

# HOW TO HOST A TABLE TALK!

## WHO?

**6-10** of your friends, family, acquaintances, people from your faith organisation, union, community organisation, anyone!

## WHAT?

Share stories about the issues. Spread the word. Build momentum for action. Be a leader in the campaign by hosting a Table Talk.

## WHEN/HOW LONG?

Between April 2014 and February 2015. After church, after a meeting, for dinner, for post-dinner snacks, on a Saturday afternoon – whenever! The meetings should go for about 45 minutes but you might want to factor in an hour – once people start talking they won't want to stop!

## PLANNING TIPS

- If you invite 20 people, 10 will say yes and 8 will show up. Aim to invite about 20 if you hope to get 8 people
- Let your organisation know you are running a table talk. Who: \_\_\_\_\_
- Make phone calls, send emails, organise coffees with friends to help organise the Table Talk. You could even make your own flyers!
- Reminder calls or email to people that said they'd come

## TIPS FOR ON THE DAY

- Print out a sign on sheet so you know who comes
- Make sure you have a copy of the introductory video about the campaigns (have a computer or iPad or something handy to play it on)
- Prepare a story about why you care about the issues
- Ask your guests to bring some food if you want food – maybe a pot luck dinner or just some cheese and crackers!
- Prepare a quiet space where people are comfortable and can see each other

## AGENDA FOR THE DAY

1. Introduce yourself
2. Tell people why you decided to host a table talk. Ask everyone to introduce themselves
3. Tell people about the campaign issues / show film if you have it
4. Share a story about why you care about the campaign issues – housing, transport and jobs
5. Ask others to share stories of their experiences around these issues
6. Have a free flowing discussion (make sure everyone is heard)
7. Summarise what you heard
8. Talk about the next campaign actions that are happening (local assemblies or local campaign actions)
9. Invite people to get involved in one of the campaign teams, and/or get 2-3 people to commit to running their own table talk – you can help them!
10. Thank you!

Afterward, let your organisation know how it went, stories that were told and interested folks that emerged.