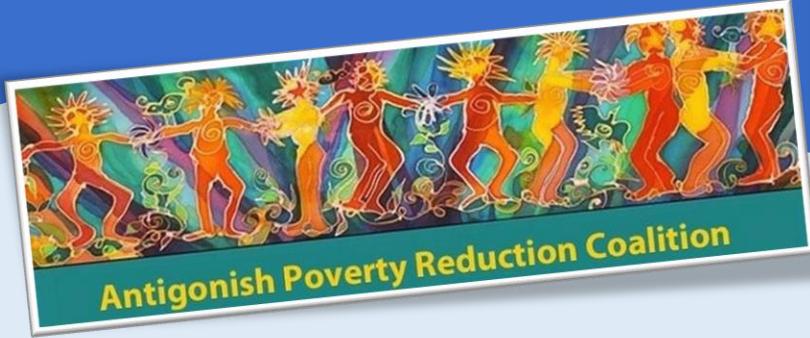


# ANTIGONISH POVERTY REDUCTION COALITION and THE SISTERS OF ST. MARTHA

Martha Justice Ministry is a long-time active member of the Antigonish Poverty Reduction Coalition (APRC), an alliance of diverse groups and community members committed to eradicating poverty in the Town and County of Antigonish.

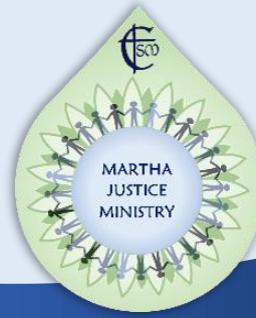
Sister Marion Sheridan, Colleen Cameron and Lucille Harper initiated the APRC in 2010 to bring together many voices to address poverty in Antigonish.

For years, the APRC has engaged in extensive advocacy with all levels of government for a basic income that would provide income support for those not being served by other programs.



In the past several months, the APRC has worked on a number of initiatives:

- A submission to the Nova Scotia government with recommendations for the provincial budget. This included recommendations for policy and investments in income support (such as basic income), increased affordable housing, childcare, and a livable wage.
- APRC has engaged with municipal council members on poverty issues, following up on commitments at an All-Candidates Forum ahead of the municipal elections in October.
- Recently, the group provided input in a consultation by the federal Ministerial Advisory Council to End Gender-Based Violence as they develop a National Action Plan.
- APRC has worked on a project proposal to fund a Community Navigator and work on food security through a *Community Cupboards* project offering easy ways to access or drop off food, as the pandemic has had such an impact on food access.



Eight priority areas of concern were highlighted, and several independent groups have now emerged in those areas, including Affordable Housing, Antigonish Community Transit, Food Security, and the Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund.

**TRANSPORTATION** ♦ **HOUSING**  
**FOOD SECURITY** ♦ **CHILDCARE**  
**EDUCATION** ♦ **INCOME SECURITY**  
**HEALTH SERVICES** ♦ **RECREATION**

*It is such a privilege and inspiration to be involved with the APRC, and we are eager to continue with the great work being done.*