Please address your email to the Honourable Jenna Sudds, Minister of Family, Children and Social Development and send it to her at <u>jenna.sudds@parl.gc.ca.</u> Please copy your local MP. You can also send a letter postage-free if it is mailed to House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0A6.

Re: Request for Minister Jenna Sudds to send a message to Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland asking the finance minister to indicate her support for the Federal/Provincial Working Group studying the details of a 5 to 7-year Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) demonstration project for PEI in Budget 2025.

Dear Minister Sudds,

Your Ministry, together with PEI Minister Barbara Ramsay, has taken the important step of creating a Working Group to study the data and administrative structure of a 5 to 7-year Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) demonstration project for PEI.

While many MPs support such a benefit, there remain questions about its feasibility and the administrative impacts of such a benefit. These are important concerns that need to be addressed. The <u>report proposing a GBI for PEI</u> has suggested how these concerns can be addressed, providing the basis for a Federal/Provincial GBI demonstration project in PEI.

Our current social support system is failing. Your Government is not on track to fulfill the commitments and goals in its <u>Poverty Reduction Strategy</u>. It will take vision and innovation to move beyond tinkering around the edges of our income assistance system - adding one narrowly targeted group after another - and instead finding a more effective and efficient way forward to provide "opportunity for all".

A demonstration project of a GBI in PEI fulfills this need for innovation. You will be able to study not only how a GBI affects lives and economies, but also evaluate the many administrative intersections and outcomes. You will be able to hone the process, and provide many, many people with hope. You will take the next step in the evolution of our social safety net with an affordable, accessible, and sufficient income floor beneath the feet of all Canadians so that no one falls into poverty when they and their families are in crisis.

Coalition Canada recently sent a <u>pre-budget submission</u> to FINA asking them to support the efforts of your working group in the upcoming 2025 Budget. Minister Sudds, we are asking you to please send a message to Finance Minister Freeland asking her to indicate her support in Budget 2025 for the Working Group with the goal of establishing a demonstration project.

Thank you,

Yours sincerely

(Your name, address and postal code)