

This bulletin is a quick inventory of recent social research information. Its purpose is to promptly disseminate the most current external and internal research relevant to social policy.

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## **Canadian Poverty Reduction Strategy – What We Heard About Poverty So Far** by Government of Canada, 2018.

As a whole, Canada remains among the best places in the world in which to live. However, too many Canadians live in poverty. This is why the Government made a commitment to develop a Canadian Poverty Reduction Strategy that would set targets to reduce poverty in Canada and measure and publicly report on progress.

- Many Canadians are still struggling to make ends meet and satisfy basic needs of one's children or taking care of one's health, are simply out of reach for some people
- The government should acknowledge the challenges faced by vulnerable seniors, youth, women, the LGBTQ2 community, visible minorities, newcomers, persons with disabilities, single parents
- Many First Nations, Inuit and Métis participants felt that colonialism, racism and inter-generational trauma have made poverty worse in their communities
- Many Canadians are not accessing the government programs and services that are available to them, either due to lack of awareness of their eligibility or obstacles encountered during application processes

For link to the report:

[http://homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/CPRS\\_What\\_We\\_Heard\\_So\\_Far-EN.pdf](http://homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/CPRS_What_We_Heard_So_Far-EN.pdf)

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## **Collaborating for Greater Impact: Building an Integrated Data Ecosystem** by Joanne Cave, Tracey Gyateng, Lisa Lalande & Tris Lumley, Mowat Centre, February 2018.

As a key service delivery partner with government, the charitable sector has a wealth of data on a wide range of issues - everything from environmental sustainability to homelessness and poverty reduction. Data is essential for a charity to be effective: it can be used to assess local needs and identify service gaps, inform organizational decision-making, understand trends over time, advocate for policy change, evaluate the outcomes and impact of programs and services and provide accountability and transparency to service users and the general public.

Some of the recommendations:

- Summarizes the charitable sector data policy context in Canada and the UK
- Outlines emerging trends in charitable sector data policy across both jurisdictions
- Provides recommendations for building a more enabling environment for data collection, analysis and sharing

- Informs the development of a policy framework for the data ecosystem in both Canada and the UK

For link to the report:

[https://mowatcentre.ca/wp-content/uploads/publications/161\\_EE\\_collaborating\\_for\\_greater\\_impact.pdf](https://mowatcentre.ca/wp-content/uploads/publications/161_EE_collaborating_for_greater_impact.pdf)

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### **Examining Escalating House Prices in Large Canadian Metropolitan Centres** by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), January 2018

The Minister of Families, Children and Social Development asked CMHC to study the causes of rapidly rising home prices in major metropolitan centres across Canada since 2010. In fulfilling this task, they have performed advanced, data-driven quantitative and statistical analyses, and engaged with stakeholders and government partners. This report elaborates on analytical results.

- While house prices increased by 48 per cent in Vancouver over the 2010-16 period, those conventional economic factors played a part in nearly 75 per cent of this increase according to estimates
- Meanwhile, prices increased by 40 per cent in Toronto, of which 40 per cent is accounted for by conventional demand-side factors
- Higher income levels at the upper end of the distribution would enable high-income households to purchase bigger and more luxurious homes, while also allowing others greater access to mortgage financing

For link to the report:

<https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/odpub/pdf/69262.pdf?fr=1518459323550>

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### **The Evolution of Language Populations in Canada, by Mother Tongue, from 1901 to 2016** by Statistics Canada, February 2018.

At the beginning of the 20th century, the mother tongue of most Canadians was either French or English. In 1901, about one-tenth of the population declared an Aboriginal language or an immigrant language as their mother tongue. The concept of mother tongue was not defined in the Canadian census until 1941, when it was defined as the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood.

- The share of people whose mother tongue is English was around 60% over this period, ranging from a high of 62.3% in 1911 to a low of 56.5% in 1941
- In 2016, people with English as their mother tongue accounted for 57.0% of the total Canadian population, compared with 62.2% in 1986
- From 1901 to 1986, the share of the population with a non-official language as a mother tongue varied between 8% and 13%, reflecting international migratory flows
- in 2016, 22.0% of the total population declared a language other than English and French as a mother tongue

For link to the report:

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11-630-x/11-630-x2018001-eng.pdf>

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**Inflated Expectations: More Immigrants Can't Solve Canada's Aging Problem on Their Own** by William B.P. Robson and Parisa Mahboubi, C.D. Howe Institute, March 2018.

According to this report higher immigration can ease, but not entirely mitigate, the impacts of demographic change on the workforce. Canada's aging population puts pressure on living standards, dampens growth of government revenue, and presents fiscal challenges – notably to public pension and healthcare system.

- The number of people age 65 and over relative to the population of working age rose by more than 10 percentage points over the past 40 years
- While higher immigration can mitigate the impacts of demographic change on the workforce and Canada's age structure, a closer look at actual and potential numbers reveals the limits of this approach
- The key message from the simulations is that changes in immigration levels have impacts on the margin only: no increase within the realm of practicality can prevent population aging

For link to the report:

[https://www.cdhowe.org/sites/default/files/attachments/research\\_papers/mixed/March%209%20e-brief\\_274%20Web.pdf](https://www.cdhowe.org/sites/default/files/attachments/research_papers/mixed/March%209%20e-brief_274%20Web.pdf)

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Previous issues of the SPAR Monitor can be viewed online at: <http://bit.ly/2iltgRQ>

Social Policy, Analysis and Research Information Resources:

Wellbeing Toronto: [www.toronto.ca/wellbeing](http://www.toronto.ca/wellbeing)

City of Toronto Data, Research & Maps: <https://web.toronto.ca/city-government/data-research-maps/>