

Religious Social Action Coalition
of
Newfoundland and Labrador

Our Vision

- RSAC is a voice of consciousness and moral persuasion in the NL society at large which aspires to be a catalyst for social change to achieve productive and dignified life for all members of the society where nobody is denied a decent standard of living, education, economic and social equity and quality of life. More specifically, RSAC is committed to working towards poverty elimination in our society.

Citizens for Public Justice

"The key is *scale*.
The problems lie with how we have
organized our economy and designed our
buildings and cities, hard wiring our
problems into structures that are
difficult to change."

-Living Ecological Justice

CITIZENS FOR
PUBLIC JUSTICE



FAITH JUSTICE POLITICS

Province's Progress on Poverty

Elimination

- A Province open and willing to alleviate
- Increased Minimum Wage (2005 onwards)
- Established Poverty Reduction Strategy
- Willingness to enter into dialogue with us and others

Coalition's Progress on Poverty Elimination

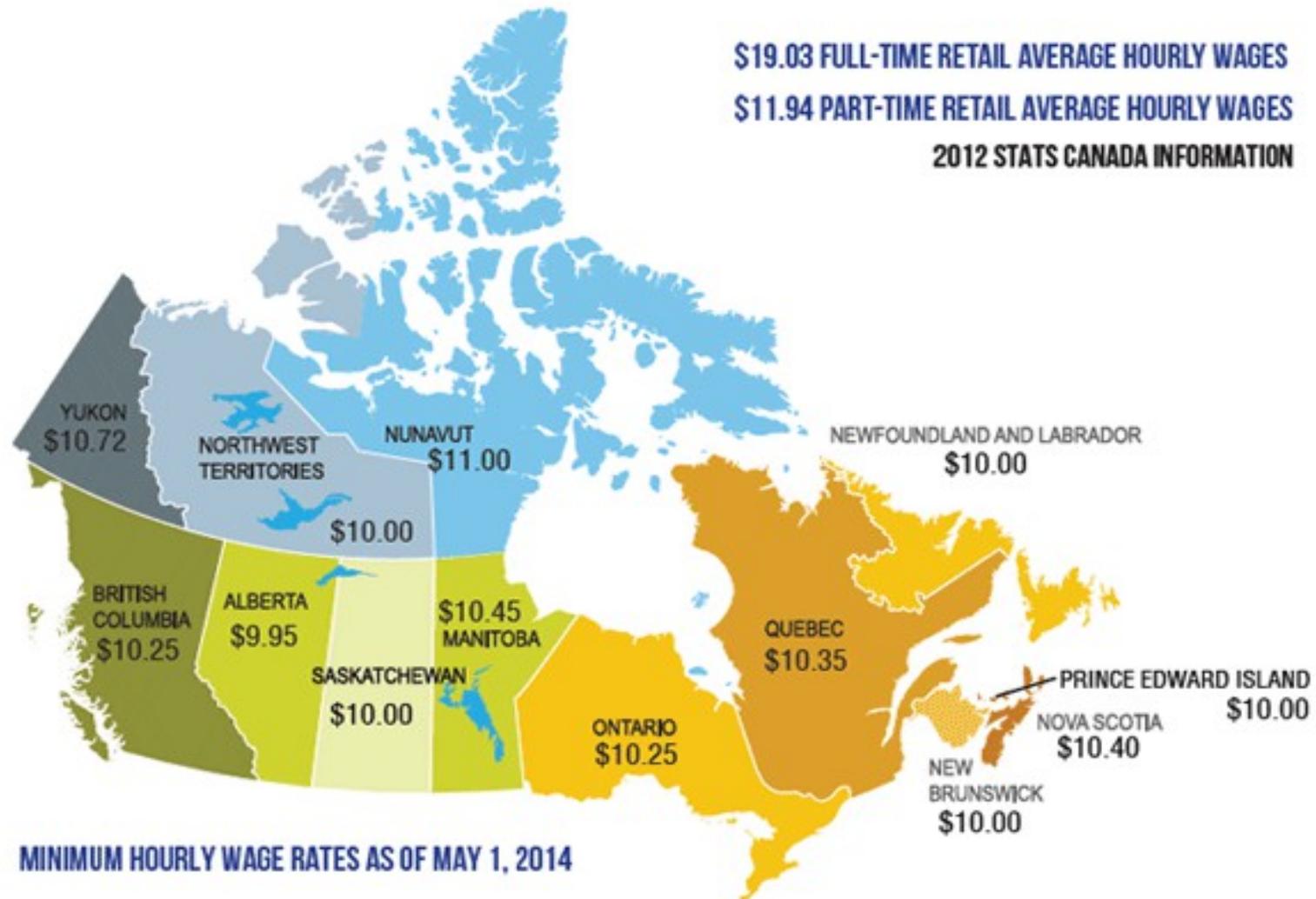
- Created Fairness Caucus
- Meeting with Fairness Caucus, at Wiseman Centre, December 2013
- Living wage: Established a plan for Calculating a Living Wage – Looking for resources to make this a reality
- Fairness Prism - We are exploring the concept of a Fairness Prism to present to Province for acceptance as provincial policy

Minimum Hourly wage Rates as of May 1 2014

\$19.03 FULL-TIME RETAIL AVERAGE HOURLY WAGES

\$11.94 PART-TIME RETAIL AVERAGE HOURLY WAGES

2012 STATS CANADA INFORMATION



MINIMUM HOURLY WAGE RATES AS OF MAY 1, 2014

Minimum Hourly wage Rates as of May 1, 2014

Province	Minimum Hourly Wage as of May 1, 2014	Effective
Alberta	\$9.95	1st Sept., 2013
British Columbia*	\$10.25	1st May, 2012
Manitoba	\$10.45	1st October 1, 2013,
New Brunswick	\$10.00	1st April, 2012
Newfoundland & Labrador	\$10.00	1st July, 2010
Northwest Territories	\$10.00	1st April, 2011
Nova Scotia*	\$10.40	1st April, 2014. On 1st April each year, this rate is adjusted by the change in the Consumer Price Index.
Nunavut	\$11.00	1st Jan 2011
Ontario	\$10.25	31st March 2010
Prince Edward Island	\$10.00	1st April, 2012
Quebec	\$10.35	1st May, 2014
Saskatchewan	\$10.00	1st Dec., 2012
Yukon	\$10.72	1st April, 2014. On 1st April each year, this rate is adjusted by the change in the Consumer Price Index.

Poverty in our Province

- Poverty is a failure of community and such extreme poverty in our province and country is, likewise, an extreme failure.
- Poverty is a societal problem – not a problem to be solved by government or by corporations or by churches or by advocacy groups or by those living in poverty – but a problem that affects all of us and must be dealt with by all of us. As religious leaders we see ourselves as part of the whole

We look forward to

- Government's efforts on poverty elimination
- The release of timely information on social statistics
- Establishment of biannual conversations between RSACNL, the Fairness Caucus and the Premier to further the work of poverty elimination in the province.
- Government's lead in assuring that there is a fair and equitable sharing of ALL resources among our citizens and a fair basic standard

A Request from the Coalition

As religious leaders we have put aside our different theologies and ideologies to work together on our shared moral outrage at the injustice of poverty in our midst today. As MHA's we ask you to find the common ground outside of political goals and ideologies to combat this grave injustice.