



JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.

Sherbrooke Village, Exhibit Centre

Agenda

1. Call to Order

Acknowledgement- *"We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kma'ki the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people."*

2. Approval of Agenda – Additions/Deletions
3. Motion to Approve Previous Minutes April 10, 2024
4. Presentation – Mrs. Dorothy Bennett, Community Health Board Coordinator (ALL)
5. Impact & Cooperation for Windmills (MODSM)
6. Regional Emergency Management Office (REMO) (MODSM & MODG)
7. Shared Services for Investigator of Code of Conduct Complaints. (MODSM)
8. Update on the Large-Scale Economic Development Projects (MODG)
9. Shared Services Contracts (MODG)
10. Other Business
11. Next Meeting Date
12. Adjournment
13. Reception (10 minutes question and answer period pertaining to agenda items).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024 @ 4:00 P.M.
JOINT COUNCIL SESSION
CHEDABUCTO LIFESTYLE COMPLEX

Warden Pitts called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

ATTENANCE

Warden Vernon Pitts (MODG)
Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche (MODG)
Councillor Paul Long (MODG)
Councillor Mary Desmond (MODG)
Councillor Neil DeCoff (MODG)
Councillor Dave Hanhams (MODG)
Councillor Hudson MacLeod (MODG)
Councillor Fin Armsworthy (MODG)
Warden Greg Wier (MODSM)
Deputy Warden James Fuller (MODSM)
Councillor Everett Baker (MODSM)
Councillor Beulah Malloy (MODSM)
Councillor Courtney Mailman (MODSM)
Councillor Charlene Zinck (MODSM)
Mayor Ron Chisholm (Town of Mulgrave)

OTHERS PRESENT

Barry Carroll, CAO (MODG)
Shawn Andrews, Deputy CAO (MODG)
Gordon MacDonald, Director of Economic Development (MODG)
Ashley Cunningham Avery, Executive Director Guysborough District Business Partnership
Magdelyn Connolly, Municipal Clerk (MODG)
Doug Patterson, CAO (MODSM)
Jadzia Graham, Interim Municipal Clerk (MODSM)
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance (MODSM)
Denise Dunn, Economic Development Officer (MODSM)

REGRETS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED: Councillor Fin Armsworthy

SECONDED: Councillor Mary Desmond

MOTION: THAT Council approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTED MEETING PROCEDURES

MOVED: Councillor Dave Hanhams

SECONDED: Councillor Neil Decoff

MOTION: THAT the meeting procedure is approved as suggested.

MOTION CARRIED

TOURISM LEVY (MODSM)

Warden Weir questioned if MODG is planning to implement a tourism levy and if MODG is interested in a joint venture for all of Guysborough County.

Councillor Long reported that the Guysborough District Business Partnership will be bringing a report and recommendation to MODG's Council.

MOVED: Warden Greg Weir

SECONDED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche

MOTION: THAT the Guysborough District Business Partnership bring forward a report and recommendation to the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough;

AND THAT a joint venture with the District of St. Mary's to include all of Guysborough County be investigated.

MOTION CARRIED

SERVICE EXCHANGE (MODG)

Mr. Carroll briefly reviewed the briefing note as it was included in the meeting package.

Mayor Chisholm stated that municipalities need to work together to voice their concerns to senior levels of government.

Various councillors made comment regarding concerns with the lack of information being shared.

COMMUNITY FIRST GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY HOUSING ASSOCIATION (MODSM)

Warden Weir stated that Ms. Denise Dunn, Economic Development Officer sits on the Association and asked for an update on affordable housing initiatives in MODG.

Warden Pitts stated that a private developer approached MODG with the proposal for Carleton Place, which was well received by Council making the project a success. He stated that MODG is not involved in the project or the affordable housing portion, but Council did sell a small portion of land to Atlantic Edge Properties for the project.

Mr. Carroll stated that MODG encourages developers to come to Guysborough to do business and luckily it happened with Atlantic Edge Properties. He briefly reviewed what Carleton Place will offer and stated that the developer is proposing a second complex to be built in Cutlers Brook Phase III. Mr. Carroll reported that Atlantic Edge Properties plan to target those who work in nearby communities by offering lower rental prices than in the more urban centers.

Councillor Desmond briefed MODSM and the Town of Mulgrave on the creation of the Housing First Guysborough County Housing Association. She stated that the Association is focusing on two initiatives, the purchase of a parcel of land and the purchase of a building to create affordable housing. Councillor Desmond stated that they are looking for members and that a recent public health survey identified the need for affordable housing in our district.

Councillor Mailman stated that there is a new nursing home being built in the District of St. Mary's and that housing for health care workers, specifically travel nurses is a concern in their area. She questioned what MODG Council did to create an environment for a developer to want to do business in Guysborough.

Mr. MacDonald stated that MODG works to make the application and permitting process as quick and painless as possible. He reported that the housing market prices are also lower in Guysborough than some neighboring municipalities and that the demand was here with no supply.

Councillor Long reported that MODG donated a parcel of land in Cutlers Brook Subdivision as well as in Canso to the Housing Trust, to be used for Health Care Worker housing.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (MODG)

Mr. Andrews reviewed the briefing note as it was included in the meeting package. He stated that MODSM, Mulgrave and MODG were recently awarded funding from ACOA on a joint application for EMO supplies. He reported that there are various training exercises planned for this year for employees across the province. Mr. Andrews stated that he would follow up with Mr. Patterson and the Town of Mulgrave regarding upcoming training. He reported that there has not been any information released yet regarding provincial training.

Councillor Decoff and Mayor Chisholm stated that both municipalities had presentations from Barrington representatives regarding the 2023 wildfires. They emphasized how important the presentation was and that it was extremely informational for staff and Council.

2024 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Mr. Andrews reported that in 2020 MODG held a fully electronic election. He stated that there was a low number of residents who came out to vote at polling stations, therefore in 2024 MODG will be holding a fully electronic election, with only one polling station on election day.

Warden Weir reported that MODSM will also be holding a fully electronic election in 2024.

Mayor Chisholm reported that the Town of Mulgrave has not held an electronic election in the past but that they will investigate it for 2024.

Mr. Patterson stated that if municipalities using the electronic voting method for their 2024 elections collaborated with similar messaging on advertisements, it may make it easier for residents to understand the process.

WIND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS / COMMUNITY BENEFITS (MODSM)

PRESENTATION – MR. GORDON MACDONLAD, MODG

Mr. MacDonald reviewed his presentation as attached as appendix A.

Warden Weir questioned about future employment, school involvement and turbine operation.

Mr. MacDonald reported that it takes 1 service person per 6 wind towers. He stated that MODG is working with developers to ensure that maintenance operations are based in Guysborough and that developers are approaching schools. Mr. MacDonald stated that developers are receiving a positive response from private wood lot owners in proposed areas.

Mayor Chisholm reported that he sits on EverWinds CLC and that they have approached several schools and continue to work with NSCC to bring turbine training courses to the Port Hawkesbury Campus.

OTHER BUSINESS

Warden Weir questioned if the self-serve libraries work.

Councillor Desmond stated that it works very well in MODG and that residents utilize the service.

Mayor Chisholm stated that he sits on the Library Board and that the service works well in the Town of Mulgrave also.

NEXT MEETING DATE, APRIL 9th, 2025 @ 4:00pm. HOST:

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED: Deputy Warden Janet Peitzsche
MOTION: **THAT** the Joint Council Session stand adjourned.
MOTION CARRIED (5:45 p.m.)

WARDEN

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

DATE

DRAFT



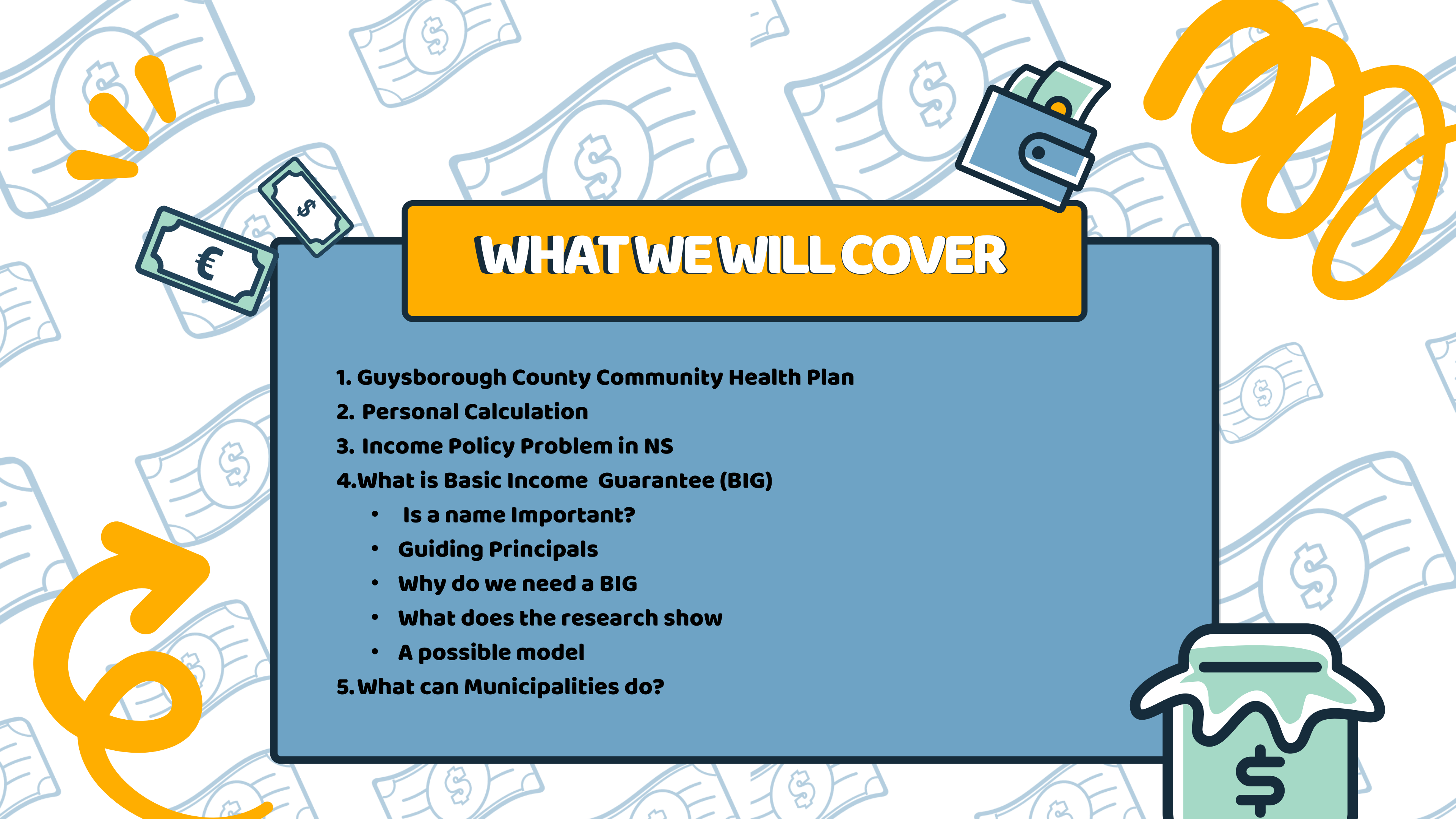
BASIC INCOME GUARANTEE

Dorothy Bennett

Guysborough County Community Health Board Coordinator

April 9th 2025



The background is a light blue-grey color with a repeating pattern of faint, stylized banknotes in various currencies, including US dollars and Euros. Overlaid on this background are several large, hand-drawn style orange graphics: a spiral in the top right, a curved arrow in the bottom left, a wallet with cash in the top right, and a money bag in the bottom right. The main content is presented on a blue rectangular card with a yellow header.

WHAT WE WILL COVER

- 1. Guysborough County Community Health Plan**
- 2. Personal Calculation**
- 3. Income Policy Problem in NS**
- 4. What is Basic Income Guarantee (BIG)**
 - **Is a name Important?**
 - **Guiding Principals**
 - **Why do we need a BIG**
 - **What does the research show**
 - **A possible model**
- 5. What can Municipalities do?**



Guysborough County Community Health Board



- **Community Health Boards (CHBs) are groups of “Committed Concerned Active Citizens” from your communities**
 - **volunteers & municipal council representatives**
- **One of 35 from across the province**
- **Legislated in NS to bring the community voice into decision making through Community Health Plans**
- **CHBs advocate for actions to promote and improve health & wellness based on what communities say is most important.**
- **CHBs work together with community to improve health & wellness where they live, work, play and learn.**



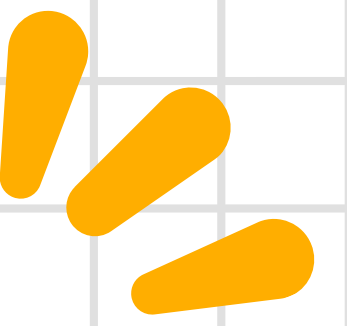


Guysborough County Community Health Board



- **New 2025-2029 Health Plan**
 - **Income/Housing/Food Security**
- **Income policy number 1 priority**
- **Wellness Funds**
 - **opened for application until April 30th, 2025**
- **Health Plan Implementation Funds (Program Development)**
- **Leverage funding through partnerships with community groups and organizations**
- **Youth mentorship and leadership**





Quick Personal Calculation

How much do you pay per month for:

- Food
- Shelter
- Utilities
- Transportation
- Clothing
- Other personal items

Total = ?

Household Composition		Standard Household Rate (Monthly)	
Recipient	Dependent Child/Student Family Member	Rent/Own	Board
1	0	\$726	\$644
1	1	\$1,018	\$664
1	2 or more	\$1,072	\$707
2	0	\$1,419	\$1,067
2	1 or more	\$1,473	\$1,110

“Enhanced”--with a disability, aged 16-18 or > 55, fleeing abuse:
\$1005/month

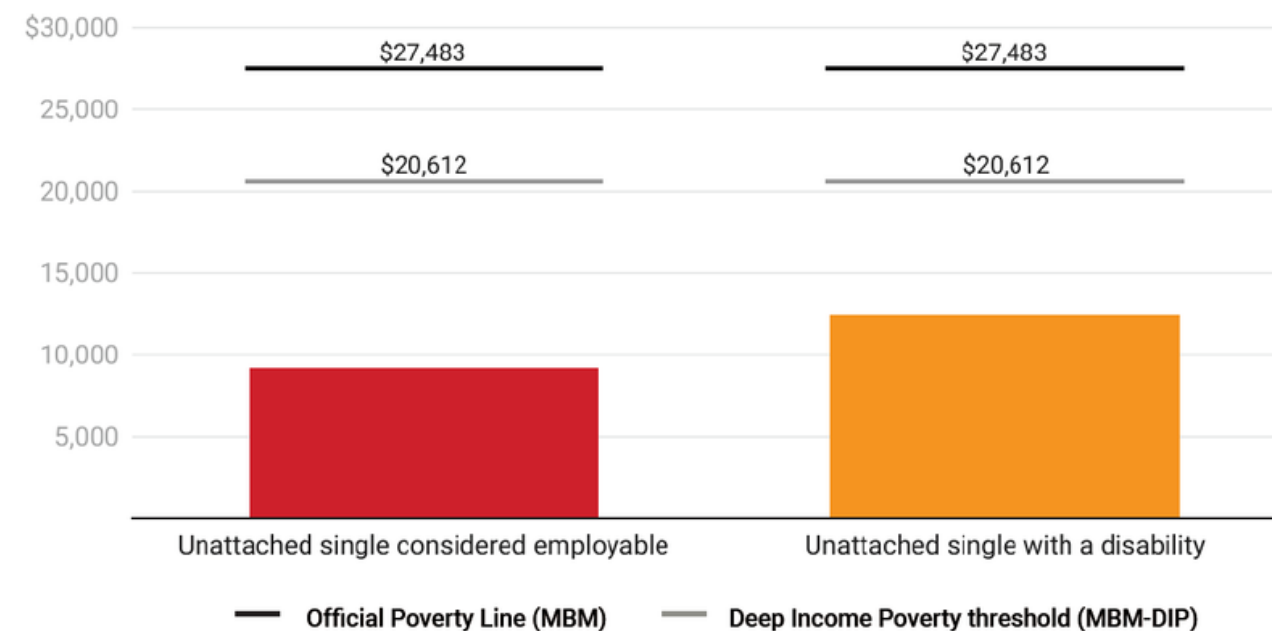
<https://novascotia.ca/coms/employment/basic-needs-assistance/>

Income Policy problems in NS



Insufficient: poverty line (MBM)

Figure 3NS: Welfare incomes and poverty thresholds for example unattached single households in Nova Scotia, 2023



[Welfare in Canada, 2023](#)

Demeaning rules and Oversight

“I have panic attacks having to feel belittled every year at their annual reviews. I worry I may get something wrong or mess up how I spend ...I am mentally and physically disabled.”

BIGNS Consensus statement signer



What do we mean by Basic Income Guarantee?

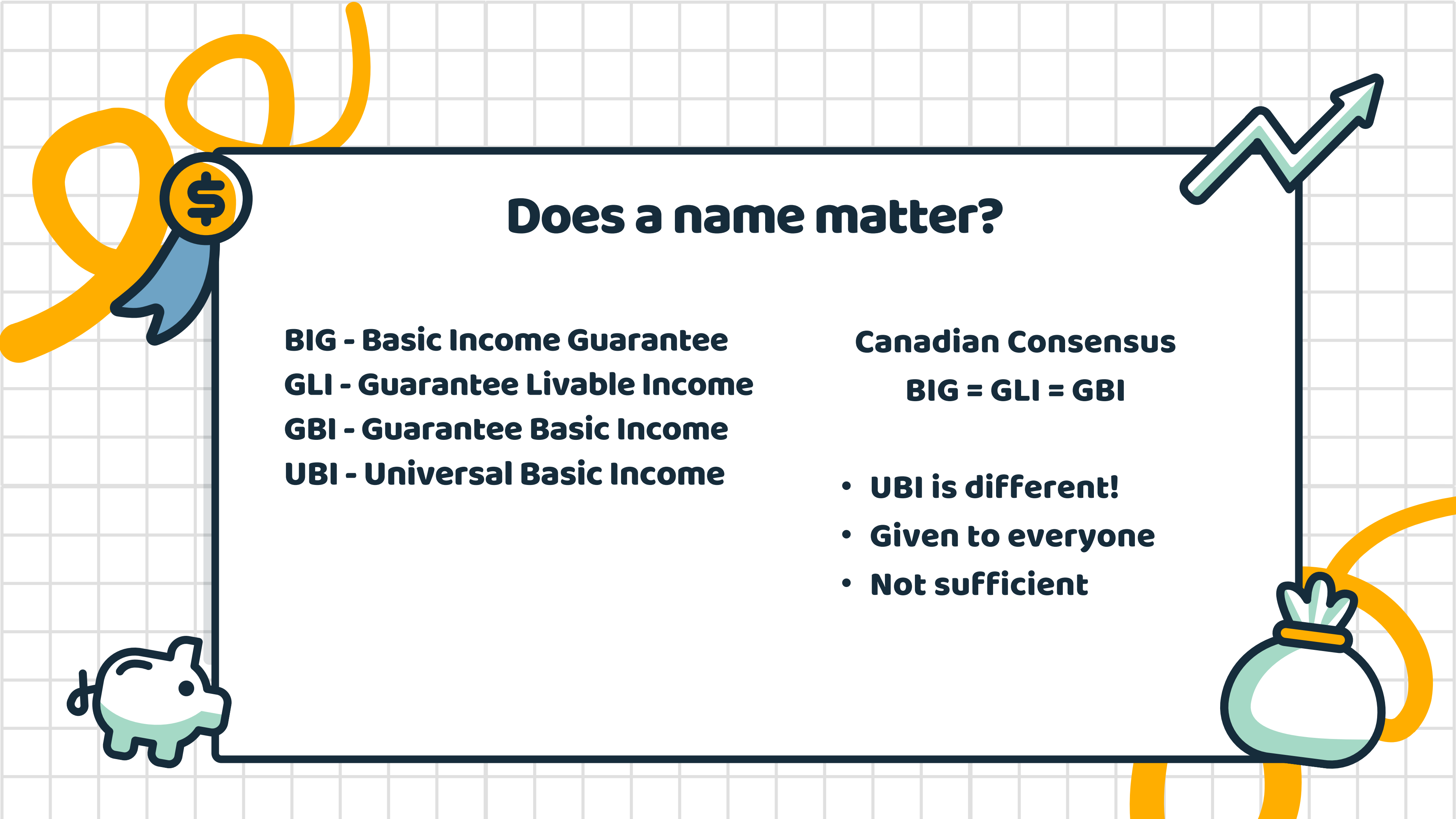
Definition:

A direct payment from government to ensure that everyone has a sufficient income to meet their basic needs, participate in society and live with dignity, regardless of work status.

Income-tested, but no intrusive, onerous, demeaning, stigmatizing requirements or oversight.

The maximum benefit would be given to those with no income. Gradually reduced as income rises, up to a maximum point. Those with higher incomes receive no benefit.





Does a name matter?

BIG - Basic Income Guarantee

GLI - Guarantee Livable Income

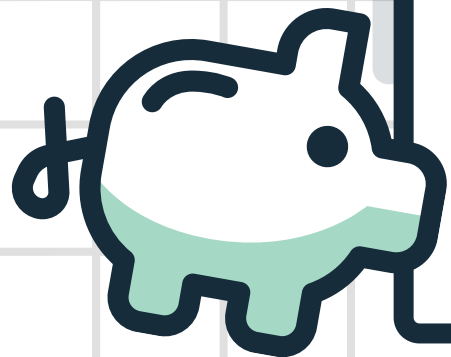
GBI - Guarantee Basic Income

UBI - Universal Basic Income

Canadian Consensus

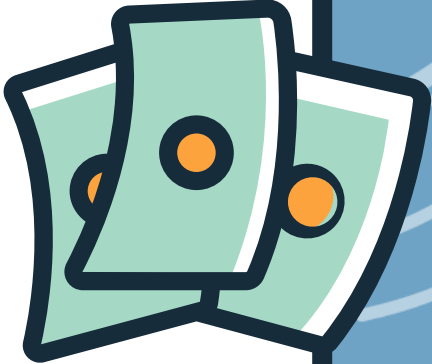
BIG = GLI = GBI

- **UBI is different!**
- **Given to everyone**
- **Not sufficient**

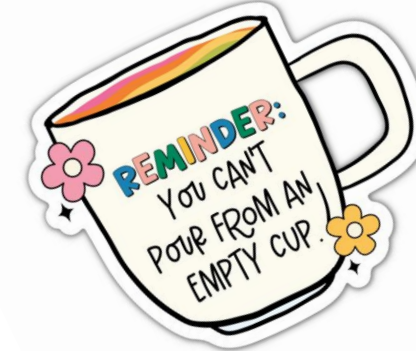




Guiding Principals



- 1. Sufficient**
- 2. Unconditional**
- 3. Universally Accessible**
- 4. An essential component of a comprehensive safety net**
- 5. Responsive to changing circumstances**
- 6. Respectful of autonomy**
- 7. Respectful of Indigenous self-determination**



Why do We need Basic Income Guarantee ...

- Too many people are suffering
- Food insecurity
- Housing insecurity
- Homelessness
- Job uncertainty
- Climate change
- Many are one step away from poverty or living in poverty
- We all need an income floor below which no one can fall

- Poverty affects the health and well-being of individuals and communities (SDoH)
- “Poverty is the best predictor of early illness, early hospitalizations, longer hospital stays and earlier death. It is a reliable predictor of substance abuse, food insecurity, poor education outcomes, and for some, trouble with the law.”

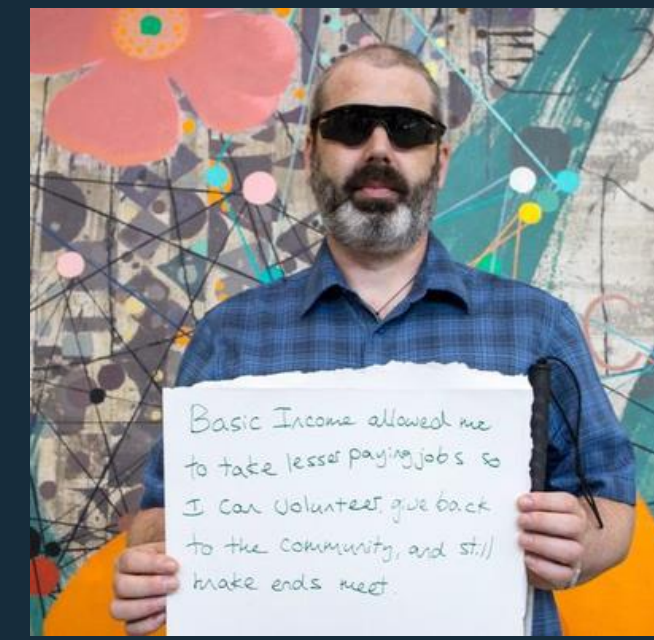
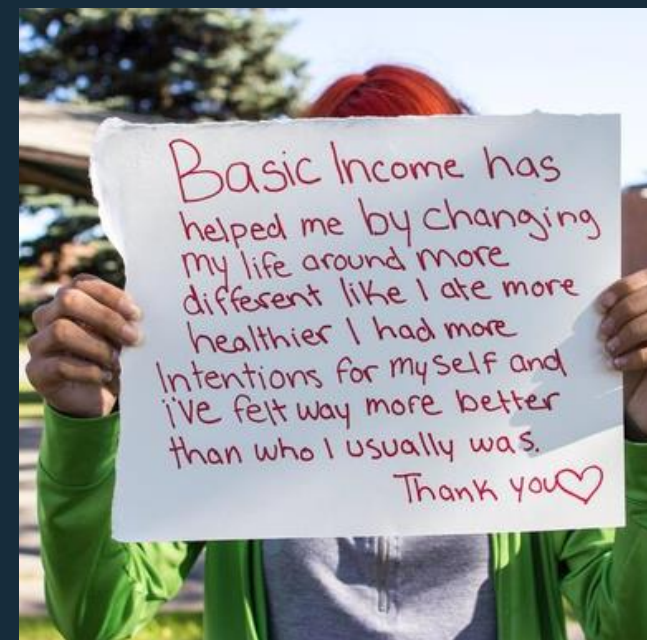
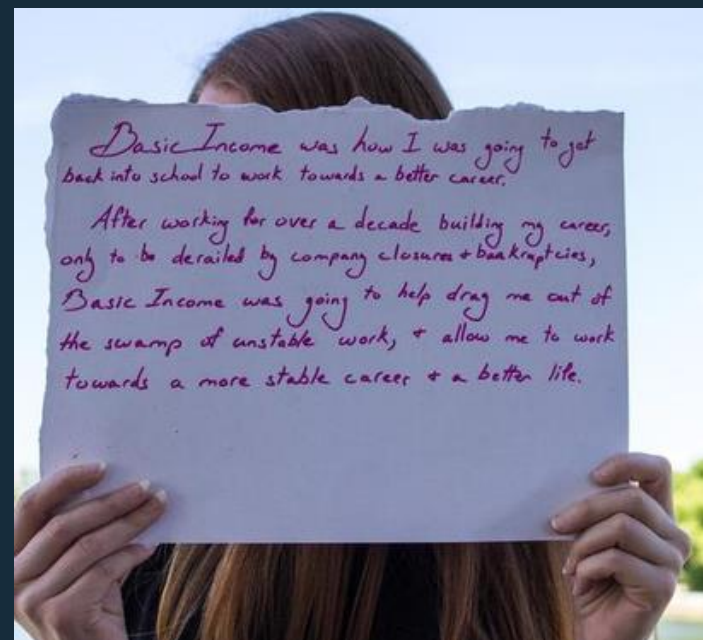
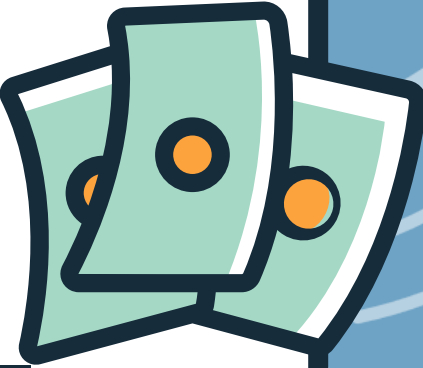
[Segal, H. \(2016\). Discussion paper on Ontario pilot project](#)

**Poverty costs the Atlantic Provinces \$4,604,723,040/yr Canada
~\$85 Billion/yr**





Why do we need Basic Income Guarantee ..



It can make a real difference!

“For a significant number of [Ontario BIG pilot] participants, basic income purportedly proved to be transformational, fundamentally reshaping their living standards as well as their sense of self-worth and hope for a better future.”

(Ferdosi et al., 2020)



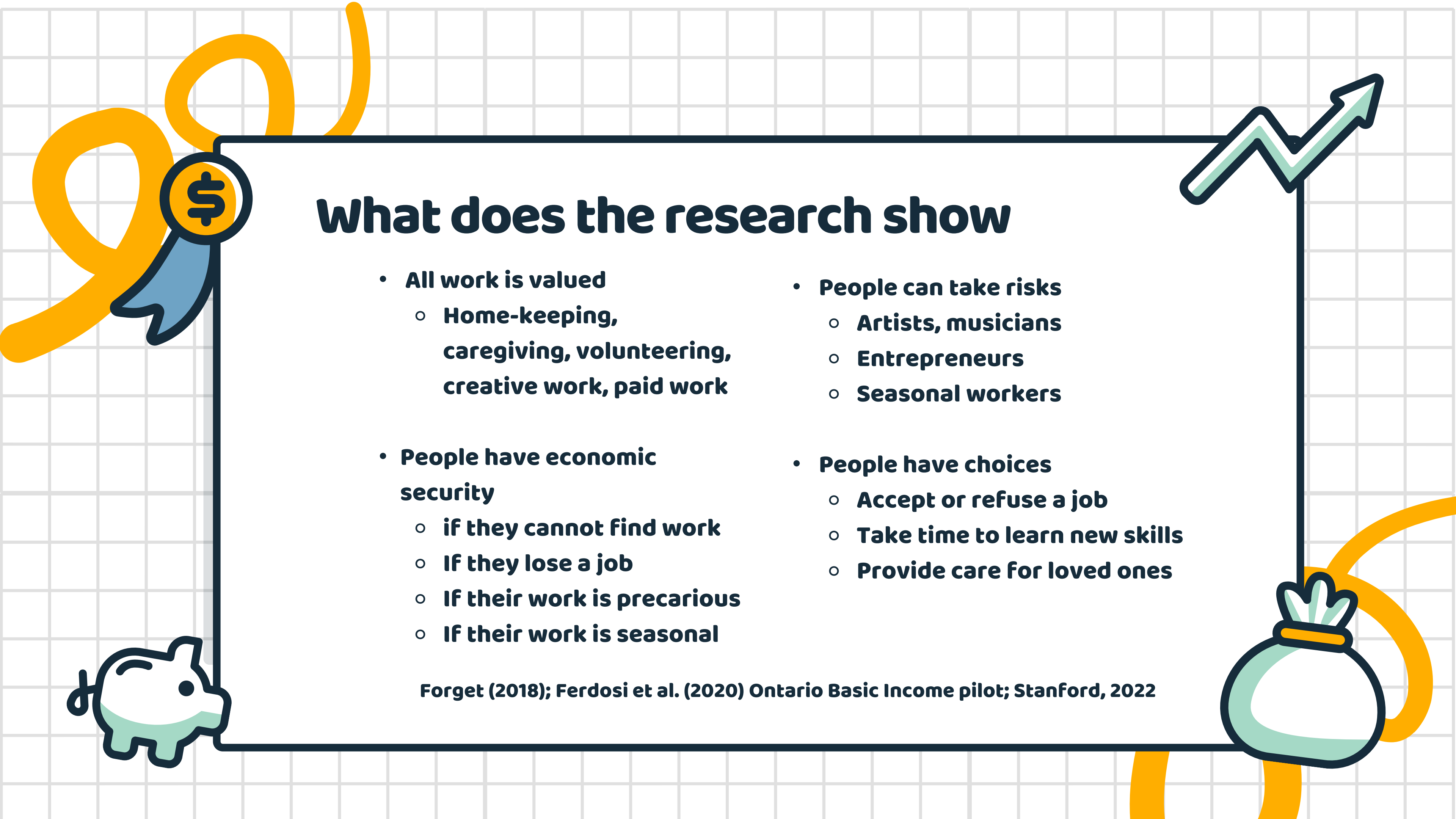


What does the research show

- **Radically reduces poverty and food insecurity**
- **Improves housing, housing quality, and housing safety**
- **Reduces high school drop-out rates & increases engagement in post-secondary education**
- **Improves mental and physical health (8.5%) and decreases violent and property crime (17.5%); crimes of stress and desperation**
- **Therefore, decreases health care and incarceration/policing costs (Return on Investment)**
- **Stimulates urban and rural economies: money stays in the local community**
- **Has little effect on paid work engagement**
- **Increases trust in government**



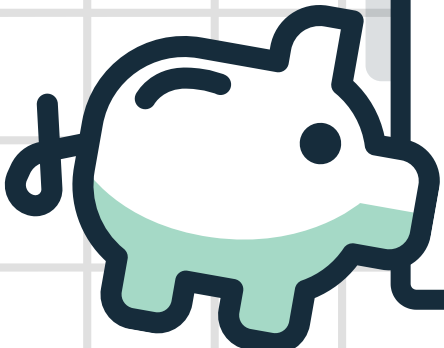
e.g., Calnitsky et al., 2021; Dwyer et al., 2023; Forget, E. (2018); Forget, E. (2011); Forget, E. (2013);
Finland, Final Report, 2022; PBO report, 2021

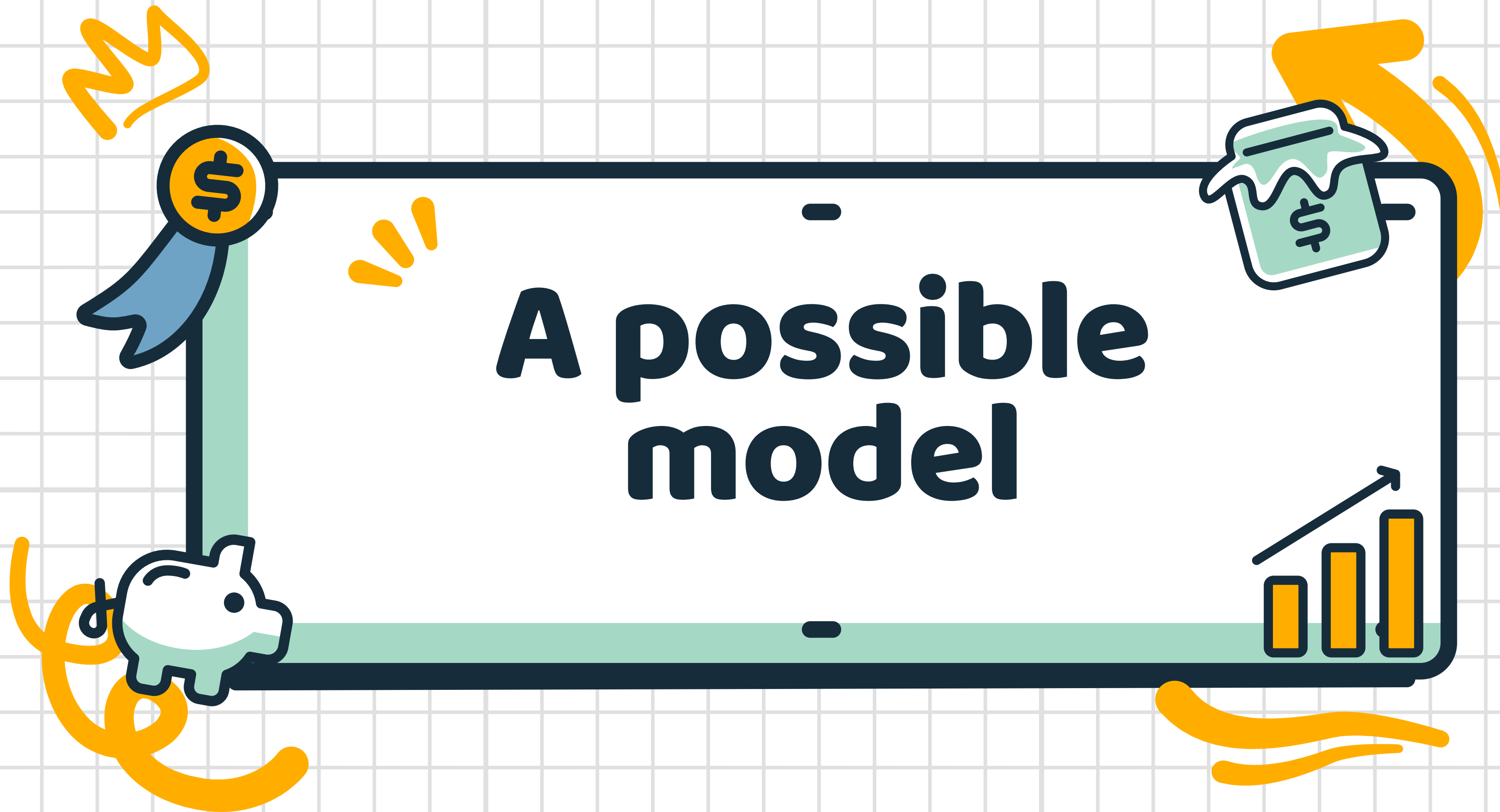


What does the research show

- **All work is valued**
 - Home-keeping, caregiving, volunteering, creative work, paid work
- **People have economic security**
 - if they cannot find work
 - If they lose a job
 - If their work is precarious
 - If their work is seasonal
- **People can take risks**
 - Artists, musicians
 - Entrepreneurs
 - Seasonal workers
- **People have choices**
 - Accept or refuse a job
 - Take time to learn new skills
 - Provide care for loved ones

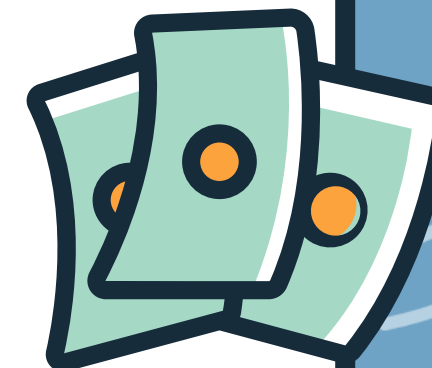
Forget (2018); Ferdosi et al. (2020) Ontario Basic Income pilot; Stanford, 2022







What would it look like?



Individuals with basic income of \$24,000 with a 40% claw back rate t

Income recipient #1:
\$0 income

- No claw back
- BI: \$24,000
- Total Income: \$24,000

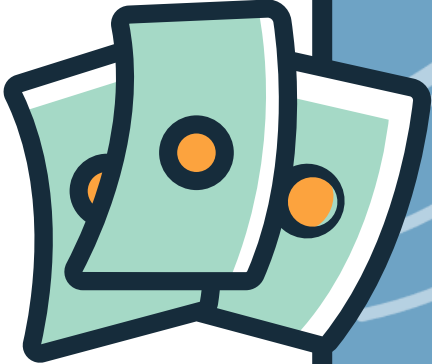
Income recipient #2:
\$15,000 income

- 40% claw back: \$6000
- BI: $\$24,000 - \$6,000 = \$18,000$
- Total Income: $\$15,000 + \$18,000 = \$33,000$

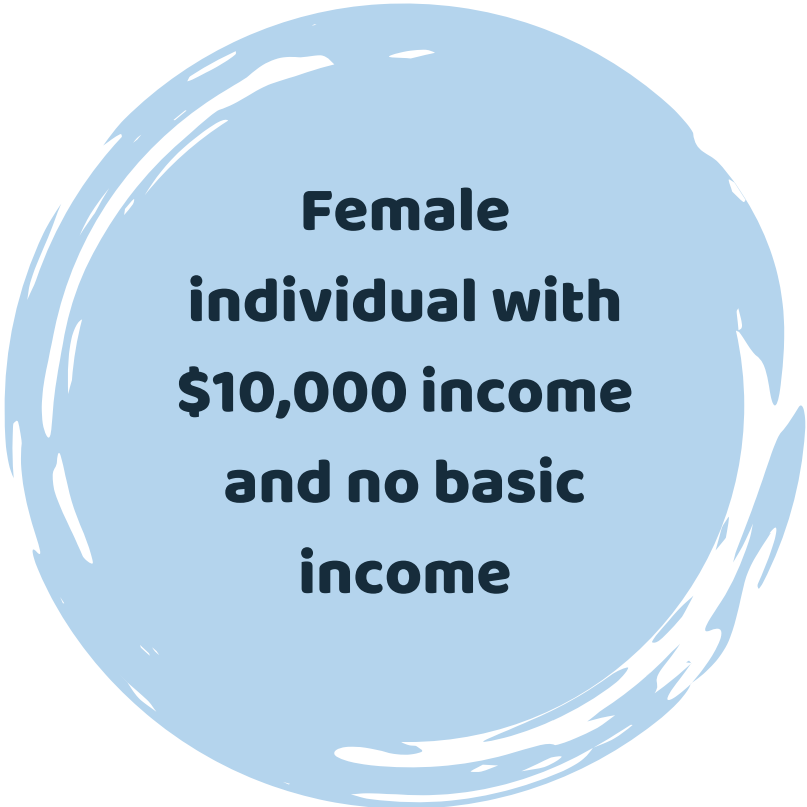
Income recipient #3:
\$35,000 income

- 40% claw back: \$14,000
- BI: $\$24,000 - \$14,000 =$
- \$10,000
- Total Income: $\$35,000 + \$10,000 = \$45,000$





What would it look like?



**Female
individual with
\$10,000 income
and no basic
income**

- **Income without BI: \$10,000**
 - **\$600/month housing: \$7,200**
 - **Remainder: \$2,800 i.e., \$233/month for all additional needs e.g., food, utilities, etc.**
 - **Ergo: no transportation money, no way out: stuck in poverty trap**
 - **Stagnant Economy**
- 
- 



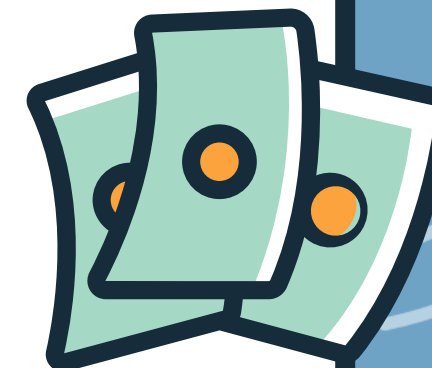
What would it look like?



**Female
individual with
\$10,000 income
and with basic
income and 40%
claw back**

- **Base:** \$10,000
- **Basic Income:** \$20,000
- **Total:** \$30,000
- **Rent:** \$ 7,200
- **Remainder:** \$22,800

- **Can afford to look for a job.**
- **Can afford education.**
- **Exit Poverty Trap**
- **Economic activity**



What can Municipalities do





Why Are Municipal Voices Important?

As Former Halifax Mayor Mike Savage [says](#):

“The feds have the money, the provinces have the jurisdiction, and the cities have the problems.”

Halifax - [passed](#), June 28, 2022

Amherst - passed, October 19, 2022

Cumberland County - [passed](#), Oct 2022

Pictou County - [passed](#), Feb 6, 2023

Annapolis County - passed, March 14, 2023

Wolfville - passed, March 21, 2023

Antigonish - [passed](#), May 16, 2023

Antigonish County - passed, June 27, 2023

Yarmouth - first vote failed; 2nd vote passed unanimously, July 13, 2023

Cape Breton Regional Municipality - passed, Oct 11, 2023

Kentville - passed, November 27, 2023

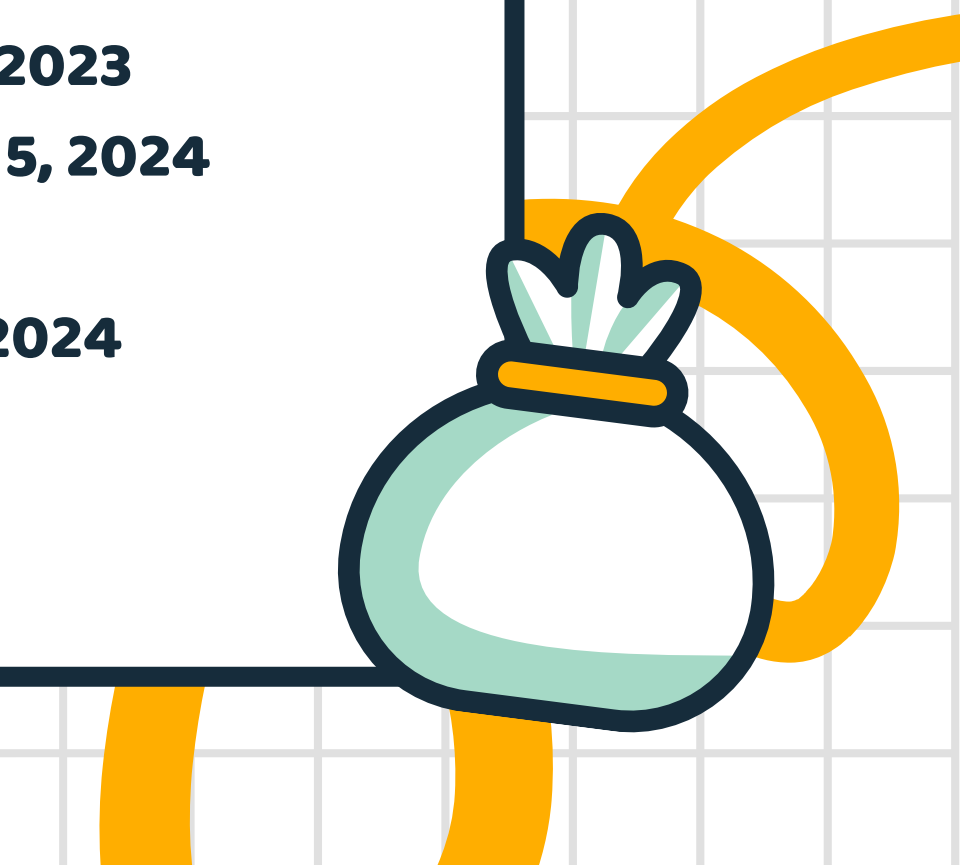
Colchester County - passed, Feb 15, 2024

Truro - [passed](#), March 4, 2024

King's County - passed, March 5, 2024

Berwick - passed, March 12, 2024

Middleton - [passed](#), Aug 17, 2024





What can Municipalities do...

- **Affirm support by passing resolutions**
- **Call on other NS municipalities to affirm or reaffirm support**
- **Call on the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities to support and speak out to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities**
- **Call on the Houston government to create an all-party committee to study how NS could work with the feds to implement a BIG**
- **Call on candidates in the upcoming federal election to support a BIG**



Questions



Thank You!





AMANS Qualified List of Investigators – Municipal Code of Conduct

The following is a list of investigators qualified through the Association of Municipal Administrators, Nova Scotia (AMANS) request for qualification (RFQ) process that closed on January 17, 2025.

AMANS worked with its internal Procurement Committee to evaluate all submissions received. Committee members evaluated each proposal and then met to form consensus on each proponent. The listed 10 investigators were qualified.

Unless otherwise indicated, all investigators met the Procurement Committee's evaluation thresholds for criteria related to investigations including corporate/financial, legal/adjudication, and human resources (HR). Each investigator has indicated capacity to administer potential complaints. Should a municipal unit choose to use this list, they will need to verify with the potential investigator if there may be capacity limits with client onboarding.

AMANS has not entered into either a Contract or an Agreement with any of the qualified investigators. The investigators included on this list have been vetted through an internal AMANS RFQ procurement process. **It will be the municipal unit's responsibility when determining an appropriate investigator as well as facilitating the process of entering into any Contract or Agreement should the municipality choose to use an investigator on the list.** Municipal units should also consider potential internal conflicts of interest if they choose to select a qualified investigator from the list.

AMANS may expand the list at a later point in time by re-issuing the RFQ. AMANS will inform members of any potential changes to the list of qualified investigators as they come forward.

If you have any questions about the list of qualified investigators, criteria when using the list, or on the RFQ process, please reach out to David Campbell, AMANS Executive Director at (902) 423-2215 x8 or at dcampbell@amans.ca.

BDO Canada LLP Caroline Dixon Partner, Forensic Disputes & Investigations 6940 Mumford Road, Suite 510 Halifax, NS B3L 0B7 Tel: (250) 837-5225 Email: cdixon@bdo.ca	Stewart McKelvey Rick Dunlop Partner Queens Marque, 600-1741 Lower Water Street Halifax, NS B3J 0J2 Tel: (902) 420-3384 Email: rdunlop@stewartmckelvey.com
Burchell MacDougall LLP Charles A. Thompson Partner 710 Prince Street Truro, NS B2N 5H1 Tel: (902) 896-7543 Email: cthompson@burchellmacdougall.com	Taylor McLellan Cochrane Jonathan G. Cuming Managing Partner 50 Bridge Street Kentville, NS B4N 2E4 Tel: (902) 678-6156 x234 Email: cuming@tmclaw.com
Burchell Wickwire Bryson LLP Noella Martin Partner 1900-1801 Hollis Street Halifax, NS B3J 3N4 Tel: (902) 482-7013 Email: nmartin@bwblp.ca	Bardsley Investigative Services (HR matters only) Claudine Bardsley Owner/Operator 2733 Deacon Street Halifax, NS B3L 3J2 Tel: (902) 293-5052 Email: investigate@claudinebardsley.com
MC Advisory Group Inc. Tanya Tynski Senior Advisor 1969 Upper Water Street, Suite 1300 Halifax, NS B3J 3R7 Tel: (902) 598-7423 Email: tanya.tynski@mcadvisory.com	Mobile Resources Group Inc. (HR matters only) Tracey Williams Senior Workplace and Human Rights Investigator 500-1000 Innovation Drive Kanata, Ontario K2K 3E7 Tel: (902) 266-3040 Email: info@traceywilliams.ca

Nijhawan McMillan & Conlon Barristers Kelly McMillan Partner 200-5162 Duke Street Halifax NS B3J 1N7 Tel: (902) 407-2406 Email: kelly@nmbarristers.com	Power HR Inc. (HR matters only) Susan Power Founder & CEO 22 Chelmsford Place Halifax, NS B3M 4R2 Tel: (902) 719-6662 Email: susan@powerhr.ca