

Stock Market Crash of the Century

Millions of Canadians Continue to Crowd into Unemployment Offices in Search of Jobs

By: Kiara Chamberlain

The Canadian Press - It is November 20 and Canada is in complete disarray as many citizens have lost their jobs, homes and all of their money. The population continues to flood into unemployment offices in desperate search of jobs and money as the economy plummets. Many people have lost everything and are struggling to get back on their feet.



Citizens of Canada continue to flood into unemployment offices

Unemployment offices are overflowing with citizens; many have lost their jobs due to the decline of purchases of goods and services. One fellow in line, Teddy Martin, said "I would not be in this situation right now if it wasn't for credit, I bought things I couldn't pay for right then and then I lost my job." Teddy is not alone, many have borrowed so much money that they are on the verge of being broke.

Companies that sell big items such as houses and cars are having a hard time because people cannot buy or make their payments on their products. In turn they cannot afford to employ so many people. Wages have dropped over the past few years but the cost of goods has declined even quicker. The outcome of this decline is a higher standard of living for property owners and those employed. The absence of spending money has resulted in a tremendous lack of jobs in our society, the unemployment rate is above 12%.

Property values in the country have dropped as people can no longer pay huge bills and the payments that go along with a property. For the majority of the population it is challenging just to pay for power, water and food. The increased crop failure in the Western provinces due to drought and plagues of grasshoppers severely crippled their economy. Additionally, they rely on the global trade market to trade their wheat, but when the market crashed, they were unable to sell to anyone further damaging their economy.

Government welfare is not being distributed well or fairly across Canada. The federal government refuses to deal with welfare, saying

it is the local government's problem. However, they did create unemployment relief camps for single, homeless men, because local welfare would not help them. The conditions in the camps are very poor. In these camps they provide room and board and pay 20 cents a day for construction work building roads and buildings.

Families today are finding it very problematic to take care of their children because without a job, they cannot support them. Many children have been given to other relatives to be taken care of. A great number of teenagers have left home in hopes of a better life riding the rails. One teen, Sandy Snow says "I hope to find work in Toronto." About one in 5 Canadians have become reliant on government assistance to stay alive. Canada's population growth has fallen due to both low birth rates and little immigration. Many people in society have been thrown into poverty.

The stock market crash has caused a lot of social, political and economic stress. Many people are without homes and employment. Will our country ever recover from this event?

