

# Basic income

An idea whose time has come?

AN INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP TO BUILD PUBLIC HEALTH CAPACITY

**Catherine L. Mah** MD FRCPC PhD, CRC in Promoting Healthy Populations, Dalhousie University

**Frank Welsh** PhD, Director of Policy, Canadian Public Health Association

**Nathan Taylor** MSc MPH, PhD student, Dalhousie University

**Ryan Murray**, Masters student, University of New Brunswick; Board Member, Public Health Association of NB/PE

**Rebecca Hasdell** MPH PhD, Dalhousie-Ecology Action Centre Food Policy Fellow, Dalhousie University

Special thanks to community members, advocates, other researchers and students, and public health staff who provided input and resources along the way

# Disclosure Statement

- I have no affiliation (financial or otherwise) with a pharmaceutical, medical device or communications organization.

## AGENDA

Introduction and objectives (5m)

Primer on basic income and and population health (15m)

Town hall: rapid brainstorm to generate ideas and questions for your political representatives (30m)

Small group vignette table-top activity (30m)

Large group reflection and take home messages (10m)

# Ontario's Basic Income Pilot

Studying the impact of a basic income



 Basic Income Canada Network  
Réseau canadien pour le revenu garanti

[NEWS](#) [RESOURCES](#)

A Basic Income Guarantee ensures everyone an income sufficient to meet basic needs and live with dignity, regardless of work status.

**\$12,000  
GIVEAWAY**

**Yang 2020**



OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL  
**CANADA'S  
FIRST POVERTY  
REDUCTION  
STRATEGY**

 Employment and Social Development Canada / Emploi et Développement social Canada



# BASIC INCOME THE EVIDENCE SPEAKS

**BASIC INCOME NOVA SCOTIA  
MINICONFERENCE**

**WHEN**  
**Saturday April 27th, 2019**  
**9:30am - 4:00pm**

**WHERE**  
**Paul O'Regan Hall**  
**Halifax Central Library**  
**5440 Spring Garden Road, Halifax**

**FREE EVENT!**

## SPEAKERS:

**Wanda Thomas Bernard**

What's holding us back?

**Evelyn Forget**

The Evidence

**Catherine Mah**

BI and Food Security

**Kourtney Koebel**

Financing a BI

**Vince Calderhead**

BI and Human Rights

**& others**

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# **BASIC INCOME A PRIMER**

**FRANK WELSH PH.D.  
DIRECTOR OF POLICY  
CANADIAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION**

TOWN HALL on BASIC INCOME

Now that you have heard a little (or a lot) about basic income, we are going to do some **town hall prep!**



## **RAPID BRAINSTORMING**

- Series of 5 questions will be posed—1 at a time
- Shout out your responses—Rebecca, Nate, and Ryan will group the ideas into emerging clusters
- We'll name the clusters into themes as a large group

SHOUT OUT YOUR IDEAS!

1. ONE **fact/health indicator** about your community that shows why a basic income might be important

SHOUT OUT YOUR IDEAS!

2. ONE **community member** you have encountered in your public health practice who might benefit from a basic income

SHOUT OUT YOUR IDEAS!

3. **ONE value** (i.e., ideas, principles, goals, norms, beliefs)  
that you associate with basic income

SHOUT OUT YOUR IDEAS!

4. **ONE influential voice** in politics in your community (try to be specific)

*[Ideas: e.g., city councillors, Mayor, MOH, public health staff, NGOs, labour groups, PT rep, MP/Senator, industry/businesses, students, faith groups, media ...]*

SHOUT OUT YOUR IDEAS!

5. Think about that influential voice in politics: **why would/wouldn't** they support a basic income guarantee?

## TOWN HALL on BASIC INCOME

- **Naming the themes:** What are the key themes that have emerged?
- Now that you've started to brainstorm some of the considerations around basic income, what additional information do you need?

## **Q&A with facilitators**

# VIGNETTES



Assume: **Negative Income Tax** model

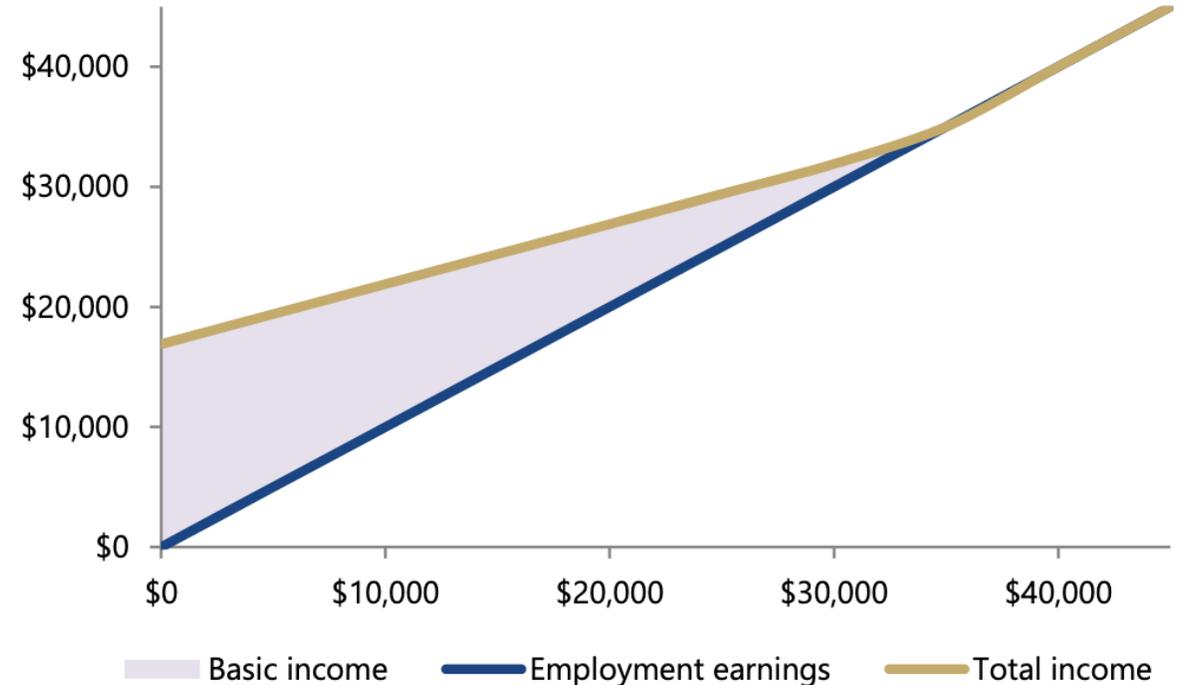
\$20K per adult per year adjusted for family size with 30% reduction rate

Boadway, Cuff, Koebel  
Two-Stage model 2016:

1. Federal government replaces current refundable and nonrefundable tax credits with income-tested BI;
  2. Provinces decide to harmonize or adjust province-specific levels / transfers
- >> *Social services intact*

Decile	Average BIG
Bottom	\$20,353
Second	\$18,054
Third	\$15,504
Fourth	\$12,540
Middle	\$8,420
Sixth	\$3,569
Seventh	\$712
Eighth	\$0
Ninth	\$0
Top	\$0
Aggregate	\$7,912

## Change in total income due to the GBI



Source: PBO calculations based on the Ontario pilot project parameters.

Parliamentary Budget Office, April 2018 (based on Ontario pilot)

VIGNETTES



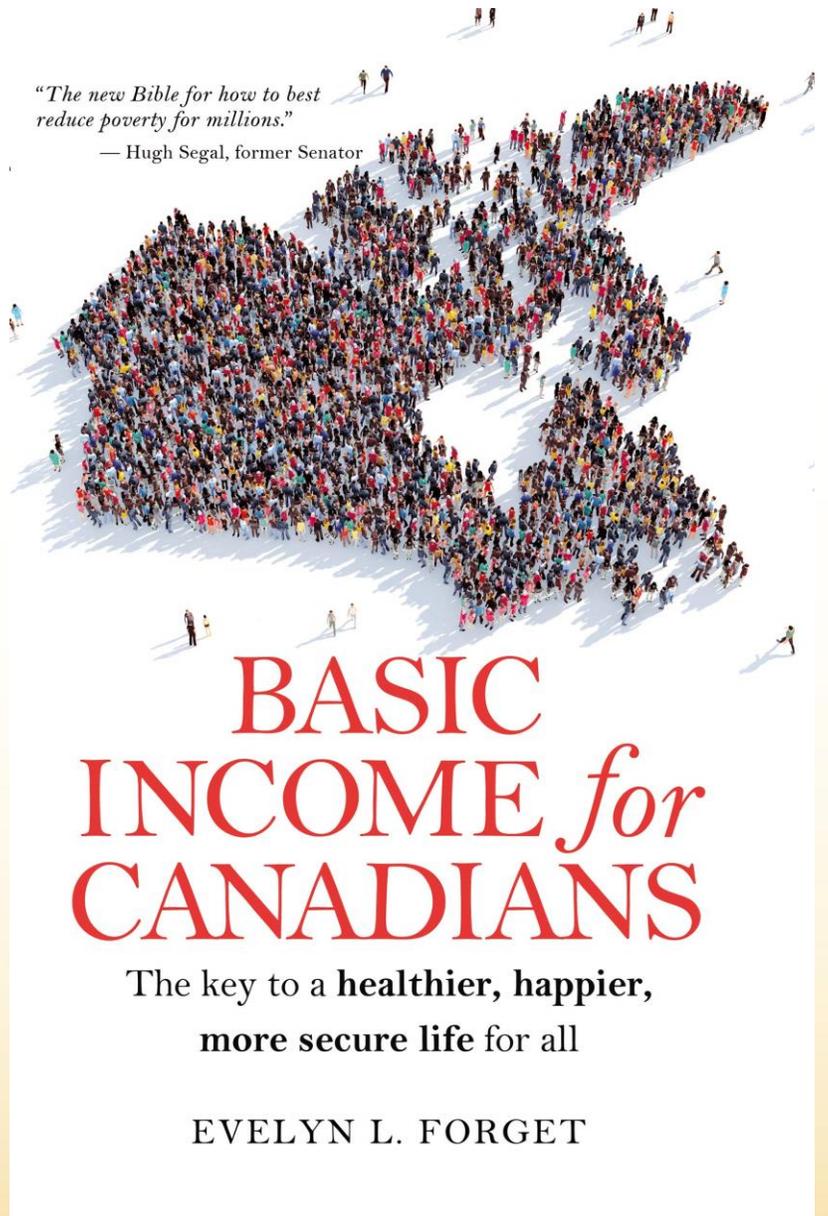
DISCUSSION QUESTION:



**What do you think the community member in your story will do with a basic income?**

How will their **day-to-day life** change? Will they use public services differently and how?

SEE VIGNETTES ON YOUR TABLE



VIGNETTES



DISCUSSION QUESTION: 

**What do you think the community member in your story will do with a basic income?**

How will their **day-to-day life** change? Will they use public services differently and how?

YOUR TURN

Who else might benefit from a basic income guarantee in your community?  
**Sketch out a new vignette example based on your idea.**

(Recall discussion from part one of the workshop)



Basic income  
and health  
equity is why  
a **full social  
safety net**  
matters

# Building the kinds of communities that take care of everyone



CANADIAN COALITION FOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
IN THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY

## PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS Basic Income Guarantee



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## REFERENCES & STARTER RESOURCE LIST

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10. BIEN: Basic Income Earth Network [website]: <https://basicincome.org/research/> and BiCN: Basic Income Canada Network [website]: <https://www.basicincomecanada.org/>. BiCN has a resource page here: <https://www.basicincomecanada.org/resources>