

Step Inside Poverty

The Poverty Experience is an experiential learning tool that demonstrates the positive or negative impact relatively small events can have on a person trying to move out of poverty.

Developed in 2003 by the Quality of Life CHALLENGE's Community Action Team (CAT), the tool has been used to help groups including the Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance and the University of Victoria School of Social Work understand the realities of low-income life.



CAT members facilitate the 30-minute experiences at events including staff and board meetings and community workshops. The facilitator, who has experienced living on a low income, presents a scenario and guides a discussion group through a series of choices and events from the perspective of a scenario character trying to participate fully in the community.

The Poverty Experience is changing perspective in BC's Capital Region. "I have a much greater appreciation for the day to day barriers that people living in poverty encounter," said one participant.

 [about BC's Capital Region's Quality of Life CHALLENGE](#)

For more information about the Poverty Experience, or to explore the possibility of bringing the experience to your group, contact Andrea Wilmot at andrea@communitycouncil.ca.