



CITIES  
REDUCING POVERTY

CITIES  
DEEPENING COMMUNITY

# Vibrant Communities

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Connecting local poverty reduction efforts  
through national support since 2002





# Strengthening our collective ability to fight systemic poverty

## Join the Cities Reducing Poverty network today

Cities Reducing Poverty is a national collective impact movement aimed at reducing poverty through the place-based efforts of multi-sector roundtables and the alignment of strategies at the municipal, provincial, territorial, and federal levels. Every year more cities join this Pan-Canadian initiative, thereby strengthening our ability to collectively learn from one another and effectively reduce and eradicate poverty in our communities.

As of December 2017, 61 local initiatives representing more than 175 municipalities belong to the network, and have committed to:

- Focusing on poverty reduction/elimination over poverty alleviation;
- The idea of collective impact and using a multi-stakeholder approach to lead community change;
- An understanding that poverty is complex and that it has multiple causes and solutions;
- Leveraging the assets of their whole communities to drive long-term change;
- Engaging individuals with lived experience in their planning efforts; and,
- Doing learning and evaluation every step of the way.

# Cities Reducing Poverty Members

- YUKON

1. YUKON ANTI-POVERTY COALITION
- NWT

2. GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

3. NO PLACE FOR POVERTY COALITION
- BC

4. DISTRICT OF STEWART

5. REVELSTOKE

6. KAMLOOPS

7. VIBRANT ABBOTSFORD

8. SURREY

9. PORT HARDY

10. NEW WESTMINSTER

11. GREATER TRAIL

12. CRANBROOK

13. NELSON AT ITS BEST, NELSON

14. LANGLEY

15. CITY OF VANCOUVER
- AB

16. GRANDE PRAIRIE

17. ENOUGH FOR ALL CALGARY

18. CANADIAN POVERTY INSTITUTE

19. THRIVE MEDICINE HAT AND REGION

20. CENTRAL ALBERTA POVERTY REDUCTION ALLIANCE

21. SPRUCE GROVE

22. STRATHCONA

23. EDMONTON

24. END POVERTY EDMONTON

25. STONEY PLAIN
- SK

26. SASKATOON POVERTY REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP
- MB

27. WINNIPEG POVERTY REDUCTION COUNCIL
- ON

28. OTTAWA POVERTY REDUCTION NETWORK

29. SAULT STE. MARIE POVERTY ROUND TABLE

30. PLANS FOR ACTION KINGSTON & AREA

31. LEEDS & GREENVILLE

32. SOLUTIONS: WATERLOO, CAMBRIDGE, NORTH DUMFRIES

33. POVERTY ROUNDTABLE OF HASTINGS PRINCE EDWARD

34. CORNWALL

35. FUTURE OXFORD

36. OSHAWA

37. DC MOVES, DUFFERIN COUNTY

38. SIMCOE COUNTY

39. REGION OF PEEL

40. HALIBURTON-KAWARTHA LAKES

41. CITY OF TORONTO

42. HAMILTON ROUNDTABLE

43. NIAGARA POVERTY REDUCTION NETWORK

44. HALDIMAND-NORFOLK

45. ST. THOMAS ELGIN COUNTY

46. PROSPERITY ROUNDTABLE CHATHAM-KENT

47. PATHWAY TO POTENTIAL WINDSOR

48. LONDON CHILD & YOUTH NETWORK







# The Membership Experience

Vibrant Communities Canada's primary purpose is to ensure that local poverty reduction initiatives in cities, towns, regions, provinces, and territories are successful. Through our premiere, national learning network we aim to make the work of Cities Reducing Poverty easier and more effective.

**Belong** to a national movement that positions you with one voice, and that reinforces the urgency to work differently to reduce poverty in your local community and across governments.

**Save** time and money by accessing expert and peer to peer coaching, learning opportunities, resources and networking opportunities to help you stay on track and make the right decisions as you develop a community plan.

**Promote** your local poverty reduction efforts to a national audience through Vibrant Communities' communication channels including social media, blog, bi-monthly e-newsletter, case studies and more.

**Connect** with a Vibrant Communities city champion who will provide your local leadership with customized advice and connect you with expert coaches and municipal and community change leaders from across Canada.

**Learn** about innovative and effective tools, approaches, and ideas for tackling poverty by participating in communities of practice, action teams, webinars, poverty reduction summits, and peer or professional coaching.

**Influence** policies and systems that matter to your community and engage in Vibrant Communities' work to strengthen communication across municipal, provincial/territorial and federal governments to better align our collective actions to tackle poverty.

# Regional Poverty Reduction Summits

"In Communities: The Structure of Belonging, Peter Block writes: 'the leader is held to three tasks: to shift the context in which people gather, to name the debate through powerful questions, and to listen rather than advocate, defend or provide answers.' Tamarack has done all three in the case of this summit. Thank you! Looking forward to next year's event."

***Mayor Lisa Helps, City of Victoria,  
on 2017 Cities Reducing Poverty  
Summit (Hamilton, ON)***



**Member cities can access two free seats to attend one of Vibrant Communities' regional poverty reduction summits in 2018:**

- **Western Canada CRP Summit - Spring, 2018**
- **Eastern Canada CRP Summit - Fall, 2018**

Each regional summit will bring together community leaders from the business, government, and community sectors with people who have lived experience of poverty and subject matter experts, to share stories of progress and innovation, foster new ideas, and deepen collaborative relationships to reduce poverty. Each summit will also include an exclusive meeting for Cities Reducing Poverty members to connect and engage in networking and planning activities.





# What Members Are Saying

“Without the Cities Reducing Poverty network, we would lose access to the evidence-based models and research that drives our anti-poverty work. Learning from each other is a valuable attribute of the network, including sharing lessons learned - what works and why, what doesn't and why. The opportunities for knowledge exchange have impacted the direction of our work and continue to increase our capacity. Membership has also helped us build relationships and gain credibility in our communities.”

***Christine Durant, Director, Poverty Roundtable of Hastings Prince Edward, Ontario***

“Vibrant Communities – Cities Reducing poverty is an important network for municipalities working together to end poverty. This learning community has built connections for our team and informed our work with forward-thinking approaches.”

***Mayor Don Iveson,  
City of Edmonton, Alberta***

“Without VCC working at the national level, there would be a tremendous vacuum to fill in terms of poverty reduction: housing, food, income security - you name it. VCC members are in the thick of things, experiencing, leading and learning as they go. For me, collaborating with fellow professionals from other provinces has meant broadening my horizons, enriching my community of practice, and bringing true value to the work I lead in collaboration with my team.”

***David Marshall, Executive Director,  
Revitalisation Saint-Pierre, Quebec***





# Membership Rewards

## Annual Cities Reducing Poverty membership rewards for the 2018 calendar year include:

- Two complimentary seats to attend one of two regional poverty reduction summits in 2018.
- Priority access to [Tamarack's Expert Coaching Centre](#) for online and telephone coaching.
- Access to exclusive, nation-wide city convenor calls with roundtable leaders and staff.
- Annual subscription to [Cities Connect](#) e-magazine for poverty reduction practitioners.
- Access to staff with evaluation expertise and participation in a shared evaluation framework.
- Access to policy tools, publications, case studies, and online resources.
- Access to resource development tools to build and sustain your roundtable's financial health.
- Discounts for your members to attend most of [Tamarack's](#) face to face learning events.
- Access to webinars about poverty reduction, featuring experts from the field.
- Participation in professional communities of practice and action teams.
- Discounts on [Vibrant Communities'](#) books and other resources.
- Unlimited access to [Vibrant Communities'](#) amazing online learning community.



**Please contact one of our City Managers for information about our membership investment levels.**





# Join Cities Reducing Poverty

- Join more than **60+ local poverty reduction initiatives** in the fight against poverty and become part of our incredible peer-learning community
- Let Vibrant Communities staff help you document local **outcomes** and tell your community change story
- The Vibrant Communities team is here to support your local goals. **Your success is our success!**

For more information please contact one of our City Managers:

**Alison Homer:** [alison@tamarackcommunity.ca](mailto:alison@tamarackcommunity.ca)

**Leena Sharma Seth:** [leena@tamarackcommunity.ca](mailto:leena@tamarackcommunity.ca)

**Natasha Pei:** [natasha@tamarackcommunity.ca](mailto:natasha@tamarackcommunity.ca)

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Thanks to our funders:

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