

A Living Wage City

The City of Calgary may soon require employers who deal with the City to pay a wage that meets its booming living costs.

In April, the City of Calgary votes whether to include a living wage policy in its procurement policy and code of conduct for suppliers. Vibrant Communities Calgary calculates that would be a minimum of \$12 an hour for workers.

"We're thrilled by the amount of attention this initiative is getting. So many groups have come out in support of it," says Jordan Hamilton of Vibrant Communities Calgary.

"The Calgary Foundation's Vital Signs report highlighted a living wage as the area most in need of attention."

The most persuasive argument, says Jordan, is that tax dollars should not subsidize employers.

When employers pay wages that leave workers and their families in poverty, government and community agencies end up paying for resulting costs, such as subsidies, income support, and increased health and crime prevention.



[Visit Vibrant Communities Calgary's Living Wage webpage](#)

Related Links:

- [Why and how can Calgarians support a municipal living wage policy?](#)
- [What are Calgary's Vital Signs?](#)



©iStockphoto.com/
Jorge Salcedo

By: Brenda Doner