

# Are seasonal employees in ski towns underpaid?

By Matt McDonald, Powder

If you've held a seasonal ski resort job you understand what it is to slide along the poverty line in a little corner of paradise that caters to the not-yous. Forget saving money. You need to score three more shifts this week to pay rent on Monday. Bills loom. If you stop long enough to remember you turn 26 in two weeks, knocking you off your parents' health insurance, your head explodes.

Then, your employer announces another sparkling partnership with three new resorts, plus \$50 million in capital improvements that include a hotel and mid-mountain sushi bar. Sure, you'll get a raise if you stay for another season, but at a quarter an hour, it feels more like a gesture than a game-changer. But hey, at least you ski for free, right?

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