

*Please address your email to the Honourable Jenna Sudds, Minister of Family, Children and Social Development and send it using her ministerial email address: [jenna.sudds@parl.gc.ca](mailto:jenna.sudds@parl.gc.ca). 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. Snail mail is effective. Please consider doing both and following up with a phone call to your MP asking for a meeting.*

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**Re: Request for Minister Jenna Sudds to ask Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland to show 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 proposals in a recent [report](#) that describes a feasible and affordable Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) island-wide demonstration project in PEI. Many MPs support a GBI, but there remain questions about its feasibility and how best to administer such a benefit. These important questions need to be answered and a demonstration project in PEI can do just that.

Current income assistance (welfare) programs are insufficient and administratively intrusive and demeaning. Your government is not on track to fulfill the commitments and goals in its [Poverty Reduction Strategy](#). It will take vision and innovation to move beyond tinkering around the edges of our income assistance system to create an effective and efficient system which provides “opportunity for all”.

**An island-wide Federal/Provincial 5- to 7-year GBI demonstration project fulfills this need for vision and innovation.**

By completing a GBI demonstration project in PEI, you will be able to study not only how a GBI affects lives and economies, but also the many administrative intersections and outcomes of the project. You will be able to hone the process, and provide many, many people with hope. At the same time, it would be possible to simulate the cost and administrative implications of evolving the current income assistance (welfare) system to one which brings everyone out of poverty in a consistent and non-punitive manner. **Such a comparison would allow you to answer the question: what is the best way to alleviate poverty and ensure no one is left behind in Canada?**

Coalition Canada recently sent a [pre-budget submission](#) to FINA asking them to support the efforts of your working group in the upcoming 2025 Budget. Minister Sudds, we urge you to send a message to Finance Minister Freeland asking her to indicate her support in Budget 2025 for the PEI GBI Working Group with the goal of establishing a demonstration project.

Thank you,

Yours sincerely

*(Your name, address and postal code)*