

Poverty Free BC Action Week

We're teaming up with [Raise the Rates](#), the [BC Federation of Labour](#) and many other groups for the:

[Rally for a Poverty Free BC](#)

Saturday, March 4th 2017, 12-2pm

Vancouver Public Library, Robson side

This is our chance to raise our voices together and show candidates in the provincial election that we'll be voting for politicians that commit to a strong, comprehensive poverty reduction plan. We need you and your friends! Come out in force with your banners and creative signs!

There will be a week of action leading up to the rally (Feb. 25 – Mar. 3) with each day of the week lined up with an essential pillar of an effective poverty reduction plan. Actions organized by a wide range of the Coalition's members and supporters include:

Metro Vancouver:

- Low Wage: Feb. 25, 1:30-3:30 pm: [Panel discussion](#) on Good Jobs, Good Wages for BC
- Equity: Feb. 26, 2:00-4:30 pm: [Film screening and panel](#) about the hidden struggles of migrant workers
- Welfare: Mar. 2, 7pm: Pre-release [film screening](#) of Ken Loach's *I, Daniel Blake*
- Housing: Mar. 3
 - 12-1:30 pm: Interactive, theatrical [cooking lesson](#) led by Foreign Farm Workers who grow our BC produce, focused on their housing situation
 - 12-1 pm: [Action](#) uniting renters across the Lower Mainland in front of the Burnaby Residential Tenancy Branch

Province-wide:

- Health: Feb. 27: [Digital Action](#) for Health - easy way to get involved: sign and social media samples available!
- Education: Feb. 28, 3:30-4:30 pm: [Webinar](#) about the effects of poverty on students
- Child Care: Mar. 1, 6:30-8:00 pm: [Webinar](#) on family poverty and the \$10aDay Child Care Plan
- Welfare: Mar. 2, 12-2 pm: [Rally](#) in Victoria at the BC Legislature to *Rise Up to End Poverty & Deprivation of BC's Disabled & Poor*

Visit povertyfreebc.ca for more information about all the events!

Guest Speaker, Joanna Habdank

Joanna Habdank, Manager of MOSAIC BC's Community Outreach and Advocacy program, shared her wealth of experience working with immigrants, refugees, temporary foreign workers and more. It was a very engaging discussion.

Mythbusters

Elle, Krista and Trish met with Debra, the artist introduced to us by Raise the Rates, to discuss the comic. Debra had already had a brainstorming session with Raise the Rates, liked our structure, and came with plenty of ideas. She will be working hard on the comic over the coming weeks.

Podcast

Episode 2 has been released! You can see the post about it on our website here:

<http://bcpovertyreduction.ca/2017/02/talking-poverty-ep2-talking-food-security-with-paul-taylor/>

It is available on

Soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com/talkingpoverty/paul-taylor>

iTunes: <https://geo.itunes.apple.com/ca/podcast/talking-poverty/id1177921525?mt=2>

Stitcher: <http://www.stitcher.com/s?fid=124543&refid=stpr>

TuneIn: <http://tunein.com/embed/follow/p937912/#>

It's only been played 82 times, so we should probably discuss how to promote it better.

We've been having trouble finding a common meeting time, so perhaps we can discuss our next guest over email. We have lots of options as our plans for January (Disability Rates/Clawback) and February (Childcare) fell through.

Facilitation Training

After waiting for consensus on the Doodle, we finally set the date!

February 24, 2017

815 W Hastings St Vancouver

Elle, Nichole, Krista and Mehak are coming. Let me know if you'd like to come too!

Outreach

Tara tabled at the BCTF Social Justice conference. The table was pretty quiet, but many teachers took lesson plans!

External Trainings

There are a few free political advocacy trainings coming up which might be interesting to you and would also be complimentary to our election campaign.

1. Samara Canada is organizing a free training on their "Vote PopUp" toolkit. Vote PopUp kits allow community organizations to simulate the voting experience by recreating a polling place, foster interest by providing participants a chance to say what matters to them, and clarify the rules and process so everyone knows how to vote. This is exciting for us because we're hoping to do

more get out the vote work this year starting at VanCity's financial literacy workshops. You can attend the training on March 01, 2017 at 6pm - 8:30pm Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House 4065 Victoria Dr or March 02, 2017 at 1:30pm - 4pm Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House. Trish is going to try to be at the March 2nd one. The link to register for training is:

<http://engage.samaracanada.com/events>

2. The unions are holding political action trainings. These will be good general trainings in election campaigns. You can register here: <https://togetherforbc.ca/calendar/>
- **Campaign Intensive Day-Long Workshop** – The daytime workshop offers those new or with limited experience on election campaigns to get a crash course in voter mobilization. Learn how to develop and deliver an effective message to your family, friends, neighbours and co-workers about voting for change this May. It runs from **9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**, with registration opening at 9:00 a.m. Lunch is provided on site, along with a morning and afternoon coffee/tea service. The workshop is available in several locations:
 - **Feb. 21 or March 11** at the Vancouver Public Library's Alice MacKay Room, 350 W. Georgia St.
 - **March 13** at Douglas College Coquitlam Campus 1250 Pinetree Way Room D2023, C and D building
 - **March 9** Ukrainian Orthodox Cultural Centre 13512 108 Ave Surrey
- **Campaign Refresher Evening Workshop** - For those with previous experience on issue-based or election campaigns, the evening session provides a refresher on what works – and does not work – when it comes to speaking to voters. It runs from **6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**, with registration opening at 5:45 p.m. A break time coffee/tea service will be provided. The workshop is available in several locations:
 - **Feb. 22, March 1 or 15** BC Federation of Labour, 200-5118 Joyce St.
 - **March 13** at Douglas College Coquitlam Campus 1250 Pinetree Way Room D2023, C and D building
 - **March 9** Ukrainian Orthodox Cultural Centre 13512 108 Ave Surrey

Future Guest Speakers

We brainstormed organizations whose reps the Action Team would like to meet, and/or issues that the Action Team would like to see addressed by Guest Speakers. This was the list:

Single's Mothers Alliance

Union Gospel Mission about their Election work (they're a polling station; they previously did advocacy around accessible IDs)

Opiate Crisis

Education

Professors –Academic View