

a Fact Sheet on... **Child Poverty**

- Poor children have poorer health than other children
- Poor children leave school sooner and receive less overall education than other children
- Poor children face greater risks to their health and safety as a result of unsafe living environments
- Poor children engage in riskier behaviours
“Child Poverty, What are the Consequences?”
Canadian Council on Social Development, 1996
- Between 1990 and 1995, child poverty increased in the Atlantic region
- 41.5% of all children in Canada live in low-income families.
- 27% of Nova Scotia children under the age of 12 live in families below the low-income cut off, the third highest rate in the country. “Gender Equality in the Genuine Progress Index”, Ron Coleman, GPI Atlantic, 1999
- Children in female lone parent families are more likely to be poor, and this tendency is increasing in the Atlantic region
- High percentages of children in the Atlantic region are living in poverty. There is considerable depth to this poverty, both for children living in families on Social Assistance and for those living in families depending on low or minimum wage jobs
- Child poverty cannot be separated from family poverty “A Profile of Child Poverty in Atlantic Canada”, CPHNA news, May 1998
- One in five Nova Scotia children live in poverty “Wake Up, Canada!” P. Raven, from Interaction, NS Council for the Family, Fall, 1999.

