

# Fast Facts: The Status of Women



## Women and Poverty

- 1 in 7 Canadians live in poverty. For three groups of women that jumps to almost 1 in 3 living in poverty:
  - 30% of Aboriginal women live in poverty, twice the average rate – and higher than the 26% of Aboriginal men.
  - 77% of all lone-parent families in Alberta are headed by women. In Canada, 34% of those families live in poverty, a much higher rate than the 14% of families led by lone fathers below the poverty line.
  - 3 out 4 single seniors are women. 32% of them live below the poverty line. Another 30% of single women aged 45-64 also live in poverty.



## Women and Leadership

- In Calgary, 3 out of 14 City Councillors are women.
- Women make up a third of the members of the City of Calgary's commissions, committees and boards.
- Outside of politics, they make up only 32% of the senior managers in Calgary, and 20% of directors of Alberta's leading companies.

*Sources: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives; Government of Alberta; Statistics Canada; The Childcare Resource and Research Unit.*

# Fast Facts: The Status of Women

## Women and Paid Work



- **Women in Calgary** are among the most educated women in Canada, but they **make only 66% of what men earn**. In Alberta, women working **full time** earn an hourly wage of **80 cents to a man's dollar** – the widest gap in all of Canada.
- **Women make up the majority of low wage workers** in Calgary. **Almost 50,000 women in Calgary** alone make minimum wage (or less) – enough to fill the Saddledome two and a half times.
- **Indigenous women's median income is lower than that of both their non-Indigenous counterparts and Indigenous men.**

## Women and Childcare



- In Canada, **mothers of young children spend twice as much time on child care** than their male counterparts.
- In Alberta, women are **twice as likely to work part-time as men**. **Almost half of those who do so involuntarily cite caring for children as the reason.**
- In Alberta, **there are only regulated child care spaces for about a third of children** below the age of 6.
- The average cost of **full-time toddler child care in Calgary is \$1050/month**. Despite subsidies, low-income families are paying out-of-pocket fees of almost \$500 a month for a preschooler.