

2014.4 A LIVING WAGE FOR ALL MANITOBANS

Whereas: A living wage is the amount needed for a household to meet its basic needs, taking into account government transfers and deductions, and sets a higher test for quality of life than the minimum wage by reflecting what earners in a family really need to earn based on the actual costs of living.

Whereas: The living wage alleviates severe financial stress for families by lifting them out of poverty and providing a basic level of economic security.

Whereas: Research has shown that paying a living wage has concrete benefits for employer:

- Reduced absenteeism
- Increased skill, morale and productivity levels
- Improved customer satisfaction
- Enhanced employer reputations

Whereas: The Province of Manitoba and Manitoban municipalities have a significant connection with a large number of workers in Manitoba. However not all government employees, either those directly employed or those working for companies that sell goods and services to government, receive a living wage.

Whereas: Governments have a responsibility for the well being of the citizens in their jurisdiction, their families, and the local economies.

Whereas: 140 US cities and a number of municipalities in the United Kingdom have implemented a living wage; New Westminster, BC is the first Canadian city to implement a living wage policy. In Manitoba, the Assiniboine Credit Union has adopted a living wage policy.

Whereas: The living wage in Manitoba in 2013 for a family of four with two parents working fulltime is \$14.07/hour.

Be It Resolved That:

CCEDNet - Manitoba urge the Province of Manitoba and Manitoban municipalities to adopt a Living Wage Policy, to be determined in partnership with the community, for their employees and contracted services for the purpose of reducing poverty.