

# Building an online anti-poverty community



# www.povnet.org

Anti-poverty related tools, news and resources for advocates, community workers, marginalized communities and the general public in British Columbia and Canada.



## What is PovNet?

PovNet provides online tools that facilitate communication, community and access to information around poverty-related issues in BC and Canada.



#### Website

Our website is a clearinghouse of links to current legal information on poverty law subjects, as well as hundreds of helpful organizations and essential resources.



#### **PovNetU**

Our online courses for advocates, community and settlement workers are facilitated by experienced advocates and offer rich opportunities for learning and collaboration.



### **Mailing Lists**

Our private email lists facilitate invaluable connections between advocates and community workers. They and cover a number of issues relevant to anti-poverty advocacy work.



### Outreach & Networking

We work to ensure that our community stays connected and informed via newsfeeds, popular social networking tools, collecting feedback from the communities we serve and several multimedia projects.



## Who is PovNet?

#### **Board of Directors**

PovNet's board of directors represent the anti-poverty community throughout British Columbia.

#### **Our Team**



Penny
Executive Co-ordinator



Kara
Web Co-ordinator
& Illustrator



Nicky
PovNetU Training
Co-ordinator



Mosa
Technical Support
& Designer



# Our Website www.povnet.org

PovNet's website hosts current information about welfare, housing, employment, debt, and more.

The website features a Find an Advocate map, a job board and events calendar.





A true legal veteran on the web, PovNet. This anti-poverty group gives legal advocacy a central role.

PovNet does an admirable job keeping up with the times.

Simon Fodden Slaw: Canada's online legal magazine

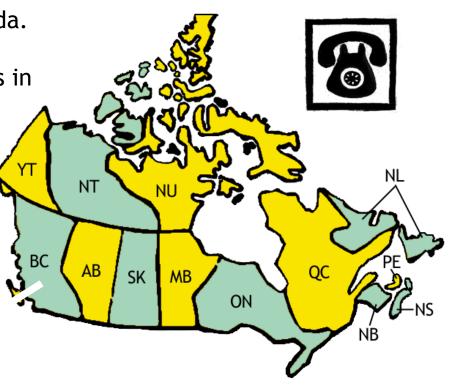


## Find An Advocate

PovNet hosts an up-to-date and widely-used directory of advocates in BC and Canada.

Visitors can find advocates in their own communities to help with their legal or poverty-related issues.





Legal aid offices, workers advisers, government agents, pro bono services, community-based advocacy organizations and much more...

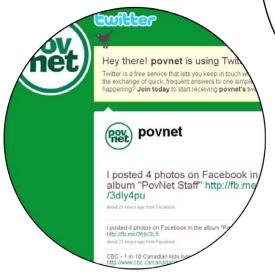


## Social Media

Along with our many web tools, PovNet also makes use of several social media sites to stay connected to our community.

#### Facebook

Like our PovNet Facebook page! See who else is in our network, share links about poverty issues with friends, browse our photos and videos and leave us comments.





**Twitter** 

Follow PovNet's Twitter feed and get short, daily updates, news and resources. RSS
Syndicate
our newsfeed using
your preferred RSS
viewer

Photos, videos, interviews and more...



# PovNetU www.povnetu.org

PovNetU hosts our online courses for antipoverty advocates in BC.

The courses are intended to be a practical and cost efficient way for advocates to improve their skills and knowledge.



### You can expect our courses to:



- Be accessible and easy to navigate;
- Include descriptions of learning goals and expectations;
- Encourage group collaboration and participation;
- Include knowledgeable feedback from experienced facilitators;
- Provide up-to-date links, info and breakdowns of procedures;
- Offer practical experience and real-life examples.

To find out more about eligibility, registration and available courses, go to: www.povnetu.org



## **Our Facilitators**

Courses are facilitated by experienced advocates who provide our learners with constructive feedback and useful information every step of the way.

- Encourage learners to participate, challenge themselves, complete assignments and achieve their learning goals.
- Take the time to carefully read and respond to everything their learners are saying and doing.
- Help make sure course content, links and exercises are up-to-date and useful.
- Make sure their learners feel comfortable asking questions and receiving feedback on their work.



It's been great to have the concrete, knowledgeable feedback and encouragement by experienced advocates.

Another important consideration made by the instructors is that we were given the time to negotiate our workloads and work on the course... I had the time to really pay attention to each chapter. **99** 

Mary Nagaki PovNetU learner



## **Our Email Lists**

PovNet hosts confidential email lists for front line workers, advocates, community & settlement workers in BC and nationally. These lists provide a forum for discussing cases, sharing strategies & identifying and working on systemic issues that arise in the pursuit of access to justice.

The lists give me a bird's eye view of issues across the province so I can have a sense of when an issue is systemic.

Advocate in Smithers

### British Columbia lists:

- Welfare
- Housing
- Mental health
- Workers' rights
- First Nations and Aboriginal issues
- Debt
- Employment questions

### National lists:

- Canada Pension
- Employment Insurance
- Older adults

This list keeps me functioning in my job. I have learned far more from being part of the list than any workshops combined.

The networking, shared experience/knowledge, support, camaraderie and diverse points of view are invaluable... It's imperative to our survival and positive health that PovNet continue. \$9

Advocate in Kelowna



# Outreach & Networking

PovNet is constantly collaborating with community and advocacy organizations to make new contacts, get direct feedback and stay connected to how we can best support their work.



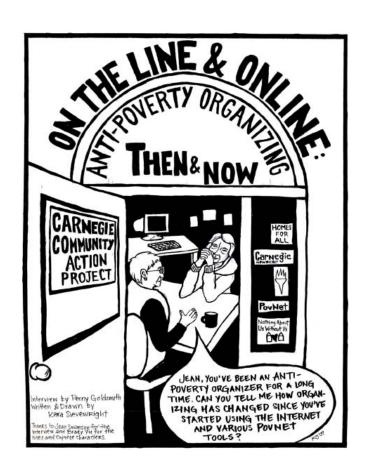
PovNet's community benefits from our in person outreach work. Our bookmarks, info sheets and other print materials are available at public libraries and other community organizations.



## **PovNet Stories**

PovNet has created multimedia stories including a digital story and a number of graphic stories that feature the histories and stories of advocates and antipoverty organizers in BC.







## Learn More

www.povnet.org

www.povnetu.org

www.twitter.com/povnet

www.facebook.com/povnet

## **Contacts**

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