

Poverty in the News

Imagine a newspaper that devotes three years of coverage to creating a broader understanding of poverty, makes a corporate commitment to poverty alleviation projects, and provides company time so staff can volunteer for those projects.

When Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction was formed in 2005, the *Hamilton Spectator's* corporate management and editorial board decided to make poverty a three-year focus and launched The Poverty Project in October of that year.

Beyond covering the issue of poverty, the paper also supported lunch programs, sports, and reading activities at a local elementary school. *Spectator* staff members were allowed to volunteer for the programs on company time.

The *Spectator's* plans for The Poverty Project wrap-up will include assessing what has changed since 2005 – whether lives have really improved as a result of the initiative.

By engaging the community in its concern over the pervasiveness of poverty, the *Spectator* has made the problem - and its solution - everyone's business.

 [Check out this Caledon Community Snapshot of the *Spectator's* Focus on Poverty](#)

Related Links:

- [Visit the Hamilton Roundtable on Poverty Reduction](#)
- [Learn more about Vibrant Communities in Hamilton](#)

By: Susan Eckerle Curwood with files from the Caledon Institute



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christine balderas

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