



Community Sector Council
Newfoundland and Labrador



Vibrant Communities is an initiative of the Community Sector Council Newfoundland and Labrador (CSC NL)

POVERTY AND POLICY: A DAY OF DIALOGUE 2022

Wednesday 23 February 2022

Summary Report

Martha Muzychka

Michelle Shallow

The bottom of the page features a decorative design consisting of overlapping yellow and grey geometric shapes, including triangles and a diagonal line.

Community Sector Council Newfoundland and Labrador (CSC NL)



The Community Sector Council Newfoundland and Labrador (CSC NL) is committed to strengthening and promoting the essential role of voluntary and non-profit community organizations in a prosperous and inclusive society.

- ❖ Our **mission** is to encourage citizen engagement, promote the integration of social and economic development and provide leadership in shaping public policies.
- ❖ Our **vision** is for an inclusive society that supports individuals, families and communities. We believe the community sector is central to social and economic progress.

Land Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge the land on which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, whose culture has now been erased forever. We also acknowledge the island of Ktaqmkuk (Newfoundland) as the unceded, traditional territory of the Beothuk and the Mi'kmaq. And we acknowledge Labrador as the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Innu of Nitassinan, the Inuit of Nunatsiavut, and the Inuit of NunatuKavut. We recognize all First Peoples who were here before us, those who live with us now, and the seven generations to come. As First Peoples have done since time immemorial, we strive to be responsible stewards of the land and to respect the cultures, ceremonies, and traditions of all who call it home. As we open our hearts and minds to the past, we commit ourselves to working in a spirit of truth and reconciliation to make a better future for all.



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**POVERTY AND POLICY:
A DAY OF DIALOGUE 2022**

Vibrant Communities

Robert Reid:
The Market Basket Measure Approach

Rabia Khedr:
Disability Poverty

Leila Sarangi:
Child Poverty

Lisa Attygalle:
Community Engagement

Wednesday
February 23 2022

10.00 AM - 12.30 PM
&
1.30 PM - 3.30 PM

zoom

Acknowledgements

The Community Sector Council Newfoundland and Labrador (CSC NL) acknowledges those who contributed to the success of our annual *Day of Dialogue on Poverty and Policy 2022*. This day was made possible by the effort and contributions of a number of individuals:

- ❖ A special note of thanks to all our speakers at this year's event for providing key information to support the fight against poverty. We thank Robert Reid, Rabia Khedr, Leila Sarangi and Lisa Attygalle for their time and expertise.
- ❖ To John Abbott, Minister of *Children, Seniors and Social Development* for bringing greetings on behalf of the *Government of Newfoundland and Labrador* and Joanne Thompson, Member of Parliament (St John's East) for bringing greetings on behalf of the *Government of Canada*. The work in the community to address poverty cannot be done without the support of governments at every level.
- ❖ Thank you to the *Tamarack Institute* for supporting our community engagement session.
- ❖ CSC NL thanks the *Newfoundland and Labrador Association for the Deaf (NLAD)* for providing interpretation services for this event as we strive to provide inclusive environments for all persons.
- ❖ We want to acknowledge the staff of the Vibrant Communities program including Darlene Scott, Michelle Shallow and Kyleigh Mercer for the overall design, development, planning, and implementation of this day.
- ❖ A note of thanks to Martha Muzychka for her expert moderation which made the day flow smoothly, and her assistance in crafting this final report.
- ❖ Thank you to CSC NL staff for their assistance with facilitation and notetaking during breakout sessions, and for the technical support provided throughout the day, especially by Curtis Delaney. It was very much appreciated!
- ❖ We acknowledge and thank the citizens and community partners who registered for this event, including members of our *Coffee's On* and *Citizen's Voice Network*. Your participation is what makes events like these a success!

And to our funders:



ST. JOHN'S

TAMARACK
INSTITUTE

thank you!

Introduction

What is the Vibrant Communities Program?

CSC NL's *Vibrant Communities* initiative bridges connections between community service providers and individuals living with low income.

Vibrant Communities brings awareness to services, highlights resources and offers opportunities for policy commentary and development in the community. Vibrant Communities has many initiatives to get involved in to help better the lives of those living with low income and poverty and improve community services.



Check out the Videos of 23 February 2022



All recorded sessions, including greetings, available here:

[Day of Dialogue 2022](#)



What is Poverty and Policy: A Day of Dialogue?

This is an annual event hosted by the Vibrant Communities program as part of the work of the Community Sector Council Newfoundland and Labrador (CSC NL). It convenes individuals from the community and government to focus on anti-poverty initiatives, policy development and emerging trends. The speakers this year focused on:

- ❖ Measuring Poverty: Using the Market Basket Approach
- ❖ Child Poverty in Canada: National Report on Child and Family Poverty in Canada (2021)
- ❖ Disability Poverty in Canada, and
- ❖ Community Engagement: Five Ideas to Mobilize for Change

The moderated event was offered virtually through Zoom conferencing.

Community Sector Council NL created an electronic clearinghouse featuring session recordings, speaker presentations and relevant reference material. Final materials can be found [on our website](#). This year's event was well attended with 139 participants with representatives from community, government and those with lived experience.

Policy Environment in 2022

Clear themes emerged from the day. These included a need to see progress on issues including:

- ❖ Implementation of a Basic Income
- ❖ Homelessness & Housing Insecurity
- ❖ Food Insecurity, and
- ❖ Inclusion of those with lived experience in all policy development combatting poverty.

For those engaged in the fight against poverty, including those with lived experiences, these are not new issues.

While some progress has been made, there is still substantial progress required. The NL Health Accord Final Report [*Our Province Our Health Our Future: A 10-Year Health Transformation*](#) was delivered to the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador in February 2022. Many issues discussed at the *Day of Dialogue 2022* were addressed specifically in this report.

Health Accord NL made strong and direct links between poverty and health. Poverty is expensive, and leads to poor outcomes in the long term. Without investments in social and economic programs, it is clear that the health of

the people of this province will continue to show poor outcomes. Salient points in the report:

- *The majority (60%) of our health is determined by social and environmental factors.*
- *To bring about any real change in the health of the population overall, we must make a difference in these factors which have the greatest influence on our health.*

The conclusion of the work of *Health Accord NL* is that health outcomes, and health equity of citizens of the province can be improved by focusing our efforts in several areas - intervening in the social, economic, and environmental factors that have an impact on health, and rebalancing the province's current health system. (*Health Accord NL 2022*)

This is a 10-year plan but there are short- and medium-term actions that could begin to address the issues of basic income, homelessness and food insecurity, and others as identified to ensure the social determinants of health are addressed. (See especially pp. 245-255.)

The work of *Health Accord NL* Final Report 2022 made some key recommendations:

On Basic Income

- ❖ The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador will need to work closely with the federal government to ensure that all Newfoundlanders and Labradorians (individuals and families) have a livable and predictable basic income. It is clear that a livable basic income is one of the key ways to help lift people out of poverty.



On Food Insecurity & Housing Issues

- ❖ Improve food security and housing security by building better provincial programs that are equitable and reflect cultural and geographic diversity.



On Inclusion

- ❖ Create a provincial Pathway to Inclusion so that we have both a more inclusive health system and a more inclusive society in which each person feels valued and respected.



One: Measuring Poverty in Newfoundland and Labrador



ROBERT REID

Director of Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency

MEASURING POVERTY THE MARKET BASKET MEASURE

[Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency](#) is the central point within government for the collection, management and distribution of economic, social, demographic and fiscal data relating to Newfoundland and Labrador.

Robert provided an explanation of the Market Basket Measure (MBM) in understanding poverty: “A household is in low income (poverty) if its disposable income falls below the estimated cost of purchasing a specific basket of goods and services that individuals and families require to meet their basic needs and achieve a modest standard of living.”

He outlined the key components of the measure, which includes food, clothing, shelter, transportation and other necessary goods for a family of four (two adults and two children). In calculating poverty levels, the measure looks at the difference between the cost of living and disposable income.

Did you know?

MBM is the official poverty line of Canada



*Government of Canada (2018) Opportunity for All – Canada’s First Poverty Reduction Strategy

There are two market basket measures: The Market Basket Measure (MBM) produced by Statistics Canada based on survey data, and the Newfoundland and Labrador Market Basket Measure (NLMBM). The federal measure is the official determination of

Canada's poverty line. The NLMBM uses income tax data to determine poverty lines.

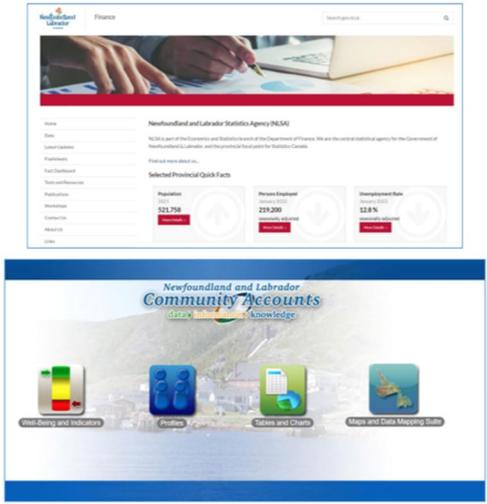
Robert's presentation showed how important it was to have access to reliable data. Some interesting aspects of the data from the NLMBM measure:

- ❖ In 2019, 10.1% of the Canadian population were classified as low income or living in poverty, compared to 10.7% in Newfoundland and Labrador.
- ❖ More women than men experience poverty over their lifetimes, except in the 55 to 64 age group, where more men than women experience poverty.
- ❖ The greatest prevalence of low income is in the under 18 age group (about 19%) and the 18-24-year-old age group (about 25%).
- ❖ The NLMBM indicates the poverty rate for individuals has declined in recent years (2016 to 2019) but that extreme poverty has deepened for some.
- ❖ Poverty rates vary across the province with some of the highest rates in Northern Labrador but areas such as the Northeast Avalon have the largest actual number of individuals living in poverty.
- ❖ Lone-parents have the highest poverty rates; in comparing 2003 and 2019, the number of single parents living in poverty has increased while rates for other family types have declined.

A HOUSEHOLD IS IN LOW INCOME (POVERTY) IF ITS DISPOSABLE INCOME FALLS BELOW THE ESTIMATED COST OF PURCHASING A SPECIFIC BASKET OF GOODS AND SERVICES THAT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES REQUIRE TO MEET THEIR BASIC NEEDS AND ACHIEVE A MODEST STANDARD OF LIVING

-ROBERT REID

Here are several important links to the work of the [Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency](#) including a link to [Community Accounts for Community and Regional Data](#).



The image shows two screenshots of web pages. The top screenshot is the NLSA website, featuring a navigation menu on the left and a main content area with 'Selected Provincial Quick Facts'. The bottom screenshot is the 'Community Accounts for Community and Regional Data' portal, which includes a title and four main navigation icons: 'Indicators and Indicators', 'Profiles', 'Tables and Charts', and 'Maps and Data Mapping Tools'.

NLSA Website for Latest Provincial Data
<https://www.stats.gov.nl.ca>

Community Accounts for Community and Regional Data
<https://nl.communityaccounts.ca>

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Go here for lots more reading on measuring poverty with a market basket approach:
[Reading List 2022](#)

Two: Disability Poverty in Canada



RABIA KHEDR

Director of Disability Without Poverty

DISABILITY POVERTY IN CANADA

Disability Without Poverty is a national organization dedicated to ensuring persons with disabilities are prosperous, realize their power, pursue their passions, and participate in every aspect of society. Rabia Khedr, National Director, offered participants a case study in advocacy and community organizing to secure [federally funded disability benefits](#). She outlined the fundamental principles of the work of *Disability Without Poverty*:

- ❖ we want people with disabilities to be prosperous
- ❖ we want to realize our power and pursue our passions
- ❖ we want participate in every aspect of society.

Ten of every 100 Canadians live in poverty and 22% of Canadians are disabled. Together, that means 41% of Canadians living in poverty are disabled. The pandemic made things very hard for people; however, there were key events which offered opportunities: the September 2020 Throne Speech, the spring 2021 federal budget, and the introduction of [Bill C-35](#) to establish the Disability Benefit in June 2021, and then a big promise with the fall 2021 election, she reported.

Rabia said it was essential that disabled people are included in all aspects of designing and implementing the proposed benefit. *Disability Without Poverty* engaged people in many different spaces: they identified internal and external champions, built relationships and popularized support. They succeeded in obtaining independent funding, created leadership teams, built partnerships and measured their impact through an Angus Reid survey and Ethelo engagement. They produced more than 20 op-ed pieces, seven virtual performances by artists with disabilities, shared an

Did you know?

6.2 million Canadians are living with a disability. That is 22% of all Canadians!



*Statistics Canada (2018) Canadian Survey on Disabilities

electronic petition (1874 signatories) and sponsored an open letter with more than 200 prominent Canadians.

“PEOPLE WITH
DISABILITIES ARE
OVERREPRESENTED IN THE
NUMBER OF CANADIANS
LIVING IN POVERTY.
TOGETHER WE WILL MAKE
SURE THAT ERADICATING
DISABILITY POVERTY
REMAINS A NATIONAL
PRIORITY.”
-RABIA KHEDR

Although the Canadian election meant Bill C-35 died on the order paper, Rabia and her colleagues continued their work and launched a “Where’s the Bill?” campaign which included provincial actions to connect with everyday Canadians, policy makers and elected officials.

Rabia reminded participants of the campaign to make eradicating disability poverty a national priority and asked people to use the movement’s hashtags on social media.

**Together we will make sure eradicating
disability poverty remains a national priority.**

Join with us. Take action.

**#CanadaDisabilityBenefitNow
#EndDisabilityPoverty
#WheresTheBill**



Three: Child and Family Poverty



LEILA SARANGI

National Director of Campaign
2000

2021 | Report Card on Child and Family Poverty in
Canada

NO ONE LEFT BEHIND: STRATEGIES FOR AN INCLUSIVE RECOVERY

Child Poverty: No One Left Behind: Strategies for an Inclusive Recovery – Leila Sarangi is with [Family Service Toronto](#), an organization which has been helping those confronted with life challenges through its counselling, community engagement, public education programs and advocacy work. Leila set the context for the [Campaign 2000](#) movement and included an overview of child poverty across Canada.

Her data shows Canada’s national poverty rate for children under the age of 19 at 17.7% while the rate for Newfoundland and Labrador is 21%. However, looking at the national rate for children under six years of age shows it to be 18.5%. NL’s rate for the same category is 24.5%. Leila reported that the rate of low-income children between 2000 and 2019 trended downward from a high of almost 30% to just above 20%.

The slow rate of decline is a sign that progress on meeting the goals of *Campaign 2000* is stalling. Her organization relies on the low-income poverty measure and she addressed some of the differences between the federal measure and provincial estimates. The key difference is that the low-income measure shows one in five children live in poverty while the market basket measure shows one in 10.

CAMPAIGN 2000 CALLS FOR THE ERADICATION OF ALL POVERTY: CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY, POVERTY FOR UNATTACHED INDIVIDUALS, OR SINGLE INDIVIDUALS, AND WE WANT TO SEE MORE AMBITIOUS INTERIM TARGETS AND TIMELINES

–LEILA SARANGI

Leila emphasized the importance of examining the data by race and ethnicity: Indigenous children living on reserves have the highest rates of poverty (53%) compared to the 12% experienced by non-racialized, non-immigrant, and non-Indigenous children. Rates for Indigenous children living off reserve, recent immigrants, Inuit and racialized children range from 40% to 22%.

Leila shared other important conclusions:

- ❖ Families with children may experience high rates of poverty, with single parents of single children experiencing the highest rates (44.1%).
- ❖ Income inequality is widening and is unhealthy for society generally and toxic for children specifically.
- ❖ The impact of government transfers cannot be underestimated.

Leila provided a list of recommendations the campaign is focused on:

- ❖ Establishing more robust targets, timelines, and processes for accountability including reducing poverty by 50% by 2025.
- ❖ Increasing collaboration with First Nations, Inuit, Metis, and Two Spirit persons and following the [Spirit Bear Plan](#) for improved government services for children of First Nations.
- ❖ Creating a federal Anti-Racism Act, Secretariat and action plan.

Key components of eradicating child poverty lie in addressing issues connected to taxes and transfers, including Canada's childcare benefit, fast tracking the federal disability benefit and establishing one for children, implementing an amnesty for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), addressing income benefits for non-tax filers, and overhauling the personal income tax system. Leila also said taking action on housing, childcare, youth and health would alleviate the impacts of poverty. She outlined increased social housing, eviction prevention, paid sick days, expanded community and cultural mental health supports, and a national pharmacare program including dentistry, vision and rehabilitation to be needed initiatives.

Did you know?
Nearly 1 in 5 children are living in poverty.



*Report on Child and Family Poverty in Canada: Strategies for an Inclusive Recovery (2021)

Four: Community Engagement and Lived Experience



LISA ATTYGALLE

Consulting Director, Community Engagement with the Tamarack Institute

FIVE IDEAS TO MOBILIZE FOR CHANGE

Community Engagement: Five Ideas To Mobilize For Change – Lisa Attygalle is Consulting Director, Community Engagement with the [Tamarack Institute](#), a Toronto-based organization dedicated to developing and supporting collaborative strategies, community engagement and collective action. Lisa led the group in a session on community engagement, followed by a breakout session that allowed registrants to dig a little deeper into some of the issues they explored with the morning presenters.

The focus of Lisa’s workshop was about mobilizing change and she outlined five strategies to help make this happen:

1. **Deepen ownership** – Understand the difference between buy-in (someone else is responsible for the concept and asks for agreement) and ownership (the community develops the idea and makes a plan of action).
2. **Harness the energy of people involved** by using the wheel of involvement – Locate your community by their level of engagement (interested, supportive, involved, committed).
3. **Explore what kind of change is needed** – Are you looking at policies, practices, resources, relationships, power dynamics or models. Where do these fall on the change path: structural change (explicit), relational (semi-explicit) or transformative (implicit)?
4. **Empower community-led processes** – Use asset-based community development approaches to start the discussion: What can we do? What do we need outside help with? What do we need outside agencies to do for us?

5. **Pick a place to start** – This includes sharing perspectives, forming a common vision, building new ideas and deciding on a path forward. It is important to identify the quick wins (provide the best return for effort), the fill-ins (unimportant activities that can be done when you have extra resources), the major projects (complex activities you should be choosy about even if they provide value in the long term) and the time wasters (time consuming responses that use resources you could apply better elsewhere).

“WE’VE SEEN THAT ENERGY IS SO IMPORTANT WHEN WE TALK ABOUT ACTION, WHEN WE TALK ABOUT MOBILIZATION, WHEN WE TALK ABOUT GETTING THINGS DONE. IF THERE IS ENERGY THERE, WE CAN MOBILIZE FASTER.”

-LISA ATTYGALLE

Following Lisa’s session, participants met in four breakout groups to discuss three questions:

1. Give an example of how you could take one of these ideas presented by the speaker to mobilize change within your community?
2. What opportunities do you see or would like to see for collaboration to mobilize change to end poverty in your community?
3. How do we ensure inclusivity in our efforts to fight poverty within our community?

Each group had a facilitator and note-taker. The following is a summary of the issues, themes and responses collected from the four group discussions.

Breakout Room Questions

**LET'S PUT IT ALL TOGETHER:
QUESTIONS FOR THE BREAKOUT ROOMS**

1. Give an example of how you could take one of the ideas presented by the speaker to mobilize change within your community?
2. What opportunities do you see, or would like to see, for collaboration to mobilize change to end poverty in your community?
3. How do we ensure inclusivity in our efforts to fight poverty within our community?

Vibrant Communities

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Zoom participants: Lisa Attygalle (she/her), Moderator, ASL/English Interpreter Tyler (he/him)

Five: Discussion Summary

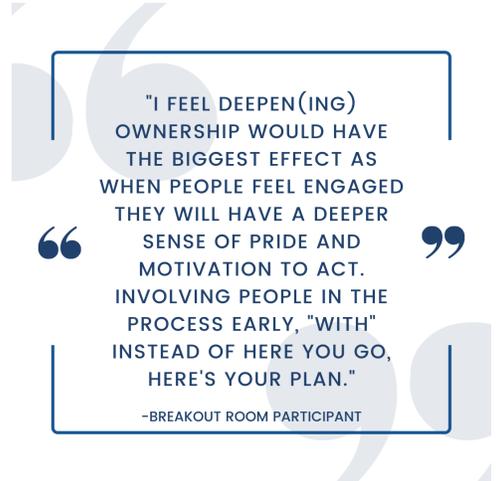
Participant Voices from Breakout Sessions

Question 1: Give an example of how you could take one of these ideas presented by the speaker to mobilize change within your community?

The key issues for action emerging from the discussion were basic income, housing, and access to better data. Aside from the action issues identified, most of the discussion on this question focused on aspects of the engagement process Lisa Attygalle outlined in her presentation. The process points highlighted include:

- ❖ *Effort-impact matrix*: Participants thought a matrix was a good way to determine from the start where to put effort and predict impact.
- ❖ *Engaging differently with community*: Participants would like to see if there are different ways to engage others who are impacted by the focus of the work. (i.e., following their lead instead of the other way around). We need to engage consumers with trusted advocates. Is there a role for the business community to contribute to this? For example, if the issue is ensuring that every student has access to food every day – food insecurity is very important and lack of fresh fruits and foods in general – then working with different groups (companies) to coordinate food delivery might be a solution.
- ❖ *Partnerships and relationships*: Participants wanted to build more relationships and network with others who are interested in mobilizing for change. Participants also highlighted the value of having community or relationship brokers where you collaborate with someone in the community who has a relationship with hard to reach groups. Combining services and ideas with others who are working towards the same goal. Participants said the community sector needs more strategic partnerships so that organizations can deliver services more effectively. We need to get rid of duplication and see how people are being lost in the shuffle.
- ❖ *Recognizing skills*: Everyone has gifts. Everyone has skills that they can bring to the table. We should find collective ways to share our own skills. Do you drive? Can you prepare food? Are you excellent with children (i.e., childcare)? These are examples of the questions we need to ask.

- ❖ *Using collaborative approaches/cooperative effort:* We need to have a conversation about what is most needed. Cooperatives seem to be the best way to aid with feeling shared ownership for poverty reduction because members of cooperatives already share community goals.
- ❖ *Deepening ownership:* Participants responded to the concept of involving people early in the process to keep them engaged. The importance is tied to making space for all voices and letting them know they are heard. It is essential to empower those with the lived experience, but, there is also a caution: because people are reluctant to take over or don't know with whom they are working they don't want the pressure. Ownership can lead to power struggles.
- ❖ *Accountability of decision-makers:* They have a responsibility to be accountable to community, not resistant to advocacy and advocates.



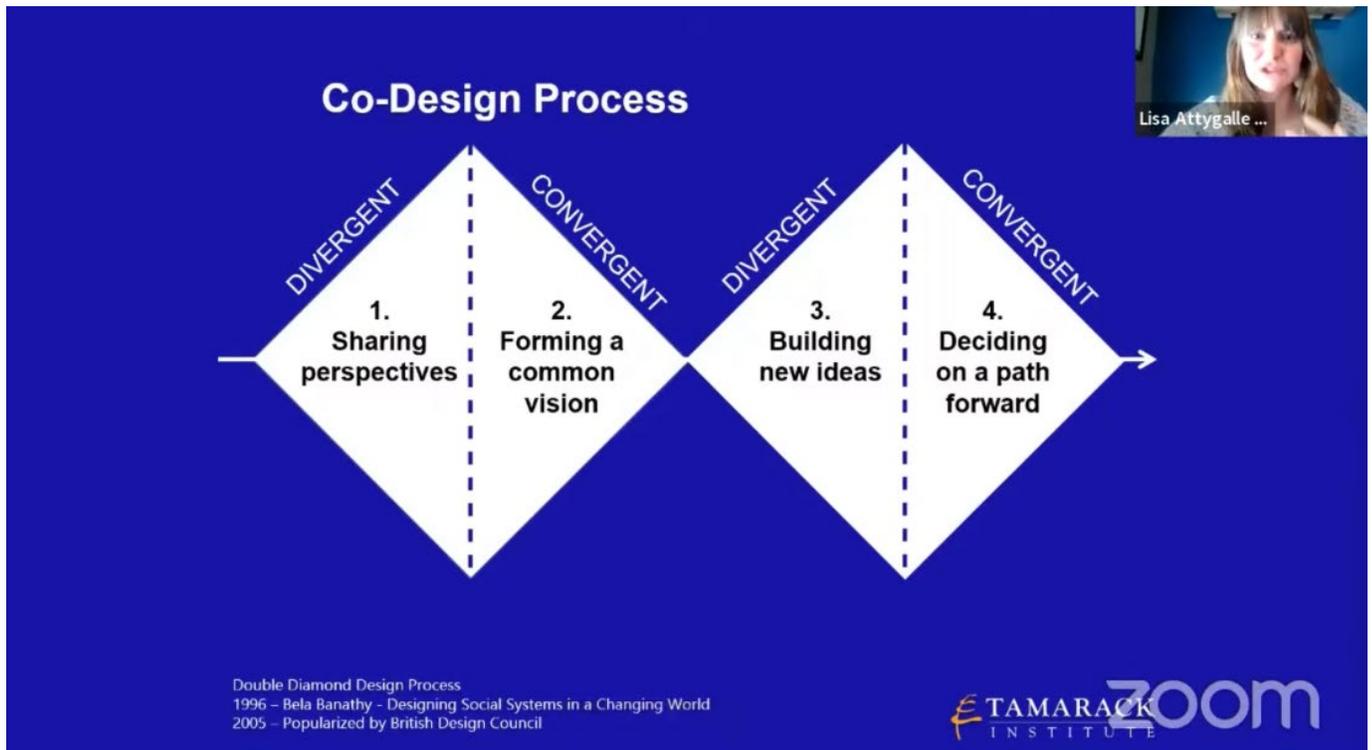
Question II: What opportunities do you see/or would like to see for collaboration to mobilize change to end poverty in your community?

The responses to this question referenced three community concerns:

- ❖ *Basic income* – An updated poverty reduction strategy from the province is needed, as is a 'living wage' instead of minimum wage (or just above minimum wage). Participants suggested using the recommendations of *Health Accord NL*, which was just released, to make policy progress.
- ❖ *Food insecurity* – A participant shared an example of two groups (schools) working together to order food and to help with delivery and service levels.
- ❖ *Homelessness awareness* – We need to educate various communities and define what homelessness and poverty really is. It certainly involves homeless people we see on the streets, but it also includes people who couch surf and those who need to turn to food banks or rely on donations, for example. We need to recognize that poverty actually affects us all, and educational sessions hosted publicly might be a great start. *End Homelessness St. John's* is a great initiative but the issue of shelter is riddled with restrictive policies at the government level.

A significant portion of the discussion looked at the processes for engagement and what it meant for communities in this province.

- ❖ *Collaboration* – We already have a large number of people and organizations addressing poverty in some way. Collaboration between them could be a great way to reduce poverty in our communities. There is a perception that some organizations don't work well together because there is competition between them, and also there is a lack of engagement by some organizations with the populations for whom they are speaking. Vibrant Communities, as the pandemic eases, should host their meetings within low-income communities to empower residents locally and provide them with skills on the 'how' to proceed.
- ❖ *Consultation* – Ongoing consultation with persons with lived experience and more consultation with various groups/voices needs to happen. How do we collaborate more on desired outcomes? Let's ask people in poverty what they need exactly. Involve those who live in poverty, as well as other people in the community, in the conversations. We are often unsure how to make this a reality. The provincial government is working towards this with the various meeting/conversations they are having but large numbers of people/groups are still not being heard.
- ❖ *Challenges* – We are all doing great work in community, but sometimes program users do not see all the dots connected, they may be going to multiple places, or services are not streamlined. We have organizations working in silos. Could we look at *poverty reduction teams* made up of multiple partner organizations to be more supportive of community? The *Health Accord NL* recommended health teams – could not one of the teams be, therefore, about reducing poverty?
- ❖ *Engagement* – Organizations often speak on behalf of populations (e.g. those experiencing poverty) but no actual engagement with individuals in those populations takes place. NL needs drastic changes to meeting certain needs and serving certain populations; there's a feeling that government isn't going to help eliminate poverty until we "do away" with things like food banks and shelters. As long as community organizations are "steering the boat" by providing essential services, government feels less and less obligated to provide things like increases in income support, universal income, etc. Why would they when community groups serve those needs?
- ❖ *Commitment* – Harnessing the energy of people involved really resonated with participants on expanding grassroots initiatives for the sake of genuine community development. Collaboration will be key moving forward; it is not just about resources. Intergenerational and cultural exchange will be pivotal, and this can happen only on a grassroots level.



Question III: How do we ensure inclusivity in our efforts to fight poverty within our community?

Participants in all four breakout groups offered many ideas for inclusion. Common themes discussed were:

- ❖ *Invite* – We should be inviting people who experience poverty to speak at board tables, events and publicly about their own experiences. Yes, we should invite people to places where decisions are made, but also change the structures of those places. Avoid forcing people to use formal mechanisms, like ‘meeting rules of order’ that value specific voices and exclude others.
- ❖ *Access* – Providing different platforms for people in the community to express themselves matters. We need more than just surveys or online sites. Not everyone has access to computers and cell phones; as such, we are often missing out on people and their voices that are not being heard, especially from rural areas. The Internet is actually a limiting factor in many cases. If you can’t get online, your voice can’t be heard.
- ❖ *Representation and Inclusivity* – We have to ask ourselves who is NOT at the table? Best approaches:
 - Use an all-inclusive process – do not single people out.
 - De-stigmatize the issues with poverty.
 - Develop a safe space for those experiencing poverty to feel free to speak.

- Have a committee of government officials, community organizations representing the most vulnerable at the board table as well as those who operate the food banks, etc.
- Create broader spots for those with intersections, for example youth *'with'* disabilities - not just those who are youth *'or'* have disabilities.
- ❖ *Follow examples like the school breakfast program* – how it is offered to all students and not just the ones who *'need it'*. By encouraging all people to take part, you get more buy-in.
- ❖ *Compensation – for folks who want to attend gatherings but wouldn't be able to attend due to loss of income or need for a babysitter.* Increasing accessibility is clearly related to time and income.
- ❖ *Safety* – Developing a safe space can start by erasing the stigma behind poverty. How do we build a safe place where people involved feel they can share their diversity? Unless you create this safe space, we are missing an opportunity for people to bring something to the table from their own experience. How do you ensure people will feel comfortable to bring forth their ideas if they do not feel their diversity is respected, because we have missed opportunities in the past.
- ❖ *Engage* – Policy-makers must go to where people are rather than bring them to where *'we'* are. It has to be for all - not just the selected few. No one can *'imagine'* what people in poverty are going through, what perspectives they bring. People need to be involved in the change-making process and policy makers have to accept their responsibility for the profound effect they have on the public.

Thank you again to everyone who contributed to our
2022 Day of Dialogue on Poverty and Policy.



Reading Resources

1. [2021 Report on Child and Family Poverty in Canada - No one Left Behind: Strategies for an Inclusive Recovery](#)
2. [A Critical Review of Canada's Official Poverty Line: The Market Basket Measure](#)
3. [Community Engagement & Lived Experience](#)
4. [Construction of a Northern Market Basket Measure of poverty for Yukon and the Northwest Territories](#)
5. [Methodological changes to the Market Basket Measure in 2019](#)
6. [New Data on Disability in Canada \(2017 - Statistics Canada\)](#)
7. [Opportunity for All: Canada's First Poverty Reduction Strategy](#)
8. [Understanding Systems: The 2021 Report of the National Advisory Council on Poverty](#)



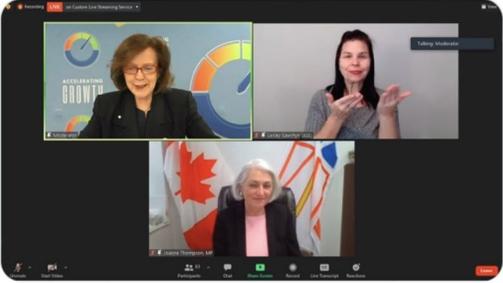
Visit our [Reading List 2022](#) to support learning and participation during *Poverty and Policy: A Day of Dialogue 2022*

Appendix A: Social Media

Vibrant Communities St. John's
@VibrantCSCNL

Welcome back to our Day of Dialogue. The afternoon portion of our event is being opened with greetings from Joanne Thompson MP St. John's East.

@Joanne_NL @CSCNL @darlenesorrey #DayofDialogue2022



1:47 PM · Feb 23, 2022 · Twitter Web App

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Leila Sarangi is the Director for Campaign 2000, formed to address the 1989 promise to end child poverty by the year 2000. Leila joins us to share information gathered in their national report card on child poverty.

@Campaign2000 @CSCNL @darlenesorrey #DayofDialogue2022



11:59 AM · Feb 23, 2022 · Twitter Web App

3 Retweets 7 Likes

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Talking Policy and Poverty: A Day of Dialogue 2022 with @590VOCM 's Gerri Lynn Mackey were Penny Rowe, CEO, @CSCNL, and the Honourable John Abbott, CSSD along with Rabia Khedr, Disability Without Poverty and Leila Sarangi, Campaign 2000.

soundcloud.com/vocm/wednesday...



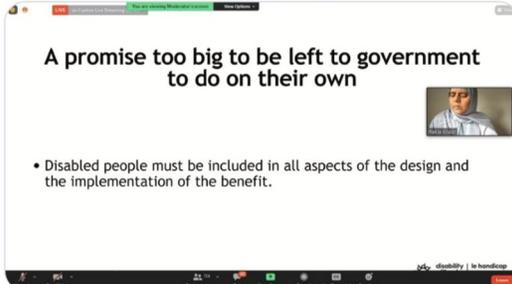
9:18 AM · Feb 25, 2022 · Twitter Web App

1 Retweet 1 Like

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National Director of Disability Without Poverty, Rabia Khedr, joins to share how poverty looks for Canadians with disabilities. She speaks on the Canadian Disability Benefit and how the movement is building.

@CSCNL @darlenesorrey @NLCODNL @empowern1 @Disability_WP @RabiaKhedr



11:18 AM · Feb 23, 2022 · Twitter Web App

10 Retweets 17 Likes

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Change is in part reliant on the energy of the community. Is the idea for change in the interest of the community? If those involved are excited to be a core piece in the plan, we can expect better results.

"If there is energy there we can mobilize faster." - @lisaattygalle



2:20 PM · Feb 23, 2022 · Twitter Web App

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A special thank you to Minister @JohnAbbottNL for bringing greetings to our group.

Up next we will hear from Robert Reid to talk about the Market Basket Measure of Poverty.

@cscnl @darlenesorrey
@CSSD_GovNL



10:21 AM · Feb 23, 2022 · Twitter Web App

2 Likes

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Robert Reid from the Newfoundland and Labrador Statistic Agency speaks on the Market Basket Approach to measure poverty in Canada. This is based off of a standard "basket" of goods needed for a family of four.

@CSCNL @darlenesorrey
#DayofDialogue2022
#MarketBasketMeasure



10:26 AM · Feb 23, 2022 · Twitter Web App

1 Like

Appendix B: Recovered from the Chat Files - Day of Dialogue 2022

“ MOBILIZING PEOPLE AND ADVOCATING WITH PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO BRING IN BASIC INCOME. WE CAN USE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE HEALTH ACCORD WHICH WAS JUST RELEASED. ”

-BREAKOUT ROOM PARTICIPANT

“ CONSULTING WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE EXPERIENCING POVERTY ON WHAT THEIR CURRENT NEEDS ARE. I AGREE THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HEALTH ACCORD AND A BASIC INCOME ARE GREAT STARTING POINTS. ”

-BREAKOUT ROOM PARTICIPANT

“ LET'S ASK PEOPLE IN POVERTY WHAT THEY NEED EXACTLY. INVOLVE PEOPLE IN POVERTY, AS WELL AS OTHER PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY, IN THE CONVERSATION. ”

-BREAKOUT ROOM PARTICIPANT

“ WE NEED TO EDUCATE VARIOUS COMMUNITIES AND DEFINE WHAT HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY REALLY IS. IT CERTAINLY INVOLVES HOMELESS PEOPLE WE SEE ON THE STREETS, BUT IT ALSO INCLUDES PEOPLE WHO COUCH SURF AND THOSE WHO NEED TO TURN TO FOOD BANKS OR RELY ON DONATIONS, FOR EXAMPLE. ”

-BREAKOUT ROOM PARTICIPANT



Vibrant Communities

A Project of the Community Sector Council
Newfoundland and Labrador



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