



AGENDA

Putting Poverty in the ‘Rights’ Place: An Intro to Economic & Social Rights in Canada May 24, 2016 – June 7, 2016

Pre-course Survey: Participants will need to fill in the pre-course survey by May 16 and send to michele@cwp-csp.ca

May 24

Conference Call for All Participants

1:00 – 2:00 pm EST

Moderator: Michèle Biss, Canada Without Poverty

The conference call will provide participants with an opportunity to meet their online “classmates,” and to learn how to use and interact with the online platform. It will also provide an overview of the course agenda, expectations and anticipated outcomes of the course. **We highly recommend participating in this call as it will provide a good orientation to the course and practical information on using the online platform. Evaluation forms from other courses indicate that the teleconferences for the course are very useful.**

May 24 – May 30

Module 1: An Introduction to Economic and Social (ES) Rights and their Implementation in Canada.

Featured Expert: Leilani Farha, [UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Housing](#) and Executive Director of Canada Without Poverty.

Participants will be provided with an overview of international human rights law as it pertains to economic and social rights in Canada. This will include how Canada has been assessed by the United Nations in terms of its human rights performance. There will also be a discussion of the legal framework of economic and social rights, with a particular focus on the role of the United Nations.

May 26

Remote Presentation and Conference Call for All Participants

1:00 – 2:30 pm EST

Moderator: Michèle Biss, Canada Without Poverty

In this remote presentation, participants will be able to view a presentation from their home computers. With an accompanying oral presentation over the telephone, the moderator will walk participants through Canada’s particular obligations including the role of particular international human rights covenants and mechanisms by which to access economic and social rights.

May 30 – June 7**Module 2: Applying International Human Rights at all levels of government (Case Study on British Columbia)****Featured Expert:** Bonnie Morton, [Regina Anti-Poverty Ministry](#)

In the second module, participants will be provided with an overview of international human rights standards and their implementation for poverty at all levels of government (federal, provincial/territorial and local). Readings will focus on how ES rights can be implemented or have been implemented in Canada (e.g.: through courts and other adjudicative bodies, political avenues, and policies and programs). Examples will be provided of advocacy efforts being undertaken to advance an anti-poverty agenda at all levels of government.

May 30**Conference Call for All Participants****Q & A with British Columbia Anti-Poverty Advocates****Trish Garner, [BC Poverty Reduction Coalition](#) and
DJ Larkin, [Pivot Legal Society](#)**

1:00 – 2:00 pm EST

Moderator: Michèle Biss, Canada Without Poverty

Despite having one of the highest rates of poverty in Canada for the past thirteen years, British Columbia is the only province or territory in Canada with no announced intention of creating a provincial poverty reduction strategy. In this one hour conference call, the moderator will lead anti-poverty advocates Trish Garner (BC Poverty Reduction Coalition) and DJ Larkin (Pivot Legal Society) through the application of international human rights in the unique context of BC.

June 7**Final Survey and Concluding Comments Conference Call****FINAL ASSIGNMENT DUE**

To wrap-up the two week course, participants will reconvene by way of conference call to ask final questions and provide feedback on their experiences. A final survey will be sent out ahead of time. Following this, a conference call will be held on **June 7, 2016 at 1:00 pm EST time** for one hour.

Participants will be asked to complete a brief final assignment **due June 7** answering in one sentence or paragraph the following question: *why do rights matter in the pursuit to end poverty?* Participants will be encouraged to ensure answers are displayed in a creative method (e.g.: through an image, video or social media post).