

**BASIC INCOME CLASS ACTION – BOWMAN V. ONTARIO**

**NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION**

**THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS – PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY**

The French version is found here / La version française se trouve ici : <https://www.cavalluzzo.com/basicincomeclassaction>

You are receiving this notice because the records of the Defendant, the Province of Ontario, indicate that you are a former recipient of basic income through the Basic Income Pilot, and a Class Member (as described below) in this Class Action lawsuit, unless you choose to exclude yourself from (or opt out of) this Class Action.

For more information about this Class Action please see: [www.cavalluzzo.com/basicincomeclassaction](https://www.cavalluzzo.com/basicincomeclassaction) or contact Class Counsel as set out below.

**Summary**

This Class Action is against the Ontario Government, with respect to its decision to cancel the Basic Income Pilot in July 2018.

This Class Action alleges that the cancellation of the Pilot amounts to a breach of contract and that the Ontario Government was unjustly enriched by their actions.

On March 4, 2024, the Ontario Superior Court released its decision certifying the class action.

If the Plaintiffs are successful in this lawsuit, Class Members may be eligible to receive compensation from the Ontario Government for lost basic income payments, as well as related damages.

The Court has not yet determined whether this lawsuit will be successful and it will now proceed to a common issues trial. A trial date has not yet been set by the Court.

The law firm Cavalluzzo LLP has been appointed as Class Counsel by the Court to represent the Class Members.

**1. What The Lawsuit is About**

This Basic Income Pilot was introduced in 2017 with the goal of studying whether granting Ontarians regular, fixed payments (a "basic income") was something that the Government should consider doing in the future.

Approximately 6,000 Ontarians living in Lindsay, Hamilton, Thunder Bay, and their surrounding areas enrolled in the Basic Income Pilot. 4,000 of these participants received a monthly basic income and were required to regularly complete surveys.

Approximately one year after the Pilot's introduction, on July 31, 2018, the Ontario Government announced it would be cancelling it. The final payments were made to participants on March 25, 2019.

This Class Action alleges that the cancellation of the Pilot amounts to a breach of contract and that the Ontario Government was unjustly enriched by their actions. Ontario denies the Plaintiff's allegations.

A copy of the Reasons of the Court relating to Certification can be viewed at <https://www.cavalluzzo.com/basicincomeclassaction>. These Reasons and other court documents relating to the Class Action can be found at this website.

**2. How to be part of the Class Action**

**PLEASE NOTE: DO NOTHING IF YOU WISH TO BE A CLASS MEMBER IN THIS ACTION**

Under Ontario law, if you are a person falling within the Class definition (set out below), you will automatically be included in the Class unless you choose to be excluded from this Class Action. This is known as "opting out" of the Class Action.

**The Court Approved Class Definition**

By order of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice dated March 4, 2024, the following persons are automatically included in this class action lawsuit, unless they choose to be excluded from (i.e. opt out of) the Class Action:

all persons who were enrolled by the Defendant in the Basic Income Pilot Project as part of the Payment Group

### **How to be Excluded from the Class Action**

To exclude yourself (opt out) from this proceeding, you must contact Class Counsel by email or regular mail at the address below and provide them with your full legal name and mailing address and state that you wish to be excluded from (opt out of) the Class Action.

Class Counsel will confirm your decision to exclude yourself from (opt out of) this Class Action in writing. The deadline to opt out is **May 18, 2026**.

If you decide to exclude yourself from (opt out of) this Class Action, you will be excluded from any settlement that may be entered into or any award of compensation that may be made by the Court. Once you exclude yourself from (opt out of) this class action, you will receive no further communications regarding this Class Action.

All Class Members who do not exclude themselves from (who do not opt out of) the Class Action will be bound by any final judgment of the Court (whether or not the Class Action is successful) or any settlement approved by the Court.

### **3. What are the Financial Consequences of the Lawsuit?**

There is no cost to you as a Class Member in this lawsuit.

If the lawsuit is successful at the common issues trial, or any subsequent appeal, the Court may award compensation to the Class as a whole (of which you may receive a portion) or, alternatively, the Court may establish a process to determine if, and in what amount, any compensation may be payable to individual Class Members.

If the Class Action is successful, legal fees and disbursements incurred by Class Counsel will be deducted from the total amount recovered on behalf of the Class. The amount of such legal fees and disbursements must be reviewed and approved by the Court.

If the Class Action is unsuccessful, Class Members will not be awarded compensation. If the Class Action is unsuccessful, you and other Class Members will not have any financial obligations in respect of the lawsuit.

### **4. Class Counsel & Other Matters**

The law firm Cavalluzzo LLP has been appointed as Class Counsel by the Court. As noted above, Class Counsel will be paid legal fees only if the lawsuit is successful and only to the extent that such legal fees are approved by the Court.

If you wish to participate personally in the lawsuit, please contact Class Counsel or you may apply directly to the Court for permission to do so.

### **5. More Information**

For further information about the class proceeding lawsuit please see <https://www.cavalluzzo.com/basicincomeclassaction> or contact Class Counsel at:

**Stephen Moreau and Kaley Duff**  
Cavalluzzo LLP  
416-964-1115  
[BasicIncome@cavalluzzo.com](mailto:BasicIncome@cavalluzzo.com)

***PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE COURTHOUSE, OR THE REGISTRAR OF THE COURT ABOUT THIS ACTION. ALL QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LAWSUIT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO CLASS COUNSEL.***

This notice is published pursuant to the section 17 of the Ontario *Class Proceedings Act, 1992* and was approved by the Ontario Superior Court of Justice.