

Calculating a Living Wage

Employers in British Columbia can now see the difference providing extra holiday days, extended health care or other benefits can make to their employees. They can calculate “what if” scenarios based on increasing benefits using online [living wage calculator](#) that helps employers assess how benefits affect the living wage. The calculator is a project of [Living Wage for Families](#). A living wage is the wage required to keep a family with two children and two working parents above the poverty line.

Victoria’s [Quality of Life CHALLENGE](#) expresses the idea of a living wage as an affordability index, as the index reflects the costs of living in a community. The CHALLENGE recently released their [2010 Affordability Index](#).