

Draft Letter to a Federal or Provincial Politician

Subject: Income Insecurity and the PEI Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) Demonstration Project (a GBI for PEI)

Dear [Mr./Ms./Mx [Last Name]],

I am a constituent in your riding, and I am writing to express my growing concern about income insecurity and the rising cost of living in our community. Many of my neighbours, friends, and family members are struggling to afford basic needs such as housing, food, and transportation.

(You may wish to include a brief personal example or story to help illustrate this concern.)

While the federal government has emphasized the need to modernize our economy, we must also bring our social security systems into the 21st century. Rapid economic and technological change means that many Canadians are being left behind. A stronger, more inclusive system is essential to ensure everyone can lead healthy, productive, and secure lives.

Currently, 10.2% of Canadians live in poverty, and this number continues to rise. The current social assistance (welfare) system for working-age adults is costly, complex, and often fails to help people move out of poverty. It also affects people's dignity and limits their ability to build better futures for themselves and their families.

That's why I support the proposal for a federal-provincial **Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) demonstration project in Prince Edward Island**. This project would allow policymakers to test and refine how a basic income could work in practice, identifying potential improvements along the way.

Research behind the PEI GBI proposal shows promising results:

- Poverty in PEI could drop from 9.7% to 2.1%.
- The cost of the program would be approximately 40% less than earlier national projections.
- Most recipients would continue working about the same number of hours.

This is a valuable opportunity to explore a more effective, compassionate and sustainable approach to income support in Canada, that could cost less than a system that keeps people living in poverty.

I would greatly appreciate the chance to meet with you to share my concerns about growing income insecurity and to hear your thoughts on the GBI for PEI initiative.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to representing our community.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Address or Riding]

[Your Contact Information]