WORKING FOR A LIVING WAGE
What is a living wage?

What is a living wage and why is it good for your business and your community?

A living wage reflects what earners in a family need to bring home, based on the actual cost of living in a specific community, to live with dignity and participate as active citizens in our society.

It reflects the notion that every individual has the right to enjoy good health, recreation, culture and entertainment, to raise children, and to fully partake in social and civic activities, as opposed to minimally “surviving” in basic physiological terms.¹

Essentially, a living wage covers the basic living expenses that every human being is entitled to incur and allows earners to have a satisfactory quality of life.

A living wage allows individuals to:
  • feed, clothe and provide shelter for their family;
  • promote healthy child development;
  • participate in activities that are an ordinary part of life in the community; and
  • avoid the chronic stress of living in poverty.

How can you become a living wage employer?

To be considered a living wage Employer means that all employees (full-time, part-time and casual) must be paid the current living wage rate within Windsor-Essex. If you pay non-mandatory benefits to your employees, the living wage hourly rate will be reduced to take account of this. Employees paid by incentive-based pay (tips) or commission can be paid less than a living wage provided their total earnings (including incentive-based pay and/or commission) equal or exceed the living wage.

For more information about what it means to be a living wage employer please visit our website livingwageWE.ca

About Pathway to Potential

Pathway to Potential (P2P) relies on and supports a network of partners and organizations in the Windsor-Essex community. P2P works to educate members of the community about the social and economic costs of poverty and the return on investment associated with preventing and reducing poverty.

P2P advocates for the removal of systemic barriers, and creates and supports concrete initiatives that improve the lives of people living in poverty, or who are at risk of living in poverty.

P2P’s aspiration is for Windsor Essex County to be a thriving community where every family and individual builds potential through access to quality opportunities, supports, and resources that work for them.