



For Immediate Release

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Revelstoke's Living Wage Rises to \$27.80 per Hour

Revelstoke, B.C – The cost of living in Revelstoke has reached new heights, with the 2025 living wage climbing to \$27.80 per hour—the highest since calculations began. The increase is driven primarily by rising housing costs, according to this year's Living Wage report.

The 2025 living wage in Revelstoke is \$27.80 per hour, marking a 9% increase from last year's rate of \$25.50. With BC's minimum wage currently at \$17.85, the gap between what workers earn and what they need to meet basic expenses in Revelstoke has widened to \$9.95 per hour.

Mayor Gary Sulz states, "Revelstoke's 2025 living wage of \$27.80 underscores the urgent need to address affordability challenges in our community. Housing and food costs remain the biggest pressures on families, and these realities reinforce the priorities in our Official Community Plan. Through initiatives like the Zoning Bylaw update to promote housing affordability, partnerships to strengthen food security, and advocacy for accessible childcare, we are committed to building a community where everyone can thrive. These efforts reflect our shared vision for a resilient, inclusive Revelstoke."

What has been observed aligns closely with the findings in the Poverty Reduction Strategy. Housing continues to be the largest expense for families in Revelstoke. Although asking rents have begun to decline slightly, they still outpace inflation, and vacancy rates remain low. Food is the second highest cost, having increased by 3.6% over the past year. With food prices among the fastest rising expenses for households across BC, food insecurity has escalated into a public health emergency. Food banks now play a vital role, serving as a lifeline for thousands of families.

Meghan MacIsaac, Community Development Coordinator with the City of Revelstoke, emphasized the unique challenges faced by resort communities like Revelstoke citing information from the latest 2025 report.

“As a rural resort community, Revelstoke faces unique affordability challenges. Rapid growth in BC’s resort towns is driving up housing and food costs. According to Food Banks Canada’s 2024 Hunger Count, food bank visits in BC have surged by 81% since 2019. These figures don’t capture the growing reliance on other community food programs. Limited retail options and high transportation costs further inflate food prices in rural areas, placing added strain on low- and moderate-income households. Revelstoke is feeling these impacts acutely.”

“Ongoing investments in childcare affordability, the full rollout of the Canadian Dental Care Plan in May and the recent increase to the BC Rental Assistance Program for families with children ease some pressures on household budgets but the gains have been offset by persistent cost increases, particularly for housing,” says Anastasia French, Managing Director of Living Wage BC.

The 2025 Revelstoke living wage is calculated using a weighted average of three household types: a two-parent family with two children, a single parent with one child, and a single adult living alone. The calculation is a collaboration between Community Economic Development – City of Revelstoke, BC Policy Solutions, and Living Wage BC, ensuring it reflects the diverse realities of our residents.

For more information, please contact the Community Economic Development team at ced@revelstoke.ca.