



Canada Social Report

# Federal Policy Monitor

July 2014



CANADA SOCIAL REPORT



The [Caledon Institute of Social Policy](#) regularly scans for the release of federal government policies and programs that impact areas of interest, including income security, disabilities, health, housing, poverty reduction, recreation, seniors and youth.

Monitors can be searched on the Canada Social Report website by date and category.

#### DISABILITY

The federal government is investing \$1.3 million in funding to the BC-based Neil Squire Society to help people with disabilities enter the workforce.

[Link](#)

#### FAMILIES

Statistics Canada released data for 2012 family income and related variables for various sub-provincial geographic areas. Data were derived from personal income tax returns filed in spring 2013.

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/140723/dq140723-eng.pdf>

#### HOMELESSNESS

The federal government is investing \$31 million in the Calgary Homeless Foundation to address homelessness through Housing First, a proven, evidence-based approach to reduce homelessness.

<http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=tp&crtr.page=2&nid=866629&crtr.tp1D=1>

The federal government announced \$1.8 million in funding to combat homelessness using the Housing First approach in Whitehorse and across Yukon. The Council of Yukon First Nations is receiving this funding over five years to support projects in rural and remote communities, and projects that address the needs of the Aboriginal homeless population.

[Link](#)

#### INCOME SECURITY

Statistics Canada released *The ups and downs of minimum wage, 1975 to 2013*.

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/140716/dq140716-eng.pdf>

Statistics Canada's May 2014 report on Employment Insurance (EI) reports that the number of people receiving regular EI benefits fell by 12,100 or 2.3 percent, after a year of little change. The total number of beneficiaries for the month was 504,100. The majority of provinces saw declines in the number of beneficiaries, most notably Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and Quebec.

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/140724/dq140724-eng.pdf>

Statistics Canada reports that average weekly earnings of non-farm payroll employees were \$937 in May, up 0.6 percent from the previous month. Compared with 12 months earlier, weekly earnings increased 2.6 percent.

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/140731/dq140731-eng.pdf>  
(PDF version, 340kb)