your story?

More than 40 separate workshop sessions are being developed with presenters who combine the practical with the passionate. Look for more detailed descriptions in the next weeks as well as more workshops.

(Forum organizers reserve the right to make changes in workshop times.)

- 1. The Power of Social Media**
New media has had a profound effect on change-making – whether it is electing a president, mobilizing around an issue, or expanding social networks. But for many of us, the prospect of this kind of work seems daunting and out of reach. This interactive session will feature the work of National Film Board’s CitizenShift Unit. It will highlight several examples of citizen media in action.
- 2. Provincial Action on Poverty Reduction**
What started in Quebec more than a decade ago is now spreading across the country. This session maps the initiatives and explores the successes and obstacles.
(more information to follow)
- 3. Poverty, Energy and Climate Change**
Roger Gibbins, Canada West Foundation (more information to follow)
- 4. Violence, Poverty and Homelessness** (more information to follow)
- 5. Building a Foundation for Social Activism: Co-learning in a Homeless Shelter**
Dr. Christine Walsh, Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary with other presenters to be added, including students and community members (more information to follow)
- 6. Disabling Poverty and Enabling Citizenship**
Dr. Michael Prince, University of Victoria; Yvonne Peters, Council of Canadians with Disabilities; Deborah Parkes, Faculty of Law, University of Manitoba; Lucie Dumais, UQAM; Laurie Beachell, Council of Canadians with Disabilities; Cam Crawford, Canadian Association for Community Living; Michael Bach, Canadian Association for Community Living; Bruce Porter, The Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation

3:30 – 4:00pm

AFTERNOON BREAK

Stop by “Speakers Corner” in the lobby and videotape your opinions about a poverty-free Canada.

3:00 – 6:00pm

The Social Forum Quilt Project

In conjunction with the Glenbow Museum
and Calgary’s “This is My City” project

Bring fabric, scraps, buttons, lace, and ribbon from your corner of Canada. Join textile artist and social activist, Lois Klassen, for a “sew-in” in the Forum lobby. Participants will help assemble one of the blankets that will be distributed to local shelters.

4:00 – 5:00pm

Table Talk (Plenary #3 - Main Theatre)

Welcome to Canada: Poverty Lives Here

Aboriginal people have been here for thousands of years; new Canadians, for a generation. Yet both groups face high poverty rates and diminished life chances.

Two powerful women, Cindy Blackstock and Uzma Shakir, weave a tale about what happens when Canada's most vulnerable communities get strategic – on alliances, access and equity.

Confirmed Speakers:

- [Cindy Blackstock](#), First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada
- [Uzma Shakir](#), Economic Justice Fellowship, Atkinson Charitable Foundation

7:30 – 10 pm

Film Premiere: Poor No More (Main Theatre)

[://www.poornomore.ca/](http://www.poornomore.ca/)

Forum participants get a sneak preview of a feature documentary with comedian and actor, Mary Walsh.

This is a “pay-what-you-can” premiere, with proceeds going to a local Calgary charitable initiative.

Thursday, May 21st, 2009

7:30 – 8:30am

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:00 – 8:30am

Join the Renfrew County Child Poverty Action Network

Creators of “**The Poverty Survival Game**” – in the Forum lobby. This simple board game has become a powerful tool in changing attitudes about poverty.

Table Talk (Plenary #4, Main Theatre)

8:30am

Video: Voices from the Forum

8:35am

Introductions

8:45 – 10:15am

Ideas, Interaction and Innovation

It takes more than ‘a good idea’ to solve a problem, and the Canadian poverty landscape is littered with pilot projects that prove that point.

So what's the formula for innovation that sticks?
Can you clone success? Do we bail too soon?

Tim Draimin and Michel Venne lead a discussion on the art and science of thinking outside the box.

Confirmed Speakers:

- [Tim Draimin](#), Social Innovation Generation Program, Causeway Initiative on Social Finance
- [Michel Venne](#), Institut du Nouveau Monde

10:15 –10:45am

MORNING BREAK

Stop by “Speakers Corner” in the Lobby and videotape your comments about a poverty-free Canada.

10:45 – 12:15pm

Concurrent Workshop sessions

1. Poverty and Health

The Senate Committee on Population Health releases its final report on the social determinants of health and wellness during this interactive session. Join Dr. Wilbur Keon in this bilingual workshop that explores “the do-able” in eliminating health disparity. (more information to follow)

2. Digital Story-telling

Hear and see how technology is changing the perceptions of those living in poverty and their communities. (more information to follow)

3. Federation de Femmes

Women have played a leadership role in the struggle to address poverty in Quebec. This workshop will focus on the leadership role of the FFQ and will include the organizing around the 2004 Worldwide March of Women. (more information to follow)

4. Guaranteed Income: A Path to Economic Security?

Organized by Basic Income Earth Network Canada, this session outlines current thinking around basic income models. It will also invite participants to explore issues of design, public support and strategies.

Moderated by Mike McCracken, Infometrica, with presenters Chandra Pasma, Citizens for Public Justice and Jim Mulvale, University of Regina

5. Vibrant Communities

This session will explore the findings to a variety of questions based on seven years of research and evaluation on behalf of this urban network: What are the emerging approaches to addressing poverty comprehensively and collaboratively? What are the emerging challenges and directions? (more information to follow)

6. Mobilizing for Poverty Reduction: Lessons Learned from Three Provinces

Jacque Maund, Ontario Campaign 2000; Laurel Rothman, National Coordinator of Campaign 2000; Adrienne Montani, Provincial Coordinator, First Call BC-Child & Youth Advocacy Coalition; and Ian Renaud-Lauze, Le Collectif Pour Un Québec Sans Pauvreté

12:30pm

LUNCH

1:30pm Canada Without Poverty Campaign Launch

1:45 – 3:00pm Table Talk (Plenary #5)

Video: Voices from the Forum

Shifting Sands, Changing Jurisdictions

Canada is a 21st century federation. There is strength in that complexity. But what are the implications when three orders of government are still struggling to define their roles in the fight against poverty?

Senator Hugh Segal, political scientist Roger Gibbins, and community activist Françoise David map out the current landscape and kick-start an audience discussion about how to shape the future and generate action.

Confirmed Speakers:

- [Senator Hugh Segal](#)
- [Roger Gibbins](#), Canada West Foundation
- [Françoise David](#), Québec solidaire political party

3:00 – 3:30pm

AFTERNOON BREAK

Drop by the lobby and videotape your comments about a poverty-free Canada.

3:30 – 5:00pm Concurrent Workshop Sessions

1. Behind the News Story

CBC TV's Mark Kelley spent seven days as a homeless person at Montreal's Old Brewery Mission shelter. In this workshop he explores the issues through the eyes of a journalist. This session will be moderated by New Brunswick's Deputy Minister of Social Development, James Hughes, the former head of the Mission.

2. Impact on the Frontlines in a Downturn

An economic downturn means increased demands on frontline social service organizations. But after years of budget cuts and downloading, can they provide what communities require? If not, what are the implications? Organized by the Human Resource Sector Council, this bilingual session will explore these questions and much more.

3. Families First

Best practices linking health and community from a major Edmonton research initiative. (more information to follow)

4. The Role of Sport and Recreation in Poverty Reduction

Learn about the practical, innovative and emerging ways that sports and recreation are

addressing poverty and social issues. Examples include the Raycam Cooperative Centre and MoreSports partnership in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, emerging partnerships between Kidsport and food bank families, and remarkable initiatives in several rural and urban Aboriginal communities.

5. In the Space of Ten Years

Tracing the trajectory of Quebec's social development over the 10 years since the 1998 Forums for Social Development were held. (more information to follow)

6. Local Poverty Reduction: A Workshop with Social Planning Councils from Coast to Coast

In many communities, social planning councils are the drivers for strategic research and collaboration. This workshop explores the ever-changing role of these councils in poverty reduction. Organized by the Human Development Council in Saint John, NB, the Social Planning Council of Sudbury, ON, and by the Social Planning and Research Council (SPARC) of BC.

7. The Living Wage: Tackling the Roots of Income Inequality

Presenters include: Adrienne Montani, First Call: BC Child & Youth Advocacy Coalition; Seth Klein of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives; Derek Cook from the City of Calgary; and the Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria.

8. Advocacy 2.0

University of Toronto Professor, Pam Shime, and PovNet's Penny Goldsmith conduct a workshop on new methods, approaches, and tools.

7:00 – 8:00pm

Art and Action

Calgary artist Linda Hawke, and Vancouver-based Lois Klassen talk about how artworks can impact community issues like homelessness.

Co-sponsored by the Glenbow Museum and the Canadian Social Forum
Note: This event takes place at the Glenbow Museum (Room 225), across the street from the Telus Centre.

8pm

**Celebrate!
Music and Dance with Delhi 2 Dublin**

We guarantee that you'll laugh, dance, and have a wonderful time. The Vancouver-based group, Delhi 2 Dublin, includes five musicians who mash up electronica and world music. Fusing tabla, fiddle, Punjabi vocals, and electric sitar with electronic beats, this crew will help us celebrate the diversity that makes up Canada and the global village.

Delhi 2 Dublin worked with the Canadian Social Forum to provide the music for the opening video. Hear why in this short interview.

Friday, May 22nd, 2009

7:30 – 8:30am

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:00 – 8:30am Feedback from "[Speakers Corner](#)" (Video)

Town Hall (Plenary #6)

8:30am

The Poverty Challenge: Moving Forward

Six opinionated commentators on stage.
750 people committed to change.
100 minutes of energetic discussion.

The Social Forum puts on the coffee and turns on the microphones for a Town Hall session. Open to all Forum participants, this bilingual event is moderated by CBC The National's [Mark Kelley](#). Come away with ideas of what might make a difference in your world.

Conference ends: 12:30pm