



# PATHWAY TO POTENTIAL

Windsor Essex County's  
Poverty Reduction Strategy

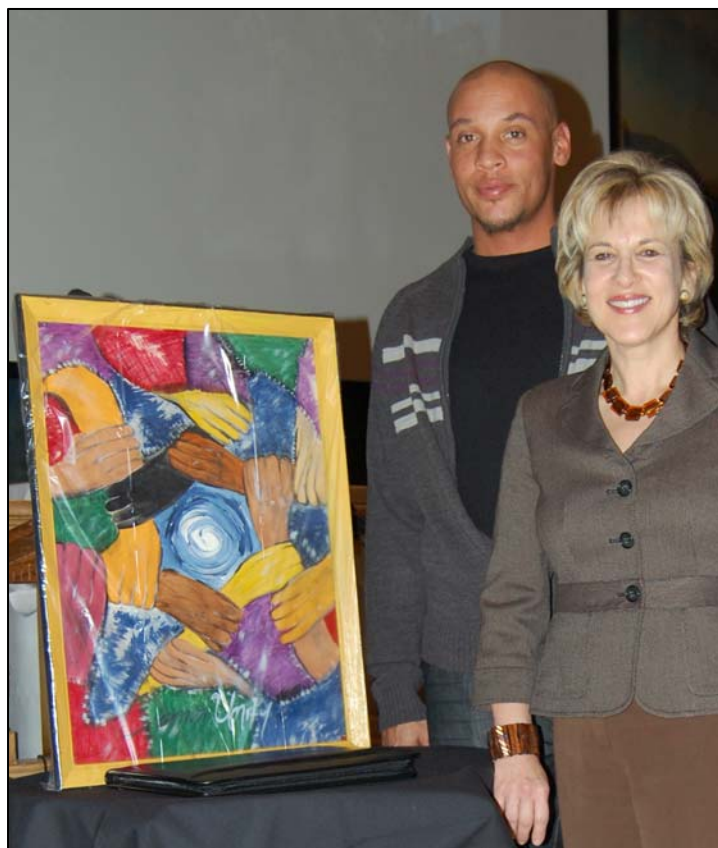


## Get Involved:

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## Spring 2010 Newsletter



**Sherri Torjman, Vice President of the Caledon Institute of Social Policy, receives a gift from Windsor artist Jerry Crosby**

## Building Resilience in Windsor-Essex County: Pathway to Potential Welcomes Sherri Torjman

A year filled with community events and initiatives kicked off with a visit from Sherri Torjman, author, social policy expert, and Vice President of the Caledon Institute of Social Policy.

The conference brought together 120 community stakeholders from business, government, and the public and voluntary sectors.

Participants learned about innovative strategies for responding to many of the complex social and economic issues facing Windsor-Essex County.

*"There is no question that Windsor-Essex has faced more than its share of economic and social challenges in recent years, but it is also clear that this community is incredibly wealthy in terms of its diverse assets and commitment to tackle tough problems by building on its strengths."*

- Sherri Torjman  
January 21, 2010

### Conference Highlights:

- Pathway's Video Report to the Community
- Presentations by Voices Against Poverty members
- Sherri Torjman presented her resilience framework
- Pathway to Potential and other community partners worked collaboratively to develop key focus areas and action items for 2010 and beyond

For more information on Sherri Torjman and her work with the Caledon Institute, visit [www.caledoninst.org](http://www.caledoninst.org)

## Social Justice Forum

February 18, 2010

Over 120 area grade 8 students attended the sixth annual Youth Social Justice Forum held at the University of Windsor.

Pathway, in partnership with Home Away From Home and the Homeless Coalition of Windsor-Essex County, facilitated five workshops on poverty and homelessness.

Workshop activities sparked excellent group discussions about challenging stereotypes, raising awareness, and developing action plans for making change at the individual and community level.

### Upcoming Events

#### April 2010

- Social Audit Hearings
- Voices Against Poverty to participate in provincial 'Put Food in the Budget' action event in Toronto

#### May 2010

- Presentation at the 25 in 5 Network for Poverty Reduction's cross-community action forum in Toronto

#### September 2010

- Food Security Forum

## Meetings with MPPs

February – March, 2010

Pathway and Voices Against Poverty recently met with our three Windsor-Essex MPPs to discuss healthy food and other issues central to the poverty reduction agenda.

The meetings with Dwight Duncan (MPP Windsor-Tecumseh), Bruce Crozier (MPP Essex) and Sandra Pupatello (MPP Windsor West) opened important dialogue on how local poverty reduction strategies can work collaboratively with governments to make poverty reduction a reality.



Danielle Yaholnitsky, Voices Against Poverty member, presents MPP Bruce Crozier with the *We're Hungry* catalogue, which was created by parents at the Benson Ontario Early Years Centre

## Social Work Week

March 1 – 7, 2010

Each year the Ontario Association of Social Workers (OASW) celebrates the social work profession with Social Work Week.

This year's theme was *Poverty: There Are Solutions – Social Workers Making a Difference*. Pathway to Potential partnered with the OASW Southwestern Branch to host several events:

- Panel Discussion and Information Fair with Voices Against Poverty at the main branch of the Windsor Public Library
- Discussion with University of Windsor social work students about linking theory and practice to create meaningful social change
- Celebration dinner and art show at Mi Casita restaurant, featuring the work of local artist Jerry Crosby
- Screening of feature documentary "Poor No More" and panel discussion with film's executive producer, David Langille, MP Joe Comartin, Councilor Caroline Postma, and Voices Against Poverty members Valerie Hurst and Danielle Yaholnitsky

## Social Audit Hearings in Windsor-Essex County

#### Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010

- 1:30 – 4:00 pm, Council Chambers, Essex Civic Centre, 360 Fairview Ave. West, Essex (for service providers)
- 5:30 – 7:30 pm, St. John's Anglican Church, 60 Erie St., Leamington (for people with lived experience of poverty)

#### Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010

- 5:30 – 7:30 pm, New Song Church, 993 Drouillard Rd., Windsor (for people with lived experience of poverty)



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