

A Community of Practice

On

Living Wages and Employer Practices

Who should join?

Groups and individuals from the non-profit and government sectors are encouraged to join.

The CoP will be most helpful to participants who are already engaging with employers or with living wage issues, although people just exploring the possibilities are also invited to participate.

CoP members will be expected to attend regularly, share their experiences openly, and contribute to the building of a resource base as they are able.

For more background and resources on Living Wage and Employer Practices, visit the webpage of the [Living Wage Learning Initiative](http://tamarackcommunity.ca/g2s323.html). - <http://tamarackcommunity.ca/g2s323.html>

To become a part of this community of practice please contact Brenda Doner at brendadoner@rogers.com.



The Purpose of the Community of Practice

A Community of Practice (CoP) is a group of people who share common challenges or passions about a topic, and who deepen their knowledge and expertise on that topic by interacting on an ongoing basis.

A Living Wage is the amount of income an individual or family requires to meet their basic needs, to maintain a safe, decent standard of living in their community and to save for future needs and goals.

The Living Wage CoP is also concerned with employer practices, beyond wages, that can help employees move out of poverty.

The primary intent of the “Living Wage” CoP is to expand the knowledge of individuals in the non-profit and government sectors. The knowledge will help members work with employers on practices that reduce poverty, or campaign for or educate on the concept of living wages.

Members will identify knowledge needs, research and share knowledge resources with other members. By sharing experiences, case studies and evaluating resources, the members will also develop and disseminate promising practices. The vision of the CoP over the longer term is to ensure that those who have fulltime employment do not live in poverty.

Together we will learn:

- Who is working on living wage issues or employer practices across Canada and elsewhere
- Different models and framing of living wages
- Experiences and case studies
- Experiences with public, private and third sector employers
- The keys to successful collaboration

How the learning will take place:

The learning activities will consist of:

- Bi-monthly teleconferences.
- Periodic guest speakers
- Resources posted to a website
- Web based discussion threads – open to members and monitored by the resource person
- Most CoP events will be advertised only to members. “Open events” will be held a few times a year, and will serve as one way of recruiting new members.

There is no cost to participate in the CoP, beyond long distance charges to access the teleconference bridge, which is located in the United States.