

NOVA SCOTIA ASSOCIATION OF
Social Workers

PLAZA 1881

1891 Brunswick St., Suite 106, Halifax, NS B3J 2G8
Tel: (902) 429-7799 Registrar: 429-7298 Fax: 429-7650

Letter to the Editor re: Poverty

Congratulations to Mike Savage on his thought provoking Op-Ed on poverty. Canada is a rich country. We have the highest ranking of any banking system in the world. We withstood the global meltdown of 2008 better than the US and Europe. However, Canada also has the 19th highest rate of poverty among 29 developed economies. And the gap between the rich and poor, in Canada, has been increasing over the past two decades.

Last January there were 5000 jobs lost in Nova Scotia. It is easy for the people who lost these jobs to remain nameless, faceless statistics, but we shouldn't let that happen. They are all mothers and fathers, wives, husbands, children. We are our brother's keeper. Gandhi once said, "All humanity is one indivisible family and I cannot detach myself from any soul. And no culture can live if it attempts to be exclusive".

We urge everyone to speak out against poverty and to encourage the development of a national anti-poverty strategy.

Sharon Murphy, Chair
Social Justice Committee
Nova Scotia Association of Social Workers

Sharon can be reached through the Nova Scotia Association of Social Workers, phone number and address above.