



Canada Social Report
Provincial/Territorial
Policy Monitor

August 2009



CANADA SOCIAL REPORT



The [Caledon Institute of Social Policy](#) regularly scans provincial and territorial government websites in order to follow policy and program developments related to our core work and interests. A partial list includes: disability, education, health, housing, income security, poverty reduction, recreation, seniors and youth. This tracking is intended to inform our analysis of policy trends. Monitors can be searched on the Canada Social Report website by date, jurisdiction and category.

Newfoundland and Labrador

HOUSING

Release of *A Social Housing Plan for Newfoundland and Labrador – Secure Foundations*. \$23.6 million for housing investments for social housing renovations and energy retrofits, social housing units for low-income seniors and a Provincial Homelessness Fund to help non-profit community groups provide wrap-around services for complex needs clients.

<http://www.nlhc.nl.ca/SocialHsingPlan/report.pdf>

Nova Scotia

CAREGIVING

Eligible caregivers will be able to receive a \$400 monthly caregiver allowance to support their efforts to assist loved ones and friends. Both the caregiver and care receiver must meet program criteria.

<http://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20090811002>

EMPLOYMENT

Education to employment Organizations that help unemployed or low-skilled workers develop skills to find and keep jobs may apply for funding from the Department of Labour and Workforce Development (funds from the 2008 Canada-Nova Scotia Labour Market Agreement).

<http://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20090807001>

HEALTH

The province's first court to help people with mental health illness will open in Dartmouth in November. The court was set up to help people who are in greater need of counselling and treatment instead of being held in custody or put in situations that may lead to confrontations.

<http://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20090827003>

HOUSING

Up to 1,500 people who build or purchase a new home will qualify for a one-time new home construction rebate, equivalent to 50 percent of the provincial portion of the HST to a maximum \$7,000.

<http://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20090812001>

New Brunswick

INCOME SECURITY

Third annual progress report on government's five-year wage gap action plan, *Facing the Economic Imperative*, shows wage gap increased slightly to 14.1 percent in 2008 from 12.6 percent in 2007, an increase of 1.5 percentage points.

<http://www.gnb.ca/cnb/news/sw/2009e1140sw.htm>



POVERTY REDUCTION

New Brunswick Poverty Reduction Initiative has released *A Choir of Voices - The What Was Said Report*. It summarizes 16 public dialogue sessions held as the first phase of Bringing the Pieces Together, the comprehensive public engagement initiative that aims to develop a poverty reduction plan for the province.

<http://www.gnb.ca/cnb/news/fcs/2009e1090sd.htm>

SENIORS

Efforts to improve the long-term care system are outlined in *Being There for New Brunswick Seniors, Our Progress in Long-Term Care*. In 2009-10, the total budget for home support, special care home services and nursing home services will reach \$436.2 million.

http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2009.08.1244.html

Prince Edward Island

ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

\$1.7 million over five years to implement an Enhanced Prevention-Focused Approach to First Nations Child and Family Services on reserves in PEI. The federal and provincial governments and the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI announcement follows tripartite frameworks in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia, and Quebec, means that the new prevention model is now covering nearly half of First Nations children.

<http://www.gov.pe.ca/newsroom/index.php?number=news&dept=&newsnumber=6489&lang=E>

DISABILITIES

The Department of Social Services and Seniors, and the Department of Health have negotiated a new three-year agreement with the Association of Licensed Community Care Facilities that provides three percentage point increases each year to the social assistance daily subsidization rate. Facilities will receive \$61.80 per day for each subsidized client. By 2012, the rate will be \$65.56 per day – up from \$49 per day in 2006.

<http://www.gov.pe.ca/newsroom/index.php?number=news&dept=&newsnumber=6477&lang=E>

Québec

No updates this month.

Ontario

No updates this month.

Manitoba

COMMUNITY

Neighbourhoods Alive! has committed \$225,000 over three years in core funding for the Dauphin Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation and \$152,860 for 10 Neighbourhood Renewal Fund projects in Dauphin. Five

more projects in Portage have been recently funded through the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund, totalling an additional \$137,532.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2009/08/2009-08-24-102000-6536.html>

HEALTH

Canada's first stand-alone, mental-health crisis-response centre is developing a proposed location on the Health Sciences Centre campus where it will provide centralized services. Currently in the design stage, construction will begin in summer 2010.

<http://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?archive=2009-08-01&item=6434>

Saskatchewan

CHILD CARE

12 agencies will receive \$1.24 million to develop 370 new child care spaces in 10 communities (part of the province's commitment to fund 11,400 licensed child care spaces by the end of March 2010).

<http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/details.cfm?p=60354>

EDUCATION

\$2.2 million in student loan enhancements to make post-secondary education more affordable for students from low- and middle-income families. These changes will take effect August 1, 2009 in time for the 2009-10 loan year.

The internet link to this item is no longer operational.

Alberta

EMPLOYMENT

The Human Resources (HR) Council publishes non-profit workforce strategy development report. *Developing a Non-profit Workforce Strategy: The Alberta Story* is intended to assist other provinces or territories that are embarking on the development of their own non-profit workforce strategies. Download full report from the HR Council.

http://www.hrcouncil.ca/projects/documents/Albertas_Story.pdf

British Columbia

EDUCATION

\$64 million for post-secondary renewal across British Columbia. Federal contribution is \$233 million and the province's is \$264 million.

http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2009-2013/2009ALMD0010-000196.htm

DISABILITIES

New employment services worth \$1.8 million annually are now available for people with learning, developmental, mental health and other neurological disabilities.

http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2009-2013/2009HSD0023-000261.htm



EMPLOYMENT

\$15 million Workplace Training for Innovation pilot will allow employers to design, develop and deliver employee training that meets the unique needs of their business.

http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2009-2013/2009ALMD0022-000265.htm

Yukon Territory, Nunavut

No updates this month.

Northwest Territories Immigration

YOUTH

\$500,000 to assist with operating costs of youth centres and community-based facilities offering recreational youth programming in 29 NWT communities.

The internet link to this item is no longer operational.