

Bon Accord woman appealing decision

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A challenge of the award the appeal board has given has been made twice.

With no way of supporting herself, she turned to her friend Penny Fox. Her only other option was the Edmonton's women's shelter.

The garage is scantily furnished with a table, three chairs and a couch amidst her pottery and art work.

McBryan said she is an example of the stereotype that work exists for people willing to find it.

"I've gone after all types of work. I haven't been hung up on being a designer. There's a million 20 year-olds out there look-

ing for those same kinds of entry level jobs."

Her age is a deterrent to some employers, while others want employees with more experience.

McBryan said most people don't realize how many poor people live in Bon Accord and Gibbons.

She said she knows families that send their children to school without breakfast and who are barely breaking even.

"The government spin machine has millions of dollars to spend on telling people who they have cut down the welfare caseload. They haven't said how."

McBryan said some return to school or go into job training

programs, but many people's situations don't change.

"They are forced to move in with friends or they are sleeping on the river bank or in a shelter. Their economic situation hasn't changed to the point they don't need assistance."

McBryan said she feels she is doing the responsible thing by appealing the decision at a higher court.

"I figure criminals do it all the time. I just want to be treated as well as the common criminal. At this point, people who are treated very poor are treated worse than a common criminal."

If McBryan is successful in her appeal, she will only be eligible for \$375 a month.



Theresa McBryan is appealing a decision that cut her welfare benefits off and forced her to move into this neighbors' garage in Bon Accord.

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