

BCPRS Report - Squamish

Introduction:

Date	March 26, 2018
Community	Squamish
# of Participants	9
# of Organizations	3

About the Participants:

Tell us a bit about your group (i.e. general social and demographic profile – i.e. seniors, youth, single mothers, people who are homeless etc....)

Our group was a diverse group of professionals, folks with lived experiences, seniors from a variety of socio-economic groups

About the Findings:

Tell us about the types of insights and feedback received to the following questions:

1. What are the issues facing you and people living in poverty right now?
2. What would address these issues and help you or others out of poverty?

Issues: [Provide the results of your discussion of the issues – it should be transcribed from your flip chart notes]

- Low wages, E.I payments, IA, CPP, and OAS rates/ cost of living
- Housing affordability/ Security/ Renovictions/ tenant insurance
- Lack of municipality involvement on poverty issues
- Food costs/ Food insecurity/ access to local food bank
- Transportation/ fuel costs/ car insurance
- Isolation because of adequate transportation/ senior isolation
- Pemberton and Whistler clients told to come to Squamish for services.
- Childcare costs/ availability/ fee based recreation services
- Shame, fear of being judged/stigma attached to poverty
- Equal access to technology & Information
- Access to health care services that are fee based
- Massive growth of DOS in a small period of time/ services not rising to meet needs
- Homelessness/ hidden homelessness/ ppl sleeping in tents and cars/ couch surfing



Possible Solutions

[Provide the results of your discussion of possible solutions– it should be transcribed from your flip chart notes]

- Increase wages to a living wage level
- develop more purpose built rental for low income earners/ employee housing/ increase RAP/Safer rates/, rent to own trailer parks or tiny homes/ subsidy not facility based but applied to families living in private market rentals/ review post war housing programs/ controls on high end homes and more supports for below market housing/ whistler housing authority model developed
- Access to health care and mental health care and addiction services that are fee based
- More Specialized resources in the community such as counselling for at risk individuals.
- Better access to educational resources/ incentives to go to post-secondary for vulnerable families/ funding/ meaningful guidance/ free/ low cost post-secondary/ figures – mentors to help kids reach full potential
- Access to services/ information of services available in community/ provincial services data base that is user friendly
- More money for GIS/ CPP/OAS/IA/ Living wage/ subsidy for cooperative ventures, rent controls/ co-op housing
- Supports for unanticipated life events/ new immigrants/ community, neighbourhood actions
 - Subsidized public transportation/ better service

Solutions and Actions That Can Make a Difference

(a) Looking at the list of issues and solutions generated, what types of solutions did the individuals who participated in your meeting identify as most important to them ?[Each participant should receive four (4) sticky dots to put on the solutions that from their perspective are most important]. Your summary report should include any of the solutions that received a dot from those that received the most dots to those receiving only one dot.

- Housing
- More Specialized Resources
- Education
- More funding

(b) What emerged as the top 3 solutions or ideas based on the conversations and the individual priority setting?

1. More funding for current services and additional specialized resources
2. Low cost or free Post-Secondary Education
3. More low cost housing