

Letter to NDP MPs.

Address your email to Mr./Ms. MP's last name. Emails use this format: firstname.lastname@parl.gc.ca. Letters can be mailed postage-free to the **House of Commons**, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0A6. Snail mail is more effective than email; but please consider doing both. A full list of MP's and their contact information can be found [here](#).

Please cc:

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Dear Mr., Ms. (MP's last name),

I am writing to ask you to support a Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) for Canadians by: **(1) requesting that the funding and resources for the existing Federal/PEI Working Group be secured, and (2) putting GBI in your party's platform in the upcoming election.**

With the upcoming election focussed on important issues of environment, trade, tariffs, and sovereignty we may lose sight of the growing need to address income insecurity and poverty in Canada. Income insecurity and poverty affects not only individuals but communities, societies, and our economy.

The NDP has played a critical role in this minority government, strengthening our social safety net through the expansion of Pharmacare, Dental coverage, the Canada Child Benefit, the beginnings of a Canada Disability Benefit that can now be built upon, and the introduction of \$10/day daycare and school lunch programs. Leah Gazan's Bill C-223, which the entire NDP Caucus voted for raised the awareness of a Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) in the legislature and across the country. Despite your party's important accomplishments, the federal government is failing to meet its commitments to reduce and eventually eliminate poverty. People are suffering.

More must be done. The report, [A Proposal for a Guaranteed Basic Income for PEI](#), provides an evidence-based path to a GBI. It is the result of two years of work by experienced economists, federal and PEI former public servants, and federal and PEI politicians. It was a non-partisan effort, with participation from all political parties. The report estimates that poverty rates will be reduced from 9.7% to 2.1% with no one living

in deep poverty. By using a different family definition for delivery, the PEI report has reduced the gross cost of a GBI by over 40%. The recent PBO update on GBI, using a comparable family definition, confirms these results. A demonstration project in PEI would be accompanied by a vigorous assessment of its impacts, what works, and what needs to be modified to maximize efficacy and efficiency. At the same time, we could study the cost of changing the current system to meet similar poverty reduction goals - something which has not yet been done at either federal or provincial levels.

The project would help us answer the question: what is the most socially and economically feasible way to address poverty in Canada, with actual evidence. This could provide a national framework for a GBI. **A Federal/Provincial (PEI) Working Group has been formed to study the report and the possibility of implementing the proposed demonstration project for an island-wide GBI in PEI. But the future of the working group may be in jeopardy—it needs your help.** The NDP has been behind many of our important social support innovations. In the upcoming election, please continue this progressive legacy. Please request that funding and resources for the PEI Working Group be secured and work to put GBI into your party's platform for the coming election.

(Your name, address, postal code)