Court File No. CV-19-00000035-00CP

ONTARIO
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

B E T W E E N:

DANA BOWMAN, GRACE MARIE DOYLE HILLION, SUSAN LINDSAY and TRACEY MECHEFSKE

Plaintiffs

and

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF ONTARIO

Defendant

MOTION RECORD OF THE PLAINTIFFS (MOTION TO CERTIFY CLASS ACTION) VOLUME 2 OF 3

August 29, 2019

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Court File No. CV-19-00000035-00CP

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Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

CITATION: Bowman et al. v. Her Majesty the Queen, 2019 ONSC 1064
DIVISIONAL COURT FILE NO.: 102/18
DATE: 20190214

ONTARIO

SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE
DIVISIONAL COURT

THORBURN, REID, and MYERS JJ.

BETWEEN:	
DANA BOWMAN, GRACE MARIE DOYLE HILLION, SUSAN LINDSAY, and TRACEY MECHEFSKE Applicants	*Mike Perry* for the Applicants, Dana Lindsay Bowman, Grace Marie Doyle Hillion, Susan and Tracey Mechefske
– and –	
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF ONTARIO, AS REPRESENTED BY THE MINISTER OF CHILDREN, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES Respondent	*Christopher P. Thompson and Chantelle Blom* for the Respondent, Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Ontario
	HEARD at Toronto: January 28, 2019

BY THE COURT

OVERVIEW

[1] The government of Ontario announced a basic income pilot research study ("the Pilot Project") in April of 2017.

[2] The objective of the Pilot Project was to: "study whether a basic income can better support vulnerable workers and give people the security and opportunity they need to achieve their potential."

[3] It was envisaged that data would be gathered over a prolonged period in the hope of identifying whether providing recipients with a basic income would increase and stabilize income; reduce economic anxiety and/or improve housing stability, mental health and

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employment outcomes; and enable recipients to be better able to make choices and decisions about their future. The compilation of this data would assist in determining whether to adopt the basic income approach across the province.

[4] The Minister of Children, Social and Community Services ("the Respondent") decided to cancel the Pilot Project on July 31, 2018 with payments to end in March 2019.

[5] The Applicants seek judicial review to quash the decision cancelling the Pilot Project.

THE POSITION OF THE PARTIES

The Applicants' Position

[6] The Applicants agree that governments are entitled to make policy decisions to fund or not to fund certain initiatives. They also agree that the Minister's decision to cancel the Pilot Project is a policy decision.

[7] However, the Applicants submit that the decision to cancel the Pilot Project is subject to judicial review because the Minister's decision affects their financial interests, they relied on the Pilot Project to their detriment, and the decision to cancel adversely affects their well-being. Moreover, they claim the decision was irrational, made in bad faith and/or unethical and should therefore be quashed.

[8] The Applicants also claim the Respondent breached an agreement with Veritas, the Independent Review Board ("IRB") retained for the Pilot Project, which requires the Respondent to consult with Veritas and adhere to the terms of the agreement.

[9] Lastly, while the Applicants seek an order quashing the decision to cancel the Pilot Project, they do not seek an order requiring the Respondent to continue funding the Pilot Project. Rather, they concede there is no legal authority to require the Respondent to continue funding the Pilot Project.

The Respondent's Position

[10] The Respondent submits that the Pilot Project is a government funding decision which does not give rise to individual rights enforceable on judicial review. The decision to cancel the Pilot Project is therefore not justiciable because a policy decision as to how to spend public funds is a political decision that cannot be questioned or reviewed by the courts.

[11] Secondly, and only if this court decides that there is a justiciable issue, the fact that the Respondent's policy choices may be contrary to the interests of some does not render the decision irrational or in bad faith.

[12] Moreover, the Respondent argues that the statements made by members of the Legislature are not "reasons for decision" and the opinions of research ethicists cannot fetter

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Cabinet's policy-making authority. In any event, the Respondent's two experts concluded that the decision to cancel the Pilot Project was not an ethical violation.

[13] The Respondent submits that it had no obligation to consult with Veritas prior to cancelling the funding for the Pilot Project.

[14] Finally, the Respondent argues that the inevitable effect of an order to quash the decision to cancel the Pilot Project is to require the Respondent to continue funding, which, it is agreed, this Court has no authority to do.

THE EVIDENCE

[15] The Pilot Program was created pursuant to the Crown's common law spending powers. The authority for expenditures is derived from the *Supply Act* and expenditures are approved by the Treasury Board of Cabinet.

[16] The Applicants are all residents of Lindsay, Ontario. All of them receive Basic Income payments pursuant to the Pilot Project. Dana Bowman is 57-years old with long-term disabilities. Grace Hillion is a 20-year old student at Durham College. Susan Lindsay is a 57-year old person who stopped work in 2017 owing to health issues. Tracey Mechefske is a 46-year old person living with long-term disabilities who owns a small business.

[17] Pursuant to the Pilot Project, a randomized controlled trial was conducted in Hamilton and Thunder Bay with 1,000 participants assigned to a control group and 1,000 participants receiving payments. In Lindsay, a "saturation site", all 2,000 participants received payments.

[18] Participants in the control group receive up to $16,989 per year for a single person or $24,027 for a couple, plus an additional amount of up to $6,000 per year for each person with a disability. Payments are reduced by 100% of Employment Insurance and Workplace Safety and Insurance Board benefits and 50% of employment income. Recipients who were receiving income support from Ontario Works at the time of enrollment in the Pilot Project receive drug benefits and those who received income support from the Ontario Disability Support Program ("ODSP") continue to receive drug and dental benefits. Other benefits were not provided in the Pilot Project.

[19] Each of the Applicants was provided with an Information Booklet.

[20] In the Booklet, the Pilot Project is identified as "a three-year study" and later as lasting "up to three years".

[21] The Information Booklet provides that participants must complete surveys containing questions about their experiences while in the Pilot Project, such as regarding "stress levels, work, family, health, education and housing" and consent to the collection and disclosure of their personal information and tax records. The Information Booklet provides that:

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> Participation in the pilot is temporary. Any decision you make about your future based on the amount you receive should take this into account. Participants will get notifications about the close of the pilot in advance.
>
> ...
>
> The pilot will run for up to three years. When the pilot enters its final year, the Basic Income payments will be reduced gradually to prepare participants for the end of the study. The intent of this gradual reduction is to reduce any impact of ending Basic Income payments. Participants will receive information about this before any payments are reduced.

[22] Two of the four Applicants say they were told by Pilot Project staff that the Pilot Project would last three years. There was a phased enrollment of participants.

[23] As the Pilot Project was essentially a social science experiment with human participants, the Respondent engaged Veritas to "perform the initial and ongoing ethical review of the research study with the Research Participants' rights and welfare in mind."

[24] The Respondent acknowledged in writing that Veritas had the authority to review, oversee, and suspend approval of the Pilot Project and agreed to implement the Pilot Project "in accordance with the guiding ethical principles and normative documents abided by the IRB".

[25] In March 2018, the Respondent stated in a report to Veritas that the study closure date was May 27, 2021.

[26] Consistent with the Respondent's objectives of the Pilot Project:

a. Dana Bowman renewed her plan to upgrade her education toward a career in social work, which she said had not been financially feasible under ODSP;

b. Grace Hillion was able to pay her tuition and continue her college education which she said was in jeopardy due to financial issues;

c. Susan Lindsay, planned to use the Pilot Project payments to resume working; and

d. Tracey Mechefske used the payments in her small business.

[27] The Applicants say they also used the basic income from the Pilot Project to pay their bills, eat healthier food, and purchase clothes and medications. The Applicants say their independence, self-esteem and sense of personal accountability increased.

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[28] On July 31, 2018, just over one year from the announcement of the Pilot Project, the Minister cancelled the Pilot Project. The Applicants first learned of the cancellation through family, the news, and social media.

[29] The Applicants state that the cancellation of the Pilot Project on July 31, 2018 effective March 31, 2019, has had a devastating impact on them and they feel that, as a result of the cancellation, their futures are in jeopardy, their health has suffered, and their futures are uncertain.

[30] Media releases were followed up with letters to the participants who were informed that payments would continue until March 2019, whereupon all payments would cease.

[31] When asked about the reason for the cancellation, the Executive Director of Policy in the Office of the Premier said that he thought cost was a big factor and that paperwork was another. He also cited "[r]emoval of work ethic/driving people to quit jobs," as well as anti-competitive business environment leading to more layoffs and "usage/uptake". The Minister stated that the Pilot Project was "actually disincentivizing people from working" and that a basic income program would be too expensive, "costing $17 billion and leading to a 20% HST".

[32] On September 6, 2018, Veritas expressed "concern over the news reports indicating the government's intention to wind down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot." Veritas further noted that, as the IRB responsible for oversight of the project, it must review any proposed changes to the research protocol, evaluate their ethical acceptability, and approve them before they are implemented or disapprove them as the case may be.

[33] On October 4, 2018, the Respondent submitted its wind down strategy to Veritas. Veritas did not approve the strategy. Veritas said the wind down timeline was inconsistent with the three-year term of the Pilot Project and the Respondent's initial statement that those who receive the basic income would receive it for two years, with another year in which the benefits would be gradually reduced to ease the transition back to standard benefits and because it appeared no justification for approval of the 'winding down' plan was forthcoming. Finally, Veritas made a finding of Serious Non-Compliance based on evidence that, despite Veritas' insistence, the 'winding down' of the Pilot Project was started by the Respondent without Veritas' approval.

[34] Veritas stated that its finding of Serious Non-Compliance was also made "considering that the situation will have profound adverse effects on the rights and welfare of Research Participants." Veritas directed that a plan to rectify the Serious Non-Compliance be submitted by the Respondent to Veritas for review and approval. The Respondent advised Veritas that it disagreed with Veritas' characterization of the documents and terminated its engagement with Veritas, "in light of [its] position", effective immediately.

ANALYSIS OF THE ISSUES

Issue #1: When are Policy Decisions Subject to Judicial Review?

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[35] In choosing to wind-down the Pilot Project, Cabinet made a policy decision. The authority to implement the Pilot Project is based on the Crown's common law spending powers.

[36] The allocation of public resources does not give rise to enforceable rights on judicial review: See *Hamilton-Wentworth (Regional Municipality) v. Ontario (Minister of Transportation)* (1991), 2 O.R. (3d) 716 (Div. Ct), at paras. 43-44, leave to appeal dismissed [1991] O.J. No. 3201 (C.A.) and *Apotex Inc. v. Ontario (Minister of Health)* (2004), 73 O.R. (3d) 1 (C.A.), at paras. 33-37, 39-40, leave to appeal refused [2005] S.C.C.A. No. 8.

[37] In *Hamilton-Wentworth*, at paras. 43-47, the Minister of Transportation refused to fund the building of an expressway despite the government's agreement almost 20 years earlier to fund the project. The Applicant alleged that the cancellation of funding was based on environmental grounds, which were extraneous to the purposes of the relevant statute. The Court found that Cabinet's decision not to fund the expressway was a policy decision that was not subject to judicial review. In so doing, it held (at paras. 42-44) that:

> The government has the right to order its priorities and direct its fiscal resources towards those initiatives or programs which are most compatible with the policy conclusions guiding that particular government's action. This was simply a statement of funding policy and priorities and not the exercise of a statutory power of decision attracting judicial review.
>
> While it would appear that in basing its decision on environmental concerns the government is ignoring the statutory framework established to deal with environmental matters that does not affect its jurisdiction to make the decision in question. Such a decision is not subject to judicial review. It is in substance a decision for the disbursement of public funds. It has been a constitutional principle of our parliamentary system for at least three centuries that such disbursement is within the authority of the legislature alone. The appropriation, allocation or disbursement of such funds by a court is offensive to principle.
>
> As was said by Lush J. in *R. v. Treasury Lords Commissioners* (1872), L.R. 7 Q.B. 387, at p. 402:
>
> > I think that the applicants have failed to make out that which is essential to entitle them to a writ of mandamus, namely, that there is a legal duty imposed upon the Lords of the Treasury -- a duty as between them and the applicants -- to pay over this sum of money.

[38] Government cannot be required by the court to make or continue to fund an expenditure, as the distribution of government funds is a political not a judicial function: See *Re Metropolitan General Hospital and Minister of Health* (1979), 25 O.R. (2d) 699 (H.C.), at paras. 10-13.

[39] Moreover, the fact that funds were provided in the past does not mean government must continue to offer the same level of service nor does the decision to reduce or eliminate funding

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alone, create enforceable rights: See *St. Joseph Island Hospital Assn. (c.o.b. Matthews Memorial Hospital Assn.) v. Plummer Memorial Public Hospital,* [1996] O.J. No. 4663 (C.J. (Gen. Div.)), at paras. 39-40.

[40] This is because courts have no power to review the policy considerations which motivate Cabinet decisions. The responsibility for the management of public funds rests with the government and not the court, as does the correctness of the government's decisions and policies: See: *Apotex*, at para. 39.

[41] For this reason alone, the Application is dismissed.

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Issue #2: Does this Decision alter individual rights, obligations or legitimate expectations?

[42] The Applicants submit that although policy decisions are not usually justiciable, judicial review is nonetheless appropriate in this case as the decision affects their financial interests, they rely on the Basic Income payments, and the decision to cancel has adversely affected their well-being. They submit that an application for judicial review is appropriate to protect their legitimate rights and expectations.

[43] We do not agree.

[44] A motion to quash is only available when the decision at issue:

a. alters the person(s)' rights or obligations that are enforceable in private law, or

b. deprives the person(s) of a benefit (i) she had been given and legitimately expects to continue to enjoy pending receipt of rational grounds for withdrawing it and an opportunity to comment; or (ii) for which assurance has been given that the benefit or advantage would not be withdrawn without first having an opportunity to advance reasons why they should not be withdrawn. (See: *Black v. Canada (Prime Minister)* (2001), 54 O.R. (3d) 215 (C.A.), at paras. 44, 47-51; *Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Assn. of Canada v. British Columbia (Attorney General)* (1997), 149 D.L.R. (4th) 613 (B.C.C.A.), at paras. 27-28)

[45] In this case, the Applicants do not seek private law remedies such as damages for breach of contract or for negligence. They seek only to quash the decision to cancel the Pilot Program.

[46] Nor does the Respondent's decision deprive the Applicants of a "legitimate expectation" within the meaning of the law. There is no legitimate expectation to be consulted on policy decisions to fund. Nor is there any obligation to hold public hearings or consult with stakeholders: See *Gigliotti v. Conseil d'Administration du College des Grands Lacs* (2005), 76

O.R. (3d) 561 (Div. Ct.), at paras. 62-63 and *Canadian Union of Public Employees v. Ontario*, 2018 ONCA 309, at para. 8, affirming 2017 ONSC 4874.

[47] As Nordheimer J. (as he then was) noted: "While it may sometimes seem unfair when rules are changed in the middle of a game; that is the nature of the game when one is dealing with government programs." See *Skypower CL I LP et al. v. Minister of Energy (Ontario) et al.*, 2012 ONSC 4979 (Div. Ct.), at para. 84.

[48] The Applicants point to the decision in *Tesla Motors Canada ULC v. Ontario (Ministry of Transportation)*, 2018 ONSC 5062, where the Court held that the government's decision to implement a wind-down of a subsidy program wrongfully singled out Tesla. *Tesla* is, however, distinguishable from the case before us as the court was not being asked to review the government's decision to stop funding the electric car subsidy program. Rather, the decision in *Tesla* involved the regulatory details as to how a winding down program was going to operate under a statutory scheme. This brought the decision out of the realm of a broad policy decision and into the realm of a reviewable administrative implementation decision for which Tesla had a legitimate expectation of consultation.

[49] As such this ground of review must fail.

Issue # 3: Was the Decision Irrational or in Bad Faith?

[50] The Applicants further submit that the Respondent's decision to cancel the Pilot Project was irrational and in bad faith and should therefore be quashed.

[51] However, policy decisions taken without consultation do not constitute bad faith because there is no right to procedural fairness or any legitimate expectation to be consulted on policy decisions: See *Canadian Union of Public Employees v. Ontario,* at para. 8. To the extent that contracts are breached in so doing, governments are permitted to change government policy subject to private law remedies.

[52] Moreover, the Applicants concede that comments by politicians in the Legislature are not admissible to prove improper purpose as public declarations are not credible sources of government intention though they "represent, no doubt, the considered views of the speakers, at the time they were made." See: *Reference re Upper Churchill Water Rights Reversion Act, 1980,* [1984] 1 S.C.R. 297, at para. 31.

[53] The Applicants have commenced a class action in which they seek private law remedies. In this application for judicial review they only ask the court to quash the decision cancelling the Pilot Project. Because the decision to cancel the Pilot Program was a core policy decision made by the Respondent based on political considerations or electoral expediency, the Court has no authority to grant that request.

Issue #4: Does this Court have the authority to Grant the Order to Quash?

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[54] An order to quash the decision cancelling the Pilot Program would inevitably result in a further allocation of funds to the Pilot Program.

[55] The Respondent cannot be required to make a particular expenditure, since an order for judicial review cannot compel a particular result, such as the payment of funds, the conduct of research, or the continuation of a program. (See *Metropolitan General Hospital*, at paras. 9-10).

CONCLUSION

[56] The Applicants made clear and cogent submissions in respect of:

a. The importance of the Pilot Project in collecting data to better understand the effect of a guaranteed annual income on those who are most vulnerable, and

b. The harm the Applicants say they suffered and their concern about the decision and the effect of the decision on their futures and others like them.

[57] However, the Pilot Project is a government funding decision which does not give rise to individual rights enforceable on judicial review. This Court has no power to review the considerations which motivate a Cabinet policy decision. As such, the decision to cancel the Pilot Project is not justiciable.

[58] Moreover, the inevitable effect of an order to quash the decision to cancel the Pilot Project would require the Respondent to continue funding, which, it is agreed, this Court has no authority to do. The distribution of government funds *per se* is a political not a judicial function.

[59] For these reasons, the Application is dismissed.

[60] This order has no effect on the Applicants' class action for damages for breach of duty of care, breach of contract and/or other private law remedies. This order only addresses the question of whether the court can quash the government's decision.

[61] Given the nature of this proceeding and in view of the agreement between the parties, we make no order as to costs.

Thorburn J.

2019 ONSC 1064 (CanLII)

Reid J.

Myers J.

Date of Release: February 14, 2019

2019 ONSC 1064 (CanLII)

CITATION: Bowman et al. v. Her Majesty the Queen, 2019 ONSC 1064
DIVISIONAL COURT FILE NO.: 102/18
DATE: 20190214

ONTARIO

SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE
DIVISIONAL COURT

THORBURN, REID, and MYERS JJ.

BETWEEN:

DANA BOWMAN, GRACE MARIE DOYLE HILLION, SUSAN LINDSAY, and TRACEY MECHEFSKE

Applicants

– and –

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF ONTARIO, AS REPRESENTED BY THE MINISTER OF CHILDREN, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Respondent

REASONS FOR DECISION

BY THE COURT

Date of Release: February 14, 2019

2019 ONSC 1064 (CanLII)

This is Exhibit "14" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

[redacted]

December 8, 2017

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your interest in applying for the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

Here's what you need to do now:

705. Fill out the **Application Form** included in this package (if you do not have a reference number, one will be assigned once your application is received).

706. Return your completed application by **mail** using the postage paid envelope included in your package by January 5th 2018.

OR bring the application form and all necessary documents with you to an **in-person enrolment session**. To register for an in-person enrolment session, call Ontario Basic Income Pilot toll free at 1-844-217-4516.

Once your application is complete, here's what will happen next:

1057. We will send you a letter to let you know whether your application was approved and let you know what to do next.

1058. If your application is approved, you will need to complete a survey that tells us more about yourself, such as your income, health and employment. You will also need to fill out the direct deposit form if you want to receive your Basic Income payment by direct deposit in your bank account. If you prefer, we can send you a cheque in the mail.

1059. You will be randomly assigned into one of two groups:

- One group receives Basic Income payments
- One group that does not receive payments, but does participate in the study and receive compensation for surveys, established for research purposes

Questions? Want to register for an in-person enrolment session? Call Ontario Basic Income Pilot toll free at **1-844-217-4516.**

Sincerely,

Ontario

January 26, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500051494

[redacted]
Hamilton , ON
[redacted]

Survey # 500051494 EU.
Feb 2nd . 2018.

Dear [redacted]

Your application has been reviewed and we have determined that **you have met the requirements to participate** in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). The final stage of your enrolment is to complete the following:

1. **Survey**
2. **Direct Deposit Form** (if applicable)
3. **Consent**

If you have questions, please contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

1. Survey

You will need to complete a survey that tells us more about yourself, such as your income, health and employment. When you complete the survey, you will receive **a $50 payment** as compensation.

This survey is being conducted by the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP) Evaluation Team at St. Michael's Hospital (Toronto). Your survey responses **will not affect your participation in the Pilot**.

Contact the OBIP Evaluation Team today to learn how to fill out the survey over the phone or on the internet: call 1-800-410-4614, or send an email to obip@smh.ca. Make sure you include your reference number (at the top of this page) in an email or if you leave a phone message.

2. Direct Deposit Form

Please fill out the direct deposit form included in this package. Mail it back to us in the postage-paid envelope included in this package. If you don't have a bank account, we can send cheques in the mail.

3. Consent

Send your completed package back to us Basic Income amount on back →

Ontario

You have until February 9, 2018 to complete everything. The **sooner you complete the survey and send us your banking information**, the sooner we can tell you if you will receive Basic Income payments.

Your estimated Basic Income payment

Based on your application, your estimated Basic Income payment is shown in the chart below.

Maximum Basic Income	**$16989**
Less 50% of income from employment	-$ 10499.33
Less 100% of other income	- $0
Annual Basic Income	**$6489.67**
Monthly Basic Income	**$540.8099**

If you have any questions or need more information

We can help. Please call us at 1-844-806-6270 or send us an email at applybi@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Notice with Respect to the Collection of Personal Information

(Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)
(Personal Health Information Protection Act)
(Ministry of Revenue Act)

This section is to make sure you know who you can contact if you have any questions regarding this consent form.

The collection of this information is necessary for the proper administration of the Basic Income Pilot, and to study its impact. Any questions regarding the collection, use and disclosure of personal information should be directed to Basic Income Pilot Administrators.

Mail:

The Basic Income Pilot Branch
77 Wellesley St. W.,
Box 175
Toronto, ON
M7A 1N3

Phone: 1-844-806-6270

Email: applybi@ontario.ca

Independent Review Board

All of the application materials you received have been reviewed by an Independent Review Board (IRB). An IRB is a group of scientific and non-scientific individuals who perform the initial and ongoing ethical review of the research study with the Research Participant's rights and welfare in mind. This study has been reviewed by Veritas Independent Review Board (IRB).

If you require any explanations or have any questions about the scientific and scholarly aspects of the Basic Income Pilot research, please email applybi@ontario.ca or call 1-844-806-6270 and direct research-related inquiries to the Primary Contact, Debbie Burke-Benn.

Primary Contact:

Debbie Burke-Benn, Director
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Ministry of Community and Social Services
Telephone: 1-844-806-6270

If you have any study-related comments, complaints or concerns contact Debbie Burke-Benn, the Primary Contact for the Basic Income Pilot. Please call the IRB if you need to speak to a person independent from the project and the research staff.

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, call the Manager of Veritas IRB 24 hours per day and 7 days per week at 514-337-0442 or toll-free at 1-866-384-4221.

[redacted]

February 8, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500051494

[redacted]
Hamilton, ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted],

You have been randomly assigned to receive **Basic Income payments** as part of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP).

What does this mean for you?

You will receive Basic Income payments. This may affect some of your existing benefits and services – those that are based on your income.

You will have a key role in helping us understand basic income's impact on people's lives. You will contribute and be a part of one of the largest, most significant studies of its kind in the world.

During the Pilot, we will ask you to fill out surveys about your health, employment, education and well-being. Each time you complete a survey, you'll be compensated for your time.

How will you contact me to fill out the surveys?

Right before each survey is due, a member of the OBIP Evaluation Team at St. Michael's Hospital (Toronto) will contact you. You will receive compensation for completing each survey. If you want to change your contact information, please call the OBIP Evaluation Team right away at **1-800-410-4614** or email at obip@smh.ca.

About your Basic Income payment

The effective date of your Basic Income payment is February 1st, 2018. Your monthly Basic Income payment is **$540.81**

You will receive your monthly Basic Income payment by **Direct Bank Deposit**.

If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments you must contact us right away at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Payment schedule →

Ontario

Basic Income payment schedule, 2017-18

Your first Basic Income payment will be issued on February 23th, 2018, and future payments will be issued on or around the 25th of each month. See below for a table showing the expected payment date for each month of the 2017-18 benefit year.

The table below shows the dates that monthly Basic Income payments will be issued for the 2017-18 benefit year (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018).

Payment Month and Year	Payment Day
January 2018	25
February 2018	23
March 2018	23
April 2018	25
May 2018	25
June 2018	25

Calculation of your Basic Income payment

Basic Income payments are calculated for the year using information from your tax return. We will send you information about your 2018-19 Basic Income payments next spring after you have filed your 2017 taxes.

Based on the information provided in your application, the calculation of your Basic Income payment is:

Maximum Annual Basic Income	**$16989**
Less 50% of income from employment	**- $10499.33**
Less 100% of other income	**- $0**
Annual Basic Income	**$6489.67**
Monthly Basic Income	**$540.81**

If you have questions about your Basic Income payment amount, contact at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Ontario

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Questions about the Pilot, your payments, or your benefits?	Questions about surveys?
Contact the Ontario Government	**Contact the OBIP Evaluation Team**
1-844-806-6270 applybi@ontario.ca	**1-800-410-4614 obip@smh.ca**

Thank you!

By participating in the Pilot, you will help us understand your experiences as a participant, and your help will support important research into the impact of a basic income in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Social Assistance (if this applies to you)

If you are currently on Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP):

If this applies to you:	This is what will happen:	Here's what you have to do:
You are on Ontario Works or ODSP	**You need to withdraw**	Please contact your caseworker to confirm you wish to withdraw so you can receive Basic Income payments. If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments, you must contact us immediately at 1-844-806-6270.
You are receiving Extended Health Benefits (EHB), Extended Employment Health Benefits (EEHB) or the Transitional Health Benefit (THB)	**You need to withdraw**	
You have set up pay directs (e.g. to a landlord) through Ontario Works or ODSP	**Pay directs will be canceled**	You need to make other arrangements for these payments
You have drug benefits for you and your spouse/ common-law partner and children under 18 years (if applicable)	**You will all continue to receive drug benefits**	You will receive a drug card in the mail that you can bring to your pharmacy
(ODSP only) You have dental benefits for you and your spouse/ common-law partner	**You will all continue to receive dental benefits**	You will also receive a letter in the mail that you can bring to your dentist
You have dental benefits for dependent children under 18 years (if applicable)	**Your children will continue to receive dental benefits**	You don't have to do anything

What to do if your circumstances change

Contact us if circumstances in your life change and you think these changes may affect your Basic Income payment. Significant changes could include changes to your relationship status, change in income, or change in disability status.

To report a change in your circumstances or for more information on how to report changes, contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

If you wish to opt out of the Pilot for any reason, please contact us.

Ontario

March 14, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500051494

[redacted]
Hamilton, ON
[redacted]

Important Reminder Notice

Thank you for participating in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your contribution is very important to our study.

This reminder notice is to let you know:

1. That to continue to participate in the Pilot you must complete and file your taxes for each year that you are participating in the study.

2. That you should contact us if circumstances in your life have changed. Significant changes could include: relationship status, income, address, bank account number or disability status.

Why this is important to you

The amount you get in Basic Income payments may change each year based on your taxes. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requires that you file your taxes **by the end of April.**

You or both you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable), need to file last year's Personal Tax Returns with the CRA as soon as possible. We are always available to help you.

How to get help

Free and volunteer tax preparation clinics are offered between February and April each year. For a complete list of Tax Preparation Clinics in Ontario visit:

http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdls/vlntr/clncs/on-eng.html

Ontario

Here are some examples of free tax preparation clinics in the Pilot communities:

Hamilton

Parkview Church
1120 West 5th Street,
Hamilton, ON L9C 2X2

Dates: February 24, March 10, March 24, April 7, April 21
Hours: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
www.hamiltontaxhelp.ca

Thunder Bay

Lakehead Social Planning Council
125 Syndicate Avenue South, Unit 38, Victoriaville Centre,
Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 6H8

Dates: End of February to Mid-May
Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
www.lspc.ca/income-tax-clinic/

Lindsay

Adult Protective Services
322 Kent Street West,
Lindsay, ON, K9V 4S7

Dates: April 11, April 18
Hours: 1-3 p.m.
Email **applybi@ontario.ca** to book an appointment

You can also file your taxes online using **free tax preparation software**, for example:

Turbotax

www.turbotax.intuit.ca
Basic free tax filing available with the option to purchase premium services

UFileFREE

www.ufile.ca
Free if you:

- Have family income less than $20,000
- Are a post-secondary student
- Have never filed taxes before

For more information about filing online, search online for **NETFILE** (Canada Revenue Agency) or use this direct link:

https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/e-services/e-services-individuals/netfile-overview.html

We're always ready to help. Contact us at **1-844-806-6270** or **applybi@ontario.ca**.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

April 4, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500051494

[redacted]
[redacted]
Hamilton, ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

This letter is to let you know about some important information regarding your Basic Income payments and the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP).

You can get both Basic Income and OSAP funding during your study period. However, OSAP will only assess you for direct educational costs such as, tuition, books and other fees. This is because your living costs are covered by your Basic Income payments.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU WANT TO APPLY FOR OSAP FUNDING

If you plan to apply for OSAP funding for studies starting in 2018, you must let your school's Financial Aid Office know that you are a Basic Income recipient, **before the start of your study period**.

This will ensure that your OSAP funding amount is correct before you receive your first OSAP funding payment.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE

If you return to full-time studies and are earning less income while in school, your Basic Income payments may be adjusted. To report a significant change in your circumstances contact a Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator.

Questions about your Basic Income? Call Ontario Basic Income Pilot toll-free at 1-844-806-6270.

Questions about your OSAP funding? Contact your school's Financial Aid Office.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Feb 26

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

January 21, 2019

Ontario Basic Income Reference #
500051494

25 after 1 – 2 o'clock.

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

March 18 application
Nick (OW)

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On July 31, 2018, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is a **final reminder** that the Pilot will be ending in **March 2019**. Your final basic income payment will be in March 2019.

Should you have a significant change in your circumstances please contact us at applyBI@ontario.ca or at 1-844-217-4516. Any documentation that we might require from you to support the change in circumstance, must be received by our office on or before **February 15, 2019**.

Information about Social Assistance

If you were in receipt of Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program immediately prior to joining the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, we recommend that you contact your local social assistance office now to determine your eligibility to return to Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program. You must contact your local social assistance office prior to **March 1, 2019** to ensure your social assistance payments begin in April, if you are deemed eligible. → discrepancy. Send in after March 18.

Former Ontario Disability Support Program recipients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when reapplying for Ontario Disability Support Program.

If you are not a former Ontario Disability Support Program or Ontario Works client but think you may be eligible, please contact a local office to ensure that your payments can begin in April if you are eligible for these programs.

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the Ontario Disability Support Program Act while enrolled in the pilot, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

You can find contact information for social assistance offices at this link http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/. You may also apply on-line through the

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

Information about your benefits

Benefit Change	What you Need to Know/Do
I am on OSAP. How do I get my living expenses paid by OSAP once BI stops?	You will need to take this letter to your Financial Aid Office which will be able to reassess your new income level and adjust your OSAP accordingly.
What will happen to my Housing Benefits/ Rent Geared to Income?	You should contact your municipal service manager as soon as you get this letter, so they are aware that you have received this letter. Your housing provider or Service Manager will assist you and recalculate your rent and/or subsidies based on your new income after you leave BI.
What happens to my Child Care Fee Subsidy?	You will need to take this letter to your municipality. Your municipality will assist you to determine your eligibility for fee subsidies and the amount of parental contribution
Will my Canada Child Tax Benefit, Ontario Child Benefit, or Ontario Trillium Benefit change because of higher income I received this year through Basic Income Pilot?	Until July 2019, your payments from these benefits will not be affected by your 2018 Basic Income payments. However, when you submit your tax forms for 2018, you may get a different amount from these benefits starting in July 2019. As mentioned in the consent section of the Basic Income Application Form, these benefits may be impacted by the income you received from the Pilot.

If you have any questions, please email us at applyBI@ontario.ca or call us at 1-844-217-4516.

If you wish to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason, you may do so at any time.

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

This is Exhibit "15" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

November 11, 2017 RECEIVED NOV 16 2017 RE: 500058865

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

You have been randomly selected to participate in the **Basic Income Group** of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). This means you will receive Basic Income payments.

About your Basic Income payment

The effective date of your Basic Income is 11/1/2017. Your monthly Basic Income payment is **$1915.75**

Your first Basic Income payment will be issued on 11/25/2017, and future payments will be issued on or around the 25th of each month. We have included a table showing the expected payment date for each month of the 2017-18 benefit year.

You will receive your monthly Basic Income payment by: **Direct Bank Deposit.**

You will also receive $50.00 for completing the Baseline Survey. Since you will receive Basic Income payments, you will not receive further compensation for surveys.

If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments you must contact us right away at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Basic Income payment

Based on the information provided in your application, the calculation of your Basic Income payment is outlined below.

Maximum Annual Basic Income	**$22989**
Less 50% of income from employment	**- $0**
Less 100% of other income	**- $0**
Annual Basic Income	**$22989**
Monthly Basic Income	**$1915.75**

If you have questions about your Basic Income payment amount, contact at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

If you are currently on Ontario Works

You must now tell your caseworker that you want to withdraw from OW to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your caseworker will need the date on this letter, and will then suspend your case until they can confirm you have received your first OBIP payment.

If you are receiving the Extended Health Benefit (EHB) or the Extended Employment Health Benefit (EEHB) through Ontario Works, you will also need to withdraw from these benefits.

If you don't withdraw in time, you may get an Ontario Works **overpayment**.

Any pay directs (e.g. to a landlord) you have set up through Ontario Works will be cancelled when you withdraw. You will need to make other arrangements for these payments.

You (and your spouse/common-law partner and/or dependent children under 18 years of age, if applicable) will continue to receive drug benefits, and your dependent children under 18 years of age will continue to receive dental benefits.

To access drug benefits at a pharmacy, identify yourself as a participant in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot when speaking to the pharmacist.

If you are currently on Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

You must now tell your caseworker that you want to withdraw from ODSP to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your caseworker will need the date on this letter and will then suspend your case until they can confirm you have received your first OBIP payment.

If you are receiving the Extended Health Benefit (EHB) or the Transition Health Benefit (THB), you will also need to withdraw from these benefits.

If you don't withdraw in time, you may get an ODSP **overpayment**.

Any pay directs (e.g. to a landlord) you have set up through ODSP will be cancelled when you withdraw. You will need to make other arrangements for these payments.

You (and your spouse/common-law partner and/or dependent children under 18 years of age, if applicable) will continue to receive the drug and dental benefits.

To access drug benefits at a pharmacy, identify yourself as a participant in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot when speaking to the pharmacist.

Ontario

[redacted]

December 8, 2017

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your interest in applying for the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

Here's what you need to do now:

457. Fill out the **Application Form** included in this package (if you do not have a reference number, one will be assigned once your application is received).

458. Return your completed application by **mail** using the postage paid envelope included in your package by January 5th 2018.

OR bring the application form and all necessary documents with you to an **in-person enrolment session**. To register for an in-person enrolment session, call Ontario Basic Income Pilot toll free at 1-844-217-4516.

Once your application is complete, here's what will happen next:

685. We will send you a letter to let you know whether your application was approved and let you know what to do next.

686. If your application is approved, you will need to complete a survey that tells us more about yourself, such as your income, health and employment. You will also need to fill out the direct deposit form if you want to receive your Basic Income payment by direct deposit in your bank account. If you prefer, we can send you a cheque in the mail.

687. You will be randomly assigned into one of two groups:

- One group receives Basic Income payments
- One group that does not receive payments, but does participate in the study and receive compensation for surveys, established for research purposes

Questions? Want to register for an in-person enrolment session? Call Ontario Basic Income Pilot toll free at **1-844-217-4516.**

Sincerely,

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Basic Income Application Form

Please complete the following (please print)

Disponible dans les deux langues officielles. Veuillez contacter les administrateurs du Projet pilote portant sur le revenu de base en composant le 1 844 806 6270 ou en envoyant un courriel à applybi@ontario.ca pour demander une copie en français.

You will need:

- Your reference number included in your invitation letter
- Your Social Insurance Number (SIN)
- Your 2016 T1 General Income Tax and Benefit Form
- Your 2016 Notice of Assessment

- If you do not have these tax forms, you can still apply to participate in the Pilot. Please call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email **applybi@ontario.ca** – we are here to help you.
- Only individuals invited to apply with a reference number can apply for the Pilot. If you are applying as a couple, you will also need the SIN and tax information for your spouse/common-law partner.
- The **Information Booklet** explains the documents you need and how to complete the sections below.

Need help? Call: 1-844-806-6270 **Email:** **applybi@ontario.ca**

certify that the information given on this form and in any attached documents is to the best of my nowledge correct and true.

ignature of Applicant _____ Date _____

ignature of Spouse/Common-law Partner _____ Date _____

) Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2017.

Ontario

Step 1: Your Personal Information

Complete this section with your personal information. For more information on this section and what is required, please refer to Section 4: Completing the Application Form in the **Information Booklet**.

Reference Number:

Name

Last Name:	First Name:
Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):	Social Insurance Number:

Home Address

Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:

How long have you lived at the above address? _____ Years _____ Months

Previous Address

Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:

How long have you lived at the above address? _____ Years _____ Months

Mailing Address (if different from above)

Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:

Contact Information

E-mail:	Home Phone:	Cell Phone:

Do you prefer to be contacted by email or phone? ☐ E-mail ☐ Home Phone ☐ Cell Phone

Your language of correspondence: ☐ English ☐ French ☐ Other. Please Specify: _____

Information About Disability Status (if applicable)

If you have a disability please indicate the source of **all** of your supports:

- ☐ Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- ☐ Services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- ☐ Canada Pension Plan/Québec Pension Plan – Disability

If you checked any of the boxes above, please attach to this application form verification that you are eligible for and/or receive these supports, such as recent payment stubs or eligibility notices. Please see the **Information Booklet - Section 1: page 8** for more information.

Do you have a Spouse/Common-law Partner? **YES** ➔ Go to Step 2 **NO** ➔ Go to Step 3

Step 2: Your Spouse/Common-law Partner's Information, if applicable

Complete this section with your spouse's/common-law partner's personal information. For more information about what this means, please refer to Section 4: Completing the Application Form in the **Information Booklet**.

You and your spouse/common-law partner must have both indicated that you have a spouse/common-law partner in your 2016 (or previous) T1 General Forms. Please note that your spouse must also meet the Basic Income eligibility criteria.

Name		
Last Name:	First Name:	
Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):	Social Insurance Number:	
Previous Address		
Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:
Home Address (if different than your spouse/common-law partner)		
Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:
Mailing Address (if different from above)		
Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:
Contact Information		
E-mail:	Home Phone:	Cell Phone:

Do you prefer to be contacted by email or phone? ☐ E-mail ☐ Home Phone ☐ Cell Phone

Your language of correspondence: ☐ English ☐ French ☐ Other. Please Specify: _____

Information About Disability Status (if applicable)

If you have a disability please indicate the source of **all** of your supports:

- ☐ Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- ☐ Services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- ☐ Canada Pension Plan/Québec Pension Plan – Disability

If you checked any of the boxes above, please attach to this application form verification that you are eligible for and/or receive these supports, such as recent payment stubs or eligibility notices. Please see the **Information Booklet - Section 1: page 8** for more information.

Step 3: Your Income Information

To verify your income, please submit the following information.

Attach a copy of these forms with your application

- ☐ 2016 T1 General Form
- ☐ 2016 Notice of Assessment

If you did not file your taxes in 2016, attach a copy of your:

- ☐ 2015 T1 General Form
- ☐ 2015 Notice of Assessment

➔ If you completed the Application Form but do not have these tax forms, you can still apply to participate in the Pilot. Please call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email **applybi@ontario.ca** – we are here to help you.

➔ If you are applying as a couple, attach the same forms for your spouse/common-law partner.

Don't Forget – These are the documents you may need to send us with your completed and signed Application Form:

For Information About Disability Status, if applicable:

- ☐ Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- ☐ Services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- ☐ Canada Pension Plan/Québec Pension Plan – Disability

Documents like payment stubs and eligibility decisions can be used for this.

Tax Information:

We would also like copies of your and your spouse/common-law partner's tax information. This can include:

- ☐ 2016 T1 General Form
- ☐ 2016 Notice of Assessment
- ☐ 2015 T1 General Form
- ☐ 2015 Notice of Assessment

Step 4: Declaration and Consent (complete spousal/ common-law partner information, if applicable)

DECLARATIONS:

This section is to make sure you understand the key elements of what participation in the Pilot will mean and how it could impact you.

Administration

I/we the undersigned:

1. Have read the Information Booklet (Section 1) and understand the eligibility criteria to participate in the Pilot.
2. Understand that if eligible to participate:
   - the selection process will be anonymous and random,
   - I/we will receive notification of the selection results,
   - there is no appeal process, and
   - the selection could result in one of the following three outcomes:
     i. receive Basic Income payments (Basic Income Group), or
     ii. not receive Basic Income payments (Control Group), or
     iii. not participate in the Basic Income Pilot.
3. Understand that the Basic Income payments might affect my other government and non-government subsidies, benefits, and services, particularly those that are based on my/our income.
4. Understand that participation in the Pilot is voluntary and I/we can leave the Pilot at any time and do not need to provide a reason for leaving.

Drug and Dental Benefits (Information Booklet - Section 3: page 19)

I/we the undersigned:

1. Understand that I/we cannot receive payments, benefits (including discretionary benefits), and services provided by the Ontario Works and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) while receiving Basic Income payments, with the exception of some drug and dental benefits.
2. Understand that everyone currently receiving drug benefits from social assistance will still have access to drug benefits, if applicable, while participating in the Basic Income Pilot.
3. Understand that ODSP recipients, spouses of ODSP recipients, and children of ODSP and Ontario Works recipients will still receive dental benefits, if applicable, while participating in the Pilot.
4. Understand that the method and delivery organization for drug and dental benefits may change.

Evaluation

I/we the undersigned:

1. Understand that eligibility during the Basic Income Pilot will require ongoing interaction with the Basic Income Pilot evaluation team. This interaction will involve the completion of surveys which will be done periodically during the Pilot.
2. Understand that if I am assigned to the Control Group, I will not receive a Basic Income payment but I will be compensated for each survey I complete.
3. Understand that all information collected through surveys will be confidential and will be stored in a secure digital environment.
4. Understand that if eligible to participate in the Pilot, additional personal information and consent will need to be provided to the evaluators, along with my/our consent for the collection, use and disclosure of this information.

CONSENTS

This section is to make sure you understand how the information collected in this Application Form will be shared to support the Basic Income Pilot.

I/we the undersigned:

1. Consent to the collection, use, and disclosure of personal information contained in this form by and between the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) and the Ministry of Finance (MOF) for the purposes of determining eligibility for the Basic Income Pilot, processing and administering applications, and for research.
2. Consent to the collection and disclosure of the personal information between the MOF and the Canada Revenue Agency for the purposes of verifying income, determining eligibility and determining Basic Income payments for the duration of my/our participation in the Pilot. This authorization will only apply if you are participating in the Pilot as part of the Basic Income Group and the Control Group. The amount of Basic Income you receive will be shared with MCSS for Pilot administration and evaluation purposes.
3. Consent to the disclosure by the Canada Revenue Agency of my/our tax records, on condition that the information will be used solely by the MOF to verify income and to determine eligibility under the Basic Income Pilot. This authorization is valid for the 2016 and following taxation years for which I/ we am eligible to participate in the Basic Income Pilot. The authorization will expire upon termination of the Basic Income Pilot and/or when participation in the Basic Income Pilot ends.

_____ _____

Signature of Applicant Date

_____ _____

Signature of Spouse/Common-law Partner Date

Notice with Respect to the Collection of Personal Information

(Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)

(Ministry of Revenue Act)

This section is to make sure you understand why we are collecting information and who you can contact if you have any questions.

The collection of this information is necessary for the proper administration of the Basic Income Pilot and, in particular, to determine eligibility for the Pilot and to study its impact. Any questions regarding the collection, use and disclosure of personal information should be directed to Basic Income Pilot Administrators by mail to the Basic Income Pilot Branch, 77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175, Toronto, ON M7A 1N3, or by phone at 1-844-806-6270 or by email at **applybi@ontario.ca**.

Independent Review Board

All of the application materials you received have been reviewed by an Independent Review Board (IRB). An IRB is a group of scientific and non-scientific individuals who perform the initial and ongoing ethical review of the research study with the Research Participant's rights and welfare in mind. This study has been reviewed by Veritas Independent Review Board (IRB).

If you require any explanations or have any questions about the scientific and scholarly aspects of the Basic Income Pilot research, please email **applybi@ontario.ca** or call 1-844-806-6270 and direct research-related inquiries to the Primary Contact, Kevin Pal.

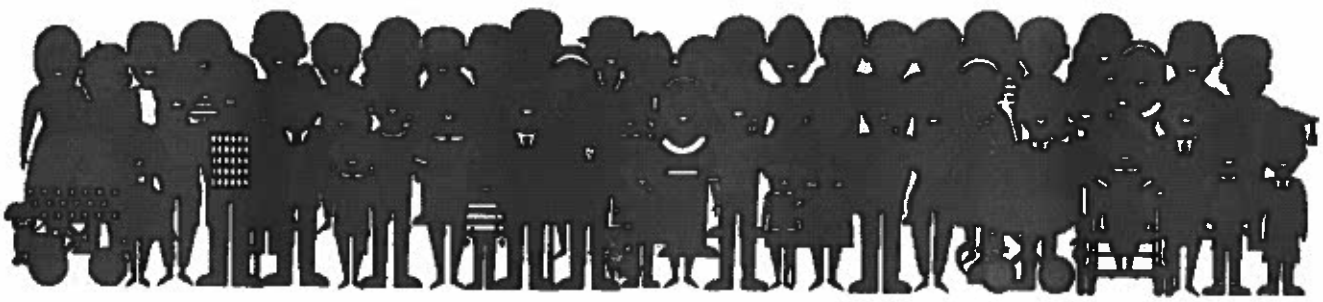
Primary Contact:

Kevin Pal, Director
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Ministry of Community and Social Services
Telephone: 1-844-806-6270

If you have any study-related comments, complaints or concerns contact Kevin Pal, the Primary Contact for the Basic Income Pilot. Please call the IRB if you need to speak to a person independent from the project and the research staff.

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, call the Manager of Veritas IRB 24 hours per day and 7 days per week at 514-337-0442 or toll-free at 1-866-384-4221.

Funding Support: This study is being funded by the Government of Ontario.



March 14, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500058865

[redacted]
Hamilton, ON
[redacted]

Important Reminder Notice

Thank you for participating in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your contribution is very important to our study.

This reminder notice is to let you know:

1. That to continue to participate in the Pilot you must complete and file your taxes for each year that you are participating in the study.

2. That you should contact us if circumstances in your life have changed. Significant changes could include: relationship status, income, address, bank account number or disability status.

Why this is important to you

The amount you get in Basic Income payments may change each year based on your taxes. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requires that you file your taxes **by the end of April**.

You or both you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable), need to file last year's Personal Tax Returns with the CRA as soon as possible. We are always available to help you.

How to get help

Free and volunteer tax preparation clinics are offered between February and April each year. For a complete list of Tax Preparation Clinics in Ontario visit:

http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdls/vlntr/clncs/on-eng.html

Ontario

Here are some examples of free tax preparation clinics in the Pilot communities:

Hamilton

Parkview Church
1120 West 5th Street,
Hamilton, ON L9C 2X2

Dates: February 24, March 10, March 24, April 7, April 21
Hours: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
www.hamiltontaxhelp.ca

Thunder Bay

Lakehead Social Planning Council
125 Syndicate Avenue South, Unit 38, Victoriaville Centre,
Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 6H8

Dates: End of February to Mid-May
Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
www.lspc.ca/income-tax-clinic/

Lindsay

Adult Protective Services
322 Kent Street West,
Lindsay, ON, K9V 4S7

Dates: April 11, April 18
Hours: 1-3 p.m.
Email **applybi@ontario.ca** to book an appointment

You can also file your taxes online using **free tax preparation software**, for example:

Turbotax

www.turbotax.intuit.ca
Basic free tax filing available with the option to purchase premium services

UFileFREE

www.ufile.ca
Free if you:

- Have family income less than $20,000
- Are a post-secondary student
- Have never filed taxes before

For more information about filing online, search online for **NETFILE** (Canada Revenue Agency) or use this direct link:

https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/e-services/e-services-individuals/netfile-overview.html

We're always ready to help. Contact us at **1-844-806-6270** or **applybi@ontario.ca**.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

March 26th, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500058865

[redacted]
[redacted]
Hamilton, ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

This letter is to let you know about some important information regarding your Basic Income payments, if you are also getting grant and loan funding for postsecondary education from the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP).

You can get both Basic Income and OSAP funding during your study period. However, OSAP will only assess you for direct educational costs such as, tuition, books and other fees. This is because your living costs are covered by your Basic Income payments.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU WANT TO APPLY FOR OSAP FUNDING

If you plan to apply for OSAP funding for studies starting in 2018, you must let your school's Financial Aid Office know that you are a Basic Income recipient, **before the start of your study period**.

This will ensure that your OSAP funding amount is correct before you receive your first OSAP funding payment.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE

If you return to full-time studies and are earning less income while in school, your Basic Income payments may be adjusted. To report a significant change in your circumstances contact a Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator.

Questions about your Basic Income? Call Ontario Basic Income Pilot toll-free at 1-844-806-6270.

Questions about your OSAP funding? Contact your school's Financial Aid Office.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
33 King St W
Oshawa ON L1H 8H6

BIN - /L150

000073

[redacted]
HAMILTON ON [redacted]

Issue Date: 26-Sep-2018

Letter No: L1234254016
Reference No: 500058865

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On **July 31, 2018**, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is your notification that the pilot will be ending in **March 2019**.

What does this mean for you?

As a participant in the payment group, you will remain in the pilot and continue to receive payments until **March 25, 2019**. Your payments will be maintained at the amount of your July 2018 payment. Should you have a significant change in your circumstances, please contact us at **applyBI@ontario.ca** or 1 844 217-4516

You will not be asked to complete any additional surveys.

If you have been eligible to receive dental and/or drug benefits, you will continue to receive these benefits for the duration of the pilot.

Information about Social Assistance

A streamlined application process will be available to former ODSP and OW clients who wish to reapply to social assistance. In particular, former ODSP clients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when they reapply. You will be contacted shortly about this process or please call us at 1 844 217-4516 if you have any questions in the meantime.

If you are not a former ODSP or OW client but think you may be eligible please contact a local office at this link:
http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/

You may also apply on-line through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the ODSP Act during your pilot enrollment, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

Ontario

Letter No: L1234254016
Reference No: 500058865

Information about your benefits

Benefit Change	What You Need to Know/Do
I am on OSAP. How do I get my living expenses paid by OSAP once BI stops?	You will need to take this notice letter to your Financial Aid Office which will be able to reassess your new income level and adjust your OSAP accordingly.
What will happen to my Housing Benefits/ Rent Geared to Income?	You should contact your municipal service manager as soon as you get this notice letter so they are aware that you have received your notice. Your housing provider or Service Manager will assist you and recalculate your rent and/or subsidies based on your new income after you leave BI.
What happens to my Child Care Fee Subsidy?	You will need to take this notice letter to your municipality. Your municipality will assist you to determine your eligibility for fee subsidies and the amount of parental contribution.
Will my Canada Child Tax Benefit, Ontario Child Benefit, or Ontario Trillium Benefit change because of higher income I received this year through Ontario Basic Income Pilot?	Until July 2019, your payments from these benefits will not be affected by your 2018 Basic Income payments. However, when you submit your tax forms next year, you may get a different amount from these benefits starting in July 2019. As mentioned in the consent section of the Basic Income Application Form, these benefits may be impacted by the income you received from the Pilot.

You can choose to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason at any time.

If you have any questions, please email us at **applyBI@ontario.ca**, or call us at 1 844 217-4516.

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot - Checklist

In order to be eligible you must:

- **Be between the ages of 18-64**
- **Living in Brantford or the County of Brant for a minimum of 12 months**
- **Be living on a low income**

Appointment 2.00 Nov 2 Thursday
YMCA 356 Rymal Rd E Hamilton
LES CHATER FAMILY YMCA

What do I need to bring?

- ☐ **2016 Notice of Assessment**
- ☐ **2016 T1 General Form**

If you did not file your taxes in 2016, attach a copy of your:

- ☐ **Attestation Form (to be provided on-site at Open Call Session)**
- ☐ **2015 Notice of Assessment**
- ☐ **2015 T1 General Form**

If you are applying as a couple, your spouse/common-law partner is required to attend and should also have these documents.

If you did not file your taxes you can complete a form which will be provided by the Basic Income Pilot team acknowledging that the completion of your current and ongoing income tax will be filed annually (Attestation Form).

- ☐ **Please bring a void cheque or a Direct Deposit Authorization form issued by your bank**

- ☐ **If you cannot provide Direct Deposit information you will still be able to complete the application process. You can provide your banking information at a later date and will receive a cheque instead, if deemed eligible.**

- ☐ **If you or your spouse/common-law partner are disabled and currently receiving support through the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP),**

Ontario

Canada Pension Plan Disability (CPP-D) or Developmental Services Ontario (DSO), please bring verification of your disability income.

Please be advised you will not be able to enrol into the Pilot if you do not bring a hard copy of the documents discussed above with you.

If you do not have a copy of your T1 General Form and/or your Notice of Assessment, you can request this information from Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

There are two ways to do this:

1. If you have access to the internet and a printer, you can log on to your "*My Account*" profile at the CRA website. You can then view and print your **2016 or 2015 "Detailed Notice of Assessment"** and/or your **"Proof of Income" document**.

2. You can also call the CRA at **1-800-959-8281** and request one of these documents which will be mailed to you.

If you have a child that is 16 or 17 years old they will need to sign a consent form. This means your child will either need to be present to sign this form, or they can sign this form and return it to us in the mail.

Before attending one of the sessions please make sure you (and your spouse/common-law partner, if applicable) bring the documents on the checklist.

CHECKLIST:

1. Piece of ID ☑
2. 2016 T1 General Form ☑
3. 2016 Notice of Assessment ☑
4. Void Cheque or Direct Deposit Authorization ☑
5. Verification of Disability Income ☑

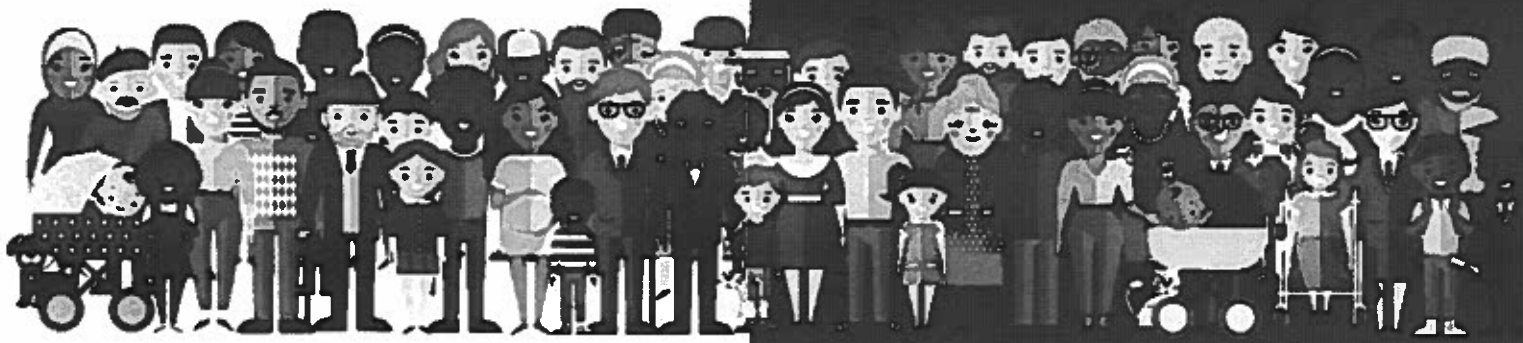
Who will evaluate the pilot?

A third-party research consortium will evaluate the pilot. The province will form an advisory group with research and evaluation experts to ensure the pilot is conducted with the utmost integrity, rigour and ethical standards.

For more information about the pilot, please visit **www.ontario.ca/basicincome** or call **1-844-217-4516**

Ontario's Basic Income Pilot

Studying the impact of a basic income



000533

Ontario

What is basic income?

A basic income is a payment to eligible families or individuals that ensures a minimum income level regardless of employment status.

Why study a basic income?

The pilot will test whether a basic income can better support vulnerable workers, improve health and education outcomes for people on low incomes, and help ensure that everyone shares in Ontario's economic growth. It will measure outcomes in:

- Food security
- Stress and anxiety
- Mental health
- Health and health care usage
- Housing stability
- Education and training
- Employment and labour market participation

Where is the pilot taking place?

The three-year pilot will take place in the following locations:

- Hamilton, Brantford, Brant County - launching late spring 2017
- Thunder Bay and the surrounding area - launching late spring 2017
- Lindsay - launching by fall 2017

How does it work?

Randomly selected individuals will receive information in the mail inviting them to apply to be part of the pilot. Eligible individuals will be randomly selected to either receive the basic income or be part of a control group made up of people who will not be receiving payments. Individuals receiving the basic income will be compared to the selected control group.

Up to 4,000 participants receiving basic income payments will be included in the pilot at full implementation.

Participants will be:

- Randomly selected
- 18 to 64 years old
- Living in one of the test locations for the past 12 months or longer
- Living on a low income.

Ontario is also planning a separate, parallel First Nations Basic Income Pilot, co-created and designed with First Nations partners.

How much will participants receive?

The payment will account for other income and ensure a minimum level of income is provided. Participants will receive:

- Up to $16,989 per year for a single person, less 50 per cent of any earned income
- Up to $24,027 per year for a couple, less 50 per cent of any earned income
- Up to an additional $6,000 per year for a person with a disability.

Participants can go to school to further their education or begin/continue to work while receiving the basic income. The basic income amount will decrease by $0.50 for every dollar an individual earns through work.

Income from other programs, such as the Canada Pension Plan and Employment Insurance, would reduce the basic income payment dollar for dollar. Income related to children, such as the Ontario Child Benefit and child support, would be exempt. People receiving support through Ontario Works who enter the pilot will continue to receive the Ontario Drug Benefit, and people on the Ontario Disability Support Program will continue to receive the Ontario Drug Benefit and dental benefits.

000534

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

February 20, 2018

Reference Number: 500058865

[redacted]
Hamilton ON [redacted]

Dear [redacted],

Please find enclosed your drug benefits card.

Please take this card with you when you go to the pharmacy to fill a prescription. It applies to all members of your family.

This card is valid for three months. You will receive a new card before the old one expires.

If you have any questions or need more information

We can help. Please contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

OBIP Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

November 30, 2017 /RECEIVED DEC,6 2017 RE: Reference # 500058865

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Please find enclosed your drug benefits card.

Please take this card with you when you go to the pharmacy to fill a prescription. It applies to all members of your family.

This card is valid for three months. You will receive a new card before the old one expires.

If you have any questions or need more information

We can help. Please contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

OBIP Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

November 30, 2017

RE: Reference # 500058865

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Please find enclosed your drug benefits card.

Please take this card with you when you go to the pharmacy to fill a prescription. It applies to all members of your family.

This card is valid for three months. You will receive a new card before the old one expires.

If you have any questions or need more information

We can help. Please contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

OBIP Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

November 28, 2017 / RECEIVED DEC, 1 /2017 Reference Number: 500058865

[redacted]
Hamilton ON [redacted]
CA

For Basic Income Participants:

Dear [redacted],

This letter confirms that you will continue to have dental benefits coverage through the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for the month indicated below.

Please take this letter with you when you go to your dentist and present it before receiving dental services. If you have any questions, please contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

For Dentists:

Patient's First Name: [redacted]
Patient's Last Name: [redacted]
Participant ID: 101189413
Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY): [redacted]
Valid for the Month Beginning: 2017/12/01

This approval is only valid for the month of eligibility indicated above. The person named here is eligible for dental coverage following the same schedule as the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP).

Submission of Claims:

- By Mail - staple the claim form to this sheet and send to:
  Accertaclaim Servicorp Inc
  Station. P, P.O. Box #310
  Toronto, Ontario M5S 2S8

If you have questions, please contact Accerta's Customer Service Representatives at 1-800-505-7430.

Thank you for your assistance.

Pilot Administrator

ONTARIO BASIC INCOME PILOT

WE ARE MAKING IT EASIER TO GET DRUG COVERAGE

What's new?

Starting May 1, 2018, as a Basic Income participant who was previously on Ontario Works (OW) or Ontario Disability Program Support (ODSP), **you can now use your Ontario health card to access prescription drug coverage**. You will no longer be receiving a paper drug eligibility card. There are no changes to the benefits you are currently receiving.

You can still use your April 2018 paper drug card at your pharmacy as proof of eligibility for May.

Don't have an Ontario health card?

To get a health card, you need to apply in person at a ServiceOntario centre. You can drop in, or book an appointment.

Find out how to get an Ontario health card by visiting **ontario.ca/healthcard**, your nearest ServiceOntario office or calling the ServiceOntario INFOline:

Toll-free: 1-888-789-4199

TTY Toll-free: 1-800-387-5559



Need to replace or renew your Ontario health card?

Find out how at **ontario.ca/health-card-renewal**

If you have questions, the Basic Income Central Pilot Team is ready to help.

Call us at 1-844-806-6270
or email us at basicincome@ontario.ca.

Ontario

PROJET PILOTE PORTANT SUR LE REVENU DE BASE EN ONTARIO

IL EST MAINTENANT PLUS FACILE D'OBTENIR L'ASSURANCE-MÉDICAMENTS

Qu'est-ce qui est nouveau?

À compter du 1er mai 2018, en qualité de participant au Projet pilote qui bénéficiait auparavant du programme Ontario au travail (OT) ou du Programme ontarien de soutien aux personnes handicapées (POSPH), **vous pourrez utiliser votre carte Santé de l'Ontario pour obtenir l'assurance-médicaments d'ordonnance.** Vous ne recevrez plus de carte d'admissibilité au programme de médicaments sur papier. Vos prestations actuelles ne changeront pas.

Vous pouvez encore utiliser votre carte d'admissibilité au programme de médicaments sur papier jusqu'en avril 2018 à la pharmacie comme preuve d'admissibilité pour le mois de mai.

Vous n'avez pas de carte Santé de l'Ontario?

Pour obtenir une carte Santé, vous devez en faire la demande en personne à un centre de ServiceOntario. Vous pouvez prendre rendez-vous ou non.

Renseignez-vous sur la façon d'obtenir une carte Santé de l'Ontario à **ontario.ca/cartesante**, en visitant un bureau local de ServiceOntario ou en appelant la ligne INFO de ServiceOntario :

Sans frais : 1 888 789 4199

ATS sans frais : 1 800 387-5559

Vous devez remplacer ou renouveler votre carte Santé de l'Ontario?

Renseignez-vous à **ontario.ca/health-card-renewal**
si vous avez des questions, l'équipe du Projet pilote portant sur le revenu de base est à votre entière disposition.

Tél. 1 844 806-6270
Courriel : basicincome@ontario.ca



Ontario

This is Exhibit "16" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

PLEASE READ THIS FIRST

2132

July 7, 2017

[redacted]
Hamilton ON [redacted]
Reference Number: 500021033

Dear [redacted]

You have been randomly selected to apply for the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). Basic income is a monthly payment from the Government of Ontario to individuals to provide a minimum level of income. The Pilot is a research study that will test whether a basic income is a better way of providing supports to people living on low incomes.

A. You may be eligible if you:

1. are **18 to 64** years old;
2. lived in **Hamilton, Brantford and Brant County** for the past 12 months; and
3. earned less than
   - $33,978 in 2016 if you are a single person
   - $48,054 if you are a couple
   - $45,978 if you are a single person with a disability
   - $60,054 if you are a couple with one person with a disability
   - $72,054 if you are a couple where both of you have a disability.

B. If you believe you are eligible:

1. review the **Information Booklet** for key details you need to know
2. fill out the **Application Form** to apply for the Pilot
3. return your completed application in the postage paid envelope provided.

C. If you apply, we will determine whether you are eligible or not and send you a letter to notify you. We will tell you about next steps before your participation can be confirmed. These steps will include:

1. agreeing to participate in the research study and consenting to provide personal information to study the effect of a basic income
2. completing a survey which will tell us more about you and your family.

After that, we will be randomly selecting eligible applicants into one of two groups:

- One group receives Basic Income payments (**Basic Income Group**)
- One group that does not receive payments (**Control Group**) that is established for research purposes.

Questions? Contact us at: 1-844-806-6270 or **applybi@ontario.ca**. Help is also available in person, by appointment.

We must receive your application in the mail by August 7, 2017

Don't delay – apply now!

© Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2017.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

August 17th 2017

RE: 500021033

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

You are eligible to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). The final stage of your enrolment is to complete the following:

1. **Collection, Use, and Disclosure of Personal Information Consent Form**
2. **Baseline Survey**
3. **Direct Deposit Form** (if applicable)

If you have questions, please contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

1. Collection, Use, and Disclosure of Personal Information Consent Form

We need your consent to collect, use and disclose your personal information with other government programs and services. This information is needed to administer the OBIP and to see how basic income impacts participants.

It is very important that you **read and understand** the declaration and consent form.

2. Baseline Survey

Completing the baseline survey is the first step in the evaluation of the OBIP. When you complete the Baseline Survey, you will receive a **$50 payment** as compensation.

This survey will be conducted by PRA Inc., a third party research company. Your responses to the survey **will not affect your eligibility to participate in the Pilot** or any other program.

3. Direct Deposit Form

Complete this form so that you can get Basic Income payments and survey compensation payments by **direct deposit** into your bank account.

Ontario

Notice with Respect to the Collection of Personal Information

(Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)
(Personal Health Information Protection Act)
(Ministry of Revenue Act)

This section is to make sure you know who you can contact if you have any questions regarding this consent form.

The collection of this information is necessary for the proper administration of the Basic Income Pilot, and to study its impact. Any questions regarding the collection, use and disclosure of personal information should be directed to Basic Income Pilot Administrators.

Mail:

The Basic Income Pilot Branch
77 Wellesley St. W.,
Box 175
Toronto, ON
M7A 1N3

Phone: 1-844-806-6270

Email: applybi@ontario.ca

Independent Review Board

All of the application materials you received have been reviewed by an Independent Review Board (IRB). An IRB is a group of scientific and non-scientific individuals who perform the initial and ongoing ethical review of the research study with the Research Participant's rights and welfare in mind. This study has been reviewed by Veritas Independent Review Board (IRB).

If you require any explanations or have any questions about the scientific and scholarly aspects of the Basic Income Pilot research, please email applybi@ontario.ca or call 1-844-806-6270 and direct research-related inquiries to the Primary Contact, Kevin Pal.

Primary Contact:

Kevin Pal, Director
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Ministry of Community and Social Services
Telephone: 1-844-806-6270

If you have any study-related comments, complaints or concerns contact Kevin Pal, the Primary Contact for the Basic Income Pilot. Please call the IRB if you need to speak to a person independent from the project and the research staff.

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, call the Manager of Veritas IRB 24 hours per day and 7 days per week at 514-337-0442 or toll-free at 1-866-384-4221.

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

September 8, 2017

RE: 500021033

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

You have been randomly selected to participate in the **Basic Income Group** of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). This means you will receive Basic Income payments.

About your Basic Income payment

The effective date of your Basic Income is September 1, 2017. Your monthly Basic Income payment is **$1915.75**.

Your first Basic Income payment will be issued on September 25, 2017, and future payments will be issued on or around the 25th of each month. We have included a table showing the expected payment date for each month of the 2017-18 benefit year.

You will receive your monthly Basic Income payment by Direct Bank Deposit.

You will also receive $50.00 for completing the Baseline Survey. Since you will receive Basic Income payments, you will not receive further compensation for surveys.

If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments you must contact us right away at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Basic Income payment

Based on the information provided in your application, the calculation of your Basic Income payment is outlined below.

Maximum Annual Basic Income	$22989
Less 50% of income from employment	- $0
Less 100% of other income	- $0
Annual Basic Income	**$22989**
Monthly Basic Income	**$1915.75**

If you have questions about your Basic Income payment amount, contact at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Ontario

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
33 King St W
Oshawa ON L1H 8H6

BIN - rL159

000297

[redacted]
HAMILTON ON [redacted]

Issue Date: 26-Sep-2018

Letter No: L0119617728
Reference No: 500021033

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On **July 31, 2018**, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is your notification that the pilot will be ending in **March 2019**.

What does this mean for you?

As a participant in the payment group, you will remain in the pilot and continue to receive payments until **March 25, 2019**. Your payments will be maintained at the amount of your July 2018 payment. Should you have a significant change in your circumstances, please contact us at **applyBI@ontario.ca** or 1 844 217-4516

You will not be asked to complete any additional surveys.

If you have been eligible to receive dental and/or drug benefits, you will continue to receive these benefits for the duration of the pilot.

Information about Social Assistance

A streamlined application process will be available to former ODSP and OW clients who wish to reapply to social assistance. In particular, former ODSP clients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when they reapply. You will be contacted shortly about this process or please call us at 1 844 217-4516 if you have any questions in the meantime.

If you are not a former ODSP or OW client but think you may be eligible please contact a local office at this link:
http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/

You may also apply on-line through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the ODSP Act during your pilot enrollment, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

Ontario

Letter No: L011 9617728
Reference No: 500021033

Information about your benefits

Benefit Change	What You Need to Know/Do
I am on OSAP. How do I get my living expenses paid by OSAP once BI stops?	You will need to take this notice letter to your Financial Aid Office which will be able to reassess your new income level and adjust your OSAP accordingly.
What will happen to my Housing Benefits/ Rent Geared to Income?	You should contact your municipal service manager as soon as you get this notice letter so they are aware that you have received your notice. Your housing provider or Service Manager will assist you and recalculate your rent and/or subsidies based on your new income after you leave BI.
What happens to my Child Care Fee Subsidy?	You will need to take this notice letter to your municipality. Your municipality will assist you to determine your eligibility for fee subsidies and the amount of parental contribution.
Will my Canada Child Tax Benefit, Ontario Child Benefit, or Ontario Trillium Benefit change because of higher income I received this year through Ontario Basic Income Pilot?	Until July 2019, your payments from these benefits will not be affected by your 2018 Basic Income payments. However, when you submit your tax forms next year, you may get a different amount from these benefits starting in July 2019. As mentioned in the consent section of the Basic Income Application Form, these benefits may be impacted by the income you received from the Pilot.

You can choose to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason at any time.

If you have any questions, please email us at **applyBI@ontario.ca**, or call us at 1 844 217-4516.

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

January 21, 2019

Ontario Basic Income Reference #
500021033

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On July 31, 2018, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is a **final reminder** that the Pilot will be ending in **March 2019**. Your final basic income payment will be in March 2019.

Should you have a significant change in your circumstances please contact us at applyBI@ontario.ca or at 1-844-217-4516. Any documentation that we might require from you to support the change in circumstance, must be received by our office on or before **February 15, 2019**.

Information about Social Assistance

If you were in receipt of Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program immediately prior to joining the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, we recommend that you contact your local social assistance office now to determine your eligibility to return to Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program. You must contact your local social assistance office prior to **March 1, 2019** to ensure your social assistance payments begin in April, if you are deemed eligible.

Former Ontario Disability Support Program recipients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when reapplying for Ontario Disability Support Program.

If you are not a former Ontario Disability Support Program or Ontario Works client but think you may be eligible, please contact a local office to ensure that your payments can begin in April if you are eligible for these programs.

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the Ontario Disability Support Program Act while enrolled in the pilot, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

You can find contact information for social assistance offices at this link http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/. You may also apply on-line through the

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

Information about your benefits

Benefit Change	What you Need to Know/Do
I am on OSAP. How do I get my living expenses paid by OSAP once BI stops?	You will need to take this letter to your Financial Aid Office which will be able to reassess your new income level and adjust your OSAP accordingly.
What will happen to my Housing Benefits/ Rent Geared to Income?	You should contact your municipal service manager as soon as you get this letter, so they are aware that you have received this letter. Your housing provider or Service Manager will assist you and recalculate your rent and/or subsidies based on your new income after you leave BI.
What happens to my Child Care Fee Subsidy?	You will need to take this letter to your municipality. Your municipality will assist you to determine your eligibility for fee subsidies and the amount of parental contribution
Will my Canada Child Tax Benefit, Ontario Child Benefit, or Ontario Trillium Benefit change because of higher income I received this year through Basic Income Pilot?	Until July 2019, your payments from these benefits will not be affected by your 2018 Basic Income payments. However, when you submit your tax forms for 2018, you may get a different amount from these benefits starting in July 2019. As mentioned in the consent section of the Basic Income Application Form, these benefits may be impacted by the income you received from the Pilot.

If you have any questions, please email us at applyBI@ontario.ca or call us at 1-844-217-4516.

If you wish to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason, you may do so at any time.

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Basic Income Pilot:

Information Booklet

May 2017



Ontario

This is Exhibit "17" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

November 11, 2017

RE: 500058899

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

You have been randomly selected to participate in the **Basic Income Group** of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). This means you will receive Basic Income payments.

About your Basic Income payment

The effective date of your Basic Income is 11/1/2017. Your monthly Basic Income payment is **$1363.88**

Your first Basic Income payment will be issued on 11/25/2017, and future payments will be issued on or around the 25th of each month. We have included a table showing the expected payment date for each month of the 2017-18 benefit year.

You will receive your monthly Basic Income payment by: **Cheque.**

You will also receive $50.00 for completing the Baseline Survey. Since you will receive Basic Income payments, you will not receive further compensation for surveys.

If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments you must contact us right away at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Basic Income payment

Based on the information provided in your application, the calculation of your Basic Income payment is outlined below.

Maximum Annual Basic Income	**$16989**
Less 50% of income from employment	**- $623**
Less 100% of other income	**- $0**
Annual Basic Income	**$16367**
Monthly Basic Income	**$1363.88**

If you have questions about your Basic Income payment amount, contact at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

If you are currently on Ontario Works

You must now tell your caseworker that you want to withdraw from OW to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your caseworker will need the date on this letter, and will then suspend your case until they can confirm you have received your first OBIP payment.

If you are receiving the Extended Health Benefit (EHB) or the Extended Employment Health Benefit (EEHB) through Ontario Works, you will also need to withdraw from these benefits.

If you don't withdraw in time, you may get an Ontario Works **overpayment**.

Any pay directs (e.g. to a landlord) you have set up through Ontario Works will be cancelled when you withdraw. You will need to make other arrangements for these payments.

You (and your spouse/common-law partner and/or dependent children under 18 years of age, if applicable) will continue to receive drug benefits, and your dependent children under 18 years of age will continue to receive dental benefits.

To access drug benefits at a pharmacy, identify yourself as a participant in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot when speaking to the pharmacist.

If you are currently on Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

You must now tell your caseworker that you want to withdraw from ODSP to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your caseworker will need the date on this letter and will then suspend your case until they can confirm you have received your first OBIP payment.

If you are receiving the Extended Health Benefit (EHB) or the Transition Health Benefit (THB), you will also need to withdraw from these benefits.

If you don't withdraw in time, you may get an ODSP **overpayment**.

Any pay directs (e.g. to a landlord) you have set up through ODSP will be cancelled when you withdraw. You will need to make other arrangements for these payments.

You (and your spouse/common-law partner and/or dependent children under 18 years of age, if applicable) will continue to receive the drug and dental benefits.

To access drug benefits at a pharmacy, identify yourself as a participant in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot when speaking to the pharmacist.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

What to do if your circumstances change

Contact us if circumstances in your life change and you think these changes may affect your Basic Income payment. These changes could include changes to your relationship status, change in income, or change in disability status.

To report a change in your circumstances or for more information on how to report changes, contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

If you wish to opt out of the Pilot for any reason, please contact us

If you have any questions or need more information

We can help. Contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

OBIP Administrator

Basic Income Payment Schedule, 2017-18

The table below shows the dates that monthly Basic Income payments will be issued for the 2017-18 benefit year (November 1, 2017 – November 30, 2018).

Payment Month and Year	Payment Day
November 2017	25
December 2017	15
January 2018	25
February 2018	26
March 2018	26
April 2018	25
May 2018	25
June 2018	25

Basic Income payments are calculated for the year using information from your tax return. We will send you information about your 2018-19 Basic Income payments next spring.

Ontario

March 14, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500058899

[redacted]
[redacted]
Hamilton, ON
[redacted]

Important Reminder Notice

Thank you for participating in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your contribution is very important to our study.

This reminder notice is to let you know:

1. That to continue to participate in the Pilot you must complete and file your taxes for each year that you are participating in the study.

2. That you should contact us if circumstances in your life have changed. Significant changes could include: relationship status, income, address, bank account number or disability status.

Why this is important to you

The amount you get in Basic Income payments may change each year based on your taxes. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requires that you file your taxes **by the end of April**.

You or both you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable), need to file last year's Personal Tax Returns with the CRA as soon as possible. We are always available to help you.

How to get help

Free and volunteer tax preparation clinics are offered between February and April each year. For a complete list of Tax Preparation Clinics in Ontario visit:

http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdls/vlntr/clncs/on-eng.html

Ontario

Here are some examples of free tax preparation clinics in the Pilot communities:

Hamilton

Parkview Church
1120 West 5th Street,
Hamilton, ON L9C 2X2

Dates: February 24, March 10, March 24, April 7, April 21
Hours: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
www.hamiltontaxhelp.ca

Thunder Bay

Lakehead Social Planning Council
125 Syndicate Avenue South, Unit 38, Victoriaville Centre,
Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 6H8

Dates: End of February to Mid-May
Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
www.lspc.ca/income-tax-clinic/

Lindsay

Adult Protective Services
322 Kent Street West,
Lindsay, ON, K9V 4S7

Dates: April 11, April 18
Hours: 1-3 p.m.
Email **applybi@ontario.ca** to book an appointment

You can also file your taxes online using **free tax preparation software**, for example:

Turbotax

www.turbotax.intuit.ca
Basic free tax filing available with the option to purchase premium services

UFileFREE

www.ufile.ca
Free if you:

- Have family income less than $20,000
- Are a post-secondary student
- Have never filed taxes before

For more information about filing online, search online for **NETFILE** (Canada Revenue Agency) or use this direct link:

https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/e-services/e-services-individuals/netfile-overview.html

We're always ready to help. Contact us at **1-844-806-6270** or **applybi@ontario.ca**.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

March 14, 2018

Numéro de référence pour le Projet pilote portant sur le revenu de base en Ontario:

500058899

[redacted]
[redacted]
Hamilton, ON
[redacted]

Rappel Important

Nous vous remercions de votre participation au Projet pilote portant sur le revenu de base en Ontario. Votre apport au projet est très important.

Le présent rappel vise à vous informer de ce qui suit :

1. Pour continuer à participer au projet pilote, vous devez remplir et produire votre déclaration de revenus pour chaque année de participation au projet.

2. Pour nous contacter si les circonstances dans votre vie ont changé. Les changements importants peuvent inclure: votre état civil, votre revenu, votre adresse, votre numéro de compte bancaire ou votre état d'invalidité.

Pourquoi est-ce important pour vous

La somme qui vous est versée en paiements au titre du revenu de base peut varier d'une année à l'autre en fonction de l'impôt sur vos revenus. L'Agence du revenu du Canada (ARC) exige que vous produisiez votre déclaration de revenus **d'ici la fin du mois d'avril**.

Vous et votre conjoint ou conjoint de fait (le cas échéant) devez faire chacun à l'ARC votre déclaration de revenus de l'an dernier le plus tôt possible. Nous sommes toujours prêts à vous venir en aide.

Comment obtenir de l'aide

Des bénévoles à des comptoirs de préparation gratuite des déclarations offrent leurs services entre les mois de février et d'avril de chaque année. Pour la liste complète des comptoirs de préparation des déclarations en Ontario, visitez :

http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdls/vlntr/clncs/on-fra.html

Ontario

Voici quelques comptoirs de préparation gratuite des déclarations dans les collectivités participant au projet pilote :

Hamilton

Église Parkview
1120, 5e Rue Ouest
Hamilton (Ontario) L9C 2X2

Dates : 24 février, 10 mars, 24 mars, 7 avril, 21 avril
Heures : de 10 h à 13 h
www.hamiltontaxhelp.ca

Thunder Bay

Lakehead Social Planning Council
125, avenue Syndicate Sud, unité 38, Victoriaville Centre,
Thunder Bay (Ontario) P7E 6S8

Dates : De la fin février à la mi-mai
Heures : Du lundi au vendredi, de 8 h 30 à 14 h
www.lspc.ca/income-tax-clinic/

Lindsay

Services de protection des adultes
322, rue Kent Ouest
Lindsay (Ontario) K9V 4S7

Dates : 11 et 18 avril
Heures : de 13 h à 15 h
Écrivez à **applybi@ontario.ca** pour prendre rendez-vous.

Vous pouvez aussi produire votre déclaration de revenus en ligne au moyen d'un **logiciel de préparation de déclarations gratuit** comme :

Turbotax

https://turboimpot.intuit.ca
Production gratuite de déclarations de revenus de base et possibilité d'achat de services supérieurs

ImpôtExpert

https://www.impotexpert.ca
Gratuit à l'une de ces conditions :

- Votre revenu familial est inférieur à 20 000 $
- Vous faites des études postsecondaires
- C'est votre première déclaration de revenus

Pour vous renseigner davantage sur la production de déclarations en ligne, faites une recherche en ligne pour **IMPÔTNET** (Agence du revenu du Canada) ou obtenez un accès direct par ce lien:

https://www.canada.ca/fr/agence-revenu/services/services-electroniques/services-electroniques-particuliers/impotnet-apercu.html

Nous sommes toujours prêts à vous aider. Appelez-nous au **1 844 806-6270** ou écrivez-nous à **applybi@ontario.ca**.

Cordialement,

Administrateur/trice, Projet pilote portant sur le revenu de base en Ontario

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

April 4, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500058899

[redacted]
Hamilton, ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

This letter is to let you know about some important information regarding your Basic Income payments and the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP).

You can get both Basic Income and OSAP funding during your study period. However, OSAP will only assess you for direct educational costs such as, tuition, books and other fees. This is because your living costs are covered by your Basic Income payments.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU WANT TO APPLY FOR OSAP FUNDING

If you plan to apply for OSAP funding for studies starting in 2018, you must let your school's Financial Aid Office know that you are a Basic Income recipient, **before the start of your study period**.

This will ensure that your OSAP funding amount is correct before you receive your first OSAP funding payment.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE

If you return to full-time studies and are earning less income while in school, your Basic Income payments may be adjusted. To report a significant change in your circumstances contact a Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator.

Questions about your Basic Income? Call Ontario Basic Income Pilot toll-free at 1-844-806-6270.

Questions about your OSAP funding? Contact your school's Financial Aid Office.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
33 King St W
Oshawa ON L1H 8H6

BIN - rL159

299100

[redacted]
HAMILTON ON [redacted]

Issue Date: 26-Sep-2018

Letter No: L1374160064
Reference No: 500058899

Dear [redacted]:

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On **July 31, 2018**, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is your notification that the pilot will be ending in **March 2019**.

What does this mean for you?

As a participant in the payment group, you will remain in the pilot and continue to receive payments until **March 25, 2019**. Your payments will be maintained at the amount of your July 2018 payment. Should you have a significant change in your circumstances, please contact us at **applyBI@ontario.ca** or 1 844 217-4516

You will not be asked to complete any additional surveys.

If you have been eligible to receive dental and/or drug benefits, you will continue to receive these benefits for the duration of the pilot.

Information about Social Assistance

A streamlined application process will be available to former ODSP and OW clients who wish to reapply to social assistance. In particular, former ODSP clients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when they reapply. You will be contacted shortly about this process or please call us at 1 844 217-4516 if you have any questions in the meantime.

If you are not a former ODSP or OW client but think you may be eligible please contact a local office at this link:
http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/

You may also apply on-line through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the ODSP Act during your pilot enrollment, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

Ontario

Letter No: L1374160064
Reference No: 500058899

Information about your benefits

Benefit Change	What You Need to Know/Do
I am on OSAP. How do I get my living expenses paid by OSAP once BI stops?	You will need to take this notice letter to your Financial Aid Office which will be able to reassess your new income level and adjust your OSAP accordingly.
What will happen to my Housing Benefits/ Rent Geared to Income?	You should contact your municipal service manager as soon as you get this notice letter so they are aware that you have received your notice. Your housing provider or Service Manager will assist you and recalculate your rent and/or subsidies based on your new income after you leave BI.
What happens to my Child Care Fee Subsidy?	You will need to take this notice letter to your municipality. Your municipality will assist you to determine your eligibility for fee subsidies and the amount of parental contribution.
Will my Canada Child Tax Benefit, Ontario Child Benefit, or Ontario Trillium Benefit change because of higher income I received this year through Ontario Basic Income Pilot?	Until July 2019, your payments from these benefits will not be affected by your 2018 Basic Income payments. However, when you submit your tax forms next year, you may get a different amount from these benefits starting in July 2019. As mentioned in the consent section of the Basic Income Application Form, these benefits may be impacted by the income you received from the Pilot.

You can choose to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason at any time.

If you have any questions, please email us at **applyBI@ontario.ca**, or call us at 1 844 217-4516.

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

November 09, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Reference #500058899

[redacted]
HamiltonON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

We are writing to tell you about the *Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey – Preliminary Analysis*, a summary report based on the surveys completed by participants in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot at the time of enrolment.

The aim of the report is to provide a description of the characteristics of all Basic Income Pilot participants. No identifying information about you is contained in this report (such as your name or date of birth). The report is a high level summary of survey answers provided by participants and includes information such as household composition, employment, education, housing, and food security. For example, it shows the number of participants who have completed high school or are working.

Copies of the *Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey – Preliminary Analysis* will be available to Ontario Basic Income Pilot participants. If you would like a copy of this report, please contact us at **applybi@ontario.ca** or call us at **1-844-217-4516.**

Information about Social Assistance

If you think you may be eligible for ODSP or OW please contact a local office at this link http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/. You may also apply on-line through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx
If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the ODSP Act during your pilot enrollment, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

If you have any additional questions, please contact us at **applybi@ontario.ca** or call us at **1-844-217-4516.**

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

January 21, 2019

Ontario Basic Income Reference #
500058899

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On July 31, 2018, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is a **final reminder** that the Pilot will be ending in **March 2019**. Your final basic income payment will be in March 2019.

Should you have a significant change in your circumstances please contact us at applyBI@ontario.ca or at 1-844-217-4516. Any documentation that we might require from you to support the change in circumstance, must be received by our office on or before **February 15, 2019**.

Information about Social Assistance

If you were in receipt of Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program immediately prior to joining the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, we recommend that you contact your local social assistance office now to determine your eligibility to return to Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program. You must contact your local social assistance office prior to **March 1, 2019** to ensure your social assistance payments begin in April, if you are deemed eligible.

Former Ontario Disability Support Program recipients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when reapplying for Ontario Disability Support Program.

If you are not a former Ontario Disability Support Program or Ontario Works client but think you may be eligible, please contact a local office to ensure that your payments can begin in April if you are eligible for these programs.

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the Ontario Disability Support Program Act while enrolled in the pilot, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

You can find contact information for social assistance offices at this link http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/. You may also apply on-line through the

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

Information about your benefits

Benefit Change	What you Need to Know/Do
I am on OSAP. How do I get my living expenses paid by OSAP once BI stops?	You will need to take this letter to your Financial Aid Office which will be able to reassess your new income level and adjust your OSAP accordingly.
What will happen to my Housing Benefits/ Rent Geared to Income?	You should contact your municipal service manager as soon as you get this letter, so they are aware that you have received this letter. Your housing provider or Service Manager will assist you and recalculate your rent and/or subsidies based on your new income after you leave BI.
What happens to my Child Care Fee Subsidy?	You will need to take this letter to your municipality. Your municipality will assist you to determine your eligibility for fee subsidies and the amount of parental contribution
Will my Canada Child Tax Benefit, Ontario Child Benefit, or Ontario Trillium Benefit change because of higher income I received this year through Basic Income Pilot?	Until July 2019, your payments from these benefits will not be affected by your 2018 Basic Income payments. However, when you submit your tax forms for 2018, you may get a different amount from these benefits starting in July 2019. As mentioned in the consent section of the Basic Income Application Form, these benefits may be impacted by the income you received from the Pilot.

If you have any questions, please email us at applyBI@ontario.ca or call us at 1-844-217-4516.

If you wish to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason, you may do so at any time.

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

6788004 CE

Community and Social Services
Services sociaux et communautaires

2017-12-15
199530880

ID #: R199530880
NAME: [redacted]
AMOUNT: $1363.88

THIS IS YOUR BASIC INCOME PAYMENT.

BORDEREAU DE PAIEMENT

Ontario

6757414 CE

Community and Social Services
Services sociaux et communautaires

2017-11-24
1538869632

ID #: R1538869632
NAME: [redacted]
AMOUNT: $1363.88

THIS IS YOUR BASIC INCOME PAYMENT.

BORDEREAU DE PAIEMENT

Ontario

6881988 CE

Community and Social Services
Services sociaux et communautaires

2018-03-23
194520448

ID #: R194520448
NAME: [redacted]
AMOUNT: $1363.88

THIS IS YOUR BASIC INCOME PAYMENT.

BORDEREAU DE PAIEMENT

000580

Ontario

6816570 CE

Community and Social Services
Services sociaux et communautaires

2018-01-25
1155578240

ID #: R1155578240
NAME: [redacted]
AMOUNT: $1363.88

THIS IS YOUR BASIC INCOME PAYMENT.

REMITTANCE ADVICE
BORDEREAU DE PAIEMENT

Ontario

3039965 CI

Supplier Number:616647

Invoice Number	Date	Invoice Description	Payment Date	Payment Number
OBIP4	02-FEB-18	CSS OBIP SURVEY COMPENSTA	08-FEB-18	3039965
			Payment Amount	50.00

REMITTANCE ADVICE
BORDEREAU DE PAIEMENT

Ontario

6855393 CE

Community and Social Services
Services sociaux et communautaires

2018-02-23
445261184

ID #: R445261184
NAME: [redacted]
AMOUNT: $1363.88

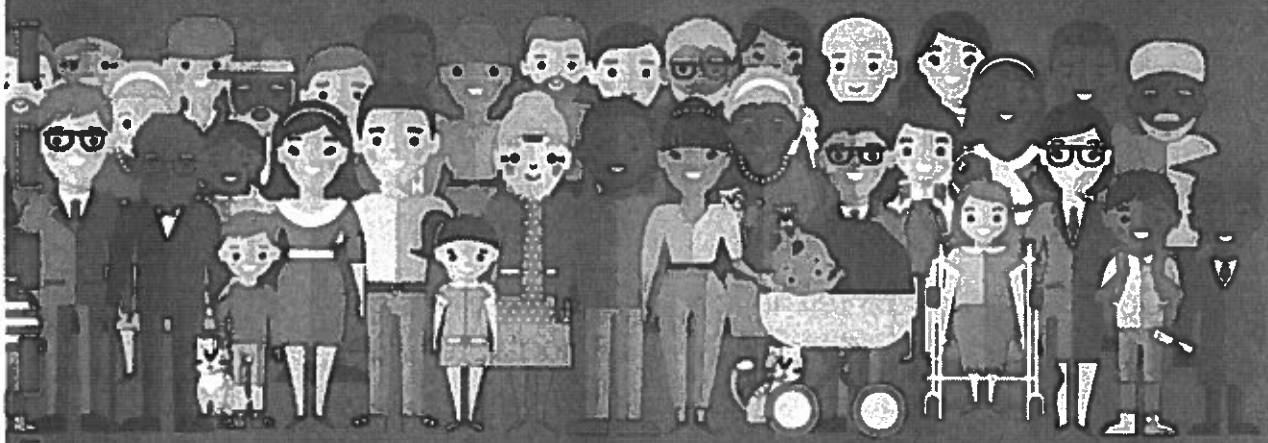
THIS IS YOUR BASIC INCOME PAYMENT.

BORDEREAU DE PAIEMENT

Basic Income Pilot:

Information Booklet

May 2017



Barbara Keltjens

Ref # 500058899

Ontario

BASIC INCOME PILOT: INFORMATION BOOKLET

This Booklet contains the information you need before deciding to apply to be a participant in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). **Please read the entire Booklet carefully before completing the Application Form in your package as there are several steps to the application process.** If you are applying as part of a couple, your spouse or common-law partner should also read this Booklet.

The Booklet will help you learn

- if you may be eligible to participate and
- what you can expect if you submit your application and are accepted as a participant.

The OBIP is a research project to study the impact of Basic Income. Participants will be an active part of this research.

Cette brochure d'information est disponible dans les deux langues officielles. Veuillez contacter les administrateurs du Projet pilote portant sur le revenu de base en composant le **1 844 806-6270** ou en envoyant un courriel à **applybi@ontario.ca** pour demander une copie en français.

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Call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email applybi@ontario.ca

SECTION 1: WHAT IS THE BASIC INCOME PILOT?

Ontario is exploring new ways to help people reach their full potential. Our economy is in a relatively strong position, however many people in the province are not feeling that growth in their everyday lives. People are struggling to keep up with the rising cost of living and facing various barriers, such as "precarious work" with little job security or benefits. The three-year Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP) will study whether a basic income can better support vulnerable workers and give people the security and opportunity they need to achieve their potential. It will also study whether giving people a basic income can be a simpler and more economically effective way to provide income security support to people living on low incomes.

Through the pilot, participants will receive a basic annual income, which will help people with their basic needs and improve health, education and job prospects. We will rigorously test this new approach and will work with a third-party evaluator to review the evidence from the pilot.

Two Groups Participating in the Research Study

At the start, the Pilot will select two groups of eligible applicants who will be asked to participate in the research study:

1. One group will receive monthly Basic Income payments for up to a three-year period. This group is called the **Basic Income Group**.
2. One group will **not** receive monthly Basic Income payments, but will actively participate in the research study. This group is called the **Control Group**.

These two groups are required because the study will follow what is called a randomized controlled trial (RCT) study. In this type of study, the people in both groups are compared to each other over time to see how the participants who receive Basic Income respond to it. The study will be done by Third Party Evaluators.

People in these two groups will be regularly asked about their health, employment, and housing through surveys.

You will also be asked to allow Third Party Evaluators to review your personal information. Your personal health information and information about the other services you receive from the Government of Ontario will help us understand the full impact of the Basic Income. Your consent will be required before personal information will be collected and shared with Third Party Evaluators. We will ask for this consent after you are determined to be eligible to participate, and this consent can be revoked at any time.

Comparing people in these two groups will tell the evaluators how Basic Income helps people living on low incomes better meet their basic needs and improve their education, employment, and health.

You will be asked to complete these surveys periodically during the pilot period.

People chosen for the Pilot are not required to participate and may opt out at any time.

Who is eligible to participate in the Pilot?

If you received this package in the mail, you are invited to apply for the Basic Income Pilot. This package is unique to you and should not be copied or shared with others. At the top of your invitation letter you will find a **reference number**.

Your reference number is unique to you and only you can use it. This number cannot be shared.

The first step in the process is to determine if you are eligible to participate in the Pilot. To be eligible to participate in the Pilot, you must meet all of the eligibility criteria below. If you will be applying as part of a couple, your spouse/common-law partner must also meet all of these criteria.

You must meet all of criteria here to participate. If applying as a couple, your spouse/common-law partner must also meet the eligibility criteria.

Even if you are eligible you may not receive Basic Income payments.

Age

Eligible participants for the Basic Income Pilot will be between the ages of **18-64 years of age** as of **April 24, 2017**.

Residency

You and if applicable, your spouse/common-law partner should have lived within your Pilot area including: Hamilton, Brant County, Brantford, Thunder Bay and area, or Lindsay for **12 months or longer** as of April 24, 2017.

Spousal/Common-law Status

If you have a spouse, he or she will also need to complete the Application Form and participate in the Pilot. To be considered as a couple in the Pilot, **you should have indicated that you had a spouse or common-law partner in your 2016 or previous T1 General Forms**.

Definition of spouse and common-law partner

Spouse
This applies only to a person to whom you are legally married.

Common-law partner
This applies to a person who is **not your spouse**, with whom you are living in a conjugal relationship, and to whom at least **one** of the following situations applies. He or she:

a. has been living with you in a conjugal relationship, and this current relationship has lasted at least 12 continuous months

   Note
   In this definition, 12 continuous months includes any period you were separated for fewer than 90 days because of a breakdown in the relationship.

b. is the parent of your child by birth or adoption, or

c. has custody and control of your child (or had custody and control immediately before the child turned 19 years of age) and your child is wholly dependent on that person for support.

Financial Eligibility

To assess whether you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable) are financially eligible to participate, we will use your and your spouse's/common-law partner's 2016 T1 General – Income Tax and Benefit Form and the 2016 Notice of Assessment. **You can submit a copy of these with your application**. If you are selected to receive monthly Basic Income Payments, it will be used to calculate the amount of these payments.

To be considered for participation in the Pilot you must have earned:

a. less than $33,978 if you are a single person
b. less than $48,054 if you are a couple
c. less than $45,978 if you are a single person with a disability
d. less than $60,054 if you are a couple where one of you has a disability
e. less than $72,054 if you are a couple where both of you have a disability.

Please note: Not everyone who is participating in the Pilot will get Basic Income payments.

If I don't have a copy of my 2016 tax return, how do I get a copy?

If you filed your taxes, you will be able to access this information through the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). You should contact the CRA to receive this information. You can access most of your personal information, and other information the CRA holds, online through My Account (http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/myaccount/) or by calling the CRA at 1-800-959-8281.

Can I still apply to the Basic Income Pilot if I have not filed my 2016 taxes?

Yes, if you did not file your 2016 taxes you can still apply to participate in the Basic Income Pilot. You can use your 2015 T1 General Form and Notice of Assessment if you have them. If you do not have your 2015 information, we have a process to get you started and enrolled in the Pilot – please contact us.

Call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email applybi@ontario.ca

Disability:

Basic Income Pilot participants may be eligible to receive an additional disability supplement of up to $6,000 per year. You can receive this supplement if you or your spouse/common-law partner are currently determined to be disabled under at least one of the following programs provided by the provincial or federal governments:

- Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- Services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- Canada Pension Plan/Québec Pension Plan – Disability.

If you or your spouse/common-law partner currently receive any of the above because of a disability, please send documentation with your application confirming your eligibility for one of the programs. Documentation can include:

- An ODSP payment stub or eligibility notices
- Proof of services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- A Canada Pension Plan – Disability (CPP-D) payment stub or eligibility notices.

If you meet the eligibility criteria, you may be selected to be a participant in the Pilot.

The next section outlines what will happen after you submit your Application Form.

For ongoing financial eligibility and evaluation purposes you will be asked to complete your taxes in every year you are participating in the Pilot. We can help - ask us how.

SECTION 2: WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I SUBMIT THE APPLICATION FORM?

After you submit your Application Form, your information will be reviewed by Basic Income Pilot administrators for completeness and eligibility to participate in the Pilot.

Everyone who submits an Application Form will get a letter confirming whether or not they are eligible to participate in the Pilot.

This decision will be based on the information you provided in the Application Form.

If your application is determined to be ineligible, the letter will identify the reason(s) why.

What if I disagree with the eligibility decision?

If you would like to discuss your eligibility decision in more detail, please contact us at **1-844-806-6270 or email applybi@ontario.ca**.

Eligible Applicants:

If you are determined to be eligible to participate, you will receive additional information and materials to complete before being accepted into the Pilot:

- A confirmation letter
- An estimate of how much your monthly Basic Income payments may be
- A survey: you will be asked to complete a survey and consent to the collection and disclosure of your personal information for the purposes of the research study and evaluation. **Note:** only eligible applicants will receive the survey.

What is the survey for?

This survey will collect personal information about you and your family. This information will be used to set a starting point for how things in your life change during the Pilot. This information may also be used to analyze the characteristics of pilot participants, such as age group, gender, and experience with social assistance. This information will be collected by Third Party Evaluators and will be used to support the administration and evaluation of the Pilot.

Completing the Survey

The survey may be completed and submitted by mail. To make enrolment into the Pilot smoother, you may be contacted by phone or email to see if you need assistance completing the survey. The sooner your survey is done, the sooner we can tell you if you will be receiving Basic Income payments.

After the surveys are received, participants will be selected and placed into one of two groups as part of the randomized controlled trial:

1. One group will receive monthly Basic Income payments (**Basic Income Group**)
2. One group will **not** receive monthly Basic Income Payments (**Control Group**). This group will actively participate in the research study.

Each group will have a maximum number of participants, and not all persons who submitted surveys will be selected to participate.

Study and Evaluation of the Basic Income Pilot

As part of the research study and evaluation of the Pilot, we will request additional consent for the sharing and/or collection of your personal information. Details regarding this additional consent will be shared with you if you are eligible to participate in the Pilot. This will be included in the baseline survey for you to review and complete. Participating in the study and evaluation means:

Completing Surveys: You will be asked to complete surveys periodically throughout the Pilot. These surveys will ask you questions about your experiences while in the Pilot, such as stress levels, work, family, health, education, and housing. Surveys may be done by mail, online, over the phone and/or in person.

You will be asked to complete surveys about your experiences while in the Pilot.

Questions in the surveys will be on things like:

- Food security
- Stress and anxiety
- Mental health
- Health and health care usage
- Housing stability
- Education and training
- Employment.

Are there any risks to answering questions in the surveys?

As you complete the surveys, you may experience some emotional discomfort when answering some survey questions. The surveys will ask you to reflect on your personal experiences while participating in the Basic Income Pilot.

Access to and Analysis of Data Collected by Government Institutions:
For the purposes of the study, we will be looking at personal information that is collected from other government services and programs. The Pilot will ask for your consent to collect and access your personal information from other government programs and services. Your consent may be needed for the evaluators to access and/or disclose your information that is held by third parties or other parts of the government, such as the following:

- The Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES), a not-for-profit research institute that holds health related information.
- The Ministry of Community and Social Services for the purposes of understanding the differences between social assistance and Basic Income.
- The Ministry of Housing and municipal service managers for the purposes of understanding the impact Basic Income may have on Rent-Geared-to-Income supports.
- The Ministry of Education and municipal service managers for the purposes of understanding the impact Basic Income may have on the Child Care Fee Subsidy.

The study will be conducted by Third Party Evaluators. Details about this team will be shared with Pilot participants at a later date.

Privacy: What you need to know

Since this is a research study, participants in both the Basic Income Group and the Control Group will need to provide personal information to study how Basic Income has affected their lives.

Personal information will be disclosed, collected and used for four purposes:

- Reviewing eligibility for the Pilot
- Selection of Pilot participants, both to receive payments and to be in the Control Group
- Determining Basic Income payments for those chosen to receive payments
- Study and evaluation of the Basic Income Pilot.

Determining Eligibility and Selecting Participants

The Application Form asks you provide your personal information, which will be disclosed to and collected from third parties (for example, the Canada Revenue Agency) and used to assess your eligibility to participate in the Pilot. The disclosure and collection of your personal information will be with the following:

a. The information you provide in the Application Form will be shared with the Ontario Ministry of Finance (MOF) and the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to verify your income, and calculate the amount of monthly payments should you be selected.

b. The MOF will receive this information to support the administration of the Basic Income payments. If you are selected to participate in the Pilot, these payments will be delivered by the MOF.

c. Some information will be shared with the CRA. The CRA will only receive your name, date of birth and Social Insurance Number. This is needed to verify your income, calculate the amount of your monthly payments should you be selected to receive them and to support the evaluation of the Basic Income Pilot. Monitoring your income is part of the evaluation of the Pilot, so this verification will continue throughout your participation. All verification between the MOF and CRA will be done through a secure automated income verification process currently used for other benefits and programs.

Protection of Privacy

Privacy is a fundamental right of every Ontarian. Ontario public institutions are required by law to protect your personal information, and to follow strict rules when collecting, using and disclosing your personal information. All information collected throughout the Basic Income Pilot will be managed in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Personal Health Information Protection Act*. After you understand what will happen if you participate in the Pilot, you can decide to participate. You may leave the Pilot at any time and do not need to offer any reason for doing so. This can be done by contacting us at **1-844-806-6270 or emailing applybi@ontario.ca**.

- Personal information collected on the application form, as well as to survey responses, will be destroyed if you opt out of the Pilot and request your personal information be destroyed.
- If you do not request your records be destroyed, your records will be retained according to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the policies of the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

The Basic Income Pilot will not share your personal information with any third party, including other governments and the media, without your consent. You are not required to engage with another third party if they contact you. That decision is entirely up to you.

Public reports about the Pilot results will be released throughout the duration of the Pilot. These reports will not include any personal or identifiable information. If you are participating in the Pilot, we will share any reports with you before they are released to the public.

Participants Selected for the Control Group

If you are selected to participate in the Basic Income Pilot and selected to the Control Group, you will be asked to participate in the evaluation but **will not** receive Basic Income payments. As highlighted on page 11, participating in the evaluation means completing surveys and sharing your personal information. For each survey you complete, you will receive compensation for your time and effort in completing the survey.

Beyond completing surveys and sharing your personal information, nothing else will change. There will be no changes to your access to social assistance or other government services, providing you continue to be eligible for those programs and services.

Participants Selected to Receive Monthly Basic Income Payments

How much is the Basic Income?

If you are chosen to participate in the Basic Income Group and receive monthly payments, the amounts you receive will depend on:

- whether you are single or part of a couple
- the amount of income you earned in the last year through employment and other sources, such as CPP-D or Employment Insurance (EI)
- whether or not you and/or your spouse/common-law partner have a disability.

Single or a couple

The amount of the Basic Income payment will depend on whether you are a single individual or have a spouse/common-law partner as defined by the CRA. Both single individuals and couples may be eligible to participate in the Pilot.

Amount of earned income

The amount you receive from the Basic Income will also depend on how much you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable) earned last year. The basic income will be responsive to changes in a participant's circumstances, such as a significant decrease in earnings, change in family composition, or change in disability status.

Employment Earnings

For the purposes of the Pilot, the Basic Income payment is reduced by $0.50 for every $1.00 of employment income. Employment income can consist of amounts you receive as salary, wages, bonuses, tips, gratuities, and honoraria. This would also include any income you received through self-employment.

Examples:

Jacob has no employment income and is single. He receives the maximum Basic Income for a single ($16,989 per year).

Malcolm has $5,000 in self-employment income which he claimed on his T1 General Form. His Basic Income is reduced by $2,500 to $14,489 per year, but his income is $19,489.

Judy has $15,000 in employment income which she claimed on her T1 General Form. Her Basic Income is reduced by $7,500 to $9,489 per year, but her income is $24,489.

Income from Investments and Other Earnings

Income from other things like investment income and other earnings will reduce Basic Income payment dollar for dollar. This means that for every $1.00 received through other sources, the Basic Income is reduced by $1.00.

Income from Other Sources

Payments from programs like Employment Insurance (EI) and the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) will reduce Basic Income payment dollar for dollar. This means that for every $1.00 received through other sources, the Basic Income is reduced by $1.00.

Income Related to Children

Payments, such as child support payments and Canada Child Benefit/Ontario Child Benefit, will not affect how the Basic Income payment is calculated.

Disability supplement

Individuals with a disability, as outlined on page 8 of this booklet, are eligible to receive up to an additional $6,000 per year, or $500 per month of Basic Income.

Basic Income Payment Table

The table below shows the maximum amount of Basic Income and the annual earnings that would reduce the Basic Income amount to $0.

	Maximum Basic Income Amount, no other income	Annual employment earnings* limit where Basic Income is reduced to $0
Single adult	$16,989	$33,978
Couple	$24,027	$48,054
Single adult with a disability	$22,989	$45,978
Couple with one adult with a disability	$30,027	$60,054
Couple with both adults with a disability	$36,027	$72,054

* Total earnings of the single or couple, assumes no other income, 50 per cent reduction rate for employment income

Ongoing Expectations to Receive Payments

File Taxes

To participate in the Pilot you will be asked to complete your taxes in every year you are participating in the study. This is important because your eligibility and amount of Basic Income payments are directly tied to the information in your annual tax assessment. It is also an important part of the evaluation. This applies to both the Basic Income Group and the Control Group.

Participate in the Evaluation

You will be asked to answer surveys to participate in the Pilot. The Pilot is a test to determine if a basic income is a more effective way to provide income support. Through the Pilot, we will evaluate how receiving a basic income might affect the well-being of people living on low-incomes who live in different parts of Ontario and in different life situations.

What happens at the end of the Pilot?

The Pilot will run for up to three years. When the Pilot enters its final year, the Basic Income payments will be reduced gradually to prepare participants for the end of the study. The intent of this gradual reduction is to reduce any impact of ending Basic Income payments. Participants will receive information about this before any payments are reduced.

Voluntary

Participation in the Basic Income Pilot is entirely voluntary – **no one is required to participate and they can choose to leave the Pilot at any time and do not need to offer any reason for doing so**. The Basic Income Pilot will follow an "opt in" model where interested people who receive this application package should complete and submit the Application Form to be considered for the Pilot.

Your participation in the Pilot is temporary. Any decisions you make about your future based on the amount you receive from Basic Income should take this into account. Participants will get notifications about the close of the Pilot in advance.

SECTION 3: HOW WILL GETTING MONTHLY BASIC INCOME PAYMENTS IMPACT OTHER BENEFITS?

If you currently receive social assistance

If you currently receive social assistance (Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program), you will have to withdraw from those programs in order to participate in the Basic Income Group and receive payments. Basic Income payments will replace all payments you receive from Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP).

How do I withdraw from social assistance?

To withdraw from social assistance, you will have to contact your local OW or ODSP office and speak with your caseworker.

Note: Do not contact your social assistance caseworker to withdraw from social assistance until you have received confirmation that you have been selected to receive monthly Basic Income payments. If you are selected to receive Basic Income payments, you will receive a letter confirming your participation in the Pilot. This letter can be shown to your caseworker when informing them of your decision to withdraw from social assistance.

If I voluntarily withdraw from social assistance to participate in the Pilot, what happens to my drug and dental benefits?

OW and ODSP recipients will remain eligible for drug benefits, and those on ODSP will remain eligible for dental benefits if they were receiving them prior to entering the Pilot. Children of OW and ODSP recipients will remain eligible for dental benefits if they were receiving them prior to entering the Pilot.

- OW clients who withdraw from OW to participate in the Pilot will lose access to all discretionary benefits, including dental.

What happens to the other supports I receive?

Other than prescription drugs (OW and ODSP) and dental benefits (ODSP only), many of the services and supports available to you as a social assistance recipient will not be available to you when you withdraw from social assistance to participate in the Basic Income Pilot.

- In some cases, some employment supports may remain available for persons with a disability.

Questions about what will happen to your social assistance?

Call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email applybi@ontario.ca

What will happen to the benefits I receive, which are delivered outside of social assistance, or are available to me if I don't receive social assistance?

Subsidized Housing – Rent-Geared-to-Income

If you are currently living in social housing and receiving rent-geared-to-income (RGI) assistance, you will not have to leave social housing or stop receiving RGI assistance while receiving Basic Income payments. Individuals in receipt of RGI assistance pay 30 per cent of their gross household income in rent. If you are participating in the Pilot, the Basic Income payments will be considered income for determining your monthly rent payments. This will mean that your monthly rent payment may increase to reflect your increased income with Basic Income payments.

If you are a social assistance recipient, the rent you pay in social housing could be tied to the pre-established social assistance rent scales. Since you will be withdrawing from social assistance to participate in the Pilot, the rent scales will no longer apply, and you will have to pay 30 per cent of your gross household income in rent to your housing provider.

Here's an example: Single individual working with a full-time minimum wage job who currently receives RGI assistance:

Example	**Current**	**Pilot**
Annual Basic Income	N/A	$6,245
Single individual with full-time minimum wage job – Annual income:	$18,458	$18,458
Monthly income used to calculate RGI "rent", less $75 employment deduction	$1,463	$1,987
Annual RGI "rent" payment	**$5,267/year** ($439/month)	**$7,141/year** ($595/month)

* Numbers may not add up due to rounding.

You will be expected to report income changes to your local housing administrator in order to make any necessary adjustments to your monthly rent. For more information about subsidized housing, please contact your local Service Manager.

Trillium Drug Program

The Trillium Drug Program is for people who spend approximately 3-4 per cent or more of their after-tax household income on prescription-drug costs. Trillium Drug Program participants must pay an annual deductible. For most people, this deductible is 3-4 per cent of their after-tax household income. Once the quarterly deductible has been paid, program recipients pay a $2 co-payment for each prescription filled/refilled.

Participants receiving Basic Income payments may access the Trillium Drug Program, providing they meet that program's eligibility criteria. If participating in the Pilot results in an increase to your household income, this could impact your eligibility for the Trillium Drug Program, and could increase the annual deductible you pay.

You can get more information about the Trillium Drug Program, including how to apply:

- online at www.ontario.ca/page/get-help-high-prescription-drug-costs
- by calling

  1-800-575-5386 (toll free)

  1-800-387-5559 (TTY)

  416-642-3038 (in Toronto area)
- in person at your pharmacy.

Healthy Smiles Ontario

Healthy Smiles Ontario is a government-funded dental program that provides free preventive, routine, and emergency dental services for children and youth **17 years old and under** from low-income households. The program includes regular visits to a licensed dental provider and covers the costs of treatment.

The income thresholds as of July 1, 2017 will be as follows:

Household Includes	Adjusted Family Net Income
1 child	$22,760 or lower
2 children	$24,482 or lower
3 children	$26,205 or lower
4 children	$27,927 or lower
5 children	$29,650 or lower

If your adjusted family net income is above the thresholds listed above, your children may not be eligible for Healthy Smiles Ontario in the future. The Basic Income payments will contribute to your adjusted family net income.

- Depending on your family structure and income, the Basic Income payments may make your family ineligible to receive Healthy Smiles Ontario.
- Once estimated payments are provided to you, you will need to decide if Basic Income is right for you and your family.

You can get more information about Healthy Smiles Ontario, including how to apply:

- online at www.ontario.ca/page/get-dental-care
- by calling

  Toll-free: 1-844-296-6306

  TTY toll-free: 1-800-387-5559

  416-327-4282 (TTY Toronto only)
- by contacting your local public health unit: www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/dental/hso_phu.aspx

What if I am a social assistance recipient and currently receive Healthy Smiles Ontario?

Children are automatically enrolled in Healthy Smiles Ontario if their family currently receives social assistance. Children who received dental coverage under Healthy Smiles Ontario through social assistance will continue to receive dental coverage if their parent participates in the Basic Income Group of the Pilot, providing they are 17 years old and under.

Child Care Fee Subsidy

Child care fee subsidy funded by the Ministry of Education is an income-tested benefit provided to low and middle income parents to help them pay for their child care needs. The amount of subsidy received is dependent on the total cost of child care and your adjusted family net income.

Participants receiving Basic Income payments are not excluded from receiving child care fee subsidy, providing their family continues to remain eligible for subsidy. The Basic Income payments may increase your adjusted family net income, so the contribution you make to child care while receiving the child care fee subsidy may increase.

Here's an example: A single parent with two children working full time in a minimum wage job participates in the Pilot.

	Current	**Basic Income Pilot**
Employment Earnings	$21,489	$21,489
Basic Income	N/A	$6,245
Total Adjusted Family Net Income	$21,489	$27,734
Parental Contribution	**$148.90/year** $12.41/month)	**$773.40/year** ($64.45/month)

You can get more information about child care fee subsidy, including how to apply:

- online at www.ontario.ca/page/child-care-subsidies
- by contacting your Consolidated Municipal Service Manager/District Social Services Administration Board: www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/websiteServiceManagers.html

What if I am a social assistance recipient and currently receiving a full subsidy?

Families on social assistance are automatically eligible to receive a full child care fee subsidy. If a person withdraws from social assistance to participate in the Pilot, they would lose the automatic eligibility for full child care fee subsidy. They may still be eligible to receive the child care fee subsidy, but the parental contribution they pay may increase.

Provincial and Federal Refundable Tax Credits

There are a number of income tested tax credits and benefits currently available to Ontarians that are delivered by the Governments of Ontario and Canada, such as:

Government of Ontario:

- Ontario Energy and Property Tax Credit
- Ontario Sales Tax Credit
- Ontario Child Benefit

Government of Canada

- Working Income Tax Benefit
- Goods and Services Tax Credit
- Canada Child Benefit

Basic income payments may increase an individual's or family's adjusted family net income and may change the amount they receive under the broadly available tax credits.

You can get more information about:

- Ontario tax credits and benefits online at www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-tax-credits-and-benefits
- federal programs and benefits online at: www.cra-arc.gc.ca/ndvdls-fmls/menu-eng.html

Basic income illustrative examples:

1. Single individual with two children on Ontario Works who has no employment earnings.

	Current	Pilot
Basic Income		$16,989
OW - Maximum Basic Needs and Shelter	$12,228	
Other Tax Benefits (e.g. OCB/CCB)	$16,668	$16,668
Net Total	**$28,896**	**$33,657**

2. Single individual with two children who works a full-time minimum wage job.

	Current	Pilot
Basic Income		$6,245
Net Employment Earnings	$20,106	$20,106
Other Tax Benefits (e.g. OCB/CCB)	$17,668	$16,232
Net Total	**$37,774**	**$42,583**

3. Couple with two children, with both parents working full time in a minimum wage job.

	Current	Pilot
Basic Income		$2,538
Net Employment Earnings	$39,199	$39,199
Other Tax Benefits (e.g. OCB/CCB)	$12,186	$10,321
Net Total	**$51,385**	**$53,098**

SECTION 4: COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

Each section of the Application Form must be completed for your eligibility to be considered. If you have any questions while filling out the information, do not hesitate to contact us.

We can be reached at 1-844-806-6270 and applybi@ontario.ca

In order to successfully complete the Application Form you will need:

- **Your reference number included in your invitation letter**
- **Your Social Insurance Number (SIN), and if applicable, your spouse/common-law partner's SIN**
- **Copies of your and your spouse's/common-law partner's 2016 T1 General – Income Tax and Benefit Form and the 2016 Notice of Assessment –** We will request the information you provided to the Canada Revenue Agency as part of your 2016 tax return to determine your eligibility to participate in the Pilot, and the amount you could receive.
  - **If you did not file your taxes, please see Section 1 of this Booklet or contact us – you can still apply**
- **Verification of you and/or your spouse's/common-law partner's disability (if applicable)**

Step 1: Your Personal Information

Reference Number

Provide the reference number included at the top of your invitation letter. This reference number is unique and can only be used by you and your spouse/ common-law partner. **This number is not to be shared.**

Name

Provide both your last and first name. If you have a single name, please report it as your last name.

Date of Birth

Enter your date of birth. Your date of birth should follow the YYYY/MM/DD format. To participate in the Pilot you should be between the ages of 18 and 64, as of April 24, 2017.

Social Insurance Number (SIN)

Your SIN is the nine-digit number that identifies you for income tax purposes under section 237 of the Income Tax Act and is used for certain federal and provincial programs. Your SIN is needed to confirm your identity and to verify your income with the CRA.

Home Address: provide information about where you live

Provide your address and how long you've lived there. This will be used to confirm that you live in your Pilot region. Please indicate how long you have lived (in years and months) at your current address. We may ask you to verify this.

Previous Address

If you have lived at more than one address in the last 12 months, please provide your previous address.

Mailing Address

If your mailing address is different from your home address, please list those details here. This address will be used to send you letters, updates, payments and/or statements.

- If you have a different mailing address, **this address should also be within your Pilot region for you to be eligible to participate in the Pilot**.

Contact Information

Insert your e-mail address, your home phone and cell phone numbers if you have them.

- Please indicate whether you would prefer to be contacted by Basic Income Pilot administrators by e-mail or by phone. If you have no preference, leave the boxes blank.

The Basic Income Pilot is committed to delivering services and supports to you in your language of choice. Please indicate whether you would prefer we engage with you in English or French. If you would prefer another language, please tell us your preferred language and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

Information About Disability Status

Check the disability-related programs that apply to you and/or your spouse/common-law partner. If you and/or your spouse/common-law partner checked one or more of the programs, please send documentation that confirms your eligibility for that program along with this application.

Please see page 8 of this Information Booklet for information related to the disability status and the disability supplement.

Step 2: Your Spouse's/Common-law Partner's Information, if applicable

Complete this section with your spouse's/common-law partner's personal information.

Step 3: Your Income Information

Information about your and your spouse's/common-law partner's income will be used to determine whether you can participate in the Basic Income Pilot. This information will also be used to calculate how much your Basic Income payments will be.

To successfully enrol in the Basic Income Pilot, please **submit a copy** of your tax information. Please refer to page 7 for additional information.

Step 4: Declaration by you and your spouse/common-law partner

You and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable) should read this section very carefully and sign in the designated area for your application to be considered complete. Your and your spouse's/ common-law partner's signature at the bottom of this section of the Application Form means that you understand what it means to participate in the Pilot.

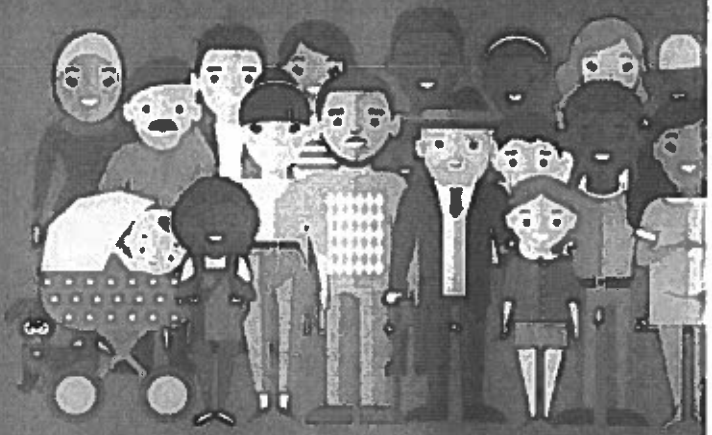
Questions? Contact Us

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this application and what will happen in the Pilot, please contact us to discuss in more detail.

We can be reached at 1-844-806-6270 and applybi@ontario.ca

For more information on Basic Income in Ontario, visit:

ontario.ca/basicincome



This is Exhibit "18" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

May 10, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500058435

[redacted]
Brantford, ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted],

You have been randomly assigned to receive **Basic Income payments** as part of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP).

What does this mean for you?

You will receive Basic Income payments. This may affect some of your existing benefits and services – those that are based on your income.

You will have a key role in helping us understand basic income's impact on people's lives. You will contribute and be a part of one of the largest, most significant studies of its kind in the world.

During the Pilot, we will ask you to fill out surveys about your health, employment, education and well-being. Each time you complete a survey, you'll be compensated for your time.

How will you contact me to fill out the surveys?

Right before each survey is due, a member of the OBIP Evaluation Team at St. Michael's Hospital (Toronto) will contact you. You will receive compensation for completing each survey. If you want to change your contact information, please call the OBIP Evaluation Team right away at **1-800-410-4614** or email at obip@smh.ca.

About your Basic Income payment

The effective date of your Basic Income payment is April 1, 2018. Your monthly Basic Income payment is **$1915.75**.

You will receive your monthly Basic Income payment by Cheque.

If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments you must contact us right away at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

May 16, 2018

[redacted]

Member ID: 200445252

To: Shauna Fishwick, Case worker with the Ontario Disability Support Program.

This letter is to inform you of my intention to voluntarily withdrawal from the Ontario Disability Support Program in order to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP) project.

My first OBIP transfer payment was received on Tuesday, May 15, 2018.

Sincerely yours, [redacted]

[redacted]

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
33 King St W
Oshawa ON L1H 8H6

BIN - rL159

000568

[redacted]
BRANTFORD ON [redacted]

Issue Date: 26-Sep-2018

Letter No: L0086063296
Reference No: 500058435

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On **July 31, 2018**, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is your notification that the pilot will be ending in **March 2019**.

What does this mean for you?

As a participant in the payment group, you will remain in the pilot and continue to receive payments until **March 25, 2019**. Your payments will be maintained at the amount of your July 2018 payment. Should you have a significant change in your circumstances, please contact us at **applyBI@ontario.ca** or 1 844 217-4516

You will not be asked to complete any additional surveys.

If you have been eligible to receive dental and/or drug benefits, you will continue to receive these benefits for the duration of the pilot.

Information about Social Assistance

A streamlined application process will be available to former ODSP and OW clients who wish to reapply to social assistance. In particular, former ODSP clients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when they reapply. You will be contacted shortly about this process or please call us at 1 844 217-4516 if you have any questions in the meantime.

If you are not a former ODSP or OW client but think you may be eligible please contact a local office at this link:
http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/

You may also apply on-line through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the ODSP Act during your pilot enrollment, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

Ontario

6954273 CE

Community and Social Services
Services sociaux et communautaires

2018-05-25
119197056

REMITTANCE ADVICE
BORDEREAU DE PAIEMENT

ID #: R119197056
NAME: [redacted]
AMOUNT: $1915.75

THIS IS YOUR BASIC INCOME PAYMENT.

000621

Ontario

GENERAL ACCOUNTS
COMPTES GÉNÉRAUX

3116390 CI

DATE 2018 09 26
Y/A M/MD/J

**********Fifty And 00/100 Dollars

$********50.00

[redacted]
BRANTFORD, ON [redacted]
CANADA

20180926-02 ODOE CHQ
633751
3116390

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

000622

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce / Banque Canadienne Impériale de Commerce
Commerce Court, Toronto ON M5L 1G9

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Ontario

3116390 CI

000623

REMITTANCE ADVICE
BORDEREAU DE PAIEMENT

Supplier Number:633751

Invoice Number	Date	Invoice Description	Payment Date	Payment Number	Payment Amount
OBIP130	12-AUG-18	CSS-OBIP SURVEY COMPENSAT	26-SEP-18	3116390	50.00

Total: 50.00

Ontario Shared Services Contact Centre
1-866-320-1756/416-212-2345

le centre d'information des Services communs de l'Ontario
1-866-320-1756/416-212-2345

Ontario

TRANSFER PAYMENTS / PAIEMENTS DE TRANSFERT

6954273 CE

2018-05-25
DATE Y/A M/M D/J

000624

***One Thousand Nine Hundred Fifteen and 75/100 Dollars

$******1,915.75

11383
6954273
17 ONT892
119197056
500058435

[redacted]
[redacted]
BRANTFORD ON
[redacted]

MINISTER OF FINANCE

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce / Banque Canadienne Impériale de Commerce
Commerce Court, Toronto ON M5L 1G9

⑈6954273⑈ ⑆00002⑇010⑆ 86⑇00716⑈

This is Exhibit "19" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

PLEASE READ THIS FIRST

476

6/9/2017

[redacted]

Hamilton ON [redacted]

Reference Number: 500002907

Dear [redacted]

You have been randomly selected to apply for the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). Basic income is a monthly payment from the Government of Ontario to individuals to provide a minimum level of income. The Pilot is a research study that will test whether a basic income is a better way of providing supports to people living on low incomes.

A. You may be eligible if you:

1. are **18 to 64** years old;
2. lived in **Hamilton, Brantford and Brant County** for the past 12 months; and
3. earned less than
   - $33,978 in 2016 if you are a single person
   - $48,054 if you are a couple
   - $45,978 if you are a single person with a disability
   - $60,054 if you are a couple with one person with a disability
   - $72,054 if you are a couple where both of you have a disability.

B. If you believe you are eligible:

1. review the **Information Booklet** for key details you need to know
2. fill out the **Application Form** to apply for the Pilot
3. return your completed application in the postage paid envelope provided.

C. If you apply, we will determine whether you are eligible or not and send you a letter to notify you. We will tell you about next steps before your participation can be confirmed. These steps will include:

1. agreeing to participate in the research study and consenting to provide personal information to study the effect of a basic income
2. completing a survey which will tell us more about you and your family.

After that, we will be randomly selecting eligible applicants into one of two groups:

- One group receives Basic Income payments (**Basic Income Group**)
- One group that does not receive payments (**Control Group**) that is established for research purposes.

Questions? Contact us at: 1-844-806-6270 or **applybi@ontario.ca**. Help is also available in person, by appointment.

We must receive your application in the mail by 7/9/2017

Don't delay – apply now!

© Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2017.

Ontario

Basic Income Application Form

Please complete the following (please print)

Disponible dans les deux langues officielles. Veuillez contacter les administrateurs du Projet pilote portant sur le revenu de base en composant le 1 844 806-6270 ou en envoyant un courriel à applybi@ontario.ca pour demander une copie en français.

You will need:

- Your reference number included in your invitation letter
- Your Social Insurance Number (SIN)
- Your 2016 T1 General Income Tax and Benefit Form
- Your 2016 Notice of Assessment

- If you do not have these tax forms, you can still apply to participate in the Pilot. Please call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email **applybi@ontario.ca** – we are here to help you.
- Only individuals invited to apply with a reference number can apply for the Pilot. If you are applying as a couple, you will also need the SIN and tax information for your spouse/common-law partner.
- The **Information Booklet** explains the documents you need and how to complete the sections below.

Need help? Call: 1-844-806-6270 **Email:** **applybi@ontario.ca**

I certify that the information given on this form and in any attached documents is to the best of my knowledge correct and true.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of Spouse/Common-law Partner _____ Date _____

© Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2017.

Ontario

Step 1: Your Personal Information

Complete this section with your personal information. For more information on this section and what is required, please refer to Section 4: Completing the Application Form in the **Information Booklet**.

Reference Number		
Name		
Last Name:	First Name:	
Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):	Social Insurance Number:	
Home Address		
Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:
How long have you lived at the above address? _____ Years _____ Months		
Previous Address		
Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:
How long have you lived at the above address? _____ Years _____ Months		
Mailing Address (if different from above)		
Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:
Contact Information		
E-mail:	Home Phone:	Cell Phone:
Do you prefer to be contacted by email or phone? ☐ E-mail ☐ Home Phone ☐ Cell Phone		
Your language of correspondence: ☐ English ☐ French ☐ Other. Please Specify: _____		

Information About Disability Status (if applicable)

If you have a disability please indicate the source of **all** of your supports:

- ☐ Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- ☐ Services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- ☐ Canada Pension Plan/Québec Pension Plan – Disability

If you checked any of the boxes above, please attach to this application form verification that you are eligible for and/or receive these supports, such as recent payment stubs or eligibility notices. Please see the **Information Booklet - Section 1: page 8** for more information.

Do you have a Spouse/Common-law Partner? **YES** ➔ Go to Step 2 **NO** ➔ Go to Step 3

Step 2: Your Spouse/Common-law Partner's Information, if applicable

Complete this section with your spouse's/common-law partner's personal information. For more information about what this means, please refer to Section 4: Completing the Application Form in the **Information Booklet**.

You and your spouse/common-law partner must have both indicated that you have a spouse/common-law partner in your 2016 (or previous) T1 General Forms. Please note that your spouse must also meet the Basic Income eligibility criteria.

Name		
Last Name:	First Name:	
Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):	Social Insurance Number:	
Previous Address		
Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:
Home Address (if different than your spouse/common-law partner)		
Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:
Mailing Address (if different from above)		
Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:
Contact Information		
E-mail:	Home Phone:	Cell Phone:

Do you prefer to be contacted by email or phone? ☐ E-mail ☐ Home Phone ☐ Cell Phone

Your language of correspondence: ☐ English ☐ French ☐ Other. Please Specify: _____

Information About Disability Status (if applicable)

If you have a disability please indicate the source of **all** of your supports:

- ☐ Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- ☐ Services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- ☐ Canada Pension Plan/Québec Pension Plan – Disability

If you checked any of the boxes above, please attach to this application form verification that you are eligible for and/or receive these supports, such as recent payment stubs or eligibility notices. Please see the **Information Booklet - Section 1: page 8** for more information.

Step 3: Your Income Information

To verify your income, please submit the following information.

Attach a copy of these forms with your application

- ☐ 2016 T1 General Form
- ☐ 2016 Notice of Assessment

If you did not file your taxes in 2016, attach a copy of your:

- ☐ 2015 T1 General Form
- ☐ 2015 Notice of Assessment

- If you completed the Application Form but do not have these tax forms, you can still apply to participate in the Pilot. Please call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email **applybi@ontario.ca** – we are here to help you.
- If you are applying as a couple, attach the same forms for your spouse/common-law partner.

Don't Forget – These are the documents you may need to send us with your completed and signed Application Form:

For information About Disability Status, if applicable:

- ☐ Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- ☐ Services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- ☐ Canada Pension Plan/Québec Pension Plan – Disability

Documents like payment stubs and eligibility decisions can be used for this.

Tax information:

We would also like copies of your and your spouse/common-law partner's tax information. This can include:

- ☐ 2016 T1 General Form
- ☐ 2016 Notice of Assessment
- ☐ 2015 T1 General Form
- ☐ 2015 Notice of Assessment

Step 4: Declaration and Consent (complete spousal/ common-law partner information, if applicable)

DECLARATIONS:

This section is to make sure you understand the key elements of what participation in the Pilot will mean and how it could impact you.

Administration

I/we the undersigned:

1. Have read the Information Booklet (Section 1) and understand the eligibility criteria to participate in the Pilot.
2. Understand that if eligible to participate:
   - the selection process will be anonymous and random,
   - I/we will receive notification of the selection results,
   - there is no appeal process, and
   - the selection could result in one of the following three outcomes:
     i. receive Basic Income payments (Basic Income Group), or
     ii. not receive Basic Income payments (Control Group), or
     iii. not participate in the Basic Income Pilot.
3. Understand that the Basic Income payments might affect my other government and non-government subsidies, benefits, and services, particularly those that are based on my/our income.
4. Understand that participation in the Pilot is voluntary and I/we can leave the Pilot at any time and do not need to provide a reason for leaving.

Drug and Dental Benefits (Information Booklet - Section 3: page 19)

I/we the undersigned:

1. Understand that I/we cannot receive payments, benefits (including discretionary benefits), and services provided by the Ontario Works and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) while receiving Basic Income payments, with the exception of some drug and dental benefits.
2. Understand that everyone currently receiving drug benefits from social assistance will still have access to drug benefits, if applicable, while participating in the Basic Income Pilot.
3. Understand that ODSP recipients, spouses of ODSP recipients, and children of ODSP and Ontario Works recipients will still receive dental benefits, if applicable, while participating in the Pilot.
4. Understand that the method and delivery organization for drug and dental benefits may change.

Evaluation

I/we the undersigned:

1. Understand that eligibility during the Basic Income Pilot will require ongoing interaction with the Basic Income Pilot evaluation team. This interaction will involve the completion of surveys which will be done periodically during the Pilot.
2. Understand that if I am assigned to the Control Group, I will not receive a Basic Income payment but I will be compensated for each survey I complete.
3. Understand that all information collected through surveys will be confidential and will be stored in a secure digital environment.
4. Understand that if eligible to participate in the Pilot, additional personal information and consent will need to be provided to the evaluators, along with my/our consent for the collection, use and disclosure of this information.

CONSENTS

This section is to make sure you understand how the information collected in this Application Form will be shared to support the Basic Income Pilot.

I/we the undersigned:

1. Consent to the collection, use, and disclosure of personal information contained in this form by and between the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) and the Ministry of Finance (MOF) for the purposes of determining eligibility for the Basic Income Pilot, processing and administering applications, and for research.
2. Consent to the collection and disclosure of the personal information between the MOF and the Canada Revenue Agency for the purposes of verifying income, determining eligibility and determining Basic Income payments for the duration of my/our participation in the Pilot. This authorization will only apply if you are participating in the Pilot as part of the Basic Income Group and the Control Group. The amount of Basic Income you receive will be shared with MCSS for Pilot administration and evaluation purposes.
3. Consent to the disclosure by the Canada Revenue Agency of my/our tax records, on condition that the information will be used solely by the MOF to verify income and to determine eligibility under the Basic Income Pilot. This authorization is valid for the 2016 and following taxation years for which I/we am eligible to participate in the Basic Income Pilot. The authorization will expire upon termination of the Basic Income Pilot and/or when participation in the Basic Income Pilot ends.

_____ _____

Signature of Applicant Date

_____ _____

Signature of Spouse/Common-law Partner Date

Notice with Respect to the Collection of Personal Information

(Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)

(Ministry of Revenue Act)

This section is to make sure you understand why we are collecting information and who you can contact if you have any questions.

The collection of this information is necessary for the proper administration of the Basic Income Pilot and, in particular, to determine eligibility for the Pilot and to study its impact. Any questions regarding the collection, use and disclosure of personal information should be directed to Basic Income Pilot Administrators by mail to the Basic Income Pilot Branch, 77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175, Toronto, ON M7A 1N3, or by phone at 1-844-806-6270 or by email at **applybi@ontario.ca**.

Independent Review Board

All of the application materials you received have been reviewed by an Independent Review Board (IRB). An IRB is a group of scientific and non-scientific individuals who perform the initial and ongoing ethical review of the research study with the Research Participant's rights and welfare in mind. This study has been reviewed by Veritas Independent Review Board (IRB).

If you require any explanations or have any questions about the scientific and scholarly aspects of the Basic Income Pilot research, please email **applybi@ontario.ca** or call 1-844-806-6270 and direct research-related inquiries to the Primary Contact, Kevin Pal.

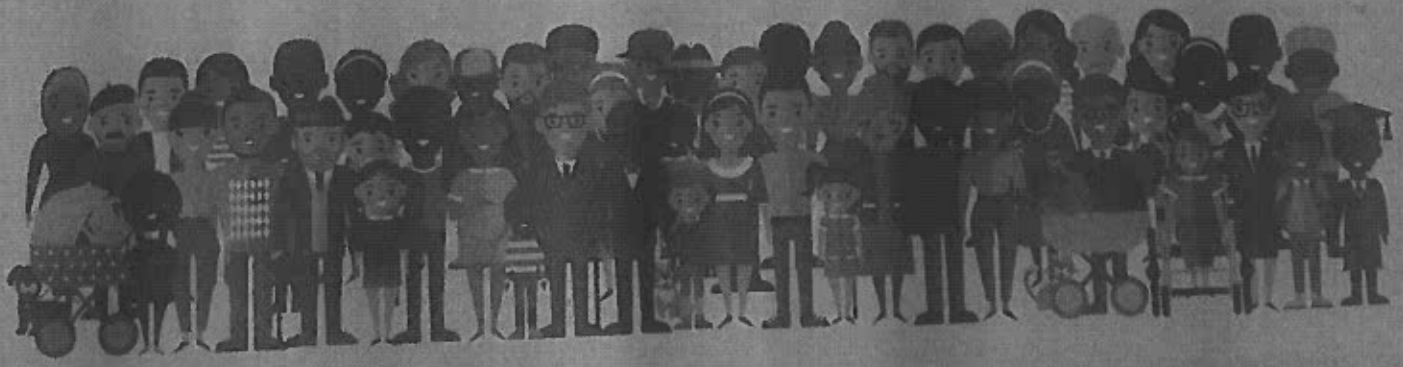
Primary Contact:

Kevin Pal, Director
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Ministry of Community and Social Services
Telephone: 1-844-806-6270

If you have any study-related comments, complaints or concerns contact Kevin Pal, the Primary Contact for the Basic Income Pilot. Please call the IRB if you need to speak to a person independent from the project and the research staff.

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, call the Manager of Veritas IRB 24 hours per day and 7 days per week at 514-337-0442 or toll-free at 1-866-384-4221.

Funding Support: This study is being funded by the Government of Ontario.



Ontario Basic Income Pilot

July 21st 2017 RE: 500002907

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

You are eligible to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). The final stage of your enrolment is to complete the following:

1. **Collection, Use, and Disclosure of Personal Information Consent Form**
2. **Baseline Survey**
3. **Direct Deposit Form** (if applicable)

If you have questions, please contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

1. Collection, Use, and Disclosure of Personal Information Consent Form

We need your consent to collect, use and disclose your personal information with other government programs and services. This information is needed to administer the OBIP and to see how basic income impacts participants.

It is very important that you **read and understand** the declaration and consent form.

2. Baseline Survey

Completing the baseline survey is the first step in the evaluation of the OBIP. When you complete the Baseline Survey, you will receive a **$50 payment** as compensation.

This survey will be conducted by PRA Inc., a third party research company. Your responses to the survey **will not affect your eligibility to participate in the Pilot** or any other program.

3. Direct Deposit Form

Complete this form so that you can get Basic Income payments and survey compensation payments by **direct deposit** into your bank account.

If you don't have a bank account, we can send cheques in the mail so you can receive your payments.

Ontario

Notice with Respect to the Collection of Personal Information

(Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)
(Personal Health Information Protection Act)
(Ministry of Revenue Act)

This section is to make sure you know who you can contact if you have any questions regarding this consent form.

The collection of this information is necessary for the proper administration of the Basic Income Pilot, and to study its impact. Any questions regarding the collection, use and disclosure of personal information should be directed to Basic Income Pilot Administrators.

Mail:

The Basic Income Pilot Branch
77 Wellesley St. W.,
Box 175
Toronto, ON
M7A 1N3

Phone: 1-844-806-6270

Email: applybi@ontario.ca

Independent Review Board

All of the application materials you received have been reviewed by an Independent Review Board (IRB). An IRB is a group of scientific and non-scientific individuals who perform the initial and ongoing ethical review of the research study with the Research Participant's rights and welfare in mind. This study has been reviewed by Veritas Independent Review Board (IRB).

If you require any explanations or have any questions about the scientific and scholarly aspects of the Basic Income Pilot research, please email applybi@ontario.ca or call 1-844-806-6270 and direct research-related inquiries to the Primary Contact, Kevin Pal.

Primary Contact:

Kevin Pal, Director
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Ministry of Community and Social Services
Telephone: 1-844-806-6270

If you have any study-related comments, complaints or concerns contact Kevin Pal, the Primary Contact for the Basic Income Pilot. Please call the IRB if you need to speak to a person independent from the project and the research staff.

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, call the Manager of Veritas IRB 24 hours per day and 7 days per week at 514-337-0442 or toll-free at 1-866-384-4221.

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

Aug 4th 2017

RE: 500002907

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

You have been randomly selected to participate in the **Basic Income Group** of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). This means you will receive Basic Income payments.

About your Basic Income payment

The effective date of your Basic Income is 8/1/2017. Your monthly Basic Income payment is $1263.83

Your first Basic Income payment will be issued on 8/25/2017, and future payments will be issued on or around the 25th of each month. We have included a table showing the expected payment date for each month of the 2017-18 benefit year.

You will receive your monthly Basic Income payment by direct bank deposit.

You will also receive $50.00 for completing the Baseline Survey. Since you will receive Basic Income payments, you will not receive further compensation for surveys.

If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments you must contact us right away at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Basic Income payment

Based on the information provided in your application, the calculation of your Basic Income payment is outlined below.

Maximum Annual Basic Income	$22989
Less 50% of income from employment	- $3859
Less 100% of other income	- $3964
Annual Basic Income	**$15166**
Monthly Basic Income	**$1263.83**

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

If you are currently on Ontario Works

You must now tell your caseworker that you want to withdraw from OW to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your caseworker will need the date on this letter, and will then suspend your case until they can confirm you have received your first OBIP payment.

If you are receiving the Extended Health Benefit (EHB) or the Extended Employment Health Benefit (EEHB) through Ontario Works, you will also need to withdraw from these benefits.

If you don't withdraw in time, you may get an Ontario Works **overpayment**.

Any pay directs (e.g. to a landlord) you have set up through Ontario Works will be cancelled when you withdraw. You will need to make other arrangements for these payments.

You (and your spouse/common-law partner and/or dependent children under 18 years of age, if applicable) will continue to receive drug benefits, and your dependent children under 18 years of age will continue to receive dental benefits.

To access drug benefits at a pharmacy, identify yourself as a participant in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot when speaking to the pharmacist.

If you are currently on Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

You must now tell your caseworker that you want to withdraw from ODSP to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your caseworker will need the date on this letter and will then suspend your case until they can confirm you have received your first OBIP payment.

If you are receiving the Extended Health Benefit (EHB) or the Transition Health Benefit (THB), you will also need to withdraw from these benefits.

If you don't withdraw in time, you may get an ODSP **overpayment**.

Any pay directs (e.g. to a landlord) you have set up through ODSP will be cancelled when you withdraw. You will need to make other arrangements for these payments.

You (and your spouse/common-law partner and/or dependent children under 18 years of age, if applicable) will continue to receive the drug and dental benefits.

To access drug benefits at a pharmacy, identify yourself as a participant in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot when speaking to the pharmacist.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

What to do if your circumstances change

Contact us if circumstances in your life change and you think these changes may affect your Basic Income payment. These changes could include changes to your relationship status, change in income, or change in disability status.

To report a change in your circumstances or for more information on how to report changes, contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

If you wish to opt out of the Pilot for any reason, please contact us

If you have any questions or need more information

We can help. Contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

OBIP Administrator

Basic Income Payment Schedule, 2017-18

The table below shows the dates that monthly Basic Income payments will be issued for the 2017-18 benefit year (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018).

Payment Month and Year	Payment Day
August 2017	25
September 2017	25
October 2017	25
November 2017	27
December 2017	15
January 2018	25
February 2018	26
March 2018	26
April 2018	25
June 2018	25

Basic Income payments are calculated for the year using information from your tax return. We will send you information about your 2018-19 Basic Income payments next spring.

Ontario

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

November 20, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Reference # 500002907

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

We are writing to tell you about the process for reapplying to social assistance and the *Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey – Preliminary Analysis*, a summary report based on the surveys completed by participants in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot at the time of enrolment.

The aim of the report is to provide a description of the characteristics of all Basic Income Pilot participants. No identifying information about you is contained in this report (such as your name or date of birth). The report is a high-level summary of survey answers provided by participants and includes information such as household composition, employment, education, housing, and food security. For example, it shows the number of participants who have completed high school or are working.

Copies of the *Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey – Preliminary Analysis* will be available to Ontario Basic Income Pilot participants. If you would like a copy of this report, please contact us at **applybi@ontario.ca** or call us at **1-844-217-4516.**

Information about returning to Social Assistance

As you were formerly in receipt of Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program immediately prior to joining the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, we would recommend you contact your local social assistance office by **January 31, 2019** about returning to Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program. A list of local social assistance offices is included with this letter.

You will be contacted shortly by an Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator to confirm receipt of this letter and answer any questions. However, you can contact your local social assistance office starting in November to request to have your file reinstated and participate in a financial eligibility assessment. You must contact your local social assistance office prior to **March 1, 2019** to determine your eligibility to ensure payment in April.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

Former ODSP recipients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when reapplying for ODSP.

In the mean time, if you have any additional questions you may contact us at **applybi@ontario.ca** or call us at **1-844-217-4516.**

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

March 14, 2018

[redacted]
[redacted]
Hamilton, ON
[redacted]

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500002907

Important Reminder Notice

Thank you for participating in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your contribution is very important to our study.

This reminder notice is to let you know:

1. That to continue to participate in the Pilot you must complete and file your taxes for each year that you are participating in the study.

2. That you should contact us if circumstances in your life have changed. Significant changes could include: relationship status, income, address, bank account number or disability status.

Why this is important to you

The amount you get in Basic Income payments may change each year based on your taxes. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requires that you file your taxes **by the end of April**.

You or both you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable), need to file last year's Personal Tax Returns with the CRA as soon as possible. We are always available to help you.

How to get help

Free and volunteer tax preparation clinics are offered between February and April each year. For a complete list of Tax Preparation Clinics in Ontario visit:

http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdls/vlntr/clncs/on-eng.html

Ontari

Here are some examples of free tax preparation clinics in the Pilot communities:

Hamilton

Parkview Church
1120 West 5th Street,
Hamilton, ON L9C 2X2

Dates: February 24, March 10, March 24, April 7, April 21
Hours: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
www.hamiltontaxhelp.ca

Thunder Bay

Lakehead Social Planning Council
125 Syndicate Avenue South, Unit 38, Victoriaville Centre,
Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 6H8

Dates: End of February to Mid-May
Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
www.lspc.ca/income-tax-clinic/

Lindsay

Adult Protective Services
322 Kent Street West,
Lindsay, ON, K9V 4S7

Dates: April 11, April 18
Hours: 1-3 p.m.
Email **applybi@ontario.ca** to book an appointment

You can also file your taxes online using **free tax preparation software**, for example:

Turbotax

www.turbotax.intuit.ca
Basic free tax filing available with the option to purchase premium services

UFileFREE

www.ufile.ca
Free if you:

- Have family income less than $20,000
- Are a post-secondary student
- Have never filed taxes before

For more information about filing online, search online for **NETFILE** (Canada Revenue Agency) or use this direct link:

https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/e-services/e-services-individuals/netfile-overview.html

We're always ready to help. Contact us at **1-844-806-6270** or **applybi@ontario.ca**.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

April 4, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500002907

[redacted]
[redacted]
Hamilton, ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

This letter is to let you know about some important information regarding your Basic Income payments and the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP).

You can get both Basic Income and OSAP funding during your study period. However, OSAP will only assess you for direct educational costs such as, tuition, books and other fees. This is because your living costs are covered by your Basic Income payments.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU WANT TO APPLY FOR OSAP FUNDING

If you plan to apply for OSAP funding for studies starting in 2018, you must let your school's Financial Aid Office know that you are a Basic Income recipient, **before the start of your study period**.

This will ensure that your OSAP funding amount is correct before you receive your first OSAP funding payment.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE

If you return to full-time studies and are earning less income while in school, your Basic Income payments may be adjusted. To report a significant change in your circumstances contact a Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator.

Questions about your Basic Income? Call Ontario Basic Income Pilot toll-free at 1-844-806-6270.

Questions about your OSAP funding? Contact your school's Financial Aid Office.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
33 King St W
Oshawa ON L1H 8H6

BIN - rL150

000225

[redacted]
HAMILTON ON [redacted]

Issue Date: 26-Sep-2018

Letter No: L1067530432
Reference No: 500002907

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On **July 31, 2018**, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is your notification that the pilot will be ending in **March 2019**.

What does this mean for you?

As a participant in the payment group, you will remain in the pilot and continue to receive payments until **March 25, 2019**. Your payments will be maintained at the amount of your July 2018 payment. Should you have a significant change in your circumstances, please contact us at **applyBI@ontario.ca** or 1 844 217-4516

You will not be asked to complete any additional surveys.

If you have been eligible to receive dental and/or drug benefits, you will continue to receive these benefits for the duration of the pilot.

Information about Social Assistance

A streamlined application process will be available to former ODSP and OW clients who wish to reapply to social assistance. In particular, former ODSP clients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when they reapply. You will be contacted shortly about this process or please call us at 1 844 217-4516 if you have any questions in the meantime.

If you are not a former ODSP or OW client but think you may be eligible please contact a local office at this link:
http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/

You may also apply on-line through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the ODSP Act during your pilot enrollment, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

Ontario

Letter No: L1 067530432
Reference No: 500002907

Information about your benefits

Benefit Change	What You Need to Know/Do
I am on OSAP. How do I get my living expenses paid by OSAP once BI stops?	You will need to take this notice letter to your Financial Aid Office which will be able to reassess your new income level and adjust your OSAP accordingly.
What will happen to my Housing Benefits/ Rent Geared to Income?	You should contact your municipal service manager as soon as you get this notice letter so they are aware that you have received your notice. Your housing provider or Service Manager will assist you and recalculate your rent and/or subsidies based on your new income after you leave BI.
What happens to my Child Care Fee Subsidy?	You will need to take this notice letter to your municipality. Your municipality will assist you to determine your eligibility for fee subsidies and the amount of parental contribution.
Will my Canada Child Tax Benefit, Ontario Child Benefit, or Ontario Trillium Benefit change because of higher income I received this year through Ontario Basic Income Pilot?	Until July 2019, your payments from these benefits will not be affected by your 2018 Basic Income payments. However, when you submit your tax forms next year, you may get a different amount from these benefits starting in July 2019. As mentioned in the consent section of the Basic Income Application Form, these benefits may be impacted by the income you received from the Pilot.

You can choose to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason at any time.

If you have any questions, please email us at **applyBI@ontario.ca**, or call us at 1 844 217-4516.

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

January 21, 2019

Ontario Basic Income Reference #
500002907

[redacted]
Hamilton ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On July 31, 2018, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is a **final reminder** that the Pilot will be ending in **March 2019**. Your final basic income payment will be in March 2019.

Should you have a significant change in your circumstances please contact us at applyBI@ontario.ca or at 1-844-217-4516. Any documentation that we might require from you to support the change in circumstance, must be received by our office on or before **February 15, 2019**.

Information about Social Assistance

If you were in receipt of Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program immediately prior to joining the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, we recommend that you contact your local social assistance office now to determine your eligibility to return to Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program. You must contact your local social assistance office prior to **March 1, 2019** to ensure your social assistance payments begin in April, if you are deemed eligible.

Former Ontario Disability Support Program recipients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when reapplying for Ontario Disability Support Program.

If you are not a former Ontario Disability Support Program or Ontario Works client but think you may be eligible, please contact a local office to ensure that your payments can begin in April if you are eligible for these programs.

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the Ontario Disability Support Program Act while enrolled in the pilot, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

You can find contact information for social assistance offices at this link http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/. You may also apply on-line through the

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

Information about your benefits

Benefit Change	What you Need to Know/Do
I am on OSAP. How do I get my living expenses paid by OSAP once BI stops?	You will need to take this letter to your Financial Aid Office which will be able to reassess your new income level and adjust your OSAP accordingly.
What will happen to my Housing Benefits/ Rent Geared to Income?	You should contact your municipal service manager as soon as you get this letter, so they are aware that you have received this letter. Your housing provider or Service Manager will assist you and recalculate your rent and/or subsidies based on your new income after you leave BI.
What happens to my Child Care Fee Subsidy?	You will need to take this letter to your municipality. Your municipality will assist you to determine your eligibility for fee subsidies and the amount of parental contribution
Will my Canada Child Tax Benefit, Ontario Child Benefit, or Ontario Trillium Benefit change because of higher income I received this year through Basic Income Pilot?	Until July 2019, your payments from these benefits will not be affected by your 2018 Basic Income payments. However, when you submit your tax forms for 2018, you may get a different amount from these benefits starting in July 2019. As mentioned in the consent section of the Basic Income Application Form, these benefits may be impacted by the income you received from the Pilot.

If you have any questions, please email us at applyBI@ontario.ca or call us at 1-844-217-4516.

If you wish to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason, you may do so at any time.

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Basic Income Pilot:

Information Booklet

May 2017



Ontario

This is Exhibit "20" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.



Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

December 7th 2017

RE: 500057115

[redacted]
Lindsay ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

You have been randomly selected to participate in the **Basic Income Group** of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). This means you will receive Basic Income payments.

About your Basic Income payment

The effective date of your Basic Income is 01/12/2017. Your monthly Basic Income payment is **$1415.75**.

Your first Basic Income payment will be issued on 12/15/2017, and future payments will be issued on or around the 25th of each month. We have included a table showing the expected payment date for each month of the 2017-18 benefit year.

You will receive your monthly Basic Income payment by Direct Bank Deposit.

You will also receive $50.00 for completing the Baseline Survey. Since you will receive Basic Income payments, you will not receive further compensation for surveys.

If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments you must contact us right away at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Basic Income payment

Based on the information provided in your application, the calculation of your Basic Income payment is outlined below.

Maximum Annual Basic Income	$16989
Less 50% of income from employment	- $0
Less 100% of other income	- $0
Annual Basic Income	$16989
Monthly Basic Income	$1415.75

If you have questions about your Basic Income payment amount, contact at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

If you are currently on Ontario Works

You must now tell your caseworker that you want to withdraw from OW to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your caseworker will need the date on this letter, and will then suspend your case until they can confirm you have received your first OBIP payment.

If you are receiving the Extended Health Benefit (EHB) or the Extended Employment Health Benefit (EEHB) through Ontario Works, you will also need to withdraw from these benefits.

If you don't withdraw in time, you may get an Ontario Works **overpayment**.

Any pay directs (e.g. to a landlord) you have set up through Ontario Works will be cancelled when you withdraw. You will need to make other arrangements for these payments.

You (and your spouse/common-law partner and/or dependent children under 18 years of age, if applicable) will continue to receive drug benefits, and your dependent children under 18 years of age will continue to receive dental benefits.

To access drug benefits at a pharmacy, identify yourself as a participant in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot when speaking to the pharmacist.

If you are currently on Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

You must now tell your caseworker that you want to withdraw from ODSP to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your caseworker will need the date on this letter and will then suspend your case until they can confirm you have received your first OBIP payment.

If you are receiving the Extended Health Benefit (EHB) or the Transition Health Benefit (THB), you will also need to withdraw from these benefits.

If you don't withdraw in time, you may get an ODSP **overpayment**.

Any pay directs (e.g. to a landlord) you have set up through ODSP will be cancelled when you withdraw. You will need to make other arrangements for these payments.

You (and your spouse/common-law partner and/or dependent children under 18 years of age, if applicable) will continue to receive the drug and dental benefits.

To access drug benefits at a pharmacy, identify yourself as a participant in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot when speaking to the pharmacist.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

What to do if your circumstances change

Contact us if circumstances in your life change and you think these changes may affect your Basic Income payment. These changes could include changes to your relationship status, change in income, or change in disability status.

To report a change in your circumstances or for more information on how to report changes, contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

If you wish to opt out of the Pilot for any reason, please contact us.

If you have any questions or need more information

We can help. Contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

OBIP Administrator

Basic Income Payment Schedule, 2017-18

The table below shows the dates that monthly Basic Income payments will be issued for the 2017-18 benefit year (Dec1, 2017 – June 30, 2018).

Payment Month and Year	Payment Day
December 2017	15
January 2018	25
February 2018	26
March 2018	26
April 2018	25
May 2018	25
June 2018	25

Basic Income payments are calculated for the year using information from your tax return. We will send you information about your 2018-19 Basic Income payments next spring.

Ontario

March 14, 2018

[redacted]
[redacted]
Lindsay, ON
[redacted]

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500057115

Important Reminder Notice

Thank you for participating in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your contribution is very important to our study.

This reminder notice is to let you know:

1. That to continue to participate in the Pilot you must complete and file your taxes for each year that you are participating in the study.
2. That you should contact us if circumstances in your life have changed. Significant changes could include: relationship status, income, address, bank account number or disability status.

Why this is important to you

The amount you get in Basic Income payments may change each year based on your taxes. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requires that you file your taxes **by the end of April**.

You or both you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable), need to file last year's Personal Tax Returns with the CRA as soon as possible. We are always available to help you.

How to get help

Free and volunteer tax preparation clinics are offered between February and April each year. For a complete list of Tax Preparation Clinics in Ontario visit:

http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdls/vlntr/clncs/on-eng.html

Ontario

Here are some examples of free tax preparation clinics in the Pilot communities:

Hamilton

Parkview Church
1120 West 5th Street,
Hamilton, ON L9C 2X2

Dates: February 24, March 10, March 24, April 7, April 21
Hours: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
www.hamiltontaxhelp.ca

Thunder Bay

Lakehead Social Planning Council
125 Syndicate Avenue South, Unit 38, Victoriaville Centre,
Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 6H8

Dates: End of February to Mid-May
Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
www.lspc.ca/income-tax-clinic/

Lindsay

Adult Protective Services
322 Kent Street West,
Lindsay, ON, K9V 4S7

Dates: April 11, April 18
Hours: 1-3 p.m.
Email **applybi@ontario.ca** to book an appointment

You can also file your taxes online using **free tax preparation software**, for example:

Turbotax

www.turbotax.intuit.ca
Basic free tax filing available with the option to purchase premium services

UFileFREE

www.ufile.ca
Free if you:

- Have family income less than $20,000
- Are a post-secondary student
- Have never filed taxes before

For more information about filing online, search online for **NETFILE** (Canada Revenue Agency) or use this direct link:

https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/e-services/e-services-individuals/netfile-overview.html

We're always ready to help. Contact us at **1-844-806-6270** or **applybi@ontario.ca**.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

April 4, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500057115

[redacted]
Lindsay, ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

This letter is to let you know about some important information regarding your Basic Income payments and the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP).

You can get both Basic Income and OSAP funding during your study period. However, OSAP will only assess you for direct educational costs such as, tuition, books and other fees. This is because your living costs are covered by your Basic Income payments.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU WANT TO APPLY FOR OSAP FUNDING

If you plan to apply for OSAP funding for studies starting in 2018, you must let your school's Financial Aid Office know that you are a Basic Income recipient, **before the start of your study period**.

This will ensure that your OSAP funding amount is correct before you receive your first OSAP funding payment.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE

If you return to full-time studies and are earning less income while in school, your Basic Income payments may be adjusted. To report a significant change in your circumstances contact a Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator.

Questions about your Basic Income? Call Ontario Basic Income Pilot toll-free at 1-844-806-6270.

Questions about your OSAP funding? Contact your school's Financial Aid Office.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
33 King St W
Oshawa ON L1H 8H6

BIN - IL150

000485 [redacted]
LINDSAY ON [redacted]

Issue Date: 26-Sep-2018

Letter No: L2022783168
Reference No: 500057115

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On **July 31, 2018**, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is your notification that the pilot will be ending in **March 2019**.

What does this mean for you?

As a participant in the payment group, you will remain in the pilot and continue to receive payments until **March 25, 2019**. Your payments will be maintained at the amount of your July 2018 payment. Should you have a significant change in your circumstances, please contact us at **applyBI@ontario.ca** or 1 844 217-4516

You will not be asked to complete any additional surveys.

If you have been eligible to receive dental and/or drug benefits, you will continue to receive these benefits for the duration of the pilot.

Information about Social Assistance

A streamlined application process will be available to former ODSP and OW clients who wish to reapply to social assistance. In particular, former ODSP clients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when they reapply. You will be contacted shortly about this process or please call us at 1 844 217-4516 if you have any questions in the meantime.

If you are not a former ODSP or OW client but think you may be eligible please contact a local office at this link:
http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/

You may also apply on-line through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the ODSP Act during your pilot enrollment, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

November 15, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Reference # 500057115

[redacted]
[redacted]
Lindsay ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

We are writing to tell you about the process for reapplying to social assistance and the *Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey – Preliminary Analysis*, a summary report based on the surveys completed by participants in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot at the time of enrolment.

The aim of the report is to provide a description of the characteristics of all Basic Income Pilot participants. No identifying information about you is contained in this report (such as your name or date of birth). The report is a high-level summary of survey answers provided by participants and includes information such as household composition, employment, education, housing, and food security. For example, it shows the number of participants who have completed high school or are working.

Copies of the *Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey – Preliminary Analysis* will be available to Ontario Basic Income Pilot participants. If you would like a copy of this report, please contact us at **applybi@ontario.ca** or call us at **1-844-217-4516.**

Information about returning to Social Assistance

As you were formerly in receipt of Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program immediately prior to joining the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, we would recommend you contact your local social assistance office by **January 31, 2019** about returning to Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program. A list of local social assistance offices is included with this letter.

You will be contacted shortly by an Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator to confirm receipt of this letter and answer any questions. However, you can contact your local social assistance office starting in November to request to have your file reinstated and participate in a financial eligibility assessment. You must contact your local social assistance office prior to **March 1, 2019** to determine your eligibility to ensure payment in April.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

Former ODSP recipients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when reapplying for ODSP.

In the mean time, if you have any additional questions you may contact us at **applybi@ontario.ca** or call us at **1-844-217-4516.**

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely, .

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR LOCAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE OFFICES

Summarized below is a list of local or neighboring social assistance offices of the 3 pilot sites. If you are anywhere else in the province, you can find contact information for other social assistance offices at this link http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/ or by calling the general inquires line for ServiceOntario at 1-800-267-8097 or 416-326-1234.

ODSP LOCAL OFFICES	OW LOCAL OFFICES
LINDSAY	
Ontario Disability Support Program Income and Employment Supports 322 Kent Street, 2nd Floor Lindsay ON K9V 4T7 General Inquiry: (705) 324-6128 Toll Free: 1-800-565-3554 TTY: (705) 324-7935 Fax: (705) 324-5244	Lindsay Office 322 Kent Street West P.O. Box 2600 Lindsay ON, K9V 4S7 General Inquiry: (705) 324-9870 Toll Free: 1-877-324-9870 Haliburton Office 49 Maple Ave, Unit 8 Haliburton, ON, K0M 1S0 General Inquiry: (705) 457-4571 Toll Free: 1-877-324-9870 press 4
PETERBOROUGH	
Ontario Disability Support Program Income and Employment Supports 360 George Street North, 2nd Floor Peterborough ON K9H 7E7 Tel: (705) 742-9292 Toll Free: 1-800-663-8560 TDD/TTY: (705) 742-8915 Fax: (705) 742-8048	City of Peterborough 178 Charlotte Street P.O. Box 4138 Peterborough ON K9J 8S1 General Inquiry: (705) 748-8830 Menu Option 2 Fax: (705) 742-0542
THUNDER BAY	
Ontario Disability Support Program Income and Employment Supports 435 James Street South, Suite 111 Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7 Tel: (807) 473-3130 Toll Free: 1-800-465-5561 TDD/TTY: (807) 473-3161 TDD/TTY Toll Free: 1-800-544-6443 Fax: (807) 475-1475	City of Thunder Bay 231 May Street South Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 1B5 General Inquiry: (807) 766-2100 Fax: (807) 345-7921 Toll Free: 1-877-281-2958

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

HAMILTON	
Ministry of Community and Social Services Ontario Disability Support Program Income and Employment Supports 119 King St. West, 3rd Floor Hamilton, ON, L8P 4Y7 Tel: (905) 521-7280 Toll Free: 1-800-561-0369 TDD/TTY: (905) 546-8276 TDD/TTY Toll Free: 1-866-221-2229 Fax: (905) 546-8284	City of Hamilton - Central 250 Main Street East Hamilton, ON, L8N 1H6 General Inquiry: (905) 546-4800 Fax: (905) 546-2877 City of Hamilton - East 2255 Barton Street East Hamilton, ON, L8H 7T4 General Inquiry: (905) 546-4800 Fax: (905) 540-6344 City of Hamilton - Mountain 1550 Upper James Street Hamilton ON L9B 2L6 General Inquiry: (905) 546-4800 Fax: (905) 546-1018
BRANTFORD	
Ministry of Community and Social Services Ontario Disability Support Program 195 Henry Street, Building 4, Unit 2, Brantford ON, N3S 5C9 Tel: (519) 756-5790 Toll Free: 1-866-729-2228 TDD/TTY Toll Free: 1-888-814-7005 TDD/TTY: (519) 756-3693 Fax: 519-756-2320	Ontario Works Brantford P.O. Box 845 220 Colborne St. East Brantford ON, N3T 5R7 General Inquiry: (519) 759-3330 Fax: (519) 759-1750

This is Exhibit "21" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

7022757338771301090O1

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Enrollment Session - Lindsay



[redacted]

Friday, 1 December 2017 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM (EST)

Celebrations
35 Lindsay Street North
Lindsay, ON K9V 1T3
Canada

Free Order

Order #702275733. Ordered by Luke Procter on 26 November 2017 4:37 PM

2:30 p.m.

7022757338771301090O1

Event Information:

Thank you for registering for an Ontario Basic Income Pilot in-person enrollment session. This email is to confirm your registration for the Dec. 1 session at Celebrations.

At this session, we will take you step-by-step through the application to participate in the pilot. If you can, please bring:

- Your income tax forms for 2016
- Your SIN (Social Insurance Number) and health card
- A void cheque or your banking information, so you can get direct deposits

If you don't have some of this information, don't worry, you can still attend the session and start and application.

Please also note that if you will be applying with your spouse as a couple, we recommend that both you and your spouse come to the session as both of your signatures will be required.

If you require any accommodation at the session, please let us know. We're happy to help.

Have a question about the session, the application process, or the pilot? Send us an email to basicincome@ontario.ca or give us a call at 1-844-217-4516.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you.

Eventbrite

If you are applying for Ontario Works or ODSP right now, or appealing an earlier decision, you don't have to stop that process, but once your application or appeal is completed, you will have to choose which program you wish to receive payments from.

If you have a disability and receive supports or services from ODSP, you can receive a disability supplement on top of your Basic Income payment of up to $500 per month.

If you choose to leave the Pilot and you want to get back on Ontario Works or ODSP at any time you can use the reapplication process for Ontario Works or rapid reinstatement process for ODSP.

This means there will be no gap between your final Basic Income payment and your first Ontario Works or ODSP payment.

And, if you are receiving ODSP, you will not have to be assessed for your disability again.

Regarding benefits, you will still have Ontario Drug Benefit coverage while on the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

We will mail you a card that you can take to the pharmacy when you go to fill a prescription. The card will be valid for three months. You will get a new card before the old one expires.

If you have children, they will still have dental coverage through Healthy Smiles Ontario.

If you are receiving ODSP, you and your spouse/common-law partner will still have dental coverage.

We will be mailing you a letter that you can take with you when you go to the dentist. The letter will be valid for one month. You will receive a new letter before the end of the month

If you are currently receiving Ontario Works, you will not receive dental benefits from the Pilot but you and your spouse may be eligible for municipal dental benefits. You should speak with your caseworker about this when you withdraw.

But the Ontario Basic Income Pilot is different from Ontario Works/ODSP. What this means is that you will not receive some other benefits that you get through Ontario Works/ODSP.

Examples of Ontario Works and ODSP health benefits that the Ontario Basic Income Pilot will not provide include:

> Transportation for medical purposes; vision care; special diet allowance; hearing aids and mobility devices; the Guide Dog benefit; Extended Health Benefit; Extended Employment Health Benefit; Transitional Health Benefit.

Examples of Ontario Works and ODSP employment benefits that the Ontario Basic Income Pilot will not provide include:

> Employment and Training Start Up benefit; Work-Related Benefit, the Employment Assistance

Information for Ontario Basic Income Pilot Applicants

Your participation is important to understanding how a basic income could help more people living on low incomes.

The Ontario Basic Income Pilot is a research study.

It is very important that you and your spouse/common law partner, if applicable, understand:

- how the Pilot works
- how Basic Income can change your circumstances, including if you receive Ontario Works (Ontario Works) or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- how we will use the information you provide.

You will be sharing, or you have already shared, your tax information, your address, and your date of birth. This will allow us to assess whether you can participate.

In the survey, you will answer questions about your employment, your health and well-being, and your housing situation, because these are some of the things we are studying.

After you've enrolled, all you need to do during the pilot is file your income tax returns, continue to meet the Ontario Basic Income Pilot eligibility criteria, and fill in surveys.

There are no other conditions or reporting necessary to receive payments. For every survey you complete, you will receive compensation for your time.

Your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot is completely voluntary.

You can choose to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason at any time. You should know, though, that once you leave, you will not able to come back into the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

<u>If you are currently receiving Ontario Works or ODSP</u>

You have to leave Ontario Works or ODSP to receive payments from the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

You cannot get Ontario Works/ODSP and Basic Income payments at the same time. This may lead to an overpayment with Ontario Works/ODSP, which means you have to pay back what you received, and you will no longer receive Basic Income payments.

You should wait until you find out whether you have been selected to receive payments, but if you are you must call your caseworker and inform them that you are going to receive Basic Income payments. They will be able to help you withdraw from Ontario Works/ODSP at that point.

If you are part of the study, but do not receive Basic Income payments, you don't need to leave

More Information for All Applicants

You will still be able to receive your Canada Child Benefit (CCB) and Ontario Child Benefit (OCB), but the amount you receive might change as your income may be higher.

Some other benefits and supports may change, including subsidized housing (Rent-Geared to Income), Child Care Fee Subsidies, or other programs. This is because your income could go up. It could also affect your Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP), if you are a student. As well, it may affect your eligibility for legal aid or for Healthy Smiles Ontario (unless you were receiving Ontario Works or ODSP).

If you have a disability and receive or start receiving supports or services from ODSP, Developmental Services Ontario or Canada Pension Plan – Disability, you can receive a disability supplement on top of your Basic Income payment of up to $500 per month.

Year / Année	11 Social Assistance Payments / Provincial or Territorial Supplements / Prestations d'assistance sociale / Supplément provincial ou territorial	12 Social Insurance Number (SIN) / Numéro d'assurance sociale (NAS)	13 Report code / Code de genre de feuillet
2018	6,826.92	[redacted]	O

Recipient / Bénéficiaire — Last name / Nom de famille | First name / Prénom | Initials / Initiales

001630

BIN - tL074

[redacted]

LINDSAY ON [redacted]

Issued By / Émis par
Ontario Basic Income Pilot
Projet pilote portant sur le revenu
de base en Ontario
33 King St W/33 rue King O
PO Box 643/C.P. 643
Oshawa ON L1H 8T6

Protected B when completed
Protégé B une fois rempli

14-Jan-2019

Privacy Act, Personal Information Bank number CRA PPU 150 and 005.
Loi sur la protection des renseignements personnels, Fichier de renseignements personnels ARC PPU 150 et 005.

Canada Revenue Agency / Agence du revenu du Canada

T5007

Year / Année	11 Social Assistance Payments / Provincial or Territorial Supplements / Prestations d'assistance sociale / Supplément provincial ou territorial	12 Social Insurance Number (SIN) / Numéro d'assurance sociale (NAS)	13 Report code / Code de genre de feuillet
2018	6,826.92	[redacted]	O

Recipient / Bénéficiaire — Last name / Nom de famille | First name / Prénom | Initials / Initiales

BIN - tL074

[redacted]

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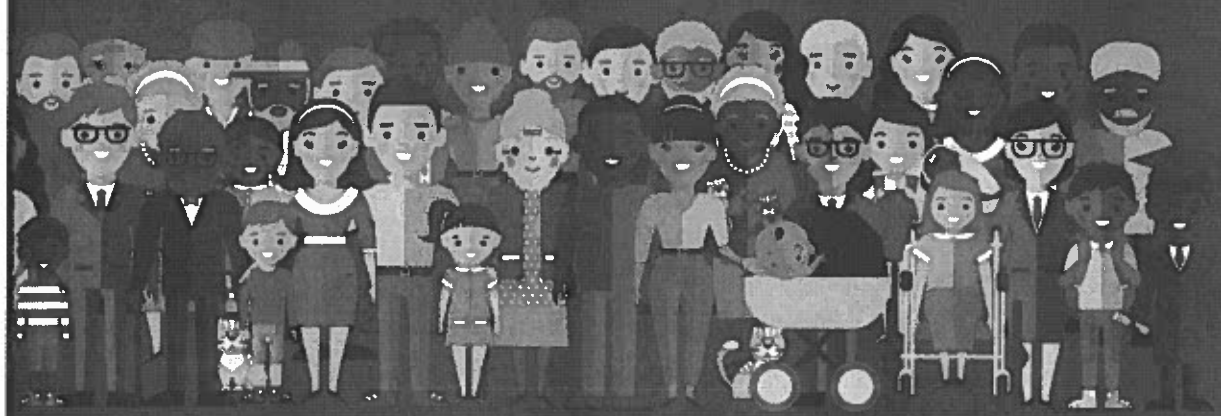
Loi sur la protection des renseignements personnels, Fichier de renseignements personnels ARC PPU 150 et 005.

Instructions on Reverse
Instructions au verso

Basic Income Pilot:

Information Booklet

May 2017



BASIC INCOME PILOT: INFORMATION BOOKLET

This Booklet contains the information you need before deciding to apply to be a participant in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). **Please read the entire Booklet carefully before completing the Application Form in your package as there are several steps to the application process.** If you are applying as part of a couple, your spouse or common-law partner should also read this Booklet.

The Booklet will help you learn

- if you may be eligible to participate and
- what you can expect if you submit your application and are accepted as a participant.

The OBIP is a research project to study the impact of Basic Income. Participants will be an active part of this research.

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Questions? Comments?
Call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email applybi@ontario.ca

SECTION 1: WHAT IS THE BASIC INCOME PILOT?

Ontario is exploring new ways to help people reach their full potential. Our economy is in a relatively strong position, however many people in the province are not feeling that growth in their everyday lives. People are struggling to keep up with the rising cost of living and facing various barriers, such as "precarious work" with little job security or benefits. The three-year Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP) will study whether a basic income can better support vulnerable workers and give people the security and opportunity they need to achieve their potential. It will also study whether giving people a basic income can be a simpler and more economically effective way to provide income security support to people living on low incomes.

Through the pilot, participants will receive a basic annual income, which will help people with their basic needs and improve health, education and job prospects. We will rigorously test this new approach and will work with a third-party evaluator to review the evidence from the pilot.

Two Groups Participating in the Research Study

At the start, the Pilot will select two groups of eligible applicants who will be asked to participate in the research study:

1. One group will receive monthly Basic Income payments for up to a three-year period. This group is called the **Basic Income Group**.
2. One group will **not** receive monthly Basic Income payments, but will actively participate in the research study. This group is called the **Control Group**.

These two groups are required because the study will follow what is called a randomized controlled trial (RCT) study. In this type of study, the people in both groups are compared to each other over time to see how the participants who receive Basic Income respond to it. The study will be done by Third Party Evaluators.

People in these two groups will be regularly asked about their health, employment, and housing through surveys.

You will be asked to complete these surveys periodically during the pilot period.

You will also be asked to allow Third Party Evaluators to review your personal information. Your personal health information and information about the other services you receive from the Government of Ontario will help us understand the full impact of the Basic Income. Your consent will be required before personal information will be collected and shared with Third Party Evaluators. We will ask for this consent after you are determined to be eligible to participate, and this consent can be revoked at any time.

People chosen for the Pilot are not required to participate and may opt out at any time.

Comparing people in these two groups will tell the evaluators how Basic Income helps people living on low incomes better meet their basic needs and improve their education, employment, and health.

Your reference number is unique to you and only you can use it. This number cannot be shared.

Who is eligible to participate in the Pilot?

If you received this package in the mail, you are invited to apply for the Basic Income Pilot. This package is unique to you and should not be copied or shared with others. At the top of your invitation letter you will find a **reference number**.

You must meet all of criteria here to participate. If applying as a couple, your spouse/common-law partner must also meet the eligibility criteria.

The first step in the process is to determine if you are eligible to participate in the Pilot. To be eligible to participate in the Pilot, you must meet all of the eligibility criteria below. If you will be applying as part of a couple, your spouse/common-law partner must also meet all of these criteria.

Even if you are eligible you may not receive Basic Income payments

Eligible participants for the Basic Income Pilot will be between the ages of **18-64 years of age** as of **April 24, 2017**.

Residency

You and if applicable, your spouse/common-law partner should have lived within your Pilot area including: Hamilton, Brant County, Brantford, Thunder Bay and area, or Lindsay for **12 months or longer** as of April 24, 2017.

Spousal/Common-law Status

If you have a spouse, he or she will also need to complete the Application Form and participate in the Pilot. To be considered as a couple in the Pilot, **you should have indicated that you had a spouse or common-law partner in your 2016 or previous T1 General Forms**.

Definition of spouse and common-law partner

Spouse
This applies only to a person to whom you are legally married.

Common-law partner
This applies to a person who is **not your spouse**, with whom you are living in a conjugal relationship, and to whom at least **one** of the following situations applies. He or she:

a. has been living with you in a conjugal relationship, and this current relationship has lasted at least 12 continuous months

Note
In this definition, 12 continuous months includes any period you were separated for fewer than 90 days because of a breakdown in the relationship.

b. is the parent of your child by birth or adoption, or

c. has custody and control of your child (or had custody and control immediately before the child turned 19 years of age) and your child is wholly dependent on that person for support.

Financial Eligibility

To assess whether you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable) are financially eligible to participate, we will use your and your spouse's/common-law partner's 2016 T1 General – Income Tax and Benefit Form and the 2016 Notice of Assessment. **You can submit a copy of these with your application.** If you are selected to receive monthly Basic Income Payments, it will be used to calculate the amount of these payments.

To be considered for participation in the Pilot you must have earned:

a. less than $33,978 if you are a single person
b. less than $48,054 if you are a couple
c. less than $45,978 if you are a single person with a disability
d. less than $60,054 if you are a couple where one of you has a disability
e. less than $72,054 if you are a couple where both of you have a disability.

Please note: Not everyone who is participating in the Pilot will get Basic Income payments.

If I don't have a copy of my 2016 tax return, how do I get a copy?

If you filed your taxes, you will be able to access this information through the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). You should contact the CRA to receive this information. You can access most of your personal information, and other information the CRA holds, online through My Account (http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/myaccount/) or by calling the CRA at 1-800-959-8281.

Can I still apply to the Basic Income Pilot if I have not filed my 2016 taxes?

Yes, if you did not file your 2016 taxes you can still apply to participate in the Basic Income Pilot. You can use your 2015 T1 General Form and Notice of Assessment if you have them. If you do not have your 2015 information, we have a process to get you started and enrolled in the Pilot – please contact us.

Call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email applybi@ontario.ca

Basic Income Pilot participants may be eligible to receive an additional disability supplement of up to $6,000 per year. You can receive this supplement if you or your spouse/common-law partner are currently determined to be disabled under at least one of the following programs provided by the provincial or federal governments:

- Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- Services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- Canada Pension Plan/Québec Pension Plan – Disability.

If you or your spouse/common-law partner currently receive any of the above because of a disability, please send documentation with your application confirming your eligibility for one of the programs. Documentation can include:

- An ODSP payment stub or eligibility notices
- Proof of services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- A Canada Pension Plan – Disability (CPP-D) payment stub or eligibility notices.

If you meet the eligibility criteria, you may be selected to be a participant in the Pilot.

The next section outlines what will happen after you submit your Application Form.

For ongoing financial eligibility and evaluation purposes you will be asked to complete your taxes in every year you are participating in the Pilot. We can help - ask us how.

SECTION 2: WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I SUBMIT THE APPLICATION FORM?

After you submit your Application Form, your information will be reviewed by Basic Income Pilot administrators for completeness and eligibility to participate in the Pilot.

Everyone who submits an Application Form will get a letter confirming whether or not they are eligible to participate in the Pilot.

This decision will be based on the information you provided in the Application Form.

If your application is determined to be ineligible, the letter will identify the reason(s) why.

What if I disagree with the eligibility decision?

If you would like to discuss your eligibility decision in more detail, please contact us at **1-844-806-6270 or email applybi@ontario.ca**.

If you are determined to be eligible to participate, you will receive additional information and materials to complete before being accepted into the Pilot:

- A confirmation letter
- An estimate of how much your monthly Basic Income payments may be
- A survey: you will be asked to complete a survey and consent to the collection and disclosure of your personal information for the purposes of the research study and evaluation. **Note:** only eligible applicants will receive the survey.

What is the survey for?

This survey will collect personal information about you and your family. This information will be used to set a starting point for how things in your life change during the Pilot. This information may also be used to analyze the characteristics of pilot participants, such as age group, gender, and experience with social assistance. This information will be collected by Third Party Evaluators and will be used to support the administration and evaluation of the Pilot.

Completing the Survey

The survey may be completed and submitted by mail. To make enrolment into the Pilot smoother, you may be contacted by phone or email to see if you need assistance completing the survey. The sooner your survey is done, the sooner we can tell you if you will be receiving Basic Income payments.

After the surveys are received, participants will be selected and placed into one of two groups as part of the randomized controlled trial:

1. One group will receive monthly Basic Income payments (**Basic Income Group**)
2. One group will **not** receive monthly Basic Income Payments (**Control Group**). This group will actively participate in the research study.

Each group will have a maximum number of participants, and not all persons who submitted surveys will be selected to participate.

Study and Evaluation of the Basic Income Pilot

As part of the research study and evaluation of the Pilot, we will request additional consent for the sharing and/or collection of your personal information. Details regarding this additional consent will be shared with you if you are eligible to participate in the Pilot. This will be included in the baseline survey for you to review and complete. Participating in the study and evaluation means:

Completing Surveys: You will be asked to complete surveys periodically throughout the Pilot. These surveys will ask you questions about your experiences while in the Pilot, such as stress levels, work, family, health, education, and housing. Surveys may be done by mail, online, over the phone and/or in person.

You will be asked to complete surveys about your experiences while in the Pilot.

Questions in the surveys will be on things like:

- Food security
- Stress and anxiety
- Mental health
- Health and health care usage
- Housing stability
- Education and training
- Employment.

Are there any risks to answering questions in the surveys?

As you complete the surveys, you may experience some emotional discomfort when answering some survey questions. The surveys will ask you to reflect on your personal experiences while participating in the Basic Income Pilot.

For the purposes of the study, we will be looking at personal information that is collected from other government services and programs. The Pilot will ask for your consent to collect and access your personal information from other government programs and services. Your consent may be needed for the evaluators to access and/or disclose your information that is held by third parties or other parts of the government, such as the following:

- The Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES), a not-for-profit research institute that holds health related information.
- The Ministry of Community and Social Services for the purposes of understanding the differences between social assistance and Basic Income.
- The Ministry of Housing and municipal service managers for the purposes of understanding the impact Basic Income may have on Rent-Geared-to-Income supports.
- The Ministry of Education and municipal service managers for the purposes of understanding the impact Basic Income may have on the Child Care Fee Subsidy.

The study will be conducted by Third Party Evaluators. Details about this team will be shared with Pilot participants at a later date.

Privacy: What you need to know

Since this is a research study, participants in both the Basic Income Group and the Control Group will need to provide personal information to study how Basic Income has affected their lives.

Personal information will be disclosed, collected and used for four purposes:

- Reviewing eligibility for the Pilot
- Selection of Pilot participants, both to receive payments and to be in the Control Group
- Determining Basic Income payments for those chosen to receive payments
- Study and evaluation of the Basic Income Pilot.

Determining Eligibility and Selecting Participants

The Application Form asks you provide your personal information, which will be disclosed to and collected from third parties (for example, the Canada Revenue Agency) and used to assess your eligibility to participate in the Pilot. The disclosure and collection of your personal information will be with the following:

a. The information you provide in the Application Form will be shared with the Ontario Ministry of Finance (MOF) and the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to verify your income, and calculate the amount of monthly payments should you be selected.

b. The MOF will receive this information to support the administration of the Basic Income payments. If you are selected to participate in the Pilot, these payments will be delivered by the MOF.

c. Some information will be shared with the CRA. The CRA will only receive your name, date of birth and Social Insurance Number. This is needed to verify your income, calculate the amount of your monthly payments should you be selected to receive them and to support the evaluation of the Basic Income Pilot. Monitoring your income is part of the evaluation of the Pilot, so this verification will continue throughout your participation. All verification between the MOF and CRA will be done through a secure automated income verification process currently used for other benefits and programs.

Protection of Privacy

Privacy is a fundamental right of every Ontarian. Ontario public institutions are required by law to protect your personal information, and to follow strict rules when collecting, using and disclosing your personal information. All information collected throughout the Basic Income Pilot will be managed in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Personal Health Information Protection Act*. After you understand what will happen if you participate in the Pilot, you can decide to participate. You may leave the Pilot at any time and do not need to offer any reason for doing so. This can be done by contacting us at **1-844-806-6270 or emailing applybi@ontario.ca**.

- Personal information collected on the application form, as well as to survey responses, will be destroyed if you opt out of the Pilot and request your personal information be destroyed.
- If you do not request your records be destroyed, your records will be retained according to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the policies of the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

including other governments and the media, without your consent. You are not required to engage with another third party if they contact you. That decision is entirely up to you.

Public reports about the Pilot results will be released throughout the duration of the Pilot. These reports will not include any personal or identifiable information. If you are participating in the Pilot, we will share any reports with you before they are released to the public.

Participants Selected for the Control Group

If you are selected to participate in the Basic Income Pilot and selected to the Control Group, you will be asked to participate in the evaluation but **will not** receive Basic Income payments. As highlighted on page 11, participating in the evaluation means completing surveys and sharing your personal information. For each survey you complete, you will receive compensation for your time and effort in completing the survey.

Beyond completing surveys and sharing your personal information, nothing else will change. There will be no changes to your access to social assistance or other government services, providing you continue to be eligible for those programs and services.

Participants Selected to Receive Monthly Basic Income Payments

How much is the Basic Income?

If you are chosen to participate in the Basic Income Group and receive monthly payments, the amounts you receive will depend on:

- whether you are single or part of a couple
- the amount of income you earned in the last year through employment and other sources, such as CPP-D or Employment Insurance (EI)
- whether or not you and/or your spouse/common-law partner have a disability.

Single or a couple

The amount of the Basic Income payment will depend on whether you are a single individual or have a spouse/common-law partner as defined by the CRA. Both single individuals and couples may be eligible to participate in the Pilot.

Amount of earned income

The amount you receive from the Basic Income will also depend on how much you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable) earned last year. The basic income will be responsive to changes in a participant's circumstances, such as a significant decrease in earnings, change in family composition, or change in disability status.

Employment Earnings

For the purposes of the Pilot, the Basic Income payment is reduced by $0.50 for every $1.00 of employment income. Employment income can consist of amounts you receive as salary, wages, bonuses, tips, gratuities, and honoraria. This would also include any income you received through self-employment.

> **Examples:**
>
> Jacob has no employment income and is single. He receives the maximum Basic Income for a single ($16,989 per year).
>
> Malcolm has $5,000 in self-employment income which he claimed on his T1 General Form. His Basic Income is reduced by $2,500 to $14,489 per year, but his income is $19,489.
>
> Judy has $15,000 in employment income which she claimed on her T1 General Form. Her Basic Income is reduced by $7,500 to $9,489 per year, but her income is $24,489.

Income from Investments and Other Earnings

Income from other things like investment income and other earnings will reduce Basic Income payment dollar for dollar. This means that for every $1.00 received through other sources, the Basic Income is reduced by $1.00.

Income from Other Sources

Payments from programs like Employment Insurance (EI) and the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) will reduce Basic Income payment dollar for dollar.

Payments, such as child support payments and Canada Child Benefit/Ontario Child Benefit, will not affect how the Basic Income payment is calculated.

Disability supplement

Individuals with a disability, as outlined on page 8 of this booklet, are eligible to receive up to an additional $6,000 per year, or $500 per month of Basic Income.

Basic Income Payment Table

The table below shows the maximum amount of Basic Income and the annual earnings that would reduce the Basic Income amount to $0.

	Maximum Basic Income Amount, no other income	Annual employment earnings* limit where Basic Income is reduced to $0
Single adult	$16,989	$33,978
Couple	$24,027	$48,054
Single adult with a disability	$22,989	$45,978
Couple with one adult with a disability	$30,027	$60,054
Couple with both adults with a disability	$36,027	$72,054

* Total earnings of the single or couple, assumes no other income, 50 per cent reduction rate for employment income

Ongoing Expectations to Receive Payments

File Taxes

To participate in the Pilot you will be asked to complete your taxes in every year you are participating in the study. This is important because your eligibility and amount of Basic Income payments are directly tied to the information in your annual tax assessment. It is also an important part of the evaluation. This applies to both the Basic Income Group and the Control Group.

Participate in the Evaluation

You will be asked to answer surveys to participate in the Pilot. The Pilot is a test to determine if a basic income is a more effective way to provide income support. Through the Pilot, we will evaluate how receiving a basic income might affect the well-being of people living on low-incomes who live in different parts of Ontario and in different life situations.

What happens at the end of the Pilot?

The Pilot will run for up to three years. When the Pilot enters its final year, the Basic Income payments will be reduced gradually to prepare participants for the end of the study. The intent of this gradual reduction is to reduce any impact of ending Basic Income payments. Participants will receive information about this before any payments are reduced.

Voluntary

Participation in the Basic Income Pilot is entirely voluntary – **no one is required to participate and they can choose to leave the Pilot at any time and do not need to offer any reason for doing so**. The Basic Income Pilot will follow an "opt in" model where interested people who receive this application package should complete and submit the Application Form to be considered for the Pilot.

Your participation in the Pilot is temporary. Any decisions you make about your future based on the amount you receive from Basic Income should take this into account. Participants will get notifications about the close of the Pilot in advance.

SECTION 3: HOW WILL GETTING MONTHLY BASIC INCOME PAYMENTS IMPACT OTHER BENEFITS?

If you currently receive social assistance

If you currently receive social assistance (Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program), you will have to withdraw from those programs in order to participate in the Basic Income Group and receive payments. Basic Income payments will replace all payments you receive from Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP).

How do I withdraw from social assistance?

To withdraw from social assistance, you will have to contact your local OW or ODSP office and speak with your caseworker.

Note: Do not contact your social assistance caseworker to withdraw from social assistance until you have received confirmation that you have been selected to receive monthly Basic Income payments. If you are selected to receive Basic Income payments, you will receive a letter confirming your participation in the Pilot. This letter can be shown to your caseworker when informing them of your decision to withdraw from social assistance.

If I voluntarily withdraw from social assistance to participate in the Pilot, what happens to my drug and dental benefits?

OW and ODSP recipients will remain eligible for drug benefits, and those on ODSP will remain eligible for dental benefits if they were receiving them prior to entering the Pilot. Children of OW and ODSP recipients will remain eligible for dental benefits if they were receiving them prior to entering the Pilot.

- OW clients who withdraw from OW to participate in the Pilot will lose access to all discretionary benefits, including dental.

What happens to the other supports I receive?

Other than prescription drugs (OW and ODSP) and dental benefits (ODSP only), many of the services and supports available to you as a social assistance recipient will not be available to you when you withdraw from social assistance to participate in the Basic Income Pilot.

- In some cases, some employment supports may remain available for persons with a disability.

Questions about what will happen to your social assistance?

Call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email applybi@ontario.ca

which are delivered outside of social assistance, or are available to me if I don't receive social assistance?

Subsidized Housing – Rent-Geared-to-Income

If you are currently living in social housing and receiving rent-geared-to-income (RGI) assistance, you will not have to leave social housing or stop receiving RGI assistance while receiving Basic Income payments. Individuals in receipt of RGI assistance pay 30 per cent of their gross household income in rent. If you are participating in the Pilot, the Basic Income payments will be considered income for determining your monthly rent payments. This will mean that your monthly rent payment may increase to reflect your increased income with Basic Income payments.

If you are a social assistance recipient, the rent you pay in social housing could be tied to the pre-established social assistance rent scales. Since you will be withdrawing from social assistance to participate in the Pilot, the rent scales will no longer apply, and you will have to pay 30 per cent of your gross household income in rent to your housing provider.

Here's an example: Single individual working with a full-time minimum wage job who currently receives RGI assistance:

Example	Current	Pilot
Annual Basic Income	N/A	$6,245
Single individual with full-time minimum wage job – Annual income:	$18,458	$18,458
Monthly income used to calculate RGI "rent", less $75 employment deduction	$1,463	$1,987
Annual RGI "rent" payment	**$5,267/year** ($439/month)	**$7,141/year** ($595/month)

* Numbers may not add up due to rounding.

You will be expected to report income changes to your local housing administrator in order to make any necessary adjustments to your monthly rent. For more information about subsidized housing, please contact your local Service Manager.

Trillium Drug Program

The Trillium Drug Program is for people who spend approximately 3-4 per cent or more of their after-tax household income on prescription-drug costs. Trillium Drug Program participants must pay an annual deductible. For most people, this deductible is 3-4 per cent of their after-tax household income. Once the quarterly deductible has been paid, program recipients pay a $2 co-payment for each prescription filled/refilled.

Participants receiving Basic Income payments may access the Trillium Drug Program, providing they meet that program's eligibility criteria. If participating in the Pilot results in an increase to your household income, this could impact your eligibility for the Trillium Drug Program, and could increase the annual deductible you pay.

You can get more information about the Trillium Drug Program, including how to apply:

- online at www.ontario.ca/page/get-help-high-prescription-drug-costs
- by calling

  1-800-575-5386 (toll free)

  1-800-387-5559 (TTY)

  416-642-3038 (in Toronto area)
- in person at your pharmacy.

Healthy Smiles Ontario

Healthy Smiles Ontario is a government-funded dental program that provides free preventive, routine, and emergency dental services for children and youth **17 years old and under** from low-income households. The program includes regular visits to a licensed dental provider and covers the costs of treatment.

Household Includes	Adjusted Family Net Income
1 child	$22,760 or lower
2 children	$24,482 or lower
3 children	$26,205 or lower
4 children	$27,927 or lower
5 children	$29,650 or lower

If your adjusted family net income is above the thresholds listed above, your children may not be eligible for Healthy Smiles Ontario in the future. The Basic Income payments will contribute to your adjusted family net income.

- Depending on your family structure and income, the Basic Income payments may make your family ineligible to receive Healthy Smiles Ontario.
- Once estimated payments are provided to you, you will need to decide if Basic Income is right for you and your family.

You can get more information about Healthy Smiles Ontario, including how to apply:

- online at www.ontario.ca/page/get-dental-care
- by calling

  Toll-free: 1-844-296-6306

  TTY toll-free: 1-800-387-5559

  416-327-4282 (TTY Toronto only)
- by contacting your local public health unit: www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/dental/hso_phu.aspx

What if I am a social assistance recipient and currently receive Healthy Smiles Ontario?

Children are automatically enrolled in Healthy Smiles Ontario if their family currently receives social assistance. Children who received dental coverage under Healthy Smiles Ontario through social assistance will continue to receive dental coverage if their parent participates in the Basic Income Group of the Pilot, providing they are 17 years old and under.

Child Care Fee Subsidy

Child care fee subsidy funded by the Ministry of Education is an income-tested benefit provided to low and middle income parents to help them pay for their child care needs. The amount of subsidy received is dependent on the total cost of child care and your adjusted family net income.

Participants receiving Basic Income payments are not excluded from receiving child care fee subsidy, providing their family continues to remain eligible for subsidy. The Basic Income payments may increase your adjusted family net income, so the contribution you make to child care while receiving the child care fee subsidy may increase.

Here's an example: A single parent with two children working full time in a minimum wage job participates in the Pilot.

	Current	Basic Income Pilot
Employment Earnings	$21,489	$21,489
Basic Income	N/A	$6,245
Total Adjusted Family Net Income	$21,489	$27,734
Parental Contribution	**$148.90/year** $12.41/month)	**$773.40/year** ($64.45/month)

You can get more information about child care fee subsidy, including how to apply:

- online at www.ontario.ca/page/child-care-subsidies
- by contacting your Consolidated Municipal Service Manager/District Social Services Administration Board: www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/websiteServiceManagers.html

What if I am a social assistance recipient and currently receiving a full subsidy?

Families on social assistance are automatically eligible to receive a full child care fee subsidy. If a person withdraws from social assistance to participate in the Pilot, they would lose the automatic eligibility for full child care fee subsidy. They may still be eligible to receive the child care fee subsidy, but the parental contribution they pay may increase.

Tax Credits

There are a number of income tested tax credits and benefits currently available to Ontarians that are delivered by the Governments of Ontario and Canada, such as:

Government of Ontario:

- Ontario Energy and Property Tax Credit
- Ontario Sales Tax Credit
- Ontario Child Benefit

Government of Canada

- Working Income Tax Benefit
- Goods and Services Tax Credit
- Canada Child Benefit

Basic Income payments may increase an individual's or family's adjusted family net income and may change the amount they receive under the broadly available tax credits.

You can get more information about:

- Ontario tax credits and benefits online at www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-tax-credits-and-benefits
- federal programs and benefits online at: www.cra-arc.gc.ca/ndvdls-fmls/menu-eng.html

Basic income illustrative examples:

1. Single individual with two children on Ontario Works who has no employment earnings.

	Current	Pilot
Basic Income		$16,989
OW - Maximum Basic Needs and Shelter	$12,228	
Other Tax Benefits (e.g. OCB/CCB)	$16,668	$16,668
Net Total	**$28,896**	**$33,657**

2. Single individual with two children who works a full-time minimum wage job.

	Current	Pilot
Basic Income		$6,245
Net Employment Earnings	$20,106	$20,106
Other Tax Benefits (e.g. OCB/CCB)	$17,668	$16,232
Net Total	**$37,774**	**$42,583**

3. Couple with two children, with both parents working full time in a minimum wage job.

	Current	Pilot
Basic Income		$2,538
Net Employment Earnings	$39,199	$39,199
Other Tax Benefits (e.g. OCB/CCB)	$12,186	$10,321
Net Total	**$51,385**	**$53,098**

SECTION 4. COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

Each section of the Application Form must be completed for your eligibility to be considered. If you have any questions while filling out the information, do not hesitate to contact us.

We can be reached at 1-844-806-6270 and applybi@ontario.ca

In order to successfully complete the Application Form you will need:

- **Your reference number included in your invitation letter**
- **Your Social Insurance Number (SIN), and if applicable, your spouse/common-law partner's SIN**
- **Copies of your and your spouse's/common-law partner's 2016 T1 General – Income Tax and Benefit Form and the 2016 Notice of Assessment –** We will request the information you provided to the Canada Revenue Agency as part of your 2016 tax return to determine your eligibility to participate in the Pilot, and the amount you could receive.
  - **If you did not file your taxes, please see Section 1 of this Booklet or contact us – you can still apply**
- **Verification of you and/or your spouse's/common-law partner's disability (if applicable)**

Step 1: Your Personal Information

Reference Number

Provide the reference number included at the top of your invitation letter. This reference number is unique and can only be used by you and your spouse/ common-law partner. **This number is not to be shared.**

Name

Provide both your last and first name. If you have a single name, please report it as your last name.

Date of Birth

Enter your date of birth. Your date of birth should follow the YYYY/MM/DD format. To participate in the Pilot you should be between the ages of 18 and 64, as of April 24, 2017.

Social Insurance Number (SIN)

Your SIN is the nine-digit number that identifies you for income tax purposes under section 237 of the Income Tax Act and is used for certain federal and provincial programs. Your SIN is needed to confirm your identity and to verify your income with the CRA.

Home Address: provide information about where you live

Provide your address and how long you've lived there. This will be used to confirm that you live in your Pilot region. Please indicate how long you have lived (in years and months) at your current address. We may ask you to verify this.

Previous Address

If you have lived at more than one address in the last 12 months, please provide your previous address.

Mailing Address

If your mailing address is different from your home address, please list those details here. This address will be used to send you letters, updates, payments and/or statements.

- If you have a different mailing address, **this address should also be within your Pilot region for you to be eligible to participate in the Pilot**.

Insert your e-mail address, your home phone and cell phone numbers if you have them.

- Please indicate whether you would prefer to be contacted by Basic Income Pilot administrators by e-mail or by phone. If you have no preference, leave the boxes blank.

The Basic Income Pilot is committed to delivering services and supports to you in your language of choice. Please indicate whether you would prefer we engage with you in English or French. If you would prefer another language, please tell us your preferred language and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

Information About Disability Status

Check the disability-related programs that apply to you and/or your spouse/common-law partner. If you and/or your spouse/common-law partner checked one or more of the programs, please send documentation that confirms your eligibility for that program along with this application.

Please see page 8 of this Information Booklet for information related to the disability status and the disability supplement.

Step 2: Your Spouse's/Common-law Partner's Information, if applicable

Complete this section with your spouse's/common-law partner's personal information.

Step 3: Your Income Information

Information about your and your spouse's/common-law partner's income will be used to determine whether you can participate in the Basic Income Pilot. This information will also be used to calculate how much your Basic Income payments will be.

To successfully enrol in the Basic Income Pilot, please **submit a copy** of your tax information. Please refer to page 7 for additional information.

Step 4: Declaration by you and your spouse/common-law partner

You and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable) should read this section very carefully and sign in the designated area for your application to be considered complete. Your and your spouse's/common-law partner's signature at the bottom of this section of the Application Form means that you understand what it means to participate in the Pilot.

Questions? Contact Us

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this application and what will happen in the Pilot, please contact us to discuss in more detail.

We can be reached at 1-844-806-6270 and applybi@ontario.ca

This is Exhibit "22" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

February 8, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500057269

[redacted]
Lindsay, ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted],

You have been selected to receive **Basic Income payments** as part of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP).

What does this mean for you?

You will receive Basic Income payments. This may affect some of your existing benefits and services – those that are based on your income.

You will have a key role in helping us understand basic income's impact on people's lives. You will contribute and be a part of one of the largest, most significant studies of its kind in the world.

During the Pilot, we will ask you to fill out surveys about your health, employment, education and well-being. Each time you complete a survey, you'll be compensated for your time.

How will you contact me to fill out the surveys?

Right before each survey is due, a member of the OBIP Evaluation Team at St. Michael's Hospital (Toronto) will contact you. You will receive compensation for completing each survey. If you want to change your contact information, please call the OBIP Evaluation Team right away at **1-800-410-4614** or email at obip@smh.ca.

About your Basic Income payment

The effective date of your Basic Income payment is February 1st, 2018. Your monthly Basic Income payment is **$1674.33**.

You will receive your monthly Basic Income payment by **Direct Bank Deposit**.

If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments you must contact us right away at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Basic Income payment schedule, 2017-18

Your first Basic Income payment will be issued on February 23th, 2018, and future payments will be issued on or around the 25th of each month. See below for a table showing the expected payment date for each month of the 2017-18 benefit year.

The table below shows the dates that monthly Basic Income payments will be issued for the 2017-18 benefit year (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018).

Payment Month and Year	Payment Day
January 2018	25
February 2018	23
March 2018	23
April 2018	25
May 2018	25
June 2018	25

Calculation of your Basic Income payment

Basic Income payments are calculated for the year using information from your tax return. We will send you information about your 2018-19 Basic Income payments next spring after you have filed your 2017 taxes.

Based on the information provided in your application, the calculation of your Basic Income payment is:

Maximum Annual Basic Income	**$22989**
Less 50% of income from employment	**- $2897.1**
Less 100% of other income	**- $0**
Annual Basic Income	**$20091.9**
Monthly Basic Income	**$1674.33**

If you have questions about your Basic Income payment amount, contact at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Social Assistance (if this applies to you)

March 14, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500057269

[redacted]
Lindsay, ON
[redacted]

Important Reminder Notice

Thank you for participating in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your contribution is very important to our study.

This reminder notice is to let you know:

1. That to continue to participate in the Pilot you must complete and file your taxes for each year that you are participating in the study.

2. That you should contact us if circumstances in your life have changed. Significant changes could include: relationship status, income, address, bank account number or disability status.

Why this is important to you

The amount you get in Basic Income payments may change each year based on your taxes. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requires that you file your taxes **by the end of April**.

You or both you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable), need to file last year's Personal Tax Returns with the CRA as soon as possible. We are always available to help you.

How to get help

Free and volunteer tax preparation clinics are offered between February and April each year. For a complete list of Tax Preparation Clinics in Ontario visit:

http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdls/vlntr/clncs/on-eng.html

Ontario

Here are some examples of free tax preparation clinics in the Pilot communities:

Hamilton

Parkview Church
1120 West 5th Street,
Hamilton, ON L9C 2X2

Dates: February 24, March 10, March 24, April 7, April 21
Hours: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
www.hamiltontaxhelp.ca

Thunder Bay

Lakehead Social Planning Council
125 Syndicate Avenue South, Unit 38, Victoriaville Centre,
Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 6H8

Dates: End of February to Mid-May
Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
www.lspc.ca/income-tax-clinic/

Lindsay

Adult Protective Services
322 Kent Street West,
Lindsay, ON, K9V 4S7

Dates: April 11, April 18
Hours: 1-3 p.m.
Email **applybi@ontario.ca** to book an appointment

You can also file your taxes online using **free tax preparation software**, for example:

Turbotax

www.turbotax.intuit.ca
Basic free tax filing available with the option to purchase premium services

UFileFREE

www.ufile.ca
Free if you:

- Have family income less than $20,000
- Are a post-secondary student
- Have never filed taxes before

For more information about filing online, search online for **NETFILE** (Canada Revenue Agency) or use this direct link:

https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/e-services/e-services-individuals/netfile-overview.html

We're always ready to help. Contact us at **1-844-806-6270** or **applybi@ontario.ca.**

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

November 20, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Reference # 500057269

[redacted]
Lindsay ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

We are writing to tell you about the process for reapplying to social assistance and the *Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey – Preliminary Analysis*, a summary report based on the surveys completed by participants in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot at the time of enrolment.

The aim of the report is to provide a description of the characteristics of all Basic Income Pilot participants. No identifying information about you is contained in this report (such as your name or date of birth). The report is a high-level summary of survey answers provided by participants and includes information such as household composition, employment, education, housing, and food security. For example, it shows the number of participants who have completed high school or are working.

Copies of the *Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey – Preliminary Analysis* will be available to Ontario Basic Income Pilot participants. If you would like a copy of this report, please contact us at **applybi@ontario.ca** or call us at **1-844-217-4516.**

Information about returning to Social Assistance

As you were formerly in receipt of Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program immediately prior to joining the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, we would recommend you contact your local social assistance office by **January 31, 2019** about returning to Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program. A list of local social assistance offices is included with this letter.

You will be contacted shortly by an Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator to confirm receipt of this letter and answer any questions. However, you can contact your local social assistance office starting in November to request to have your file reinstated and participate in a financial eligibility assessment. You must contact your local social assistance office prior to **March 1, 2019** to determine your eligibility to ensure payment in April.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

Former ODSP recipients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when reapplying for ODSP.

In the mean time, if you have any additional questions you may contact us at **applybi@ontario.ca** or call us at **1-844-217-4516.**

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

January 21, 2019

Ontario Basic Income Reference #
500057269

[redacted]
Lindsay ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On July 31, 2018, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is a **final reminder** that the Pilot will be ending in **March 2019**. Your final basic income payment will be in March 2019.

Should you have a significant change in your circumstances please contact us at applyBI@ontario.ca or at 1-844-217-4516. Any documentation that we might require from you to support the change in circumstance, must be received by our office on or before **February 15, 2019**.

Information about Social Assistance

If you were in receipt of Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program immediately prior to joining the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, we recommend that you contact your local social assistance office now to determine your eligibility to return to Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program. You must contact your local social assistance office prior to **March 1, 2019** to ensure your social assistance payments begin in April, if you are deemed eligible.

Former Ontario Disability Support Program recipients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when reapplying for Ontario Disability Support Program.

If you are not a former Ontario Disability Support Program or Ontario Works client but think you may be eligible, please contact a local office to ensure that your payments can begin in April if you are eligible for these programs.

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the Ontario Disability Support Program Act while enrolled in the pilot, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

You can find contact information for social assistance offices at this link http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/. You may also apply on-line through the

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

Information about your benefits

Benefit Change	What you Need to Know/Do
I am on OSAP. How do I get my living expenses paid by OSAP once BI stops?	You will need to take this letter to your Financial Aid Office which will be able to reassess your new income level and adjust your OSAP accordingly.
What will happen to my Housing Benefits/ Rent Geared to Income?	You should contact your municipal service manager as soon as you get this letter, so they are aware that you have received this letter. Your housing provider or Service Manager will assist you and recalculate your rent and/or subsidies based on your new income after you leave BI.
What happens to my Child Care Fee Subsidy?	You will need to take this letter to your municipality. Your municipality will assist you to determine your eligibility for fee subsidies and the amount of parental contribution
Will my Canada Child Tax Benefit, Ontario Child Benefit, or Ontario Trillium Benefit change because of higher income I received this year through Basic Income Pilot?	Until July 2019, your payments from these benefits will not be affected by your 2018 Basic Income payments. However, when you submit your tax forms for 2018, you may get a different amount from these benefits starting in July 2019. As mentioned in the consent section of the Basic Income Application Form, these benefits may be impacted by the income you received from the Pilot.

If you have any questions, please email us at applyBI@ontario.ca or call us at 1-844-217-4516.

If you wish to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason, you may do so at any time.

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

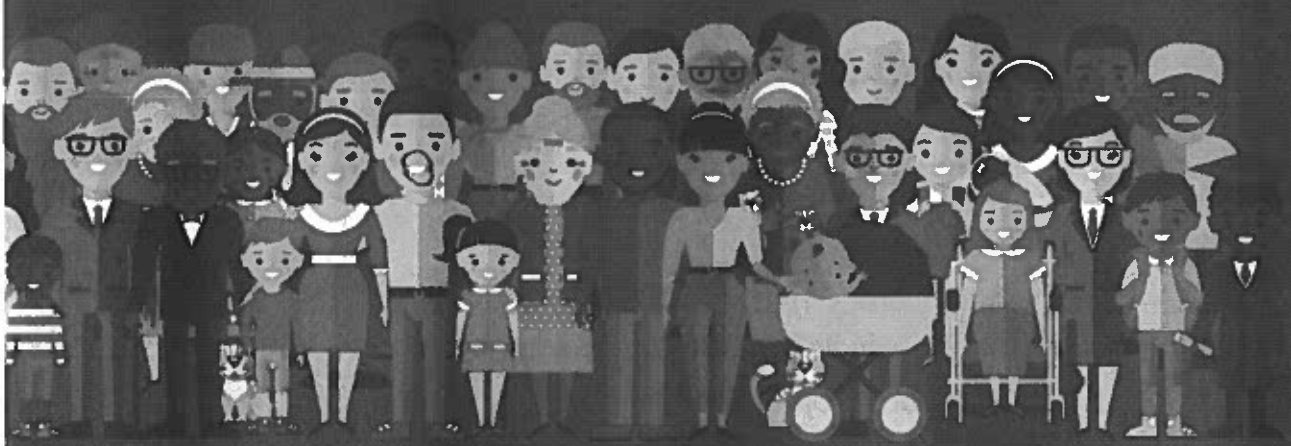
Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Basic Income Pilot:

Information Booklet

May 2017



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Ontario

This is Exhibit "23" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.



Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

April 4, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500057080

[redacted]
Lindsay, ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

This letter is to let you know about some important information regarding your Basic Income payments and the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP).

You can get both Basic Income and OSAP funding during your study period. However, OSAP will only assess you for direct educational costs such as, tuition, books and other fees. This is because your living costs are covered by your Basic Income payments.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU WANT TO APPLY FOR OSAP FUNDING

If you plan to apply for OSAP funding for studies starting in 2018, you must let your school's Financial Aid Office know that you are a Basic Income recipient, **before the start of your study period.**

This will ensure that your OSAP funding amount is correct before you receive your first OSAP funding payment.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE

If you return to full-time studies and are earning less income while in school, your Basic Income payments may be adjusted. To report a significant change in your circumstances contact a Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator.

Questions about your Basic Income?* Call Ontario Basic Income Pilot toll-free at *1-844-806-6270.

Questions about your OSAP funding? Contact your school's Financial Aid Office.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
33 King St W
Oshawa ON L1H 8H6

[redacted]
LINDSAY ON [redacted]

Issue Date: 26-Sep-2018

Letter No: L2048394432
Reference No: 500057080

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On **July 31, 2018**, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is your notification that the pilot will be ending in **March 2019**.

What does this mean for you?

As a participant in the payment group, you will remain in the pilot and continue to receive payments until **March 25, 2019**. Your payments will be maintained at the amount of your July 2018 payment. Should you have a significant change in your circumstances, please contact us at **applyBI@ontario.ca** or 1 844 217-4516

You will not be asked to complete any additional surveys.

If you have been eligible to receive dental and/or drug benefits, you will continue to receive these benefits for the duration of the pilot.

Information about Social Assistance

A streamlined application process will be available to former ODSP and OW clients who wish to reapply to social assistance. In particular, former ODSP clients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when they reapply. You will be contacted shortly about this process or please call us at 1 844 217-4516 if you have any questions in the meantime.

If you are not a former ODSP or OW client but think you may be eligible please contact a local office at this link:
http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/

You may also apply on-line through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the ODSP Act during your pilot enrollment, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

Ontario

November 09, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

Ontario Basic Income Reference #500057080

[redacted]
Lindsay ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

We are writing to tell you about the *Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey – Preliminary Analysis*, a summary report based on the surveys completed by participants in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot at the time of enrolment.

The aim of the report is to provide a description of the characteristics of all Basic Income Pilot participants. No identifying information about you is contained in this report (such as your name or date of birth). The report is a high level summary of survey answers provided by participants and includes information such as household composition, employment, education, housing, and food security. For example, it shows the number of participants who have completed high school or are working.

Copies of the *Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey – Preliminary Analysis* will be available to Ontario Basic Income Pilot participants. If you would like a copy of this report, please contact us at **applybi@ontario.ca** or call us at **1-844-217-4516.**

Information about Social Assistance

If you think you may be eligible for ODSP or OW please contact a local office at this link http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/. You may also apply on-line through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx
If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the ODSP Act during your pilot enrollment, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

If you have any additional questions, please contact us at **applybi@ontario.ca** or call us at **1-844-217-4516.**

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

January 21, 2019

Ontario Basic Income Reference #
500057080

[redacted]
Lindsay ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On July 31, 2018, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is a **final reminder** that the Pilot will be ending in **March 2019**. Your final basic income payment will be in March 2019.

Should you have a significant change in your circumstances please contact us at applyBI@ontario.ca or at 1-844-217-4516. Any documentation that we might require from you to support the change in circumstance, must be received by our office on or before **February 15, 2019**.

Information about Social Assistance

If you were in receipt of Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program immediately prior to joining the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, we recommend that you contact your local social assistance office now to determine your eligibility to return to Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program. You must contact your local social assistance office prior to **March 1, 2019** to ensure your social assistance payments begin in April, if you are deemed eligible.

Former Ontario Disability Support Program recipients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when reapplying for Ontario Disability Support Program.

If you are not a former Ontario Disability Support Program or Ontario Works client but think you may be eligible, please contact a local office to ensure that your payments can begin in April if you are eligible for these programs.

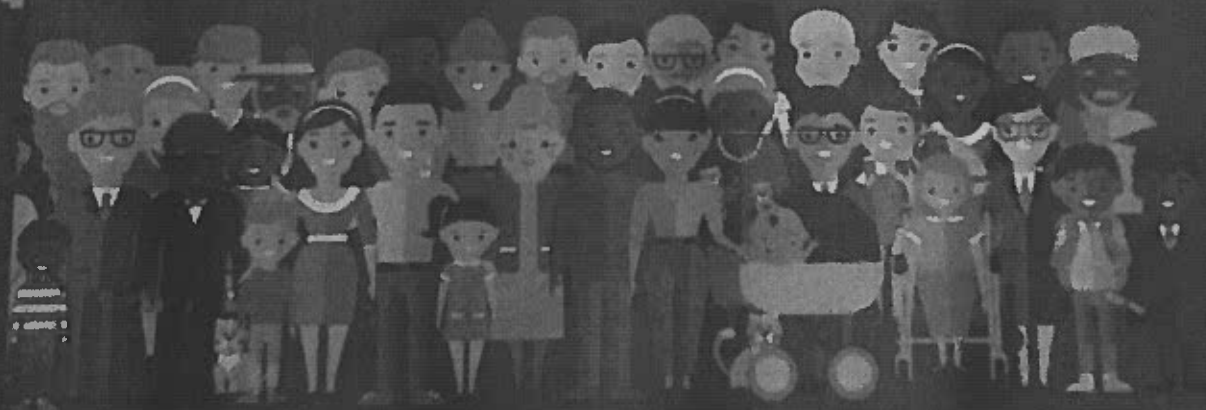
If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the Ontario Disability Support Program Act while enrolled in the pilot, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

You can find contact information for social assistance offices at this link http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/. You may also apply on-line through the

Basic Income Pilot:

Information Booklet

May 2017



My Account

Direct Deposit form
notice of Assement

Lines
150
236
0

Weg
- amount
28,897.00
- 28,896.80

Reference # 500057080
1 844-806-6270

Ontario

This is Exhibit "24" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

January 15th, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500057279

[redacted]
LindsayON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted],

You have been selected to receive **Basic Income payments** as part of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP).

What does this mean for you?

You will receive Basic Income payments. This may affect some of your existing benefits and services – those that are based on your income.

You will have a key role in helping us understand basic income's impact on people's lives. You will contribute and be a part of one of the largest, most significant studies of its kind in the world.

During the Pilot, we will ask you to fill out surveys about your health, employment, education and well-being. Each time you complete a survey, you'll be compensated for your time.

How will you contact me to fill out the surveys?

Right before each survey is due, a member of the OBIP Evaluation Team at St. Michael's Hospital (Toronto) will contact you. You will receive $30 for completing each survey. If you want to change your contact information, please call the OBIP Evaluation Team right away at **1-800-410-4614** or email at obip@smh.ca.

About your Basic Income payment

The effective date of your Basic Income payment is January 01, 2018. Your monthly Basic Income payment is $2002.25.

You will receive your monthly Basic Income payment by direct banking deposit.

If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments you must contact us right away at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Ontario

Basic Income payment schedule, 2017-18

Your first Basic Income payment will be issued on **January 25th, 2018**, and future payments will be issued on or around the 25th of each month. See below for a table showing the expected payment date for each month of the 2017-18 benefit year.

The table below shows the dates that monthly Basic Income payments will be issued for the 2017-18 benefit year (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018).

Payment Month and Year	Payment Day
January 2018	25
February 2018	23
March 2018	23
April 2018	25
May 2018	25
June 2018	25

Calculation of your Basic Income payment

Basic Income payments are calculated for the year using information from your tax return. We will send you information about your 2018-19 Basic Income payments next spring after you have filed your 2017 taxes.

Based on the information provided in your application, the calculation of your Basic Income payment is:

Maximum Annual Basic Income	**$24027**
Less 50% of income from employment	**- $0**
Less 100% of other income	**- $0**
Annual Basic Income	**$24027**
Monthly Basic Income	**$2002.25**

If you have questions about your Basic Income payment amount, contact at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Ontario

Social Assistance (if this applies to you)

If you are currently on Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP):

If this applies to you:	This is what will happen:	Here's what you have to do:
You are on Ontario Works or ODSP	**You need to withdraw**	Please contact your caseworker to confirm you wish to withdraw so you can receive Basic Income payments. If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments, you must contact us immediately at 1-844-806-6270
You are receiving Extended Health Benefits (EHB), Extended Employment Health Benefits (EEHB) or the Transitional Health Benefit (THB)	**You need to withdraw**	
You have set up pay directs (e.g. to a landlord) through Ontario Works or ODSP	**Pay directs will be canceled**	You need to make other arrangements for these payments
You have drug benefits for you and your spouse/ common-law partner and children under 18 years (if applicable)	**You will all continue to receive drug benefits**	You will receive a drug card in the mail that you can bring to your pharmacy
(ODSP only) You have dental benefits for you and your spouse/ common-law partner	**You will all continue to receive dental benefits**	You will also receive a letter in the mail that you can bring to your dentist
You have dental benefits for dependent children under 18 years (if applicable)	**Your children will continue to receive dental benefits**	You don't have to do anything

What to do if your circumstances change

Contact us if circumstances in your life change and you think these changes may affect your Basic Income payment. Significant changes could include changes to your relationship status, change in income, or change in disability status.

To report a change in your circumstances or for more information on how to report changes, contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

If you wish to opt out of the Pilot for any reason, please contact us.

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

January 24, 2018

Reference Number:500057279

[redacted]
Lindsay ON [redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Please find enclosed your drug benefits card.

Please take this card with you when you go to the pharmacy to fill a prescription. It applies to all members of your family.

This card is valid for three months. You will receive a new card before the old one expires.

If you have any questions or need more information

We can help. Please contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

OBIP Administrator

Ontario

March 14, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500057279

[redacted]
Lindsay, ON
[redacted]

Important Reminder Notice

Thank you for participating in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your contribution is very important to our study.

This reminder notice is to let you know:

1. That to continue to participate in the Pilot you must complete and file your taxes for each year that you are participating in the study.

2. That you should contact us if circumstances in your life have changed. Significant changes could include: relationship status, income, address, bank account number or disability status.

Why this is important to you

The amount you get in Basic Income payments may change each year based on your taxes. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requires that you file your taxes **by the end of April**.

You or both you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable), need to file last year's Personal Tax Returns with the CRA as soon as possible. We are always available to help you.

How to get help

Free and volunteer tax preparation clinics are offered between February and April each year. For a complete list of Tax Preparation Clinics in Ontario visit:

http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdls/vlntr/clncs/on-eng.html

Ontario

Here are some examples of free tax preparation clinics in the Pilot communities:

Hamilton

Parkview Church
1120 West 5th Street,
Hamilton, ON L9C 2X2

Dates: February 24, March 10, March 24, April 7, April 21
Hours: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
www.hamiltontaxhelp.ca

Thunder Bay

Lakehead Social Planning Council
125 Syndicate Avenue South, Unit 38, Victoriaville Centre,
Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 6H8

Dates: End of February to Mid-May
Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
www.lspc.ca/income-tax-clinic/

Lindsay

Adult Protective Services
322 Kent Street West,
Lindsay, ON, K9V 4S7

Dates: April 11, April 18
Hours: 1-3 p.m.
Email **applybi@ontario.ca** to book an appointment

You can also file your taxes online using **free tax preparation software**, for example:

Turbotax

www.turbotax.intuit.ca
Basic free tax filing available with the option to purchase premium services

UFileFREE

www.ufile.ca
Free if you:

- Have family income less than $20,000
- Are a post-secondary student
- Have never filed taxes before

For more information about filing online, search online for **NETFILE** (Canada Revenue Agency) or use this direct link:

https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/e-services/e-services-individuals/netfile-overview.html

We're always ready to help. Contact us at **1-844-806-6270** or **applybi@ontario.ca**.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

April 4, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500057279

[redacted]
Lindsay, ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

This letter is to let you know about some important information regarding your Basic Income payments and the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP).

You can get both Basic Income and OSAP funding during your study period. However, OSAP will only assess you for direct educational costs such as, tuition, books and other fees. This is because your living costs are covered by your Basic Income payments.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU WANT TO APPLY FOR OSAP FUNDING

If you plan to apply for OSAP funding for studies starting in 2018, you must let your school's Financial Aid Office know that you are a Basic Income recipient, **before the start of your study period**.

This will ensure that your OSAP funding amount is correct before you receive your first OSAP funding payment.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE

If you return to full-time studies and are earning less income while in school, your Basic Income payments may be adjusted. To report a significant change in your circumstances contact a Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator.

Questions about your Basic Income? Call Ontario Basic Income Pilot toll-free at 1-844-806-6270.

Questions about your OSAP funding? Contact your school's Financial Aid Office.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Questions about the Pilot, your payments, or your benefits?	Questions about surveys?
Contact the Ontario Government	**Contact the OBIP Evaluation Team**
1-844-806-6270 applybi@ontario.ca	**1-800-410-4614 obip@smh.ca**

Thank you!

By participating in the Pilot, you will help us understand your experiences as a participant, and your help will support important research into the impact of a basic income in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
33 King St W
Oshawa ON L1H 8H6

BIN - rL159

000886

[redacted]
LINDSAY ON [redacted]

Issue Date: 26-Sep-2018

Letter No: L1444414656
Reference No: 500057279

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On **July 31, 2018**, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is your notification that the pilot will be ending in **March 2019**.

What does this mean for you?

As a participant in the payment group, you will remain in the pilot and continue to receive payments until **March 25, 2019**. Your payments will be maintained at the amount of your July 2018 payment. Should you have a significant change in your circumstances, please contact us at **applyBI@ontario.ca** or 1 844 217-4516

You will not be asked to complete any additional surveys.

If you have been eligible to receive dental and/or drug benefits, you will continue to receive these benefits for the duration of the pilot.

Information about Social Assistance

A streamlined application process will be available to former ODSP and OW clients who wish to reapply to social assistance. In particular, former ODSP clients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when they reapply. You will be contacted shortly about this process or please call us at 1 844 217-4516 if you have any questions in the meantime.

If you are not a former ODSP or OW client but think you may be eligible please contact a local office at this link:
http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/

You may also apply on-line through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the ODSP Act during your pilot enrollment, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

Ontario

Letter No: L1444414656
Reference No: 5O0057279

Information about your benefits

Benefit Change	What You Need to Know/Do
I am on OSAP. How do I get my living expenses paid by OSAP once BI stops?	You will need to take this notice letter to your Financial Aid Office which will be able to reassess your new income level and adjust your OSAP accordingly.
What will happen to my Housing Benefits/ Rent Geared to Income?	You should contact your municipal service manager as soon as you get this notice letter so they are aware that you have received your notice. Your housing provider or Service Manager will assist you and recalculate your rent and/or subsidies based on your new income after you leave BI.
What happens to my Child Care Fee Subsidy?	You will need to take this notice letter to your municipality. Your municipality will assist you to determine your eligibility for fee subsidies and the amount of parental contribution.
Will my Canada Child Tax Benefit, Ontario Child Benefit, or Ontario Trillium Benefit change because of higher income I received this year through Ontario Basic Income Pilot?	Until July 2019, your payments from these benefits will not be affected by your 2018 Basic Income payments. However, when you submit your tax forms next year, you may get a different amount from these benefits starting in July 2019. As mentioned in the consent section of the Basic Income Application Form, these benefits may be impacted by the income you received from the Pilot.

You can choose to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason at any time.

If you have any questions, please email us at **applyBI@ontario.ca**, or call us at 1 844 217-4516.

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

November 15, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Reference # 500057279

[redacted]
Lindsay ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

We are writing to tell you about the process for reapplying to social assistance and the *Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey – Preliminary Analysis*, a summary report based on the surveys completed by participants in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot at the time of enrolment.

The aim of the report is to provide a description of the characteristics of all Basic Income Pilot participants. No identifying information about you is contained in this report (such as your name or date of birth). The report is a high-level summary of survey answers provided by participants and includes information such as household composition, employment, education, housing, and food security. For example, it shows the number of participants who have completed high school or are working.

Copies of the *Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey – Preliminary Analysis* will be available to Ontario Basic Income Pilot participants. If you would like a copy of this report, please contact us at **applybi@ontario.ca** or call us at **1-844-217-4516.**

Information about returning to Social Assistance

As you were formerly in receipt of Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program immediately prior to joining the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, we would recommend you contact your local social assistance office by **January 31, 2019** about returning to Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program. A list of local social assistance offices is included with this letter.

You will be contacted shortly by an Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator to confirm receipt of this letter and answer any questions. However, you can contact your local social assistance office starting in November to request to have your file reinstated and participate in a financial eligibility assessment. You must contact your local social assistance office prior to **March 1, 2019** to determine your eligibility to ensure payment in April.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

Former ODSP recipients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when reapplying for ODSP.

In the mean time, if you have any additional questions you may contact us at **applybi@ontario.ca** or call us at **1-844-217-4516.**

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR LOCAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE OFFICES

Summarized below is a list of local or neighboring social assistance offices of the 3 pilot sites. If you are anywhere else in the province, you can find contact information for other social assistance offices at this link http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/ or by calling the general inquires line for ServiceOntario at 1-800-267-8097 or 416-326-1234.

ODSP LOCAL OFFICES	OW LOCAL OFFICES
LINDSAY	
Ontario Disability Support Program Income and Employment Supports 322 Kent Street, 2nd Floor Lindsay ON, K9V 4T7 General Inquiry: (705) 324-6128 Toll Free: 1-800-565-3554 TTY: (705) 324-7935 Fax: (705) 324-5244	Lindsay Office 322 Kent Street West P.O. Box 2600 Lindsay ON, K9V 4S7 General Inquiry: (705) 324-9870 Toll Free: 1-877-324-9870 Haliburton Office 49 Maple Ave, Unit 8 Haliburton, ON, KOM 1S0 General Inquiry: (705) 457-4571 Toll Free: 1-877-324-9870 press 4
PETERBOROUGH	
Ontario Disability Support Program Income and Employment Supports 360 George Street North, 2nd Floor Peterborough ON K9H 7E7 Tel: (705) 742-9292 Toll Free: 1-800-663-8560 TDD/TTY: (705) 742-8915 Fax: (705) 742-8048	City of Peterborough 178 Charlotte Street P.O. Box 4138 Peterborough ON, K9J 8S1 General Inquiry: (705) 748-8830 Menu Option 2 Fax: (705) 742-0542
THUNDER BAY	
Ontario Disability Support Program Income and Employment Supports 435 James Street South, Suite 111 Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7 Tel: (807) 473-3130 Toll Free: 1-800-465-5561 TDD/TTY: (807) 473-3151 TDD/TTY Toll Free: 1-800-544-6443 Fax: (807) 475-1475	City of Thunder Bay 231 May Street South Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 1B5 General Inquiry: (807) 766-2100 Fax: (807) 345-7921 Toll Free: 1-877-281-2958

Ontario

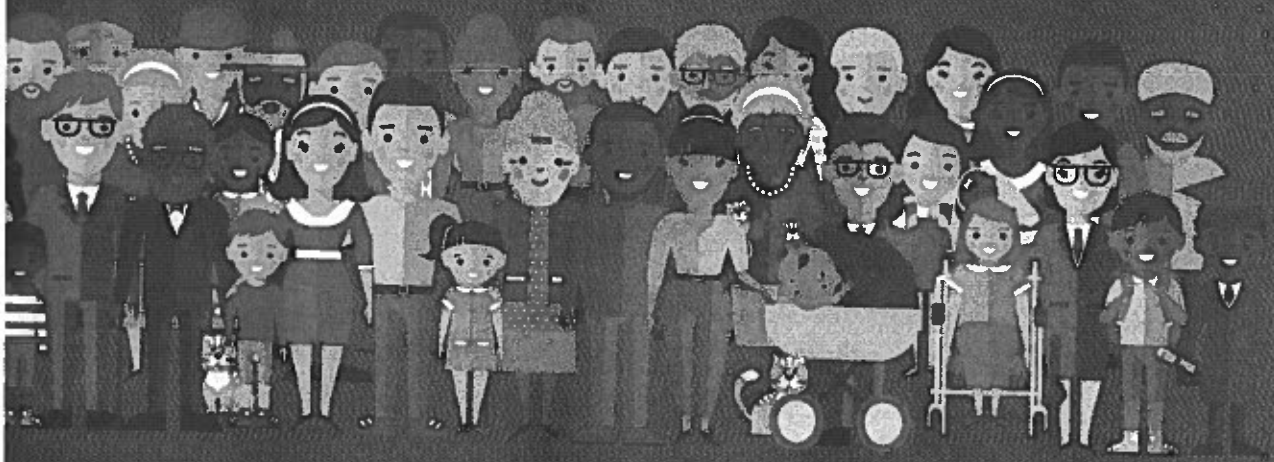
Ontario Basic Income Pilot
77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

HAMILTON	
Ministry of Community and Social Services Ontario Disability Support Program Income and Employment Supports 119 King St. West, 3rd Floor Hamilton, ON, L8P 4Y7 Tel: (905) 521-7280 Toll Free: 1-800-561-0369 TDD/TTY: (905) 546-8276 TDD/TTY Toll Free: 1-866-221-2229 Fax: (905) 546-8284	City of Hamilton - Central 250 Main Street East Hamilton, ON, L8N 1H6 General Inquiry: (905) 546-4800 Fax: (905) 546-2877 City of Hamilton - East 2255 Barton Street East Hamilton, ON, L8H 7T4 General Inquiry: (905) 546-4800 Fax: (905) 540-6344 City of Hamilton - Mountain 1550 Upper James Street Hamilton ON L9B 2L6 General Inquiry: (905) 546-4800 Fax: (905) 546-1018
BRANTFORD	
Ministry of Community and Social Services Ontario Disability Support Program 195 Henry Street, Building 4, Unit 2, Brantford ON, N3S 5C9 Tel: (519) 756-5790 Toll Free: 1-866-729-2228 TDD/TTY Toll Free: 1-888-814-7005 TDD/TTY: (519) 756-3693 Fax: 519-756-2320	Ontario Works Brantford P.O. Box 845 220 Colborne St. East Brantford ON, N3T 5R7 General Inquiry: (519) 759-3330 Fax: (519) 759-1750

Basic Income Pilot:

Information Booklet

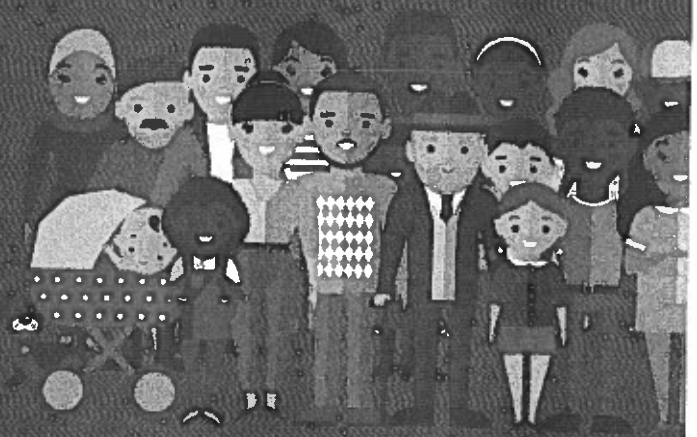
May 2017



Ontario

For more information on Basic Income in Ontario, visit:

ontario.ca/basicincome



Cette brochure d'information est disponible dans les deux langues officielles. Veuillez contacter les administrateurs du Projet pilote portant sur le revenu de base en composant le **1 844 806-6270** ou en envoyant un courriel à **applybi@ontario.ca** pour demander une copie en français.

[redacted] BASIC INCOME PILOT: INFORMATION BOOKLET

This Booklet contains the information you need before deciding to apply to be a participant in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP). **Please read the entire Booklet carefully before completing the Application Form in your package as there are several steps to the application process.** If you are applying as part of a couple, your spouse or common-law partner should also read this Booklet.

The Booklet will help you learn

- if you may be eligible to participate and
- what you can expect if you submit your application and are accepted as a participant.

The OBIP is a research project to study the impact of Basic Income. Participants will be an active part of this research.

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Questions? Comments?
Call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email applybi@ontario.ca

SECTION 1: WHAT IS THE BASIC INCOME PILOT?

Ontario is exploring new ways to help people reach their full potential. Our economy is in a relatively strong position, however many people in the province are not feeling that growth in their everyday lives. People are struggling to keep up with the rising cost of living and facing various barriers, such as "precarious work" with little job security or benefits. The three-year Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP) will study whether a basic income can better support vulnerable workers and give people the security and opportunity they need to achieve their potential. It will also study whether giving people a basic income can be a simpler and more economically effective way to provide income security support to people living on low incomes.

Through the pilot, participants will receive a basic annual income, which will help people with their basic needs and improve health, education and job prospects. We will rigorously test this new approach and will work with a third-party evaluator to review the evidence from the pilot.

Two Groups Participating in the Research Study

At the start, the Pilot will select two groups of eligible applicants who will be asked to participate in the research study:

1. One group will receive monthly Basic Income payments for up to a three-year period. This group is called the **Basic Income Group**.
2. One group will **not** receive monthly Basic Income payments, but will actively participate in the research study. This group is called the **Control Group**.

These two groups are required because the study will follow what is called a randomized controlled trial (RCT) study. In this type of study, the people in both groups are compared to each other over time to see how the participants who receive Basic Income respond to it. The study will be done by Third Party Evaluators.

People in these two groups will be regularly asked about their health, employment, and housing through surveys.

You will be asked to complete these surveys periodically during the pilot period.

You will also be asked to allow Third Party Evaluators to review your personal information. Your personal health information and information about the other services you receive from the Government of Ontario will help us understand the full impact of the Basic Income. Your consent will be required before personal information will be collected and shared with Third Party Evaluators. We will ask for this consent after you are determined to be eligible to participate, and this consent can be revoked at any time.

People chosen for the Pilot are not required to participate and may opt out at any time.

Comparing people in these two groups will tell the evaluators how Basic Income helps people living on low incomes better meet their basic needs and improve their education, employment, and health.

Who is eligible to participate in the Pilot?

Your reference number is unique to you and only you can use it. This number cannot be shared.

If you received this package in the mail, you are invited to apply for the Basic Income Pilot. This package is unique to you and should not be copied or shared with others. At the top of your invitation letter you will find a **reference number**.

You must meet all of criteria here to participate. If applying as a couple, your spouse/common-law partner must also meet the eligibility criteria.

The first step in the process is to determine if you are eligible to participate in the Pilot. To be eligible to participate in the Pilot, you must meet all of the eligibility criteria below. If you will be applying as part of a couple, your spouse/common-law partner must also meet all of these criteria.

Even if you are eligible you may not receive Basic Income payments.

Age

Eligible participants for the Basic Income Pilot will be between the ages of **18-64 years of age** as of **April 24, 2017**.

Residency

You and if applicable, your spouse/common-law partner should have lived within your Pilot area including: Hamilton, Brant County, Brantford, Thunder Bay and area, or Lindsay for **12 months or longer** as of April 24, 2017.

Spousal/Common-law Status

If you have a spouse, he or she will also need to complete the Application Form and participate in the Pilot. To be considered as a couple in the Pilot, **you should have indicated that you had a spouse or common-law partner in your 2016 or previous T1 General Forms.**

Definition of spouse and common-law partner

Spouse
This applies only to a person to whom you are legally married.

Common-law partner
This applies to a person who is **not your spouse**, with whom you are living in a conjugal relationship, and to whom at least **one** of the following situations applies. He or she:

a. has been living with you in a conjugal relationship, and this current relationship has lasted at least 12 continuous months

Note
In this definition, 12 continuous months includes any period you were separated for fewer than 90 days because of a breakdown in the relationship.

b. is the parent of your child by birth or adoption, or

c. has custody and control of your child (or had custody and control immediately before the child turned 19 years of age) and your child is wholly dependent on that person for support.

Financial Eligibility

To assess whether you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable) are financially eligible to participate, we will use your and your spouse's/common-law partner's 2016 T1 General – Income Tax and Benefit Form and the 2016 Notice of Assessment. **You can submit a copy of these with your application**. If you are selected to receive monthly Basic Income Payments, it will be used to calculate the amount of these payments.

To be considered for participation in the Pilot you must have earned:

a. less than $33,978 if you are a single person
b. less than $48,054 if you are a couple
c. less than $45,978 if you are a single person with a disability
d. less than $60,054 if you are a couple where one of you has a disability
e. less than $72,054 if you are a couple where both of you have a disability.

Please note: Not everyone who is participating in the Pilot will get Basic Income payments.

If I don't have a copy of my 2016 tax return, how do I get a copy?

If you filed your taxes, you will be able to access this information through the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). You should contact the CRA to receive this information. You can access most of your personal information, and other information the CRA holds, online through My Account (http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/myaccount/) or by calling the CRA at 1-800-959-8281.

Can I still apply to the Basic Income Pilot if I have not filed my 2016 taxes?

Yes, if you did not file your 2016 taxes you can still apply to participate in the Basic Income Pilot. You can use your 2015 T1 General Form and Notice of Assessment if you have them. If you do not have your 2015 information, we have a process to get you started and enrolled in the Pilot – please contact us.

Call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email applybi@ontario.ca

Disability:

Basic Income Pilot participants may be eligible to receive an additional disability supplement of up to $6,000 per year. You can receive this supplement if you or your spouse/common-law partner are currently determined to be disabled under at least one of the following programs provided by the provincial or federal governments:

- Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- Services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- Canada Pension Plan/Québec Pension Plan – Disability.

If you or your spouse/common-law partner currently receive any of the above because of a disability, please send documentation with your application confirming your eligibility for one of the programs. Documentation can include:

- An ODSP payment stub or eligibility notices
- Proof of services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- A Canada Pension Plan – Disability (CPP-D) payment stub or eligibility notices.

If you meet the eligibility criteria, you may be selected to be a participant in the Pilot.

The next section outlines what will happen after you submit your Application Form.

For ongoing financial eligibility and evaluation purposes you will be asked to complete your taxes in every year you are participating in the Pilot. We can help - ask us how.

SECTION 2: WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I SUBMIT THE APPLICATION FORM?

After you submit your Application Form, your information will be reviewed by Basic Income Pilot administrators for completeness and eligibility to participate in the Pilot.

Everyone who submits an Application Form will get a letter confirming whether or not they are eligible to participate in the Pilot.

This decision will be based on the information you provided in the Application Form.

If your application is determined to be ineligible, the letter will identify the reason(s) why.

What if I disagree with the eligibility decision?

If you would like to discuss your eligibility decision in more detail, please contact us at **1-844-806-6270 or email applybi@ontario.ca.**

Eligible Applicants:

If you are determined to be eligible to participate, you will receive additional information and materials to complete before being accepted into the Pilot:

- A confirmation letter
- An estimate of how much your monthly Basic Income payments may be
- A survey: you will be asked to complete a survey and consent to the collection and disclosure of your personal information for the purposes of the research study and evaluation. **Note:** only eligible applicants will receive the survey.

What is the survey for?

This survey will collect personal information about you and your family. This information will be used to set a starting point for how things in your life change during the Pilot. This information may also be used to analyze the characteristics of pilot participants, such as age group, gender, and experience with social assistance. This information will be collected by Third Party Evaluators and will be used to support the administration and evaluation of the Pilot.

Completing the Survey

The survey may be completed and submitted by mail. To make enrolment into the Pilot smoother, you may be contacted by phone or email to see if you need assistance completing the survey. The sooner your survey is done, the sooner we can tell you if you will be receiving Basic Income payments.

After the surveys are received, participants will be selected and placed into one of two groups as part of the randomized controlled trial:

1. One group will receive monthly Basic Income payments (**Basic Income Group**)
2. One group will **not** receive monthly Basic Income Payments (**Control Group**). This group will actively participate in the research study.

Each group will have a maximum number of participants, and not all persons who submitted surveys will be selected to participate.

Study and Evaluation of the Basic Income Pilot

As part of the research study and evaluation of the Pilot, we will request additional consent for the sharing and/or collection of your personal information. Details regarding this additional consent will be shared with you if you are eligible to participate in the Pilot. This will be included in the baseline survey for you to review and complete. Participating in the study and evaluation means:

Completing Surveys: You will be asked to complete surveys periodically throughout the Pilot. These surveys will ask you questions about your experiences while in the Pilot, such as stress levels, work, family, health, education, and housing. Surveys may be done by mail, online, over the phone and/or in person.

You will be asked to complete surveys about your experiences while in the Pilot.

Questions in the surveys will be on things like:

- Food security
- Stress and anxiety
- Mental health
- Health and health care usage
- Housing stability
- Education and training
- Employment.

Are there any risks to answering questions in the surveys?

As you complete the surveys, you may experience some emotional discomfort when answering some survey questions. The surveys will ask you to reflect on your personal experiences while participating in the Basic Income Pilot.

Access to and Analysis of Data Collected by Government Institutions:
For the purposes of the study, we will be looking at personal information that is collected from other government services and programs. The Pilot will ask for your consent to collect and access your personal information from other government programs and services. Your consent may be needed for the evaluators to access and/or disclose your information that is held by third parties or other parts of the government, such as the following:

- The Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES), a not-for-profit research institute that holds health related information.
- The Ministry of Community and Social Services for the purposes of understanding the differences between social assistance and Basic Income.
- The Ministry of Housing and municipal service managers for the purposes of understanding the impact Basic Income may have on Rent-Geared-to-Income supports.
- The Ministry of Education and municipal service managers for the purposes of understanding the impact Basic Income may have on the Child Care Fee Subsidy.

The study will be conducted by Third Party Evaluators. Details about this team will be shared with Pilot participants at a later date.

Privacy: What you need to know

Since this is a research study, participants in both the Basic Income Group and the Control Group will need to provide personal information to study how Basic Income has affected their lives.

Personal information will be disclosed, collected and used for four purposes:

- Reviewing eligibility for the Pilot
- Selection of Pilot participants, both to receive payments and to be in the Control Group
- Determining Basic Income payments for those chosen to receive payments
- Study and evaluation of the Basic Income Pilot.

Determining Eligibility and Selecting Participants

The Application Form asks you provide your personal information, which will be disclosed to and collected from third parties (for example, the Canada Revenue Agency) and used to assess your eligibility to participate in the Pilot. The disclosure and collection of your personal information will be with the following:

a. The information you provide in the Application Form will be shared with the Ontario Ministry of Finance (MOF) and the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to verify your income, and calculate the amount of monthly payments should you be selected.

b. The MOF will receive this information to support the administration of the Basic Income payments. If you are selected to participate in the Pilot, these payments will be delivered by the MOF.

c. Some information will be shared with the CRA. The CRA will only receive your name, date of birth and Social Insurance Number. This is needed to verify your income, calculate the amount of your monthly payments should you be selected to receive them and to support the evaluation of the Basic Income Pilot. Monitoring your income is part of the evaluation of the Pilot, so this verification will continue throughout your participation. All verification between the MOF and CRA will be done through a secure automated income verification process currently used for other benefits and programs.

Protection of Privacy

Privacy is a fundamental right of every Ontarian. Ontario public institutions are required by law to protect your personal information, and to follow strict rules when collecting, using and disclosing your personal information. All information collected throughout the Basic Income Pilot will be managed in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Personal Health Information Protection Act*. After you understand what will happen if you participate in the Pilot, you can decide to participate. You may leave the Pilot at any time and do not need to offer any reason for doing so. This can be done by contacting us at **1-844-806-6270 or emailing applybi@ontario.ca**.

- Personal information collected on the application form, as well as to survey responses, will be destroyed if you opt out of the Pilot and request your personal information be destroyed.
- If you do not request your records be destroyed, your records will be retained according to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the policies of the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

The Basic Income Pilot will not share your personal information with any third party, including other governments and the media, without your consent. You are not required to engage with another third party if they contact you. That decision is entirely up to you.

Public reports about the Pilot results will be released throughout the duration of the Pilot. These reports will not include any personal or identifiable information. If you are participating in the Pilot, we will share any reports with you before they are released to the public.

Participants Selected for the Control Group

If you are selected to participate in the Basic Income Pilot and selected to the Control Group, you will be asked to participate in the evaluation but **will not** receive Basic Income payments. As highlighted on page 11, participating in the evaluation means completing surveys and sharing your personal information. For each survey you complete, you will receive compensation for your time and effort in completing the survey.

Beyond completing surveys and sharing your personal information, nothing else will change. There will be no changes to your access to social assistance or other government services, providing you continue to be eligible for those programs and services.

Participants Selected to Receive Monthly Basic Income Payments

How much is the Basic Income?

If you are chosen to participate in the Basic Income Group and receive monthly payments, the amounts you receive will depend on:

- whether you are single or part of a couple
- the amount of income you earned in the last year through employment and other sources, such as CPP-D or Employment Insurance (EI)
- whether or not you and/or your spouse/common-law partner have a disability.

Single or a couple

The amount of the Basic Income payment will depend on whether you are a single individual or have a spouse/common-law partner as defined by the CRA. Both single individuals and couples may be eligible to participate in the Pilot.

Amount of earned income

The amount you receive from the Basic Income will also depend on how much you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable) earned last year. The basic income will be responsive to changes in a participant's circumstances, such as a significant decrease in earnings, change in family composition, or change in disability status.

Employment Earnings

For the purposes of the Pilot, the Basic Income payment is reduced by $0.50 for every $1.00 of employment income. Employment income can consist of amounts you receive as salary, wages, bonuses, tips, gratuities, and honoraria. This would also include any income you received through self-employment.

> **Examples:**
>
> Jacob has no employment income and is single. He receives the maximum Basic Income for a single ($16,989 per year).
>
> Malcolm has $5,000 in self-employment income which he claimed on his T1 General Form. His Basic Income is reduced by $2,500 to $14,489 per year, but his income is $19,489.
>
> Judy has $15,000 in employment income which she claimed on her T1 General Form. Her Basic Income is reduced by $7,500 to $9,489 per year, but her income is $24,489.

Income from Investments and Other Earnings

Income from other things like investment income and other earnings will reduce Basic Income payment dollar for dollar. This means that for every $1.00 received through other sources, the Basic Income is reduced by $1.00.

Income from Other Sources

Payments from programs like Employment Insurance (EI) and the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) will reduce Basic Income payment dollar for dollar. This means that for every $1.00 received through other sources, the Basic Income is reduced by $1.00.

Income Related to Children

Payments, such as child support payments and Canada Child Benefit/Ontario Child Benefit, will not affect how the Basic Income payment is calculated.

Disability supplement

Individuals with a disability, as outlined on page 8 of this booklet, are eligible to receive up to an additional $6,000 per year, or $500 per month of Basic Income.

Basic Income Payment Table

The table below shows the maximum amount of Basic Income and the annual earnings that would reduce the Basic Income amount to $0.

	Maximum Basic Income Amount, no other income	Annual employment earnings* limit where Basic Income is reduced to $0
Single adult	$16,989	$33,978
Couple	$24,027	$48,054
Single adult with a disability	$22,989	$45,978
Couple with one adult with a disability	$30,027	$60,054
Couple with both adults with a disability	$36,027	$72,054

* Total earnings of the single or couple, assumes no other income, 50 per cent reduction rate for employment income

Ongoing Expectations to Receive Payments

File Taxes

To participate in the Pilot you will be asked to complete your taxes in every year you are participating in the study. This is important because your eligibility and amount of Basic Income payments are directly tied to the information in your annual tax assessment. It is also an important part of the evaluation. This applies to both the Basic Income Group and the Control Group.

Participate in the Evaluation

You will be asked to answer surveys to participate in the Pilot. The Pilot is a test to determine if a basic income is a more effective way to provide income support. Through the Pilot, we will evaluate how receiving a basic income might affect the well-being of people living on low-incomes who live in different parts of Ontario and in different life situations.

What happens at the end of the Pilot?

The Pilot will run for up to three years. When the Pilot enters its final year, the Basic Income payments will be reduced gradually to prepare participants for the end of the study. The intent of this gradual reduction is to reduce any impact of ending Basic Income payments. Participants will receive information about this before any payments are reduced.

Voluntary

Participation in the Basic Income Pilot is entirely voluntary – **no one is required to participate and they can choose to leave the Pilot at any time and do not need to offer any reason for doing so**. The Basic Income Pilot will follow an "opt in" model where interested people who receive this application package should complete and submit the Application Form to be considered for the Pilot.

Your participation in the Pilot is temporary. Any decisions you make about your future based on the amount you receive from Basic Income should take this into account. Participants will get notifications about the close of the Pilot in advance.

SECTION 3: HOW WILL GETTING MONTHLY BASIC INCOME PAYMENTS IMPACT OTHER BENEFITS?

If you currently receive social assistance

If you currently receive social assistance (Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program), you will have to withdraw from those programs in order to participate in the Basic Income Group and receive payments. Basic Income payments will replace all payments you receive from Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP).

How do I withdraw from social assistance?

To withdraw from social assistance, you will have to contact your local OW or ODSP office and speak with your caseworker.

Note: Do not contact your social assistance caseworker to withdraw from social assistance until you have received confirmation that you have been selected to receive monthly Basic Income payments. If you are selected to receive Basic Income payments, you will receive a letter confirming your participation in the Pilot. This letter can be shown to your caseworker when informing them of your decision to withdraw from social assistance.

If I voluntarily withdraw from social assistance to participate in the Pilot, what happens to my drug and dental benefits?

OW and ODSP recipients will remain eligible for drug benefits, and those on ODSP will remain eligible for dental benefits if they were receiving them prior to entering the Pilot. Children of OW and ODSP recipients will remain eligible for dental benefits if they were receiving them prior to entering the Pilot.

- OW clients who withdraw from OW to participate in the Pilot will lose access to all discretionary benefits, including dental.

What happens to the other supports I receive?

Other than prescription drugs (OW and ODSP) and dental benefits (ODSP only), many of the services and supports available to you as a social assistance recipient will not be available to you when you withdraw from social assistance to participate in the Basic Income Pilot.

- In some cases, some employment supports may remain available for persons with a disability.

Questions about what will happen to your social assistance?

Call us at 1-844-806-6270 or email applybi@ontario.ca

What will happen to the benefits I receive, which are delivered outside of social assistance, or are available to me if I don't receive social assistance?

Subsidized Housing – Rent-Geared-to-Income

If you are currently living in social housing and receiving rent-geared-to-income (RGI) assistance, you will not have to leave social housing or stop receiving RGI assistance while receiving Basic Income payments. Individuals in receipt of RGI assistance pay 30 per cent of their gross household income in rent. If you are participating in the Pilot, the Basic Income payments will be considered income for determining your monthly rent payments. This will mean that your monthly rent payment may increase to reflect your increased income with Basic Income payments.

If you are a social assistance recipient, the rent you pay in social housing could be tied to the pre-established social assistance rent scales. Since you will be withdrawing from social assistance to participate in the Pilot, the rent scales will no longer apply, and you will have to pay 30 per cent of your gross household income in rent to your housing provider.

Here's an example: Single individual working with a full-time minimum wage job who currently receives RGI assistance:

Example	Current	Pilot
Annual Basic Income	N/A	$6,245
Single individual with full-time minimum wage job – Annual income:	$18,458	$18,458
Monthly income used to calculate RGI "rent", less $75 employment deduction	$1,463	$1,987
Annual RGI "rent" payment	**$5,267/year** ($439/month)	**$7,141/year** ($595/month)

* Numbers may not add up due to rounding.

You will be expected to report income changes to your local housing administrator in order to make any necessary adjustments to your monthly rent. For more information about subsidized housing, please contact your local Service Manager.

Trillium Drug Program

The Trillium Drug Program is for people who spend approximately 3-4 per cent or more of their after-tax household income on prescription-drug costs. Trillium Drug Program participants must pay an annual deductible. For most people, this deductible is 3-4 per cent of their after-tax household income. Once the quarterly deductible has been paid, program recipients pay a $2 co-payment for each prescription filled/refilled.

Participants receiving Basic Income payments may access the Trillium Drug Program, providing they meet that program's eligibility criteria. If participating in the Pilot results in an increase to your household income, this could impact your eligibility for the Trillium Drug Program, and could increase the annual deductible you pay.

You can get more information about the Trillium Drug Program, including how to apply:

- online at www.ontario.ca/page/get-help-high-prescription-drug-costs
- by calling

  1-800-575-5386 (toll free)

  1-800-387-5559 (TTY)

  416-642-3038 (in Toronto area)
- in person at your pharmacy.

Healthy Smiles Ontario

Healthy Smiles Ontario is a government-funded dental program that provides free preventive, routine, and emergency dental services for children and youth **17 years old and under** from low-income households. The program includes regular visits to a licensed dental provider and covers the costs of treatment.

The income thresholds as of July 1, 2017 will be as follows:

Household Includes	Adjusted Family Net Income
1 child	$22,760 or lower
2 children	$24,482 or lower
3 children	$26,205 or lower
4 children	$27,927 or lower
5 children	$29,650 or lower

If your adjusted family net income is above the thresholds listed above, your children may not be eligible for Healthy Smiles Ontario in the future. The Basic Income payments will contribute to your adjusted family net income.

- Depending on your family structure and income, the Basic Income payments may make your family ineligible to receive Healthy Smiles Ontario.
- Once estimated payments are provided to you, you will need to decide if Basic Income is right for you and your family.

You can get more information about Healthy Smiles Ontario, including how to apply:

- online at www.ontario.ca/page/get-dental-care
- by calling

  Toll-free: 1-844-296-6306

  TTY toll-free: 1-800-387-5559

  416-327-4282 (TTY Toronto only)
- by contacting your local public health unit: www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/dental/hso_phu.aspx

What if I am a social assistance recipient and currently receive Healthy Smiles Ontario?

Children are automatically enrolled in Healthy Smiles Ontario if their family currently receives social assistance. Children who received dental coverage under Healthy Smiles Ontario through social assistance will continue to receive dental coverage if their parent participates in the Basic Income Group of the Pilot, providing they are 17 years old and under.

Child Care Fee Subsidy

Child care fee subsidy funded by the Ministry of Education is an income-tested benefit provided to low and middle income parents to help them pay for their child care needs. The amount of subsidy received is dependent on the total cost of child care and your adjusted family net income.

Participants receiving Basic Income payments are not excluded from receiving child care fee subsidy, providing their family continues to remain eligible for subsidy. The Basic Income payments may increase your adjusted family net income, so the contribution you make to child care while receiving the child care fee subsidy may increase.

Here's an example: A single parent with two children working full time in a minimum wage job participates in the Pilot.

	Current	Basic Income Pilot
Employment Earnings	$21,489	$21,489
Basic Income	N/A	$6,245
Total Adjusted Family Net Income	$21,489	$27,734
Parental Contribution	**$148.90/year** $12.41/month)	**$773.40/year** ($64.45/month)

You can get more information about child care fee subsidy, including how to apply:

- online at www.ontario.ca/page/child-care-subsidies
- by contacting your Consolidated Municipal Service Manager/District Social Services Administration Board: www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/websiteServiceManagers.html

What if I am a social assistance recipient and currently receiving a full subsidy?

Families on social assistance are automatically eligible to receive a full child care fee subsidy. If a person withdraws from social assistance to participate in the Pilot, they would lose the automatic eligibility for full child care fee subsidy. They may still be eligible to receive the child care fee subsidy, but the parental contribution they pay may increase.

Provincial and Federal Refundable Tax Credits

There are a number of income tested tax credits and benefits currently available to Ontarians that are delivered by the Governments of Ontario and Canada, such as:

Government of Ontario:

- Ontario Energy and Property Tax Credit
- Ontario Sales Tax Credit
- Ontario Child Benefit

Government of Canada

- Working Income Tax Benefit
- Goods and Services Tax Credit
- Canada Child Benefit

Basic Income payments may increase an individual's or family's adjusted family net income and may change the amount they receive under the broadly available tax credits.

You can get more information about:

- Ontario tax credits and benefits online at www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-tax-credits-and-benefits
- federal programs and benefits online at: www.cra-arc.gc.ca/ndvdls-fmls/menu-eng.html

Basic income illustrative examples:

1. Single individual with two children on Ontario Works who has no employment earnings.

	Current	Pilot
Basic Income		$16,989
OW - Maximum Basic Needs and Shelter	$12,228	
Other Tax Benefits (e.g. OCB/CCB)	$16,668	$16,668
Net Total	**$28,896**	**$33,657**

2. Single individual with two children who works a full-time minimum wage job.

	Current	Pilot
Basic Income		$6,245
Net Employment Earnings	$20,106	$20,106
Other Tax Benefits (e.g. OCB/CCB)	$17,668	$16,232
Net Total	**$37,774**	**$42,583**

3. Couple with two children, with both parents working full time in a minimum wage job.

	Current	Pilot
Basic Income		$2,538
Net Employment Earnings	$39,199	$39,199
Other Tax Benefits (e.g. OCB/CCB)	$12,186	$10,321
Net Total	**$51,385**	**$53,098**

SECTION 4: COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

Each section of the Application Form must be completed for your eligibility to be considered. If you have any questions while filling out the information, do not hesitate to contact us.

We can be reached at 1-844-806-6270 and applybi@ontario.ca

In order to successfully complete the Application Form you will need:

- **Your reference number included in your invitation letter**
- **Your Social Insurance Number (SIN), and if applicable, your spouse/common-law partner's SIN**
- **Copies of your and your spouse's/common-law partner's 2016 T1 General – Income Tax and Benefit Form and the 2016 Notice of Assessment –** We will request the information you provided to the Canada Revenue Agency as part of your 2016 tax return to determine your eligibility to participate in the Pilot, and the amount you could receive.
  - **If you did not file your taxes, please see Section 1 of this Booklet or contact us – you can still apply**
- **Verification of you and/or your spouse's/common-law partner's disability (if applicable)**

Step 1: Your Personal Information

Reference Number

Provide the reference number included at the top of your invitation letter. This reference number is unique and can only be used by you and your spouse/ common-law partner. **This number is not to be shared.**

Name

Provide both your last and first name. If you have a single name, please report it as your last name.

Date of Birth

Enter your date of birth. Your date of birth should follow the YYYY/MM/DD format. To participate in the Pilot you should be between the ages of 18 and 64, as of April 24, 2017.

Social Insurance Number (SIN)

Your SIN is the nine-digit number that identifies you for income tax purposes under section 237 of the Income Tax Act and is used for certain federal and provincial programs. Your SIN is needed to confirm your identity and to verify your income with the CRA.

Home Address: provide information about where you live

Provide your address and how long you've lived there. This will be used to confirm that you live in your Pilot region. Please indicate how long you have lived (in years and months) at your current address. We may ask you to verify this.

Previous Address

If you have lived at more than one address in the last 12 months, please provide your previous address.

Mailing Address

If your mailing address is different from your home address, please list those details here. This address will be used to send you letters, updates, payments and/or statements.

- If you have a different mailing address, **this address should also be within your Pilot region for you to be eligible to participate in the Pilot**.

Contact Information

Insert your e-mail address, your home phone and cell phone numbers if you have them.

- Please indicate whether you would prefer to be contacted by Basic Income Pilot administrators by e-mail or by phone. If you have no preference, leave the boxes blank.

The Basic Income Pilot is committed to delivering services and supports to you in your language of choice. Please indicate whether you would prefer we engage with you in English or French. If you would prefer another language, please tell us your preferred language and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

Information About Disability Status

Check the disability-related programs that apply to you and/or your spouse/common-law partner. If you and/or your spouse/common-law partner checked one or more of the programs, please send documentation that confirms your eligibility for that program along with this application.

Please see page 8 of this Information Booklet for information related to the disability status and the disability supplement.

Step 2: Your Spouse's/Common-law Partner's Information, if applicable

Complete this section with your spouse's/common-law partner's personal information.

Step 3: Your Income Information

Information about your and your spouse's/common-law partner's income will be used to determine whether you can participate in the Basic Income Pilot. This information will also be used to calculate how much your Basic Income payments will be.

To successfully enrol in the Basic Income Pilot, please **submit a copy** of your tax information. Please refer to page 7 for additional information.

Step 4: Declaration by you and your spouse/common-law partner

You and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable) should read this section very carefully and sign in the designated area for your application to be considered complete. Your and your spouse's/ common-law partner's signature at the bottom of this section of the Application Form means that you understand what it means to participate in the Pilot.

Questions? Contact Us

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this application and what will happen in the Pilot, please contact us to discuss in more detail.

We can be reached at 1-844-806-6270 and applybi@ontario.ca

This is Exhibit "25" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

February 8, 2018

No email on file

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500057530

[redacted]
Lindsay, ON
[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

You have been selected to receive **Basic Income payments** as part of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP).

What does this mean for you?

You will receive Basic Income payments. This may affect some of your existing benefits and services – those that are based on your income.

You will have a key role in helping us understand basic income's impact on people's lives. You will contribute and be a part of one of the largest, most significant studies of its kind in the world.

During the Pilot, we will ask you to fill out surveys about your health, employment, education and well-being. Each time you complete a survey, you'll be compensated for your time.

How will you contact me to fill out the surveys?

Right before each survey is due, a member of the OBIP Evaluation Team at St. Michael's Hospital (Toronto) will contact you. You will receive compensation for completing each survey. If you want to change your contact information, please call the OBIP Evaluation Team right away at **1-800-410-4614** or email at obip@smh.ca.

About your Basic Income payment

The effective date of your Basic Income payment is February 1st, 2018. Your monthly Basic Income payment is **$1915.75**.

You will receive your monthly Basic Income payment by **Direct Bank Deposit**.

If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments you must contact us right away at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

Basic Income payment schedule, 2017-18

Ontario

Your first Basic Income payment will be issued on February 23th, 2018, and future payments will be issued on or around the 25th of each month. See below for a table showing the expected payment date for each month of the 2017-18 benefit year.

The table below shows the dates that monthly Basic Income payments will be issued for the 2017-18 benefit year (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018).

Payment Month and Year	Payment Day
January 2018	25
February 2018	23
March 2018	23
April 2018	25
May 2018	25
June 2018	25

Calculation of your Basic Income payment

Basic Income payments are calculated for the year using information from your tax return. We will send you information about your 2018-19 Basic Income payments next spring after you have filed your 2017 taxes.

Based on the information provided in your application, the calculation of your Basic Income payment is:

Maximum Annual Basic Income	**$22989**
Less 50% of income from employment	**- $0**
Less 100% of other income	**- $0**
Annual Basic Income	**$22989**
Monthly Basic Income	**$1915.75**

If you have questions about your Basic Income payment amount, contact at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

MAY 2 1 2019

Social Assistance (if this applies to you)

March 14, 2018

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Reference Number:

500057530

[redacted]
Lindsay, ON
[redacted]

Important Reminder Notice

Thank you for participating in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Your contribution is very important to our study.

This reminder notice is to let you know:

1. That to continue to participate in the Pilot you must complete and file your taxes for each year that you are participating in the study.

2. That you should contact us if circumstances in your life have changed. Significant changes could include: relationship status, income, address, bank account number or disability status.

Why this is important to you

The amount you get in Basic Income payments may change each year based on your taxes. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requires that you file your taxes **by the end of April**.

You or both you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable), need to file last year's Personal Tax Returns with the CRA as soon as possible. We are always available to help you.

How to get help

Free and volunteer tax preparation clinics are offered between February and April each year. For a complete list of Tax Preparation Clinics in Ontario visit:

http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdls/vintr/clncs/on-eng.html

Ontario

Here are some examples of free tax preparation clinics in the Pilot communities:

Hamilton

Parkview Church
1120 West 5th Street,
Hamilton, ON L9C 2X2

Dates: February 24, March 10, March 24, April 7, April 21
Hours: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
www.hamiltontaxhelp.ca

Thunder Bay

Lakehead Social Planning Council
125 Syndicate Avenue South, Unit 38, Victoriaville Centre,
Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 6H8

Dates: End of February to Mid-May
Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
www.lspc.ca/income-tax-clinic/

Lindsay

Adult Protective Services
322 Kent Street West,
Lindsay, ON, K9V 4S7

Dates: April 11, April 18
Hours: 1-3 p.m.
Email **applybi@ontario.ca** to book an appointment

You can also file your taxes online using **free tax preparation software**, for example:

Turbotax

www.turbotax.intuit.ca
Basic free tax filing available with the option to purchase premium services

UFileFREE

www.ufile.ca
Free if you:

- Have family income less than $20,000
- Are a post-secondary student
- Have never filed taxes before

For more information about filing online, search online for **NETFILE** (Canada Revenue Agency) or use this direct link:

https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/e-services/e-services-individuals/netfile-overview.html

We're always ready to help. Contact us at **1-844-806-6270** or **applybi@ontario.ca**.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

Notice with Respect to the Collection of Personal Information

(Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)
(Personal Health Information Protection Act)
(Ministry of Revenue Act)

This section is to make sure you know who you can contact if you have any questions regarding this consent form.

The collection of this information is necessary for the proper administration of the Basic Income Pilot, and to study its impact. Any questions regarding the collection, use and disclosure of personal information should be directed to Basic Income Pilot Administrators.

Mail:

The Basic Income Pilot Branch
77 Wellesley St. W.,
Box 175
Toronto, ON
M7A 1N3

Phone: 1-844-806-6270

Email: applybi@ontario.ca

Independent Review Board

All of the application materials you received have been reviewed by an Independent Review Board (IRB). An IRB is a group of scientific and non-scientific individuals who perform the initial and ongoing ethical review of the research study with the Research Participant's rights and welfare in mind. This study has been reviewed by Veritas Independent Review Board (IRB).

If you require any explanations or have any questions about the scientific and scholarly aspects of the Basic Income Pilot research, please email applybi@ontario.ca or call 1-844-806-6270 and direct research-related inquiries to the Primary Contact, Debbie Burke-Benn.

Primary Contact:

Debbie Burke-Benn, Director
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Ministry of Community and Social Services
Telephone: 1-844-806-6270

If you have any study-related comments, complaints or concerns contact Debbie Burke-Benn, the Primary Contact for the Basic Income Pilot. Please call the IRB if you need to speak to a person independent from the project and the research staff.

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, call the Manager of Veritas IRB 24 hours per day and 7 days per week at 514-337-0442 or toll-free at 1-866-384-4221.

Ontario

Ontario Basic Income Pilot
33 King St W
Oshawa ON L1H 8H6

BIN - rL159

000025

[redacted]
LINDSAY ON [redacted]

Issue Date: 26-Sep-2018

Letter No: L2057831616
Reference No: 500057530

Dear [redacted]:

Thank you for your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

On **July 31, 2018**, the government announced that they will begin to wind-down the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. This is your notification that the pilot will be ending in **March 2019**.

What does this mean for you?

As a participant in the payment group, you will remain in the pilot and continue to receive payments until **March 25, 2019**. Your payments will be maintained at the amount of your July 2018 payment. Should you have a significant change in your circumstances, please contact us at **applyBI@ontario.ca** or 1 844 217-4516

You will not be asked to complete any additional surveys.

If you have been eligible to receive dental and/or drug benefits, you will continue to receive these benefits for the duration of the pilot.

Information about Social Assistance

A streamlined application process will be available to former ODSP and OW clients who wish to reapply to social assistance. In particular, former ODSP clients will not need to have their disability re-adjudicated when they reapply. You will be contacted shortly about this process or please call us at 1 844 217-4516 if you have any questions in the meantime.

If you are not a former ODSP or OW client but think you may be eligible please contact a local office at this link:
http://www.officelocator.mcss.gov.on.ca/

You may also apply on-line through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services at:
https://mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/apply_online.aspx

If you were determined to be a person with a disability under the ODSP Act during your pilot enrollment, your disability will not have to be re-adjudicated when you apply.

Ontario

Letter No: L2057831616
Reference No: 500057530

Information about your benefits

Benefit Change	What You Need to Know/Do
I am on OSAP. How do I get my living expenses paid by OSAP once BI stops?	You will need to take this notice letter to your Financial Aid Office which will be able to reassess your new income level and adjust your OSAP accordingly.
What will happen to my Housing Benefits/ Rent Geared to Income?	You should contact your municipal service manager as soon as you get this notice letter so they are aware that you have received your notice. Your housing provider or Service Manager will assist you and recalculate your rent and/or subsidies based on your new income after you leave BI.
What happens to my Child Care Fee Subsidy?	You will need to take this notice letter to your municipality. Your municipality will assist you to determine your eligibility for fee subsidies and the amount of parental contribution.
Will my Canada Child Tax Benefit, Ontario Child Benefit, or Ontario Trillium Benefit change because of higher income I received this year through Ontario Basic Income Pilot?	Until July 2019, your payments from these benefits will not be affected by your 2018 Basic Income payments. However, when you submit your tax forms next year, you may get a different amount from these benefits starting in July 2019. As mentioned in the consent section of the Basic Income Application Form, these benefits may be impacted by the income you received from the Pilot.

You can choose to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason at any time.

If you have any questions, please email us at **applyBI@ontario.ca**, or call us at 1 844 217-4516.

Thank you for your participation in the Pilot.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

If you are currently on Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP):

If this applies to you:	This is what will happen:	Here's what you have to do:
You are on Ontario Works or ODSP	**You need to withdraw**	Please contact your caseworker to confirm you wish to withdraw so you can receive Basic Income payments. If you do not wish to receive Basic Income payments, you must contact us immediately at 1-844-806-6270
You are receiving Extended Health Benefits (EHB), Extended Employment Health Benefits (EEHB) or the Transitional Health Benefit (THB)	**You need to withdraw**	
You have set up pay directs (e.g. to a landlord) through Ontario Works or ODSP	**Pay directs will be canceled**	You need to make other arrangements for these payments
You have drug benefits for you and your spouse/ common-law partner and children under 18 years (if applicable)	**You will all continue to receive drug benefits**	You will receive a drug card in the mail that you can bring to your pharmacy
(ODSP only) You have dental benefits for you and your spouse/ common-law partner	**You will all continue to receive dental benefits**	You will also receive a letter in the mail that you can bring to your dentist
You have dental benefits for dependent children under 18 years (if applicable)	**Your children will continue to receive dental benefits**	You don't have to do anything

What to do if your circumstances change

Contact us if circumstances in your life change and you think these changes may affect your Basic Income payment. Significant changes could include changes to your relationship status, change in income, or change in disability status.

To report a change in your circumstances or for more information on how to report changes, contact us at 1-844-806-6270 or applybi@ontario.ca.

If you wish to opt out of the Pilot for any reason, please contact us.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Questions about the Pilot, your payments, or your benefits?	Questions about surveys?
Contact the Ontario Government	**Contact the OBIP Evaluation Team**
1-844-806-6270 applybi@ontario.ca	**1-800-410-4614 obip@smh.ca**

Thank you!

By participating in the Pilot, you will help us understand your experiences as a participant, and your help will support important research into the impact of a basic income in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Administrator

REF # 5000571530 –

Information for Ontario Basic Income Pilot Applicants

Your participation is important to understanding how a basic income could help more people living on low incomes.

The Ontario Basic Income Pilot is a research study.

It is very important that you and your spouse/common law partner, if applicable, understand:

- how the Pilot works
- how Basic Income can change your circumstances, including if you receive Ontario Works (Ontario Works) or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- how we will use the information you provide.

You will be sharing, or you have already shared, your tax information, your address, and your date of birth. This will allow us to assess whether you can participate.

In the survey, you will answer questions about your employment, your health and well-being, and your housing situation, because these are some of the things we are studying.

After you've enrolled, all you need to do during the pilot is file your income tax returns, continue to meet the Ontario Basic Income Pilot eligibility criteria, and fill in surveys.

There are no other conditions or reporting necessary to receive payments. For every survey you complete, you will receive compensation for your time.

Your participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot is completely voluntary.

You can choose to leave the Ontario Basic Income Pilot for any reason at any time. You should know, though, that once you leave, you will not able to come back into the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

<u>If you are currently receiving Ontario Works or ODSP</u>

You have to leave Ontario Works or ODSP to receive payments from the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

You cannot get Ontario Works/ODSP and Basic Income payments at the same time. This may lead to an overpayment with Ontario Works/ODSP, which means you have to pay back what you received, and you will no longer receive Basic Income payments.

You should wait until you find out whether you have been selected to receive payments, but if you are you must call your caseworker and inform them that you are going to receive Basic Income payments. They will be able to help you withdraw from Ontario Works/ODSP at that point.

If you are part of the study, but do not receive Basic Income payments, you don't need to leave Ontario Works or ODSP.

Tax Return done May 9/18

If you are applying for Ontario Works or ODSP right now, or appealing an earlier decision, you don't have to stop that process, but once your application or appeal is completed, you will have to choose which program you wish to receive payments from.

If you have a disability and receive supports or services from ODSP, you can receive a disability supplement on top of your Basic Income payment of up to $500 per month.

If you choose to leave the Pilot and you want to get back on Ontario Works or ODSP at any time you can use the reapplication process for Ontario Works or rapid reinstatement process for ODSP.

This means there will be no gap between your final Basic Income payment and your first Ontario Works or ODSP payment.

And, if you are receiving ODSP, you will not have to be assessed for your disability again.

Regarding benefits, you will still have Ontario Drug Benefit coverage while on the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

We will mail you a card that you can take to the pharmacy when you go to fill a prescription. The card will be valid for three months. You will get a new card before the old one expires.

If you have children, they will still have dental coverage through Healthy Smiles Ontario.

If you are receiving ODSP, you and your spouse/common-law partner will still have dental coverage.

We will be mailing you a letter that you can take with you when you go to the dentist. The letter will be valid for one month. You will receive a new letter before the end of the month

If you are currently receiving Ontario Works, you will not receive dental benefits from the Pilot but you and your spouse may be eligible for municipal dental benefits. You should speak with your caseworker about this when you withdraw.

But the Ontario Basic Income Pilot is different from Ontario Works/ODSP. What this means is that you will not receive some other benefits that you get through Ontario Works/ODSP.

Examples of Ontario Works and ODSP health benefits that the Ontario Basic Income Pilot will not provide include:

> Transportation for medical purposes; vision care; special diet allowance; hearing aids and mobility devices; the Guide Dog benefit; Extended Health Benefit; Extended Employment Health Benefit; Transitional Health Benefit.

Examples of Ontario Works and ODSP employment benefits that the Ontario Basic Income Pilot will not provide include:

> Employment and Training Start Up benefit; Work-Related Benefit, the Employment Assistance Activities Expenses; Full-Time Employment Benefit.

More Information for All Applicants

You will still be able to receive your Canada Child Benefit (CCB) and Ontario Child Benefit (OCB), but the amount you receive might change as your income may be higher.

Some other benefits and supports may change, including subsidized housing (Rent-Geared to Income), Child Care Fee Subsidies, or other programs. This is because your income could go up. It could also affect your Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP), if you are a student. As well, it may affect your eligibility for legal aid or for Healthy Smiles Ontario (unless you were receiving Ontario Works or ODSP).

If you have a disability and receive or start receiving supports or services from ODSP, Developmental Services Ontario or Canada Pension Plan – Disability, you can receive a disability supplement on top of your Basic Income payment of up to $500 per month.

ONTARIO BASIC INCOME PILOT

WE ARE MAKING IT EASIER TO GET DRUG COVERAGE

What's new?

Starting May 1, 2018, as a Basic Income participant who was previously on Ontario Works (OW) or Ontario Disability Program Support (ODSP), **you can now use your Ontario health card to access prescription drug coverage**. You will no longer be receiving a paper drug eligibility card. There are no changes to the benefits you are currently receiving.

You can still use your April 2018 paper drug card at your pharmacy as proof of eligibility for May.

Don't have an Ontario health card?

To get a health card, you need to apply in person at a ServiceOntario centre. You can drop in, or book an appointment.

Find out how to get an Ontario health card by visiting **ontario.ca/healthcard**, your nearest ServiceOntario office or calling the ServiceOntario INFOline:

Toll-free: 1-888-789-4199

TTY Toll-free: 1-800-387-5559

Need to replace or renew your Ontario health card?

Find out how at **ontario.ca/health-card-renewal**

If you have questions, the Basic Income Central Pilot Team is ready to help.

Call us at 1-844-806-6270
or email us at basicincome@ontario.ca.



Ontario

PROJET PILOTE PORTANT SUR LE REVENU DE BASE EN ONTARIO

IL EST MAINTENANT PLUS FACILE D'OBTENIR L'ASSURANCE-MÉDICAMENTS

Qu'est-ce qui est nouveau?

À compter du 1er mai 2018, en qualité de participant au Projet pilote qui bénéficiait auparavant du programme Ontario au travail (OT) ou du Programme ontarien de soutien aux personnes handicapées (POSPH), **vous pourrez utiliser votre carte Santé de l'Ontario pour obtenir l'assurance-médicaments d'ordonnance.** Vous ne recevrez plus de carte d'admissibilité au programme de médicaments sur papier. Vos prestations actuelles ne changeront pas.

Vous pouvez encore utiliser votre carte d'admissibilité au programme de médicaments sur papier jusqu'en avril 2018 à la pharmacie comme preuve d'admissibilité pour le mois de mai.

Vous n'avez pas de carte Santé de l'Ontario?

Pour obtenir une carte Santé, vous devez en faire la demande en personne à un centre de ServiceOntario. Vous pouvez prendre rendez-vous ou non.

Renseignez-vous sur la façon d'obtenir une carte Santé de l'Ontario à **ontario.ca/cartesante**, en visitant un bureau local de ServiceOntario ou en appelant la ligne INFO de ServiceOntario :

Sans frais : 1 888 789 4199

ATS sans frais : 1 800 387-5559

Vous devez remplacer ou renouveler votre carte Santé de l'Ontario?

Renseignez-vous à **ontario.ca/health-card-renewal**
si vous avez des questions, l'équipe du Projet pilote portant sur le revenu de base est à votre entière disposition.

Tél. 1 844 806-6270
Courriel : basicincome@ontario.ca



Ontario

This is Exhibit "26" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Skip to main content

000811

Ontario

This page was published under a previous government and is available for archival and research purposes.

Archived - Finding a Better Way: A Basic Income Pilot Project for Ontario

A discussion paper by Hugh D Segal.

Effective March 2019 we are winding down the basic income pilot project. Learn more (https://news.ontario.ca/mcys/en/2018/08/ontarios-government-for-the-people-announces-compassionate-wind-down-of-basic-income-research-projec.html).

Letter of transmittal and summary of recommendations

August 31, 2016

The Hononourable Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario

The Hon. Dr. Helena Jaczek
Minister of Community and Social Services

The Hon. Chris Ballard
Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy

Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Wynne, Minister Jaczek and Minister Ballard,

I am pleased to present "Finding a Better Way" - a discussion paper on a Basic Income Pilot. In it, I do my very best to lay out what the best steps forward might be for the organization, planning, administration, and design of a Basic Income Pilot for Ontario.

The report goes into substantial detail on the rationale behind the recommendation summary in appendix A. This report reflects my personal views and not those of Massey College, to whom I am grateful for providing the time required to prepare and complete this report.

Please accept my appreciation for this opportunity to provide advice on this important commitment, announced in the Ontario Budget released in March of 2016.

There were many interested groups with a direct concern about our experience with poverty, and with important research credentials, who were helpful in many ways in the preparation of this discussion paper. Your own staff, and that of your ministries, was very much among those who responded professionally and quickly to any requests for information I made. I am glad to report that officials from various federal departments and Statistics Canada were also most helpful and forthcoming.

I wish you and your government a robust consultation process on this discussion paper. That process will, no doubt, be of great value as you and your colleagues decide how best to go forward with the courageous and impressive commitment for a pilot project announced in the last Budget.

I remain, with every good wish,

Sincerely,



The Hon. Hugh Segal, CM
Master, Massey College

Summary of key recommendations

Overall considerations

- A pilot project must begin with an understanding of the costs of poverty, not only in present welfare and disability payments, but also in terms of added pressures on our health system, and the Ontario economy as a whole, through its impacts on economic productivity and existing government revenues.
- A pilot must take into consideration how the Guaranteed Annual Income Supplement in Ontario in the mid-1970s, aimed at residents over the age of 65, radically reduced poverty for this group. This led the way to the federal Guaranteed Income Supplement, for all Canadian residents over the age of 65.

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- The main purpose of a Basic Income Pilot must be to test replacing the broad policing, control, and monitoring now present in Ontario Works and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), with a modestly more generous Basic Income, disbursed automatically to those living beneath a certain income threshold. Will a Basic Income reduce poverty more effectively, encourage work, reduce stigmatization, and produce better health outcomes and better life chances for recipients?
- Ontario should not duplicate similar pilots taking place over the same time period in other democracies, such as Finland or the Netherlands. What we test should be different, to maximize the diversity of various different data sets generated by such endeavours.
- The pilot should be structured to test the impacts of a Basic Income on the net fiscal position of the province, on labour market/work behaviours, on health and educational outcomes for recipients, on food security, on mobility and housing, and on net economic and community outcomes in targeted areas of the pilot.
- A pilot should take into consideration important new Ontario initiatives to reduce poverty, such as the Ontario Child Benefit (OCB), increases in the minimum wage, and constructive changes to student financial aid assistance, to name only a few.
- Age eligibility for the pilot should 18 to 65 years of age. [1]
- While not specifically within the remit of an Ontario pilot, it is nevertheless recommended that the federal government consider partnering with any willing province on any Basic Income pilots now being considered or contemplated. This recommendation is motivated by the central role that federal agencies, such as Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), Statistics Canada, Employment and Social Development Canada and others, might well be invited to play in any provincial pilots. As was recently the case with discussions on the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan (ORPP) and the Canada Pension Plan (CPP), constructive provincial-federal engagement could well facilitate effective national action on poverty abatement.

Organization of a basic income pilot

- The legitimacy of the pilot would be enhanced if it were managed by an arm's length consortium of not-for-profit research organizations. Various organizations in Canada and Ontario, university-based and free-standing, have the experience, expertise, and professional credentials to accomplish this task effectively.
- The Ministers should appoint two key groups to advise and oversee the pilot project.
  - The first group should be a Basic Income Pilot Advisory Council, whose main function should be to advise on and oversee the operations of the pilot. The Council should meet quarterly, and comprise a maximum of 35 individuals whose membership, once established, should be non-transferable. Members should include people with lived experience of poverty, First Nations peoples, community agencies who serve those in poverty, public sector actors, trade unions, business organizations, municipalities, health practitioners and health-focused organizations, agricultural associations, the Ministry of Finance (MOF), and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC).
  - The second group should be a Research Operations Group, which should be given the responsibility to run the pilot. This Research Operations Group should be headed by a competent researcher with standing and experience. Representatives of not-for-profit research organizations, such as the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES), the Social Research and Demonstration Corporation of Canada (SRDC), universities and academic departments, and Statistics Canada should be invited to join this group.
- These two groups should each delegate two representatives to sit on a small joint steering committee. A Project Leader should also sit on the steering committee. The Project Leader should be selected based on recommendations received from the two groups, and from the Secretary of Cabinet.
- The government should also ensure that an Ethics Advisor and a Financial Officer be identified as part of the pilot's governance team. They would respectively ensure the protection of participants' privacy and rights, and ensure due financial diligence and probity in the pilot's operations.
- The pilot's key governing principles should include:
  - All participation is voluntary.
  - No individual will be made worse off during or after the pilot, as a result of participation in the pilot.
  - All personal data collected or accessed will be kept private by the research team.
  - Aggregate data in the form of preliminary results, once it starts to flow, must be accessible to Ontarians in a transparent fashion.

Key evidence the pilot should generate

- The investigation of the Basic Income impacts should consider the following types of outcomes:
  - Health outcomes for participants in the pilot compared to those living in poverty and not in the pilot. Measurable outcomes should include: the number of primary care visits (for psycho-social, mental and physical health), the number of acute care/emergency departments visits, prescription drug use, utility-based measures of health, etc.
  - Life and career choices made over the duration of the pilot by participants, such as training, family formation, fertility decisions, living arrangements, parenting time, etc.
  - Education outcomes for participants and their children. Measurable outcomes should include high school completion, nature and number of courses taken by adults, etc.
  - Work behaviour, job search and employment status. Measurable outcomes should include: the number of hours of paid work, the number of jobs held, the income earned on the labour market, the intensity and length of job search activities, etc. Participation in the underground economy should also be investigated.
  - Community level impacts where the pilot operates in local areas, on a focused basis.
  - Direct administrative costs or savings of replacing, for pilot recipients, ODSP and Ontario Works with a Basic Income.
  - Changes in food security status for pilot participants.
  - Perceptions of citizenship and inclusion for participants.
  - Impact on mobility and housing arrangements.
  - Impact for Basic Income participants in terms of their relationship to Employment Insurance, provincial and federal child benefits, and other existing social programs.

What the pilot should and should not test

- The pilot should test:
  - A Basic Income replacing Ontario Works and ODSP, paid to individuals.
  - A negative income tax (NIT), or refundable tax credit, that tops up all recipients to 75 percent of the Low-Income Measure, (LIM) regardless of their status in the labour market. For a single individual on Ontario Works, for example, this would correspond to having income support move from roughly 45 percent to 75 percent of the LIM, and to receive a minimum of approximately $1320 per month, non-taxable, with an opportunity to keep partial additional income earned from participation in the labour market.
  - Individuals with disabilities receiving an additional monthly sum of at least $500.
  - A Basic Income that would not be associated with rules limiting earned income and work participation, such as those associated with Ontario Works and ODSP.
  - In a Randomized Control Trial (RCT) held in a major urban neighbourhood/community, different treatment arms should test for various levels of Basic Income (starting at 75 percent of the LIM) and different tax rates on income earned on top of the Basic Income. Testing different parameters should help identify the best combinations to reduce poverty, while not discouraging people from improving their incomes through labour force participation.
  - The pilot should also include saturation sites in which the community-level impacts of a Basic Income could be investigated. Ideally, one saturation site would be located in southern Ontario, one in northern Ontario, and one would be chosen and planned in close collaboration with First Nations communities.

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- The pilot should not test:
  - A "Big Bang" approach, in which all social supports, including those not specifically related to poverty, would be replaced with a single monthly cheque.
  - A universal demogrant, under which all adult Ontarians, living in poverty or otherwise, would receive a fixed amount, taxed according to a general income tax schedule.

Implementation of the pilot

- The pilot should comprise three phases:
  1. Planning and selecting the pilot sites, seeking approval from privacy commissioners and data custodians to access and link the key existing data sources for the pilot evaluation, recruiting researchers and analysts, structuring the sample, recruiting participants, and obtaining their consent to access administrative data and records.
  2. Proceeding with the distribution of Basic Income payments (for a period of, minimally, three years), gathering quantitative and qualitative data through access to administrative records, questionnaires and interviews, making aggregate data/preliminary results available broadly and transparently.
  3. Evaluating the pilot's results through data analysis, projecting long-term outcomes and consequences through micro-simulation and other analytical tools, evaluating the costs and benefits of replacing the current system of social assistance with a Basic Income.

Next steps

- Upon the publication of this discussion paper, the province should seek suggestions and recommendations from the public.
- Ideally, the province should move forward to commence Phase 1 of the pilot before the end of March 2017.
- The three phases of the pilot should be given an operational duration, allowing for BI payments to flow for three years, at a minimum.
- In discussions with the federal government on poverty abatement initiatives, the idea of a Canadian Social Data Research Initiative (SDRI) should be pursued. Canada and all of the provinces would benefit immensely from a broad unit under federal-provincial sponsorship (as in the case of Canada Health Infoway and the Canadian Institutes for Health Research) that ensured the availability of current integrated social data sets. These data sets are necessary to make informed public, social, and economic policy decisions. They would be used by governments of any affiliation, at the municipal, provincial and federal levels, and by the private and not-for- profit sectors.

Introduction

In the 2016 Ontario Budget, the Minister of Finance announced the creation of a Basic Income Pilot Project, to test a new approach to reducing poverty in a sustainable way. The purpose of the pilot is to "test a growing view at home and abroad that a basic income could build on the success of minimum wage policies and increases in child benefits by providing more consistent and predictable support in the context of today's dynamic labour market." [2]

The idea of ensuring that individuals reach a level of Basic Income (minimum income, guaranteed income, etc.) as a means to poverty abatement has been presented for decades, in many jurisdictions. However, research on the implementation and implications of such policies is still scarce. Available data comes mostly from experiments conducted before the substantial transformations of labour markets in economies such as Ontario's.

In this context, a pilot project testing how a Basic Income would improve Ontarians' lives and well-being will provide the government with the best evidence on crucial questions, such as:

- Can Basic Income policies provide a more efficient, less intrusive, and less stigmatizing way of delivering income support for those now living in poverty?
- Can those policies also encourage work, relieve financial and time poverty, and reduce economic marginalization?
- Can a Basic Income reduce cost pressures in other areas of government spending, such as healthcare?
- Can a basic income strengthen the incentive to work, by responsibly helping those who are working but still living below the poverty line?

The government of Ontario's stated goal of working "with communities, researchers and other stakeholders in 2016 to determine how best to design and implement a Basic Income pilot," [3] is reflected in this discussion paper. This paper is not about restricting options, or limiting debate. Rather, it recommends some constructive options for the design and implementation of a pilot project, in a way that encourages open discussion and debate. The government's commitment to present this paper for extensive comment and debate demonstrates its desire to work collaboratively with the broader community.

My role is to provide the best possible advice to the province of Ontario through the Premier, the Minister of Community and Social Services and the Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy on the purposes, governance, design and implementation of a pilot. There is a distinction between my role as a "Special Advisor" from outside government who offers advice in the best of faith, and the elected officials who must ultimately decide how and when to proceed with a Basic Income pilot. This discussion paper is respectful of that difference and is only advisory in nature. It is up to the Government of Ontario to decide how and when and if to proceed with an actual pilot. Public comment on this paper will play an important role in making an ultimate decision on a Basic Income pilot.

Comments will no doubt reflect the full spectrum of views, covering everything from ideas on methodological issues to choosing the most appropriate sample population for a pilot. I have no doubt that constructive criticisms will also be raised by those whoare invested in the dynamics, rules and procedures of the present welfare system, and oppose the entire concept of a Basic Income.

The advice offered in this paper for public discussion and debate focuses on the critical choices the organization and operation of a pilot must address:

a. What should be tested in a Basic Income pilot, and why?
b. How might the pilot be best organized and structured?
c. How long should the pilot operate to generate evidence of value to inform the future public policy choices governments and legislatures make?
d. What are the reasonable evidence "deliverables" of a well-organized pilot on the Basic Income question?

Why poverty matters; how a BI pilot can help

Over the last quarter century, there is probably no area of public policy, in either urban or rural Canada, where creativity and courage from governments have been less evident than on the issue of poverty faced by working age adults. While some local not-for-profit organizations and coalitions have been quite bold and creative on the poverty abatement file, the patchwork system of uncoordinated solutions remains. This "system" continues to operate outside the realm of comprehensive government action. Although some public money has been made available to remedy the situation, it has generally been meagre and unstable, and has not led to systemic help across communities. Often, the best local organizations can do is alleviate the symptoms of poverty, but they rarely have the means to sustainably reduce poverty itself. All told, working age adults living in poverty have benefitted very little from any innovation in poverty reduction support. It is hard to conclude that the income support that is now available for those living in poverty is adequate in any meaningful way, despite recent improvements introduced by the province.

There was significant progress on addressing poverty among Canadians aged 65 and older in the 1970s. In Ontario, the minority Davis government implemented improvements to pensions, including the creation of the Guaranteed Annual Income Supplement for Ontarians over 65. This policy innovation subsequently spread in various measures to the rest of the country. It became the federal GIS (Guaranteed Income Supplement), which still operates as a top-up to the Old Age Security (OAS) payment system. Improvements were achieved on refinancing the Canada Pension Plan under federal and provincial Finance Ministers Martin and Eves, along with other steps forward in the 1990s.

Progress has also been made on the child poverty file. Recent changes to federal child benefits by the Trudeau government in Ottawa enriched a child tax credit negotiated by Ministers Ecker of Ontario and Martin of Canada, based on a proposal made to the federal government by the Caledon Institute during the Chretien and Harris administrations. The resulting version of the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) is expected to have a significant impact on lower and middle-income Canadian families with children.

More recently, Ontario has taken further steps to reduce poverty, including improving the Ontario Student Aid Program (OSAP) to make tuition free for low-income students, increasing the minimum wage, and improving the Ontario Child Benefit (OCB). However, for working age adults, very little beyond the existing, overly bureaucratic welfare programs have been put in place in the last decades. Those who are not in school full-time, who have fallen in and out of income inadequacy or, in some cases, who are part of an intergenerational cycle of economic and social marginalization are not well-served. [4] While the rates, conditions, and rules associated with current welfare programs are constantly changing, the core premise of these "judgment-based" eligibility programs has not. Recipients must prove their poverty to qualify, and must continue to do so to maintain eligibility. This vetting process discourages individuals, penalizes work and savings, imposes a degrading burden on individuals receiving social assistance as well as on caseworkers at the front lines, and is seriously demeaning.

Our present social assistance system imposes limits on economic progress, often keeping welfare recipients from entering the economic mainstream. Well-meaning and hard-working public servants at the provincial, regional or municipal level operate in a system that focuses as much (if not more) on monitoring and policing than on advising and helping. Unfortunately, their caseloads afford precious little choice. Despite all the efforts and dedicated work of those administering and delivering current welfare programs, 15.9 percent of Ontario adults aged 18 to 64 were living in poverty (according to the LIM) in 2014. This percentage has remained relatively constant over recent years. [5]

The complexity of the system makes it difficult to navigate for a vast portion of the population. While well-intentioned, neither Ontario Works nor ODSP allow, in and of themselves, individuals to be lifted out of poverty, as defined by either the Low-Income Cut Off (LICO), the Market Basket Measure (MBM) or the LIM. [6] The limits on earnings and assets that are imposed on benefit recipients often hinder their capacity to build resilience and emerge from continuous financial and personal crisis.

The resulting damages caused to human beings' life chances, to communities and to social and economic productivity and progress are clear, and cannot be ignored. Poverty is the best predictor of early illness, early hospitalizations, longer hospital stays and earlier death. [7] It is a reliable predictor of substance abuse, food insecurity, poor education outcomes, and for some, trouble with the law. So, quite aside from the pain, frustration and immense pressures that poverty inflicts on individuals and families, it also imposes serious economic strain and stress on communities, their schools, hospitals, policing and judicial system, and weakens their local economy overall. Reducing poverty and its negative effects more efficiently would be a serious plus for the well-being of all individuals within a community, regardless of their own level of income and financial stability. Reducing poverty is a solid investment in stronger families, communities, and the economy overall, if done with a measure of both generosity and efficiency. Moreover, offering a basic and automatic income floor to those who fall into poverty, for however long, would also undercut the incentives they face to engage in the underground economy, especially if legitimate work was not discouraged by the way in which a Basic Income operated.

The "Cost of Poverty" [8] report, issued eight years ago by the Ontario Association of Food Banks (OAFB), provides us with some serious and powerful findings:

- Poverty hits Ontarians with disabilities, new immigrants, single parents and First Nations the hardest.
- There is a clear relationship between poverty and ill health, lower productivity, and low education results.
- Federal and provincial governments, as of 2008, were losing between $10 and $13 billion dollars annually because of the social costs of poverty.
- Each household in the province was on average losing between $2,299 to $2,895 annually because of the overall economic cost of poverty in 2008.
- In total, poverty caused a reduction of Ontario's economic output and productivity by 5.5 per cent to 6.6 per cent in 2008, with a total cost corresponding to an amount between $32.2 and $38.3 billion dollars per year.

In short, poverty hurts all of us, and poverty costs all of society vast amounts of money.

Numerous rigorous analyses highlight how our public and fiscal accounts fail to accurately reflect the true economic costs associated with inaction on the poverty front. In reality, the costs of inertia on this file are escalating. Sustained or increasing inequality in any society is always unhelpful and corrosive. Skeptics often criticize the upfront financial costs of investing in improvements to make the income support system more generous and reduce the hurdles to receiving help. An effective evaluation of the impacts of such changes would also require valuing how they would reduce the financial burden that current poverty levels impose on all Ontarians. Almost a decade after the publication of the OAFB report, recent evidence suggests that testing a Basic Income program may provide important answers to the question, "Why does poverty matter?"

- Increasing the financial support for our seniors with a top-up since the mid-1970s has expanded the choices they can make about their own lives, and has fostered a reduction in inadequate housing. It has also helped increase longevity, while postponing serious debilitating illness. This has improved the lives of the recipients, along with those of their families and communities. [9]
- Research also suggests that income maintenance programs such as OAS and GIS are associated with a substantial reduction in the prevalence and depth of poverty among seniors [10]. They are also associated with a decrease in food insecurity (inadequate, insufficient or uncertain access to food), increasing the likelihood that Ontarians and Canadian seniors are in a more solid "food secure" category. [11] Risks of food insecurity have been shown to increase as household income decreases, independently of other factors (including employment) [12]. Food insecurity itself has been associated with higher health care costs, even when controlling for other risk factors and characteristics. [13]
- Research looking into the impact of unconditional cash transfers for Canadian families also suggests that improving incomes have positive impacts on outcomes for children. In Manitoba, a modest financial top-up (a maximum of $81 per month) to low-income expectant mothers (the Manitoba Prenatal Benefit) was recently shown to have a substantial impact on reducing the prevalence of low birth weight babies. The expectant mothers largely spent the money on healthier food and nutrition, among other necessities, despite not having been required to use the money in such a way. [14] An investigation of the way low-income families spend the money they receive through the Canadian Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) and the National Child Benefit (NCB) comes to a similar conclusion: Unconditional cash transfers are generally spent by families in a way that is most likely to improve their children's health and education outcomes. [15]

These are only a few illustrations of the existing empirical evidence that demonstrate there is little justification for the discriminatory allegation that low-income individuals will not know how to spend dependable (but modest) income wisely. Surely in a democracy, where rights and opportunities are deemed and proclaimed to be equal for all -- or at least that is what our laws and policies claim to promote -- it is the worst and most callous of discriminatory and diminished expectations to make dismissive assumptions about the choices that could be made by low-income people when afforded a Basic Income.

The prospects of a basic income

It is important that we keep some measure of perspective as we examine the prospects of a Basic Income going forward.

- There is a profound difference between a welfare system characterized by rigid eligibility conditions (and their enforcement and monitoring) versus a system of automatic transfers for those beneath an income threshold. The first speaks to the notion of efficiency in the administration of social assistance, rather than to the enhancement and protection of human dignity. The second is associated with the capacity of individuals to make their own choices about their own lives.
- People living in monetary poverty often also experience time poverty. They are in a daily race to meet the most basic and modest of survival needs, with far less resources than are required. This harms families, children, and relationships. Properly executed, a Basic Income could make a serious difference on all these fronts.

- Income tax deductions (which are tax dollar expenditures) and the direct expenditures of governments on worthwhile investments tend to encourage those who are already doing reasonably well economically. Government expenditures on things like Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) deductions and Tax Free Savings Accounts (TFSAs) (see a partial list here below [16]) would dwarf any added costs associated with a reasonable Basic Income.
- Ontario now spends approximately $9 billion specifically on Ontario Works and ODSP each year, not counting the extra costs in our health care, education and legal systems produced by the effects of poverty. The results of the pilot should provide some information on the relative performance of a Basic Income that would replace Ontario Works and ODSP. Such information will empower decision makers to appreciate the legitimate efficiency gains achieved by a single automatic payment system. They can also evaluate the relative beneficial impacts of a Basic Income on poverty abatement, and the real costs-savings it induces through improvements in health (physical and mental), education, labour force participation and community and citizenship outcomes. The pilot should also tell us if a Basic Income can build on other government initiatives, such as increases in the minimum wage, changes to OSAP and the OCB to substantially reduce the depth and incidence of poverty in Ontario.

A move away from Path Dependency

As a modern, democratic, inclusive, and economically productive society, finding a better way to substantially reduce poverty should be a clear and ongoing priority for Ontario. Having tried and tested different but minimal welfare changes over the past years and decades, which often corresponded to adjustments on the margins of existing programs, it is surely high time to test the merits of a new way to improve the lives of those most in need.

"Path Dependency" is a term used in social and economic policy to reflect the tendency of most governments to pursue policy changes along the same path, over long periods of time. While the velocity and tilt to the right or the left may vary marginally from time to time, from government to government, or from minister to minister, the trajectory of policy change is mostly back and forth in the same furrow. Although this process makes the furrow deeper and deeper and moves the bottom of the furrow further away from the sun, it is often politically easier than summoning up the energy to pull out of the furrow and try a new path. A Basic Income pilot would be a test of a "new path" on poverty reduction, one that is based on humanity, and on the respect for the privacy and dignity of all Ontarians, whether poor or not.

If a basic income can be designed in such a way that it provides incentives to work by reducing the worst excesses and claw backs associated with the welfare wall, and confirms as a matter of right and dignity the opportunity to make individual choices regardless of income, why would we not try to test the potential benefits and potential costs in a coherent and focused pilot? The Government of Ontario deserves immense credit for taking this rational and reasonable step forward. We know what the costs of poverty on people's lives are, and how it limits prospects and opportunities. We further know that a broad sense of inequality, which is harmful to social cohesion and a sense of genuine opportunity, is fostered by an individual's sense of economic precariousness, which develops when the main programs of the social safety net are not flexible enough or sufficient to keep them out of poverty. We also have the capacity to address the issue. These facts combined create a persuasive, humane, social, and economic imperative to see how it might best be done. There cannot be, nor should there be, any guarantees about what results a pilot might generate. The objective behind this endeavor should be to generate an evidence-base for policy development, without bias or pre-determined conclusion.

This Ontario initiative takes place at a time when other jurisdictions, in Canada and abroad, are working in different ways toward a Basic Income approach to better reduce poverty. The opportunity to learn from and engage with these other initiatives should not be overlooked, nor should approaches being tested elsewhere be necessarily re-tested here.

However Ontario chooses to proceed, the federal government has a unique opportunity to partner with provinces already contemplating pilot projects (and with those who might only seek to do so in partnership with Ottawa) to complete a series of national tests that could produce actionable data for all levels of government. We could also further explore how a Basic Income approach could interact with, and potentially replace, income support measures administered by the federal government, most importantly non-refundable tax credits to individuals and families.

A properly-designed pilot can test for the differing costs of various approaches to a Basic Income, impacts over time on work, health, secondary and post-secondary education enrollment and attainment, and measurable "better life" chances. It can provide a window on the impact of Basic Income on individuals and on entire communities. It can investigate the connections between Basic Income and other programs and services. It can also help project the net costs, benefits, and measurable returns of replacing the existing Ontario Works and ODSP support programs, compared to a simpler and modestly more generous income-unconditional support mechanism.

Similar and related activities elsewhere

Broad support for basic income pilots

Ontario is definitely not alone in pursuing a better way to reduce poverty. As noted, the federal government introduced an enhanced child benefit in July 2016, with the objective of constructively increasing the income of low and middle-income Canadian families with children. Moreover, the House of Commons Finance Committee recommended in its pre-budget report that the government of Canada move forward with a pilot project on Basic Income. [17]

In its most recent ministerial mandate letter, the government of Quebec instructed the Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity to modernize income support programs and embrace better ways of reducing poverty, including a Basic Income guarantee. The Quebec Liberal Party Youth Wing, in August 2016, summoned the government to implement a Basic Income guarantee in lieu of the province's current welfare system. The government of Nova Scotia has initiated a comprehensive social support review looking for better ways to eliminate the welfare wall and to better support the working poor. The mayors of Calgary and Edmonton have welcomed the idea of a Basic Income guarantee and associated pilot projects, as has Alberta's Minister of Finance. In August 2015, the Government of Saskatchewan Advisory Group on Poverty Reduction also recommended a Basic Income pilot.

In Ontario, a variety of prominent organizations have also called for a Basic Income pilot, including the Poverty sub-Committee of the Ontario College of Family Physicians, the Ontario Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa), the Ontario Public Health Association, the Ontario Mental Health and Addictions Alliance and the Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public health, the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO), to name only a few. Various Ontario city councils have passed resolutions favouring a Basic Income pilot.

Non-governmental institutions in Canada have also engaged. National organizations such as the Community Food Centres Canada, the Canadian Medical Association (CMA), the Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW) and the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) have expressed support for a Basic Income. [18] The Institute for Research on Public Policy (IRPP) recently published a report in support of a Basic Income, which highlighted how a Basic Income would ensure that "no one falls between the cracks". The Chief Economist at the Conference Board of Canada has also recently expressed his support for a Basic Income as an "efficient and intelligent way to fund and deliver social assistance".

Across the border, the U.S., Basic Income Guarantee Network (USBIG Network) argues that "There is a strong practical case for the Basic Income. It underpins security, replaces the complexity of the current system and provides a platform for freedom and creativity." Volunteers, scholars, and advocates for those who live in poverty have been promoting the idea of a Basic Income around the globe for years, often through local chapters in Canada and Ontario of the BIG network.

Interest in Basic Income experiments has led to other pilot projects being developed abroad. In 2015, the Government of Finland promised €20 million to conduct a two-year Basic Income experiment, with the stated goals of reducing work disincentives, optimizing administration efficiency, and offering a better fit between social needs and policy. Details of the pilot, which will be coordinated by the Social Insurance Institution of Finland (Kela) and implemented with the collaboration of researchers from various institutions, will be made public by the government by the end of 2016. In March 2016, a working group recommended that the pilot focus on implementing a Basic Income of €550-600 a month. This would replace most basic benefits, except for most of those now in the form of insurance coverage, and means-tested benefits for housing and child allowances. [19]

Various cities in The Netherlands, such as Utrecht, Tilburg, Wageningen and Groningen, are planning pilot projects for universal unconditional income transfers (demogrants) for 2017. The city of Utrecht, for instance, will be testing different versions of a Basic Income in collaboration with the University of Utrecht, over a period of two years. They are preparing to test four different models of income support, with or without explicit work requirements and incentives to participate in the local economy. [20]

In East Africa, the non-profit organization GiveDirectly has announced the roll-out of a pilot testing the benefits of a Basic Income to households. While the organization is still in the midst of raising funds to finance the pilot, it has announced that the experiment would last at least for a period of 10 years, and would be evaluated with the contribution of leading scholars. [21] Meanwhile, Silicon Valley's Y Combinator will be funding a short-term Basic Income pilot in Oakland as a first step to a longer-run study on how an unconditional Basic Income would affect people's happiness, well-being, use of time, and financial health. [22]

A Basic Income pilot project aimed at reducing poverty and increasing economic development in Namibia was delivered in 2008. Unfortunately, it ran into funding problems and was not fully or carefully evaluated. Anonymous data emanating from the pilot has not been made available to the research community. [23]

However, several other previous pilots have provided credible and promising results. For example, an experiment conducted in 2010 in Madhya Pradesh, India, (in collaboration with UNICEF and the Self Employed Women's Association Bharat) generated some very useful data. The study produced positive evidence on the impact of unconditional cash transfers on food sufficiency and quality, school attendance and performance, productivity and entrepreneurship, health outcomes for children, and empowerment for women and the disabled. [24]

The Mincome experiment conducted between 1975 and 1978 in Dauphin and Winnipeg, Manitoba tested the principle of a Basic Income, in the form of a NIT in the Canadian context. Different support levels and benefits claw-back rates were tested in a randomized control trial, and community-level implications were studied in the context of the community of Dauphin. The results indicated population health improvements, the potential for government health savings, and no meaningful reduction in labour force participation. [25]

The need for a freshly designed pilot in Ontario

From Ontario's perspective, several things can be learned from previous pilots and studies, and from the existing literature. These include the behavioural impacts of conditional and unconditional cash transfers, on labour supply responses to changes in incomes and taxes introduced by taxation. However, there are a number of questions that cannot be answered by existing or ongoing work. They can only be addressed by a freshly designed pilot in Ontario.

First, pilots or studies conducted in other jurisdictions cannot fully inform the interactions between a Basic Income and some features of the Canada/Ontario environment, such as universal healthcare, employment insurance, public education, the existing tax and transfers system, etc. The costs of a Basic Income program (and of a pilot) are also dependent on the income distribution within the population and of the environment in which it is deployed. Second, evidence from Mincome, while derived from the Canadian context, was representative of a very specific population and labour market. As well, the experiment dates from a time when the realities faced by the workforce were quite different. Finally, the current enthusiasm for Basic Income pilots offers the opportunity to widen the range of options tested. There is an opportunity to compare a more extensive set of designs across the set of initiatives that are currently being crafted in several jurisdictions.

A pilot in Ontario is an important step forward to understand the impact and implications of a Basic Income in the current context for this province. A coordinated wave of pilots across the Canadian federation should be the next logical step. There is an opportunity for different provincial trials to inform one another, and to test the potential synergies and complementarities with the existing system of federal transfers and tax system.

The federal government would be well advised to consider engaging in support of pilot projects nationwide, for various reasons. First, the CRA has a unique jurisdiction over income tax collection and the administration of various, refundable tax credits, [26] and could play a very natural role in the administration of a Basic Income. Second, various tax credits, refundable and non-refundable, are under the purview of federal ministries, and it would be informative to explore if their redistributive purpose would be well be served by a Basic Income. Third, the geographically broad evaluation of a series of national pilots could be facilitated by the data harmonized by and held at Statistics Canada, an agency that is respected worldwide. Following the example of the implementation of universal health insurance [27], a government in Ottawa that is committed to poverty reduction could see a meaningful nation-building opportunity in moving forward with a BI project for the country as a whole. If Canada's economic mix is no stronger than those among us who are the economically most vulnerable, reducing poverty and its pathologies is surely a constructive and productive economic initiative for the country as a whole. The high level of response to the 2016 census suggests that Canadians believe that better policy decisions stem from sound social and economic information. While beyond the formal remit of this discussion paper, this argues for the federal-provincial efforts to create a country-wide Social Data Research Initiative. This would be a central repository in which all social data sets (federal, provincial, municipal and not-for-profit) would be updated and linked, and which would be securely accessed upon request by governments and researchers who work in the area.

It should be noted that, independent of any proposal or plan for implementing a pilot project, the province of Ontario established a separate Income Security Reform Working Group on June 29, 2016. The group was tasked to examine existing social support programs and find ways to move away from unduly complex social assistance to more client-centered approaches, and a broader income support system. George Thomson (Senior Director of the National Judicial Institute, former Ontario Family Court judge and former chair of the Social Assistance Review Committee for the Peterson government) is the working group's facilitator. The group, which includes advocates, Ontarians with lived-poverty experience, delivery partners, front line staff and system experts, will build on the work of the Lankin-Sheikh Commission's 2012 Report that recommended a simplification of existing delivery and application programs and procedures. Its mandate is to provide recommendations by the end of summer of 2017.

Three key dimensions to a basic income pilot

This broader context of events, beyond Queen's Park, essentially underlines three key dimensions relative to a Basic Income pilot:

1. Ontario is by no means alone in seeking to find a better way to reduce poverty.
2. The Basic Income pilot is not about welfare reform. That is being dealt with by the above-referenced Income Security Reform Working Group.
3. The pilot is about understanding the extent to which Basic Income can improve the health status, labour market outcomes, and real-term life prospects of Ontarians who live in poverty. It is also about measuring the benefits, individually and to the community, of ending or radically reducing the negative pathologies that poverty invariably produces. It should map the net fiscal costs and benefits of more innovative approaches. For people now living in poverty, it should increase their freedom to choose and make life decisions.

The organization of the basic income pilot

When thinking about the organization and structure of a Basic Income pilot, key questions that should be addressed include:

i. How should a pilot be governed?
ii. How should it be organized and implemented?
iii. What should be the key evidence produced before, during, and after the implementation phase that will help Ontario's government and legislature decide how to proceed next?

How should a pilot project be governed?

The legitimacy and credibility of the pilot's outcomes and conclusions will be affected by the values and core principles that govern the pilot itself. One option would be to have the pilot run directly by the government through one of its ministries, most likely MCSS. However, an inclusive and comprehensive pilot will require the collection and harmonization of data sets on healthcare utilization, health and education outcomes, utilization of the judicial system, and other information from the relevant public organizations, including municipalities and regions. Administrative, tax, and social data from the federal and provincial governments will also be required. Therefore, it is not necessarily reasonable or appropriate to expect one Ontario ministry to manage the entire Basic Income pilot.

Diverse stakeholder input

Most government departments and the diligent public servants who work within them spend the vast majority of their time, both as a percentage of each day and as a percentage of total "personal years", implementing, monitoring or administering policies and programs authorized by regulations or their enabling laws. There is not a lot of capacity for altered or new policies to be tested and run alongside existing ones using the ministry's resources, in the context of a pilot, since employees at the provincial ministry and municipal social agency levels already have demanding, full-time occupations and unyielding caseloads. This is especially true for those who work in ODSP or Ontario Works, provincially, regionally and locally, where caseloads are understandably heavy and unique.

The voices, work experiences, and judgment of those who work for the Ontario government, municipalities and regions on behalf of people living in poverty matter. They must be part of the diagnostic and planning process for any pilot. The voices and experience of Ontarians who live or have lived in poverty must also be considered in the same way. The input of the many volunteer, faith, and community groups and agencies who serve their fellow citizens in economic difficulty and, too often, genuine distress, should also be sought and heard as the pilot is designed and implemented. These stakeholders, just as individuals with lived experiences of poverty, should take part in overseeing the pilot's developments.

Similarly, Ontario has various not-for-profit organizations experienced in community-level demonstration project, randomized control trials, and local social experiments. These organizations have demonstrated analytical objectivity in structuring appropriate qualitative and quantitative research protocols, and in performing rigorous analysis. They have robust, established methodologies to study the impacts of various programs, targeting health outcomes (from an individual health and public health perspective), education quality, housing needs, incarceration rates, and economic trends for new immigrants, women, young people, and minorities. These skills are, under some circumstances, more robust outside of government than within it.

As well, many of these organizations have long histories of effective research collaborations with bodies like Statistics Canada, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS), MOF and the MOHLTC. Re-inventing the wheel makes little sense, and would probably be relatively inefficient and costly.

Run by a coalition

It is recommended that an arm's length coalition of competent not-for-profit research organizations be invited to actually run the pilot project, under a unified not-for-profit consortium. But "governance" refers to more than simply who actually conducts the research, which is an operational and implementation issue, it also refers to the suitable mix of experts and practitioners from research and community service communities who will positively inform and influence the development of the pilot, and be accountable for it.

The ultimate accountability must be to the minister and ministry that funds the pilot project, and through the Minister to the Cabinet and legislature. The central organizational question is about the ways in which the pilot project design, once chosen, will be sensitive to and respectful of the pilot's many stakeholders.

Basic Income Pilot Advisory Council

It is recommended that there be a **Basic Income Pilot Advisory Council**, reporting to the Ministers and directly engaged in quarterly reviews of each phase of the pilot's implementation. This council would be composed of representatives of key ministries, including the public servants at Ontario Works and ODSP and in municipal and First Nations governments, members of charitable organizations working with those who live in poverty, leading experts "on the ground", scholars, and individuals living in poverty. The advisory council should also be inclusive of organizations who share a major interest in Ontario's economic, social and fiscal progress over all, such as trade and public sector unions, chambers of commerce, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Community Food Centres of Ontario, the Ontario Medical Association, the College of Family Practitioners, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, the various nursing associations, etc. So as not to be too unwieldy, the council should not have more than 35 members. Once members are nominated and selected, membership and attendance should be non-transferable.

Research operations group

It is also recommended that a **Research Operations Group** be assembled, with leadership chosen from established not-for-profit research organizations with proven experience in this kind of research, as suggested above. Ideally, researchers from organizations assembling and holding the data sets used for the purposes of the pilot evaluation would be invited to sit on the Research Operations Group. They would share their knowledge of the data, methodologies, and algorithms developed to optimally evaluate the pilot. They would also ensure compliance with the privacy, consent, and confidentiality rules that limit the ways in which data may be used.

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The Research Operations Group would consult regularly with the Basic Income Pilot Advisory Council. It would be responsible for framing the qualitative and quantitative data collection process and evaluation, and the specific organization and implementation of the different arms of the pilot. Ideally, the Research Operations Group would ideally have an administrator/financial officer designated by the province to ensure budget efficiency and prudence. Representatives of the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES), Statistics Canada, Social Research and Demonstration Corporation (SRDC), and appropriate health care and university research organizations should be invited to join the Research Operations Group.

Pilot project steering committee

The Basic Income Advisory Council and the Research Operations Group would each contribute one individual to a **Pilot Project Steering Committee**, who would be the main link between the minister and their respective group or council. To facilitate an efficient, inclusive, rigorous, and humane pilot, the Basic Income Pilot Project Advisory Council committee would meet at the outset of the preparation phase of the pilot, and quarterly thereafter to review progress. The Research Operation Group that manages the actual operations of the pilot, and the Steering Committee providing oversight of operations, ethics and finance, would be the key point of contact for the Minister(s).

Pilot project leader

The entire project should have a **Pilot Project Leader**, responsible for the day-to-day operations of the pilot, and for engagement with senior ministry officials. The director should be chosen based, in part, on nominations submitted by the Advisory Council and Research Operations Group and the Clerk of the Executive Council. The individual should have experience with critical research issues, an affinity for research designs, familiarity with the appropriate research protocols, and proven communication skills.

Ethics officer

The province would be well-advised to appoint an **Ethics Officer** to ensure that as data sets are created and/or accessed from various sources, the privacy rights of all participants in the pilot and all of its parts are strictly protected. This would ensure that when specific access to provincial, federal or other social, health, labour or tax data sets is sought, appropriate approvals from ethics review boards and both federal and provincial privacy commissioners have been obtained. The Ethics Officer would also be in charge of establishing processes to obtain the pilot participants' consent, where necessary, to gain (retroactive and prospective) access to their records from various ministries and government agencies. The Ethics Officer would also determine and enforce the parameters associated with final data holdings, and establish the criteria under which outside researchers could access this data, both during the pilot or after its completion. Finally, the Officer would be in charge of conducting periodical ethics reviews of the pilot, to ensure that the mechanisms put in place to protect their rights are upheld.

The ethical guarantees that shape the pilot and protect all those participating in the research must extend beyond the explicit protection of participants' privacy. Ontarians who participate in the study must be assured from the outset that:

- Their participation is voluntary, and no one should be forced to participate under any circumstances.
- They will not, in any way, be made economically "worse off" for participating in the experimental Basic Income pilot, both during and after its duration (which may involve municipal cooperation to not penalize those in public housing or receiving other benefits during the pilot).

- Individual participants in the various arms of the pilot must be assured that their involvement will be kept private at all times. Moreover, all data holdings used for the purpose of pilot evaluation should be made anonymous, making it impossible to identify individual participants or to violate their right to privacy.
- Private participant data will be protected in perpetuity. However, aggregated data and evaluation results should be made public on an ongoing, transparent basis [28]. It is vital that there be open access to information on the pilot's operations and results. There should also be a formal process through which independent researchers can access the de-identified micro data generated by the pilot, to ensure that all of the main pilot's findings can be replicated, and to conduct new complementary analysis.

Key evidence the pilot should be structured to generate

In order for the results of any Basic Income pilot to be of value to future public policy choices the government and legislature of Ontario might choose to make, they should convey clear, indicative evidence in the following areas:

a. Health outcomes for the participants. These outcomes can be monitored through access to Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) physician utilization records, Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) records, and Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) hospital utilization databases. [29] Additional information on health could also be obtained through surveys distributed to pilot participants. They will provide a base for analysis of a series of critical relationships between the income support provided by a Basic Income, and changes to individuals' healthcare utilization and health outcomes. Ideally, de-identified administrative files for non-participants could also be used to construct broader comparison groups, and to analyze the broader trends at the population level. This would provide critical information on the capacity (or lack thereof) of a Basic Income to improve individuals' quality of life by leading to improvements to their health. It would also provide information on the extent to which a Basic Income could reduce, in the long run, health care spending for the Ontario government, the most expensive item in the provincial budget. Understanding how the stable source of financial support of a Basic Income could also address mental health issues should also be specifically evaluated. Mental health issues are often associated with poverty, and with challenges related to labour force participation. Moreover, poor health has been identified to be a major contributor to employment barriers for current, long-term Ontario Works recipients (especially those who are not eligible for ODSP); understanding the impacts a more generous Basic Income may have on improving health outcomes may also suggest potential improvements in terms of labour market reintegration for some. [30] Measurable outcomes could include the number of primary care/emergency department visits (for psycho-social, mental or physical health reasons), prescription drug use, utility-based measures of health, etc.
b. Life choices, such as career choices, training decisions, living arrangements, family formation, fertility decisions, etc. for participants. The data collected should allow the province to separately evaluate the impact of a Basic Income on those outcomes, for five groups of participants: those having lived in poverty for a long time, those whose parents lived in poverty, those whose income falls below the poverty line for brief episodes (less than one year), those whose income falls below the poverty line on a cyclical basis, and those who have no prior experience of poverty. Those outcomes could be measured through data accessed from government administrative files, such as education enrollment records, Employment Insurance (EI) records, tax records (which could also allow the monitoring of care-giving activities, self-employment, etc.), census files, etc. Data on use of time could also be gathered through interviews with participants receiving a Basic Income, and with those assigned to the control group, and could track use of time decisions, such as time spent with children at home, with older relatives, time spent doing housework, etc.
c. Education outcomes (attendance, highest achievement, completion/drop out, re-enrolment, results on standardized tests, number of courses taken, etc.) for participants in the pilot and for their children. These outcomes would improve our understanding of how migrating from Ontario Works/ODSP to a Basic Income might provide different incentives for younger adults to enroll, attend and succeed in school, as their financial security is improved. It would also help us understand how accrued financial resources to families might have a positive impact on children's performance in school, in our present time and economic context. [31] These outcomes could be obtained through the administrative files assembled by the Ministry of Education (EDU) and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD).

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d. Work behaviour (participation, job search, employment status, sideline employment, overtime, self-employment, paid hours worked, number of jobs, job tenure, earned income, etc.) for participants. The impact of a Basic Income on labour market participation remains one of the main concerns of the Canadian population; a recent Angus Reid Institute poll, conducted in August 2016, concluded that 63 percent of the country's population believes that a Basic Income would discourage people from working. The introduction of a Basic Income pilot for individuals currently receiving Ontario Works would provide additional incentives to join the workforce, by allowing them to keep a substantial part of their earned income in addition to their Basic Income. Hence, a careful evaluation of the impact of a Basic Income on people's decisions regarding work, such as whether to work or not, their weekly hours worked, their job search activities, and the number of jobs they hold, is critical. As further discussed in section F, the evaluation of the pilot should seriously explore how labour market behaviours vary across demographic groups, according to the amount in benefits received, and the rate at which they are taxed back, as income earned in the labour market increases. Such outcomes could be measured using existing tax files, EI records, MCSS records, and potentially some data collected through interviews conducted by the research team.

   Although it is more difficult to measure or observe, participation in the underground economy is also an outcome of interest. Filing a fraudulent tax return is a serious statutory problem that should be expected to be discouraged, since a regular top-up is made available for pilot participants, working or otherwise, who are living in poverty.

   Finally, apart from the impact of the parameters of NIT programs tested, other channels through which BI could generate improvement in terms of labour force participation compared to Ontario Works should be explored. For instance, in 2015, 38 per cent of individuals who had been on Ontario Works for two or more years in Toronto cited temporary poor health as the main barrier to employment. [32] Understanding the impacts of stable and adequate income support on health is likely to matter for work incentives. For the city of Toronto, cases lasting more than two years made up 45 per cent of all unique annual Ontario Works cases in 2015, and half of all unique monthly cases. [33]

e. Community-level impacts in communities where a Basic Income is tested with a higher concentration (such as in a saturation site). For example, the impact on the local labour market tightness and labour force attachment, on certain prices (rent, etc.), on community safety (crime prevention, incarceration rates, arrests and traffic accidents) as well as potential changes in the utilization of certain public services (libraries, etc.) and in social interactions (civic participation, voting turnout, etc.). Data from the local police services, tax records, EI records, and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) could, among others, help track these outcomes.
f. Direct administrative costs or savings to Ontario by replacing the present Ontario Works and ODSP with a simple, direct Basic Income program. This should encompass the actual cost of the delivery of Basic Income payments, the economies in terms of Ontario Works and ODSP payments, the ensuing financial cost/savings associated with the simplification in the administration of social assistance, and the reduction of monitoring and policing components. Such factors would have to be assessed, calculated and modeled to effectively project province-wide administrative costs or savings over a reasonable period of time (ideally over various horizons for the sake of transparency). Those costs would have to be assessed using financial data from the Government of Ontario.
g. Changes in "food security" status for pilot participants under Basic Income. Food insecurity has been associated with financial vulnerability. Understanding the extent to which the secure income stream coming from a Basic Income program may result in a reduction in the prevalence and depth of food insecurity is important. In part, this is because of the implications of food insecurity for health outcomes (numerous studies have associated food insecurity with greater health care expenditure [34]). Food insecurity could be assessed for individuals using files from the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) for pilot participants who have been sampled in that survey, and linking their answers to the pilot's database. However, given the cross-sectional nature of the CCHS, and its small, locally non-representative sample, the research team might be also advised to conduct their own surveys/interviews, which would include the questions from the CCHS Household Security Survey Module to monitor changes in food security for pilot participants.
h. Perception of citizenship, social inclusion and security. Information on people's perceptions of their place in society, their capacity to contribute, their social environment's capacity to protect them, and their feelings towards their community could mostly be collected through interviews with participants. This information could help identify potential longer term impacts of a Basic Income on broader cultural shifts, and on the types of constructive behavioural changes that a Basic Income could generate if it were to be a permanent policy.
i. Mobility and housing arrangement. Housing stability and choices about housing arrangements and neighbourhoods are aspects of an individual's quality of life that could be impacted by a Basic Income. Such information could be derived from administrative files with reporting addresses.
j. Isolated or cumulative interactions between a Basic Income and other existing programs such as EI, the existing provincial and the recently enriched Canada Child Benefit. The way in which this type of evidence can be gathered will depend heavily on the actual organization of the pilot itself.

The outcomes mentioned above will sometimes be available through administrative records, which could be linked (under strict conditions discussed below) to form a longitudinal database of individual outcomes. Others may have to be collected via instruments constructed specifically for the pilot (interviews, surveys, questionnaires etc.)

Data in each of the areas mentioned above should be available at the individual level and should be available for the periods preceding the start of the pilot (and of Basic Income payments), as well as during the period during which participants will receive payment, and after the completion of the pilot. This will allow evaluation of the longer-term impacts of Basic Income, and to see if those impacts disappear with the promise of a Basic Income. For that purpose, participants should be asked to sign consent forms for allowing retroactive access to their individual records, ideally for a minimal period of two years preceding the commencement of the pilot. They should be assured that all interview data and data coming from administrative files and from surveys/interviews would be anonymous to protect their privacy. Any de-identified micro-data would be accessible to approved researchers only, conditional on them obtaining approvals from the appropriate ethics board and on satisfaction of the requirements of the relevant privacy commissioners (at the provincial and federal level).

Finally, and as hinted above, constructing the longitudinal database to track pilot participants' behaviours, characteristics and outcomes will require files from many sources to be accessed and linked. The input of all parties involved in constructing, maintaining, or linking these different data sets should be sought as early as possible, to ensure that:

i. The pilot timeline and scope align with the time required to complete the linkage procedures (including completing ethics board reviews, developing Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and authorizations, obtaining consent from participants when needed, and building the linkages based on identifiers [35]);
ii. Adequate supplemental surveys are developed to address any gap in the outcomes that the existing data covers;
iii. Their expertise is sought to develop models to simulate the long-term impacts of a Basic Income, based on the short-term data collected during the pilot.

What the basic income pilot should test

The concept of a Basic Income can be achieved in many more ways than could reasonably be tested in the context of an Ontario pilot. As such, the government has to make crucial decisions about the various design features of the Basic Income(s) to be tested. Most importantly, it needs to decide how many versions of a Basic Income should be tested, what levels of income support should be offered, whether the amount given in a Basic Income should be progressively taxed back (and if so, at what rate) when individuals earn income in the workplace. Decisions on the types of current supports that would be replaced by a Basic Income and on the communities where the pilot will be run also must be made.

In answer to this set of questions, it is recommended that the pilot focus on testing a Basic Income in the form of a NIT (what some would call a refundable tax credit) that would replace Ontario Works and ODSP, [36] and for which Ontarians aged 18 to 65 living in poverty would be eligible. [37] Unlike the support provided under the current Ontario Works and ODSP, the financial support provided would not impose restrictions, limits or interdictions related to financial assets, work-based earnings,

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or labour force participation. Individuals would be guaranteed an income equivalent to a determined proportion of the LIM (that proportion would be cross experimental groups), which would not be taxed. Additional earnings beyond the Basic Income would be encouraged, and taxed at varying rates. These tax rates would apply until an individual has paid, in taxes on earned income, the exact equivalent of the Basic Income, with a threshold (or break-even point) after which earned incomes would be subject to the normal income tax schedule by which all working Ontarians are governed. The taxation mechanisms applied to earned incomes in the context of the NIT would provide incentives for individuals whose incomes are currently below the poverty line to join or remain in the workforce. They would also reduce the costs to the province of implementing a Basic Income, should it choose to do so after studying the results of the pilot.

The amount of benefits received by participants would be a function of both their net family income and their family composition, such as the number of adults. Basic income payments would be equally divided and paid to all adults in the family, so as to provide each adult with an independent source of income and financial autonomy. Those payments would be issued monthly, and the base amount received (before any earned income) would not be taxable. [38] [39]

Different tests within the pilot

It is recommended that the pilot test different levels of Basic Incomes and different tax rates, to explore how the effectiveness and the costs of a Basic Income vary with the policy choices made on these two parameters. This would also be used to assess the fiscal implications and other impacts of such choices. Testing different levels will also help identify the combinations of benefits and tax rates most likely to generate significant and affordable improvements in terms of poverty reduction. It will also foster long-term benefits and savings (e.g., through improvements to health outcomes, labour market participation, etc.), without encouraging a reduction in hours worked, and while representing the most reasonable cost to all taxpayers. For instance, for any given level of Basic Income, tax rates will reduce the direct costs of the program. Previous NIT experiments conducted in the U.S., and in Canada in the 1970s selected rates between 30 percent and 80 percent [40]. Current adult recipients of Ontario Works face a rate of 50 percent on all earned income beyond an initial $200 a month. However, current programs such as the CCB or the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) in the United States are associated with much lower tax rates. Work behaviour observed in the context of those programs and experiments can inform the choice of different tax rates tested in the pilot; evidence from previous analysis and experiments, and simulations of the impacts of various rates could be performed to guide this choice. However, it should be remembered that the reason to test different tax rates and Basic Income levels is specifically to understand the implications in terms of work behaviour in the current Ontario context.

It should be noted that implementing the NITs suggested will require the collaboration of the federal authorities (importantly, that of the CRA) since Ontario does not have a separate income tax filing system. A presence of the federal government could also be sought; this would allow the pilot to test a Basic Income that would replace federal non-refundable and refundable tax credits.

Components of an Ontario Basic Income Pilot

Overall, these options could be tested with the combination of a randomized control trial and a set of local pilots conducted in saturation sites, in which participants would be enrolled for at least three consecutive years.

Overall, a pilot could consist of tests deployed over four different sites, grouped in two broad components:

1. **A randomized control trial (RCT), conducted in one large urban area of the province.**

   A sample of pilot participants (households) would be randomly selected among the area's population. Participants would further be randomly assigned to one of four groups, and receive the corresponding monthly benefits:

   i. A control group, who would receive benefits in the form of the existing Ontario Works, and ODSP; that group would experience no change in terms of income support and other benefits, but their outcomes and behaviour would be monitored by the research team.
   ii. A second group, who would be guaranteed an income corresponding to 75 per cent of the LIM (adjusted to the composition of the household), with ODSP recipients receiving 75 per cent of LIM plus at least $500. [41] This group would see their earned workplace income taxed at a lower rate until the net benefit they get from the Basic Income is reduced to zero. After this, their additional income would be taxed according to the existing tax schedule.
   iii. A third group, who would also be guaranteed an income corresponding to 75 per cent of the LIM (adjusted to the composition of the household), but whose additional earned income would be subject to a higher tax rate, until the net value of the benefit received is reduced to zero, according to the mechanism described above.
   iv. A fourth group, who would be assured an income equivalent to the low-income measure applicable (adjusted to the composition of the household). This group's earned income would be taxed back at a higher rate, according to the mechanism described above.

In a perfect world, the RCT component of the pilot would be conducted throughout the province. This would maximize the likelihood of generating externally valid results, and enable the government to anticipate the impacts that a general program would have, at least on individuals' behaviours and outcomes, while taking into account the multiplicity of contexts across the province. However, implementing the different treatment arms, while maintaining the current Ontario Works and ODSP programs in parallel for non-participants and for the members of the control group, requires a substantial effort from the local agencies now acting as front line service providers on the ground. [42] Moreover, identifying the (potentially very diverse) impacts of a Basic Income, while controlling for all the different environmental factors varying across cities and communities, would potentially require an increased sample size, resulting in higher costs associated with the pilot (both in terms of Basic Income payments and in terms of data collection through interviews, etc.) It therefore seems more reasonable to concentrate the RCT activities within a single geographical area of the province, which could be supported by the provincial government and the pilot team.

It is suggested that the RCT be deployed in an urban area or in a Census Metropolitan Area (with a higher population density), to ensure a higher level of anonymity for randomly selected participants. The RCT site should be selected on the basis of:

i. representation of the various realities of the Ontario population, including: presence of members of Indigenous communities, presence of racialized communities, presence of immigrants (of various generations), balanced age distribution, balanced family composition and family status, balanced income distribution (mix of ODSP/Ontario Works recipients and of low-income workers, etc.);
ii. the absence of large stabilizing public sector institutional employers (government, military, prisons, etc.) in the local labour market (which would have the capacity to act as a stabilizing force through the economic cycle);
iii. the institutional engagement and interest of local partners to participate in the activities of the pilot and to ensure that both a Basic Income and the traditional Ontario Works and ODSP services can be delivered accordingly to participants and non-participants in the pilot.

Participants should be selected randomly from the population aged 18 to 65, having had their primary residence in the chosen site for at least one year. Ideally, the random selection would be performed using administrative registries of Social Insurance Numbers. They would further be randomly assigned (at the household level) to a treatment group selected to be a part of the pilot. All randomly selected households could voluntarily withdraw from the pilot, and would have to sign a consent form if they wished to be enrolled in the experiment. The consent form would allow the government to change the nature of the benefits they receive according to the defined Basic Income to be tested. It would also allow the research team to access administrative data from the participants' records for a period preceding the pilot, and from the start of the pilot onwards, to link those records from different sources and time periods, and, where possible, to the records of other household members.

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Despite all the strengths of this type of design, RCTs can only provide limited information on the community-level impacts and general equilibrium effects of a Basic Income policy. The second component of the pilot, described below, seeks to address this caveat.

2. Saturation sites

A Basic Income should also be tested as a program available to entire communities (saturation sites). In addition to looking at the impact of Basic Income on individuals' outcomes and behaviours, this component of the pilot would enable the province to learn about (i) the dynamics involved with delivering and administering the program for an entire local population, and (ii) the community implications of a Basic Income program. It would give an opportunity to examine the positive and negative effects that arise when a full community is guaranteed a Basic Income. These would include civic participation, crime reduction, and economic activity through increased local consumption, given the additional income directed at those living in poverty.

In a saturation site, all individuals having had their primary residence in the chosen community for at least one year prior to the start of the pilot would be assured a Basic Income (tax free) corresponding to 75 per cent of the adjusted LIM. This benefit (which would completely replace Ontario Works and ODSP) would be clawed back as a percentage of their earned income, according to a pre-determined tax rate, until the net benefit received is equal to $0, after which their earned income would be taxed at the rate prescribed by the existing tax schedule.

Ideally, the saturation site(s) would be geographically contained, and somewhat isolated from other communities. This would limit "contagion" effects when measuring the community-level impact of the Basic Income. In the same vein, the sites would also have a lower baseline mobility level, to capture community impacts as much as possible, without too many ineligible individuals moving into the community during the experiment. [43] The size and composition of the population (income distribution, etc.) in a saturation site also directly influences the costs of the pilot. By design, all adults who meet the age and residency eligibility criteria for the pilot and who live in the saturation site, should be able to receive top-up benefits, should their income drop below the relevant threshold throughout the experiment. It is therefore important that saturation sites be selected coherently, within the budget constraints associated with the pilot.

It is suggested that the province works towards the implementation of three pilot saturation sites, chosen to be representative of different faces of the Ontario population and economy:

- Southern Ontario: This site should be as representative as possible of the population in southern Ontario (in terms of its labour force characteristics and distribution, age and gender distribution, poverty rates, family structure and status, presence of minority groups and immigrants, reliance on social assistance services, graduation rates and education profiles, and housing tenure). There should be no institutional stabilizer protecting its labour market from movements in the economic cycle compared to other similar communities. In addition to satisfying the criteria above, the site chosen could exhibit, for example, a high rate of food insecurity. This would offer the opportunity to closely evaluate the impact of Basic Income on this important manifestation of poverty.
- Northern Ontario: This site should be as representative as possible of the communities in Northern Ontario according to the criteria above, allowing the research team to identify the interactions between the Basic Income and the characteristics that are specific to northern communities. The government could consider sites corresponding to the labour market that have stronger ties to the ups and downs of the commodities market.
- Indigenous community: The pilot should consider offering an opportunity to develop a Basic Income pilot that is adapted to the realities of Indigenous communities, with provisions that are culturally appropriate and acknowledge the unique circumstances of First Nations peoples in the context of government income support programs. The design of this arm of the pilot, as well as the choice of community in which it would be tested, should be under the full prerogative of the First Nations Chiefs of Ontario, as should be the decision to participate in the pilot in the suggested way or not. [44] Flexibility should also be applied with respect to this component of the pilot, for example with respect to time lines and reporting mechanisms. All steps undertaken, if such a test were to be conducted, should be through voluntary agreement, consistent with Ontario's commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

As in the RCT component of the pilot, individuals living in the selected sites should be free to voluntarily leave the pilot at any time. They would be asked to sign a consent form if they agreed to participate.

One of the primary characteristics of Basic Income is that, unlike programs like Ontario Works and ODSP, it requires little to no monitoring of eligibility conditions and of recipients' compliance with an extensive series of program rules and conditions. In the case of a saturation site Basic Income pilot, this represents both a challenge and an opportunity. First, it is to be expected that, for the duration of the pilot, most of the typical administrative workload borne by front line workers would change, since all individuals within the community would become eligible to receive payments under Basic Income rather than under traditional welfare programs. However, rather than temporarily reducing the number of positions for case management of income support recipients in the saturation sites, it is suggested that this reduction in workload be seized as an opportunity for former Ontario Works and ODSP case workers in the selected sites to provide more one-on-one services. They could help Basic Income recipients develop their financial literacy, build strategies to develop their skills and human capital to (re)integrate into the labour market, and become more independent over time. Previous local initiatives (such as the recent York Region's Housing Stability Program and the Ottawa-Carleton Region Opportunity Planning Project in the mid-1990s) have suggested that when front line workers have fewer administrative tasks and more time to provide one-on-one counselling and client-focused engagement, other benefits can be achieved. This can significantly improve social assistance recipients' stability and autonomy [45], improve the satisfaction of both employees and clients, and generate substantial long-term savings. Such a role played by case managers could amplify the impact of a Basic Income pilot, and suggest constructive ways to deploy the talent and skills of caseworkers in the context of Basic Income programs. [46]

An additional factor for selection of each of the pilot's saturation sites is the capacity to find or create a "benchmark" community, to measure the evolution of the outcomes in the saturation sites. This is the equivalent of the control group in the RCT. The choice of saturation community will play a crucial role in determining the type of methodologies that can be used by the Research Operations Group to evaluate the outcomes of the pilot. One option would be for a chosen saturation site to be similar in a number of important dimensions (either in levels or in trends) to another comparable community. The latter could then be identified as a "control site", for which the outcomes and behaviours of the residents (mostly through routinely collected administrative data either at the individual level or aggregated) could also be measured and used in the evaluation process to reveal generated impacts of Basic Income in the saturation sites. If no such control sites can be found for the chosen saturation sites, evaluation of the pilots' outcomes in those communities will require employing other techniques, also requiring data on behaviours and outcomes in a number of communities outside of the saturation site. Simulation models could be considered here.

Determining eligibility

Eligibility to participate in the pilot should depend on an individual's age (18 to 65) and on permanent residence in one of the designated sites for a least one year prior to the launch of the pilot. No other criteria should be employed. For example, individuals who are not yet Canadian citizens should not be excluded from the pilot. [47] It should be noted that being a participant in either arm or group of the pilot does not mean that one will necessarily receive a Basic Income payment. Once a selected individual/household agrees to participate in the pilot, he or she will (except those in group (i) of the RCT component) receive the guarantee that, if their income falls below a threshold determined in the program design, it will be supplemented proportionally to their needs. In that sense, even though the program is based on a principle of universal access, not all participants will receive symmetric payments or any payment at all.

Ensuring that no participant is worse off

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Participation in the pilot is voluntary, pilot participants deserve respect, and the pilot would only affect the conditions of a small group of Ontarians, without any definitive change to the relevant Ontario laws. As a result, each component of the pilot should be governed by the critical principle that taking part in the pilot should make no participant worse off, by reducing the amount of support they receive. A first step toward this goal is to choose levels of Basic Income that achieve higher standards of living than the current Ontario Works and ODSP programs. [48] No individual, regardless of their group in the pilot, should lose any of the support benefits, beyond direct payments made monthly under the main component of the programs, financial or non-financial, currently available to Ontario Works and ODSP recipients. [49] Similarly, the eligibility status of a family for subsidized housing (Rent Geared to Income Housing) and the amount they are expected to contribute should still be determined on the basis of their family's income. This includes the existing criteria specified in the Housing Services Act. [50]

The increased financial support received under a Basic Income compared to Ontario Works/ ODSP should not result in an increase in the expected contribution towards rent of a family participating in the pilot. The difference between receiving a Basic Income and Ontario Works/ODSP payment should therefore be added to the income limits determining the subsidy a family receives for rent, such that its rent subsidies are not reduced as a function of receiving a Basic Income. For individuals with a disability [51] , a monthly amount of at least $500 should also be added to the monthly Basic Income payment. [52] Such additional financial support should also be available for individuals acting as caregivers for a disabled dependent. Moreover, income received through the CCB and other currently non-taxable sources of income should not be considered as earned income subject to the claw back rate in the NIT model. They are now designed to be tax free in the hands of the recipients, and should remain so. Finally, any dispute arising with respect to the benefits received by a pilot participant would be considered by the existing Social Benefits Tribunal.

Determining the success of the pilot

Finally, it is crucial that the government determines the clear and unequivocal criteria against which the success of the pilot will be tested, and that these criteria be made public as the pilot is launched. Transparency on both the objectives of the pilot and on the government's intention in terms of policy goals is crucial to building the pilot's credibility in the eyes of the public, and to ensure that the evaluation and interpretation of the results will not be political or partisan exercises. The main objective of the pilot should be its capacity to substantially and efficiently reduce poverty (targets should be specified for the reduction of poverty rates and poverty depth among pilot participants). Other objectives in terms of costs savings (for example, through reductions in health care spending and administrative activities) and labour market participation—for all participants and for specific groups—should also be stated.

What the BI pilot should not test

A "big bang" approach

The Basic Income pilot is about, primarily, is finding a better way to reduce poverty and its negative impacts on individuals' quality of life and their capacity to thrive. It is also about finding a way to provide income support that does not discourage participation in the labour market, that is not managed by systematic monitoring and policing of the life choices of Ontarians living in poverty, and that treats all individuals with respect and dignity.

A Basic Income pilot is not, and should not be, a "Big Bang" operation that results in a total collapse of health care coverage, unemployment insurance, and other programs that form the basis of Ontarians' broad social support network. These programs, given their policy goals, the extraordinary needs to which they respond, their different funding base, and the proven economic and social benefits they provide to all Ontarians, should not be replaced by one large single payment. Moreover, many programs (EI, pensions, etc.) function as insurance systems, serve a different purpose, and are financed through different mechanisms involving individual contributions. The federal/provincial/municipal network of social stabilizers and life standard supports is too broad to be collapsed by any one pilot project.

That is not to say, however, that data from this pilot may not provide a basis for informing a more simplified and individual, freedom of choice-embracing approach to poverty reduction. It may also lead to insights on food security, post-secondary tuition fees, community policing and more health support, among other vital areas for a productive and humane economic and social balance. The core question to be answered by the evidence we would seek to gain [53] is very simple: "Is there a more humane and efficient way to reduce poverty, a way that better respects the rights of those in poverty to make their own life choices, reduces stigma and growth in bureaucracy, yet produces improved outcomes in terms of work and life prospects?"

A universal demogrant

The recommendations in the previous section focus on testing a NIT, rather than a Basic Income gross payment that would be made to all adult Ontarians, and subject to the existing income tax (demogrant). The demogrant option has been set aside for two main reasons.

First, other jurisdictions are planning to test programs that are more similar to the demogrant version of a Basic Income program imminently. [54] Evidence for that type of program will therefore be generated elsewhere in the coming years, whereas little to no recent evidence has assessed the impacts of NITs in the current labour market. [55] In the context of an international wave of experiments, an Ontario pilot that would test a different approach (the NIT) would therefore contribute new and unique results and information to the global thread of evidence being generated. There is no need to test expensive "universal demogrant options" being tested elsewhere, within the same timeline as an Ontario Basic Income pilot.

Second, the heftier direct financial costs associated with a demogrant would likely discourage any government from implementing it as a full-scale program. An NIT is more likely to resemble the type of program that a government could afford if it were to move towards provincial roll-out. Compromises, in terms of the generosity of the support offered by a demogrant in order to transition towards a scalable version, would also likely undermine the poverty reduction objective of Basic Income programs.

Limits of the pilot

Finally, there are a few questions to which the pilot will not provide explicit detailed answers, without the use of more sophisticated modeling tools. Issues not within the remit of this discussion paper, such as general equilibrium effects on local prices, rents and wages and changes in the provinces tax base (for funding purposes), could also be explored in the final analysis phase of the model. Potentially, this could be achieved using micro-simulation models, and partially drawing on the evidence generated by the pilot, as well as on evidence from the literature.

Topping up all adults in the pilot sample now living in poverty (both those working and those on Ontario Works and ODSP) according to the different iterations of the Basic Income suggested in section E, while in some cases almost doubling their present allowance, will not in and of itself bring individuals beyond the LIM. It is their labour that will accomplish this. Some of their income will be taxed back, as part of the test, and in a way similar to the one all Ontarians beyond the poverty line are now taxed. [56]

The implementation of the BI pilot

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It is my recommendation that the Basic Income pilot have three phases: (i) the planning and preparation work required before actual Basic Income payments are made and before survey work can begin, (ii) the actual implementation of the Basic Income and the data collection process, (iii) the analyses of the impacts of the Basic Income as tested in the pilot, and of the short and long run cost/benefit ratios of the pilot itself, as well as the modeling of the cost and benefits of a potential provincial roll out.

Indicative results should begin to flow long before completion of the pilot, given the inference that can be made from the waves of data collected as the first payments are made under the Basic Income programs tested. In fact, it would be vital that a "nothing to hide" open access policy be firmly in place from beginning to end, so that, aside from the identity of the pilot participants, there is early, open access to preliminary results and indicators for all those interested in the operations and work of the Basic Income pilot. The practice of Canadian Blood Services, for example, of having open annual meetings and open access to all board minutes should apply to all minutes of the Advisory Board, the Research Operations Board, and the Steering Committee.

It is recommended that the three different phases of the pilot be detailed as follows:

Phase I: Preparation, organization and preliminary interviews

The precise composition of the Basic Income Advisory Council, the Steering Committee, and the Research Operations Group should be established before the first phase begins. Phase I should then focus on preparing the infrastructure (tangible and intangible) for the Basic Income distribution to participants in both the RCT and saturation sites components of the pilot.

The administrative data sets to be assembled/acquired for the pilot evaluation should be identified, the appropriate authorizations from the appropriate ethics board(s) and from the privacy commissioner(s) to access these data should be sought, data sharing agreements should be completed and signed, and the data files should be linked. The research team should also, in this phase, work with the authorities in each of the pilot communities to ensure that their administrations are ready to distribute the benefits. Participants should be identified (randomly in the case of the RCT), and the Research Operations Group should obtain their consent to participate in the experiment and to grant access, where necessary, to their administrative records for the purposes of the pilot evaluation. [57] A plan should also be deployed to ensure that all potential participants file their taxes and have a bank account, enabling them to be part of the pilot and facilitating the payments. Workers should be trained to facilitate the data collection process in subsequent phases and for each pilot site, and to inform the public. The Research Operations Group should design and launch a website, where the activities of the pilot will be described and preliminary reports will be published.

Pre-interviews with focus groups should also be conducted during Phase I, to inform the design of the pilot components. These interviews would also test the questionnaires that will be used to collect data on outcomes and behaviour that are not documented in the administrative data sets mentioned above. The input of people with lived experience of poverty to inform the design of such interviews would be invaluable. [58] Mechanisms (for example, remuneration parameters) that limit attrition throughout the subsequent phases of the pilot should also be established. In Phase I of the pilot, participants should be offered assistance with filing their taxes, especially for those who would not have filed their taxes in the past. The contribution of social workers and mental health professionals should be sought.

Phase I should run for about four months. It is during this time that the Research Operations Group should retain researchers to implement the pilot.

Phase II: Quantitative and qualitative surveys and testing

This phase should see the different forms of Basic Income payments delivered to the pilot participants. This should be done at the beginning of a provincial fiscal year, to simplify implementation and analysis of certain outcomes as much as possible. During this period, the database assembled in Phase I will be updated with the new administrative records filed by the governments, producing a longitudinal database documenting the outcomes of interest. Additional data should also be collected from periodical (at least bi-annual) interviews. These one-on-one interviews (for which participants should receive modest remuneration to respect the value of their time [59]) will allow researchers to collect individual information on outcomes and behaviours that are not documented in administrative files. These would include time use, qualitative data on participants' well-being, and interactions with the Basic Income programs tested, etc. Interviews should be conducted with at least a representative sample of participating households, but need not be conducted with all participants so as to contain the pilot's costs. [60] Moreover, lessons from the Mincome experiment tell us that keeping the interview and enrolment process short for participants is crucial to limiting attrition.

During this phase, preliminary analysis of the impacts of the Basic Income programs tested will be conducted, using both interview and administrative data. Interim results will be published on the pilot's website, to keep the public informed. Periodical financial reports on the pilot's activities should also be published, to ensure transparency and accountability.

In addition to a study of the outcomes for participants in the experiment, Phase II of the pilot will also call for information on the delivery mechanisms to be collected. Firsthand information through reporting from or interviews with service providers, caseworkers, health care providers, with the team operating the payments through the tax system and receiving complaints and appeals from clients will help identify the problematic areas in the implementation of the Basic Income, to be potentially improved in the course of the pilot and definitely to be addressed in case of a provincial roll-out. They will also guide communication exercises with participants, as well as with the general public by highlighting critical dimensions, positive or negative, of the experiment. No experiment is perfect from the outset and utterly flawless from the beginning. Very few of the economic, social policy, or scientific experiments that have in the past decades generated huge benefits for individuals and communities would have ever passed the "perfection from roll out to final analysis" test. Robust transparency and trusting Ontarians with both the positive, negative and uncertain interim results of the pilot is my strong recommendation to the province.

While the actual research phase should operate for no less than three years, preliminary indicative results should be available within six months of the start of the quantitative portion of the survey. The Research Operations Group and the Advisory Group should use those early results to identify any problems in the design of the pilot, or any problematic treatment arm, and to proceed with any modifications on which the success of the pilot would depend.

Phase III: Comprehensive analysis and evaluation

The full evaluation of the pilot's results will be conducted in Phase III, which should produce clear answers to the questions listed in section D (iii). This comprehensive analysis will produce evidence that can be used by the government and legislature of Ontario in any future policy choices that it may consider. The pilot's final report should document the impacts of a Basic Income for pilot participants, separately for different family composition, labour market status and former social assistance status, gender, racialized communities and immigrants. It should also describe the difficulties, challenges and successes related to the implementation of the Basic Income payments and system, from the research team's perspective and from the point of view of the local administrations and front line workers active in the pilot sites. A full financial report of the pilot's activities should also be made public.

The results from the pilot's impacts on different outcomes, including labour force participation, and the information on the benefits paid throughout the pilot could be used to simulate the cost of a Basic Income program corresponding to the different treatment arms if they were to be implemented province-wide. The impact of various options to finance such programs could also be simulated (including their impact on the labour supply of those not receiving the Basic Income but participating in its financing through the tax system).

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Considerable thought should also be given, in the course of the final phase, to accompany pilot participants after the pilot. A gradual phase out of the extra benefits received throughout the pilot after its completion could be envisioned, in order to limit the depth of the income shock that could otherwise be felt by some participants, and the stress it might generate for individuals when facing the decision to spend their income or not towards the end of the pilot. Other options should also be reviewed by the pilot's Ethics Officer.

Conclusions

There is no reason why a coherent pilot project testing the net benefits of a Basic Income to society in general, and to those living in poverty in particular, could not be launched before the end of the present fiscal year in Ontario. The province can count on institutions and actors having the competence, the experience, and the facility to do so. I would also argue that the good will required to go forward with a pilot has been demonstrated by municipal agencies and their employees, community organizations, faith-based groups, representatives of those who live in poverty, those who are on the front lines of poverty reduction and service to low-income Ontarians, healthcare providers, businesses, and business organizations that are deeply engaged in the economic life of rural and urban communities. I found no indication that any group, or political party, would oppose trying to find a better way of reducing poverty and its serious negative effects on people's lives, prospects, relationships, health, longevity, and social conditions.

Recent improvements to the CCB and to the OCB, as well as the recent improvements in post-secondary student assistance made by the Ontario government and the increases in the minimum wage, all speak to a federal/provincial focus on diminishing broad income gaps by sustaining brighter prospects for individuals and families facing strong economic head winds. Testing a Basic Income is a humane and useful way to measure how so many of the costs of poverty (in terms of productivity, health, policing, and other community costs, to name only a few) might be diminished, while poverty itself is reduced and work is encouraged.

There is no way of predicting what a properly managed and objective pilot will produce in terms of results. Nor should we try to presume what those results will be. A well-run pilot should be about producing rational and objective evidence, which can inform government decisions in the future. Surely, at a time when many approaches in health care and public health, seniors care, immigrant integration and government itself are changing to address different needs and times, the only fundamental mistake one might make with respect to a Basic Income Pilot would be not to try to test its impacts.

The consultation process

The government has indicated a desire for this Discussion Paper on a Basic Income Pilot to be made public and circulated to produce feedback, reaction and suggestions for the government to take into consideration as it goes forward.

This open and engaged process affords the province, those living in poverty and the many organizations and volunteer, community, institutional and not-for-profit groups that work to assist those in poverty, a rich opportunity to share their views on how a pilot might best be initiated and implemented.

There is an opportunity for MPP's from all parties, either riding by riding or in regions, to hold public round tables with interested Ontarians in their areas. Service organizations, faith-based communities and multicultural associations might also facilitate consultations best-suited to their needs and perspectives. It is also hoped that business, labour, agriculture and professional associations, lobbies and networks find a way to share their perspectives on the Discussion Paper, and on the promises and challenges of a Basic Income pilot.

In order for the government to have ample time to review both the Discussion Paper and public comment and suggestions that follow, and make whatever choices in terms of the pilot project it deems appropriate in a timely fashion, it is hoped that comments and suggestions can be made to and registered with the government by December 31, 2016. A website with the text of this discussion paper and an email address where views can be sent and registered should be established for that purpose. Written non-digital submission can be sent to: (address, etc.).

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Consultations - basic income pilot - (in writing, by telephone, in-person)

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Members of the Provincial-Municipal Social Assistance and Employment Committee

Ken Battle, Caledon Institute of Social Policy

Robin Boadway, Queen's University and Kingston Action Group for a Basic Income Guarantee

Leslie Boehm, University of Toronto

Alan Broadbent, Maytree Foundation

Patrick Brown, Ontario's Leader of the Official Opposition

Michael Creek, Working for Change

Evelyn Forget, University of Manitoba

Joe Foster, Group Ottawa for Basic Income

Laurie Goldman, Employment and Social Development Canada

John Green, Basic Income Waterloo Region

Doris Grinspun, Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario

Jason Hartwick and Susan Hubay, on behalf of Basic Income Peterborough Network

Chief Ava Hill, Six Nations of the Grand River

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Armine Yalnizyan, Canadian Center for Policy Alternatives

Noah Zon, Maytree Foundation

Participants, roundtable on basic income, Simcoe Hall, University of Toronto -April 29, 2016

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Jennifer Laidley, Income Security Advocacy Office

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Michael Mendelson, Caledon Institute of Social Policy

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Maureen O'Neil, Canadian Foundation for Healthcare Improvement

André Picard, The Globe and Mail

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Laurel Rothman, Family Service Toronto

Bill Ruffett, Basic Income Canada Network

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Ann Silversides, Freelance journalist

Byron Spencer, McMaster University

John Stapleton, Metcalf Foundation

Carolyn Hughes Tuohy, University of Toronto

Mike Veall, McMaster University

Technical notes

Additional considerations

1. Diverse effects on different groups and sample size:

   An analysis of the welfare implications of replacing the current social assistance program with a Basic Income requires understanding the specific consequences for different subgroups of the population. In addition to evaluating the average impact of a Basic Income in the context of the pilot, substantial attention should be given to understanding the costs and benefits specific to various groups of the population (long-term Ontario Works clients, short-term Ontario Works clients, ODSP clients, low-income workers, seasonal workers, unemployed, men, women, etc.) and to understanding the trade-offs in terms of gains and challenges for different groups. For example, the level of Basic Income necessary to generate health or labour market improvements may not be the same for individuals with an experience of transient poverty, individuals with an experience of cyclical poverty and for individuals living in persistent poverty. Looking for these groups' specific effects will allow the pilot to uncover who gains and who doesn't from a Basic Income policy, and to generate more nuanced policy conclusions as well

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as to identify where the program design might be modified after the pilot, should a province wide roll-out be decided upon. Obviously, larger sample sizes will help in this regard.

2. Externalities and General Balance effects on the economy, overall running and expenditure costs long term:

   The localized nature of the pilot will not always provide a full window on all the fiscal implications of replacing existing Ontario Works and ODSP with a single Basic Income, which are not in the precise remit of the proposed pilot. Simulations for the purpose of projecting these costs will be of value, and some of the findings emanating from the pilot could well inform such simulation exercises.

   The limited time and scope of the pilot may not allow the research team to fully capture the long-term and general equilibrium impacts of a province-wide Basic Income on prices (such as rent, wages, etc.). These effects are outside the remit of this Discussion Paper. Such impacts might occur if the redistribution of income achieved by a Basic Income influenced the movement of the aggregate supply and demand for various goods and services. Although some indications on this front will be provided by the tests conducted in saturation sites, simulations for modeling and forecasting purposes might help in understanding how these effects could arise.

3. Impacts of a permanent versus temporary Basic Income

   By nature, the pilot will investigate the impact of a Basic Income during its time frame, for example, three years. There are many reasons to expect that participants' behavioural responses to such a temporary program may differ from the responses that would occur if such a program was anticipated by its recipients to be a permanent one, and that the nature and the level of benefits described in section E were in place for the foreseeable future. Knowing that a more generous and unconditional income support is only available for a few years might dilute their responses to the program in terms of labour market participation. Much media attention has, for example, focused on the potential impact of a Basic Income as a policy that would stimulate entrepreneurship by allowing people to take risks while knowing they can't fall beneath a certain floor if their plans do not succeed. However, one could imagine that the proportion of individuals willing to take such a risk knowing that a Basic Income may no longer be available in three years might not be as substantial as those willing to take that same risk if they knew a Basic Income was permanent.

   Other responses could vary between a permanent and temporary Basic Income program. For instance, it is only rational that households might try to save more of their Basic Income during a pilot if they fear a negative drop in their disposable income after the end of the pilot. Decisions relative to investment in human capital, living arrangements, etc. could also be affected for similar reasons, and attenuate the behavioural changes of participants. For many outcomes, the pilot would therefore be expected to generate some lesser positive effects of a Basic Income.

   The temporary nature of the pilot might unwittingly increase the anxiety and stress level of participants at the end of the pilot, as they get closer to the moment where they will return to Ontario Works/ODSP coverage. Not only might that bias the estimated impact of a Basic Income on mental health outcomes during the pilot, but it is also an ethical concern that should be taken into serious consideration by the research team, as discussed in section G.

4. Comparing BI with a subsidies-oriented approach

   One testing approach that could be considered would consist of having an additional treatment arm in the RCT, or an additional saturation site, where rather than a Basic Income, enhanced subsidies for normal life necessities (such as rent, food, transportation, communications and digital services) could be distributed among those living in poverty (or whose incomes are below the Low-income measure). This would not be about a new poverty abatement instrument, but it would be a way to test an alternative way of reducing the living costs of low-income individuals, thereby increasing their disposable income. The impacts of such an initiative could be compared with the impact of a Basic Income, and inform policy makers as to the relative efficiency of each approach.

5. Protecting benefits during a BI program for participants

   As discussed in section E, current social assistance programs are associated with several additional benefits (such as the ODB, children dental coverage, support for vision care, certain employment related benefits, etc.), and eligibility to those benefits is associated with Ontario Works/ODSP status. In the context of a pilot, it is important to ensure that no participant is made worse off by maintaining eligibility to those benefits for the group of participants who are switched from Ontario Works/ODSP to a Basic Income. However, in the event that, given positive results from the pilot, the provincial government chose to opt for a scaled up, Ontario-wide version of Basic Income in replacement of Ontario Works and ODSP, a formal mechanism for preserving these benefits would have to be developed. Such benefits often serve policy objectives which suggest that they should not be replaced by a Basic Income (for example, "insurance-type" benefits). For the purposes of a pilot, a mechanism should be put in place allowing participants in a Basic Income group who were not on Ontario Works or ODSP prior to the start of the pilot, to request access to the appropriate benefits if their needs suddenly exceed their disposable income in the course of the pilot (for instance, if a change in their health requires the use of an assisted device, creates new special dietary needs, etc.)

6. Asset restrictions of the current Ontario Works/ODSP programs

   General rule:

Subject	Ontario Works	Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
Single without dependent	$2,500	$5,000
Couple without dependent	$5,000	$7,500
Additional amount for each dependent	$500	$500

Exemptions include: Tools of trade and farm assets (necessary for business); business assets ($10,000 for self-employed Ontario Works recipients and $20,000 for self-employed ODSP recipient); dependents earnings; earnings while enrolled in post-secondary education, pain and suffering awards; most government compensation programs or reconciliation agreements; disaster relief assistance program; principal residence; proceeds from sale of principal residence if used to buy another residence within 12 months; main motor vehicle (and up to $15,000 on a secondary vehicle if employment is outside the residence); trusts from inheritance (up to $100,000, for ODSP recipients only); trusts from proceeds of life insurance policy (up to $100,000, for ODSP recipients only); discretionary trusts, private trust from award, settlement or gift (only if the trustee is not able to encroach on the capital for the person's maintenance); Office of the Children's Lawyer trust (only if not available for maintenance); life insurance policy (annuity, if the cash surrender does not exceed $100,000 combined with trust for ODSP recipient, for Ontario Works recipients, the cash surrender value of a policy is considered an asset if it is redeemable by a member of the benefit unit);

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locked in RRSPs and pension funds; loans (if used as intended); grants, awards and bursaries for education and training from the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development or Canada Student Financial Assistance Funds for Education; RESP (if used as intended); Learning Earning and Parenting (if used by a parent for post-secondary education invested in RESP); RDSP; Treatment of Payments Under the Transplant Patient Expense Reimbursement (if used for the purpose intended within a reasonable period of time); ODSP income support arrears (for six months for ODSP recipients); assets approved for disability related services (upon approval for ODSP recipients); Pre-paid funerals; and Quest for Gold Program Funding.

7. Earned income restrictions of the current Ontario Works/ODSP programs

Definition of earned income: For the purposes of Ontario Works and ODSP, earned income subject to restrictions corresponds to income from employment, the amounts paid under a training program and the net monthly income as determined by the Administrator (Ontario Works) or Director (ODSP) from an interest in or operation of a business (including for self-employed individuals), net of all mandatory contributions and deductions. Excluded from this definition are benefits or payments under all programs such as EI, CPP, the *Workplace Safety Insurance Act*, which are deducted dollar-for-dollar from Ontario Works/ODSP payments.

However, income from dependent children aged 18 or below, income from full time secondary or post-secondary students within the household are fully exempt under both Ontario Works and ODSP, and do not count towards the calculation of payment received under these two programs.

General Earnings Exemption Scheme: The first $200 per month in monthly net earned income does not reduce Ontario Works/ODSP payments. However, the payments are reduced by 50 cents for each additional dollar in earned income beyond that $200 base threshold. Restrictions on work income and asset accumulation are ways in which existing programs keep people out of the economic mainstream.

Three-Month Waiting Period: The Ontario Works rules do not allow a new applicant to benefit from the general earnings exemption scheme at the time of application and for the subsequent three months.

Other exemptions: Ontario Works and ODSP allow recipients to deduct from their net earned income the monthly cost of childcare, up to a limited amount and after the general earnings exemption scheme has been applied. The same is true for disability-related employment expenses for ODSP recipients.

8. List of data sets to consider for the evaluation of the pilot's outcomes

Several data holdings should be considered to evaluate the outcomes of and behavioural changes induced by a Basic Income within the context of a pilot. As mentioned in previous sections of the discussion paper, these datasets should be identified early on (before the recruiting of participants) in order to develop the adequate protocols to access them, and link them when possible. Most of these files are administrative records coming from health or tax records, so it is suggested that participants in the pilot be asked to provide consent covering:

- Access to their administrative records by the research team:
  - Consent should be asked for current, future and historical records for a determined number of years before the start of the pilot. Consent to access future records would allow for secondary research studying the Basic Income impacts beyond the termination of the pilot to be conducted, and to document some longer-term impacts of having received the Basic Income for the duration of the pilot (outcomes which would not be observed within the pilot's life).
- Linkages of administrative records across databases:
  - For this purpose, all participants (in the saturation sites, the control group and the treatment groups of the RCT) who agree to take part in the pilot should be asked to provide their health card number and SIN. In the absence of those identifiers, probabilistic methods could be used to match the records using name, birth date/age, gender and potentially residential address. Although the rate of success for those matches could be relatively high [61], this method would require significantly more time, and would probably work better in saturation sites than in the context of the RCT.
- Linkages of administrative records to those of the other household members:
  - First, this would allow for labour supply decisions to be observed and studied at the individual level, and also within the context of the household, to allow for joint decisions between its members. Second, the impacts of a Basic Income are likely to be observed not only for the individual receiving the payments, but also for the other member of his/her family. Information allowing for household records to be linked may be available from income data or tax records (through spousal SINs, or addresses) [62] and linking the health records of household members using the association between SINs and health card numbers could be considered.

Seeking consent would save much effort and time to the research team, and is likely to influence the capacity to analyze the impact of a Basic Income on the broadest possible range of outcomes with shorter delays. When asked for their consent to access and link these records, participants should be reassured that their privacy would be respected, and that the data set created would be kept under very strict security requirements. Data sharing agreements should then be designed and signed by the data custodians, and then, data sets should be linked and kept under the custody of an entity approved by the Privacy Commissioner of Ontario and the Privacy Commissioner of Canada. [63] Several months should be set aside in phase one of the pilot to complete those linkages. Ideally, the linked data (both survey and administrative) would be kept in a central repository, but this would have to be negotiated with data owners and custodians.

Below is a series of data sets that should be considered for the evaluation of the pilot's outcomes, listed by current custodian. This list is not exhaustive, and a research operations group for the pilot might identify other data sources that should be used. It should be noted that if those data sets were linked, they would also need to be held on a common platform, another item that should be addressed as early as possible in phase one of the pilot.

It should also be noted that although most of the suggested data files provide information at the individual-level, community-level indicators [64] could be derived from these data sources and be used to study the impacts of a Basic Income pilot in saturation sites, and how they might exacerbate individual effects, or attenuate them. These community-level indicators should be considered for communities as a whole, but also broken down by income levels, to study the dynamics of the gap in outcomes between the population at the top and the bottom of the income distribution (for example, the evolution of health inequalities) following the introduction of a Basic Income and in relation with a Basic Income's impact on the financial situation/security of the population in each of these groups.

A. Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES)

The datasets held by ICES and listed below provide information on individuals' health outcomes, a range of individual characteristics, and a certain number of socioeconomic factors at the neighbourhood level. From those, individual longitudinal information on health care utilization and heath conditions/morbidities could also be retrieved.

- Client Agency Program Enrolment
  - **Type:** Administrative
  - **Information on:** Enrolment in primary care models
  - **Rationale:** Tracks patients' enrolment status with different practice types (Family Health Network, Family Health Organization, Family Health Team, Primary Care Network, Primary Care Group, Comprehensive Care Model, Community Health Group, Community Sponsored Agreement, Group Health Center, Health Service Organization), which can be used to see how access to front line services/primary care (as measured by enrolment) changes through time, but can also be used as control variables in analysis of health outcomes. Information available for individuals.

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- Continuing Care Reporting System
  - **Type:** Administrative (annual)
  - **Information on:** Continuing care utilization
  - **Rationale:** Tracks the intensity of care received by individuals in long-term care facilities or in hospital complex continuing care units (including continuing care, extended or chronic care, and residential care providing nursing services). Information available for individuals.
- Discharge Abstract Database
  - **Type:** Administrative (annual)
  - **Information on:** Patient separation (admissions, discharge, diagnosis and care received)
  - **Rationale:** Tracks changes in the utilization of care during inpatient hospitalization, in terms of intensity, length of stay, transfers to other facilities, admission type, institution information, disposition, resource consumption, etc. Documents birth deliveries and perinatal outcomes such as low birth weight, gestational age, etc., which are among the outcomes that may be the most likely to be influenced by a Basic Income in the short run. Information available for individuals.
- OHIP Database
  - **Type:** Survey Administrative (annual)
  - **Information on:** Health care utilization
  - **Rationale:** Claims for care received, detailing the nature of services billed to OHIP for physician services, groups and laboratories. Information available for individuals.
- Home Care Database
  - **Type:** Administrative (quarterly)
  - **Information on:** Home care (diagnosis and care received) in facilities coordinated by the Ontario Community Care Access Centres (CCACs).
  - **Rationale:** Tracks utilization of home care such as nursing, physiotherapy, psychology, social work, respiratory services, etc. Includes assessment information, admissions and discharge, diagnosis and procedures. Some of these services are most likely used by seniors, so might not be as heavily used for the evaluation of the pilot's outcomes, but it could be helpful in documenting the full health care utilization profile of the participants. Information available for individuals.
- National Ambulatory Care Reporting System
  - **Type:** Administrative (annual)
  - **Information on:** Hospital-based and community-based adult inpatient ambulatory care
  - **Rationale:** Tracks utilization of day-surgeries, outpatient care, emergency departments (including oncology and renal dialysis). Information available for individuals.
- National Rehabilitation Reporting System
  - **Type:** Administrative (annual)
  - **Information on:** Rehabilitation-facilities care (only for adults)
  - **Rationale:** Tracks admissions and discharges in specialized facilities, hospital rehabilitation units and/or programs, designated rehabilitation beds and tracks the associated clinical outcomes (including functional independence measures, cognitive functions, health and functional characteristics, activities and participation in daily activities, social interactions) and diagnosis and interventions. Information available for individuals.
- Ontario Drug Benefit Claims
  - **Type:** Administrative (monthly)
  - **Information on:** Prescription drugs claims for individuals with coverage and eligible drugs.
- **Rationale:** Tracks prescription drug claims for individuals covered by ODB, including current ODSP and Ontario Works recipients with high drug costs relative to their income and registered with the Trillium Drug Program, and individuals enrolled in the home care program or living in a long-term care home or home for special care and individuals aged 65 and older (although this last category does not include pilot participants). Information available for individuals.
- Ontario Mental Health Reporting System
  - **Type:** Administrative (annual)
  - **Information on:** Care received in designated mental health beds in acute and psychiatric facilities
  - **Rationale:** Tracks admission, care/service utilization, discharge and diagnosis for adult patients admitted to a mental health bed or hospital. Also documents history of self-harm and substance/alcohol consumption (two outcomes that are most likely to be impacted by a Basic Income in the short run), and identifies a series of life events related to mental health status. Information available for individuals.
- Assistive Devices Program
  - **Type:** Administrative (annual)
  - **Information on:** Individuals with long term disabilities receiving personalized assistive devices
  - **Rationale:** Tracks information on individuals with a long-term disability with personalized assisted device(s) to support basic needs such as insulin pumps, ventilator equipment, etc., and might help with understanding individuals' management of their conditions. Information available for individuals.
- Registered Persons Database files
  - **Type:** Administrative (annual)
  - **Information on:** Eligibility status of individuals registered for insured health services
  - **Rationale:** Contains some demographic information (gender, date of birth, postal code, Rurality Index, etc.), which can be linked to health utilization files to provide context on individuals. Information available for individuals.
- Ontario Census Area Profiles
  - **Type:** Administrative (every 5 years)
  - **Information on:** Demographic/economic characteristics of individuals' environment
  - **Rationale:** Documents characteristics of an individual's socioeconomic environment (neighbourhood), which can be used in the analysis to control for confounding factors coming from participants' environment. Information at the geographic level.

It should be noted that many health outcomes are unlikely to change substantially in the short-term, and some of them (prevalence of chronic conditions and related service utilization, prevalence of diabetes, life expectancy, avoidable mortality, all-cause mortality, etc.) are not necessarily always impacted measurably within less than 10 years. [65]

B. Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) [66]

Access to administrative records from the Ontario Social Assistance data will be required to identify individuals who formerly received Ontario Works and ODSP prior to the pilot (or throughout the pilot as part of the control group in the RCT). They should track Ontario Works and ODSP utilization at the individual level prior to the pilot, in order to understand individuals' history of poverty and social assistance services, and to monitor changes as the pilot unfolds.

C. Micro-data from the five following (formatted) files currently held at Statistics Canada Research Data Centers (RDCs) could be considered.
- Benefit Unit (family) information
  - **Type:** Administrative (monthly)
  - **Information on:** Social assistance status (including terminations) and family characteristics

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- **Rationale:** Tracks entry and exits from social assistance, and documents family composition and other characteristics such as accommodation. Information at the family level.

- Member information
  - **Type:** Administrative (monthly)
  - **Information on:** Individual demographic characteristics
  - **Rationale:** Tracks characteristics of individuals on social assistance at the end of each month (includes information on age, gender, disabilities, immigration status and history, literacy, job search, etc.). Information at the individual level.
- Pay detail information
  - **Type:** Administrative (monthly)
  - **Information on:** Benefits received (types and amounts)
  - **Rationale:** Tracks the monthly benefit/deduction to individuals on social assistance. Information at the family level.
- Income/Deduction information
  - **Type:** Administrative (monthly)
  - **Information on:** Income (all types) received (types and amounts)
  - **Rationale:** Tracks the monthly income (gross and net) declared by individuals. Information at the individual level.
- Skills information
  - **Type:** Administrative (monthly)
  - **Information on:** Benefits received (types and amounts)
  - **Rationale:** Tracks the skills acquired by individuals on social assistance, and potential barriers to employment. Information at the individual level.

The Social Assistance Business Intelligence System (SABIS) developed and maintained by the Policy Research and Analysis Branch (PRAB) at MCSS could alternatively be used. In addition to the variables mentioned above, this database contains information on the administration of social assistance programs by MCSS. Additional micro-data on child benefits, drug benefits and dental benefits to social assistant recipients should also be considered.

It should be noted that data sharing agreements (or information sharing agreements (ISAs)) have already been established between MCSS and: (i) the Ontario Ministry of Finance for personal tax data; (ii) Employment and Social Development Canada for Employment Insurance data.

D. Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD)/ Ministry of Education (MOE)

Access to educational outcomes of participants and their dependents through administrative individual-level data should be sought. These data would ideally be linked to all the other data sources listed in this document (potentially using parents' SINs or a combination of names and addresses). [67]

Ideally, administrative data similar to that described below would be accessed:

- Student records (elementary/high school)
  - **Information on:** Test scores (ideally standardized measures such as Grade 3 and Grade 6 EQAO scores), missed school days (attendance), and secondary school completion.
  - **Rationale:** Tracks the learning progress, outcomes and inputs (attendance) of children. Ideally this information could be obtained for individual children from EQAO/MOE. The possibility of linking these files with health and tax data using addresses or parents' SIN numbers should be explored.
- Student records (postsecondary)
  - **Information on:** Enrolment, graduation, program choices
  - **Rationale:** Tracks the learning outcomes of youth/young adults in postsecondary institutions, as well as their choice to pursue post-secondary education and the time to degree completion. Ideally this information could be obtained for individual youth/young adults from HECQO/ MAESD. The possibility of linking these files with health and tax data using addresses or SINs should be explored.

E. Ministry of Finance (MOF)/ Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)/ Statistics Canada

Access to tax data from individual income tax and benefit returns can be used to track people's incomes through time (not only for current social assistance recipients, but for all participants regardless of their employment status and total incomes). Some of these data will be directly linked to the administration of the program, and are collected by CRA. Statistics Canada has experience in linking some tax data to individual records from other sources. [68]

Recently approved linkages comprise: a project to link information from the paediatric Oncology Group of Ontario Networked Information System on children diagnosed with cancer to T1FF individual files; a project to link T1FF individual files to student records from 14 post-secondary education institutions; a project to link administrative data files from the Postsecondary Student Information System (PSIS), the Registered Apprenticeship Information System (RAIS) and the T1FF individual files; a project to link micro-data files from the Canadian Health Measures Survey to T1FF individual files; a project to link individual data from the General Social Survey to the T1FF, T1 and T4 files.

http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/record/2015 (http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/record/2015). Another example is the linkage of tax data have to administrative (student records) data for individuals forming the University of Ottawa's graduating cohorts 2008-2010, for a project led by the Education Policy Research Initiative. The linkages were developed at Statistics Canada following the appropriate privacy and security protocols
http://static1.squarespace.com/static/5557eaf0e4b0384b6c9b0172/t/55de23cce4b04ac3473ff754/1440621516496/Data+and+Methodology+Tax+Link+Briefs.pdf
(http://static1.squarespace.com/static/5557eaf0e4b0384b6c9b0172/t/55de23cce4b04ac3473ff754/1440621516496/Data+and+Methodology+Tax+Link+Briefs.pdf)

- T1 Family files/T1 Personal Master files/T4 Summary and Supplementary files [69]
  - **Type:** Administrative (annual)
  - **Information on:** Incomes (households and individuals), taxes, transfer payments, contributions to pension plans, wealth
  - **Rationale:** Tracks incomes from all participants (receiving and not receiving Basic Income) and from all sources: employment income, pension income, self-employment income, non-taxable income, other incomes (such as CCB transfers, non-refundable and refundable tax credits, other governmental transfers, investment income, etc.). T1FF files provide information on the incomes of all individuals, and not only on the incomes of social assistance recipients (on the other hand, MCSS social assistance information contains information that is not available via the tax records of social assistance recipients, such as skills related variables, job search history, etc.). T1FF can also provide access to the items such as claimed tax credits, which enable researchers to track certain behaviours from tax filers (spending patterns on certain items, etc.), and may also offer the opportunity to look at savings behaviours to a certain extent by tracking wealth and contributions (e.g. pensions). Information at the individual level.
  - **Challenges identified by the Ontario Ministry of Finance (MOF):**
    i. MOF currently holds tax data under two data sets: one provides information on individuals' incomes (without sources of incomes such as tax credits and various benefits) and the other (household model) contains income information at the household level and additional information on property tax data, benefits, and some social assistance information. This last database would be most appropriate to evaluate the impacts of a Basic Income pilot, however according to the current protocols, linkages with other administrative datasets (without individuals' consent) require complicated data arrangements. If consent is not obtained, this issue should be addressed as early as possible.

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ii. The MOF tax data holding are only available with a lag of approximately three years, putting some restrictions on the evaluation window of the pilot.[70] Similar delays may be experienced with the CRA.

F. Employment and Social Development Canada

Access to individual EI records, which would be linked to all aforementioned datasets, would track, among other outcomes, EI claims, individuals employment/unemployment spells, and employment status.

- Employment Insurance (EI) individual records
  - **Type:** Administrative (monthly or annual)
  - **Information on:** Status, history, benefits and incomes of former and current recipients of EI
  - **Rationale:** Tracks unemployment spells of individuals claiming EI, as well as their main occupation, former employment status (self-employed, formerly employed, seasonal worker, etc.), the types of benefits received, and the number of periods over which benefits have been claimed/received. Information at the individual level.

Updated: April 8, 2019
Published: November 3, 2016

Footnotes

- [1] ^ However, special attention should be given to ensure that the program does not represent a disincentive to education and training for young adults.
- [2] ^ Ontario Ministry of Finance (2016), 2016 Ontario Budget, p. 132.
- [3] ^ Ontario Ministry of Finance (2016), 2016 Ontario Budget, p. 132.
- [4] ^ The same could be said of ODSP.
- [5] ^ Statistics Canada, Taxfiler Data, CANSIM Table 111-0015 and Ministry of Children and Youth Services special tabulations
- [6] ^ A single individual on Ontario Works receives benefits equivalent to 45 percent of the LIM for an individual living alone. A single individual on ODSP receives benefits equivalent to 70 percent of the LIM for an individual living alone
- [7] ^ The Public Health Agency of Canada lists income and social status as the first socio-economic determinant of health. As early as 1995, the Second Report on the Health of Canadians suggested that "Low-income Canadians are more likely to die earlier and to suffer more illnesses than Canadians with higher incomes, regardless of age, sex, race and place of residence" (Minister of Public Works and Government Services of Canada (1999), *Toward a healthy future: Second report on the health of Canadians*)
- [8] ^ Ontario Association of Food Banks (2008), *The Cost of Poverty: An Analysis of the Economic Cost of Poverty in Ontario*. The report was written by Nathan Laurie. Advisors were Don Drummond, who was then the senior economist and Vice President of the TD Bank, Mark Stabile, economist and then-Director of the School of Public Policy and Governance at the University of Toronto, John Stapleton, then of the Metcalf Foundation, James Milway, Director of the Martin Prosperity Institute at the Rotman School of Business and Judith Maxwell, then-Senior Fellow of the Canadian Policy Research Networks (and formerly head of the Economic Council of Canada).
- [9] ^ As exposed, for example, in: Prus, Steven G. (2002), *Changes in Income within a Cohort over the Later Life Course: Evidence for Income Status Convergence*, Canadian Journal on Aging, 2. and Huguet, Nathalie et al. (2008), Socioeconomic status and health-related quality of life among elderly people: Results from the Joint Canada/United States Survey of Health, Social Sciences and Medicine, 66(4). The positive impact of the OAS and GIS are also exposed in the final reports from the Special Senate Committee on Aging (*Canada's Aging Population: Seizing the Opportunity*, 2009) and the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology (*In From the Margins: A Call to Action on Poverty, Housing and Homelessness*, 2009)
- [10] ^ National Council of Welfare (2011) *The Dollars and Sense of Solving Poverty*, "Canadian Policy in Practice", autumn.
- [11] ^ McIntyre et al, Canadian Public Policy, forthcoming
- [12] ^ Tarasuk, V and R Loopstra (2015), *An Exploration of the Unprecedented Decline in the Prevalence of Household Food Insecurity in Newfoundland and Labrador 2007-2012* Canadian Public Policy, 41(3).
- [13] ^ Tarasuk V., Cheng J., de Oliviera C., Dachner N., Gundersen C. and P. Kurdyak (2015), *Association Between Household Food Insecurity and Annual Health Care Costs*, Canadian Medical Association Journal, 187(14)
- [14] ^ Brownwell et al. (2016), Unconditional Prenatal Income Supplement and Birth Outcomes, Pediatrics.
- [15] ^ Jones L., Milligan K. and Stabile M. (2015), *Child Cash Benefits and Family Expenditures: Evidence from the National Child Benefit*, NBER working paper no 21101, April.
- [16] ^ The list is long, and includes mortgage insurance, capital cost write offs for small and large businesses, Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) deductions, Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) deductions, tax free savings accounts (TSFAs), home ownership assistance, subsidies for renewable energy, investment in infrastructure, preferential dividend tax rates, transfers to universities and colleges, tax deductibility of legitimate business investment and debt interest, research and development tax credits, and a myriad of other programs.
- [17] ^ Recommendation 38 of the report calls for "The federal government [to] undertake a longitudinal study and implement a pilot project consistent with the concept of a guaranteed income." (http://www.parl.gc.ca/HousePublications/Publication.aspx?DocId=8137950&Language=E&File=291#91 (http://www.parl.gc.ca/HousePublications/Publication.aspx?DocId=8137950&Language=E&File=291#91), Accessed: August 1, 2016)
- [18] ^ Political parties across the country have also expressed their support for guaranteed annual income policies. The Liberal party of Canada adopted in its most recent convention a resolution asking "to develop a poverty reduction strategy aimed at providing a minimum guaranteed income", by working in collaboration with the provinces and territories. The Green Party of Canada and the New Democratic Party of Canada also adopted policy resolutions supporting a guaranteed annual income policy. In Prince-Edward Island, leaders from the four main political parties have welcomed initiatives on a guaranteed annual income in the last provincial electoral campaign. The Liberals and the Greens in Manitoba, the New Democrats in Saskatchewan, and the New Democrats in Nova Scotia have also expressed support for such programs. Various Senate reports in Canada, from the 1970s to 2013, have called either for a Guaranteed Annual Income or nation-wide pilots to test its prospective benefits and costs.
- [19] ^ A Basic Income replacing all other forms of social assistance, or with bonuses for labour market participation or volunteering, was rejected by the working group, as was the negative income tax model, for which real time access to individual income data would have been required, but could not be secured before 2019. (Kela, http://www.kela.fi/web/en/news-archive/-/asset_publisher/lN08GY2nlrZo/content/from-idea-to-experiment-preliminary-report-on-a-universal-basic-income-completed (http://www.kela.fi/web/en/news-archive/-/asset_publisher/lN08GY2nlrZo/content/from-idea-to-experiment-preliminary-report-on-a-universal-basic-income-completed), accessed August 2, 2016)
- [20] ^ One of the four versions, which would provide individuals with a, unconditional Basic Income and allow them to keep (at least part of) additional earned income is currently being analyzed for approval by the Ministry of Social Services and Employment. More details are available on the City of Utrecht website "Work and Income: Knowing what works", https://www.utrecht.nl/werk-en-inkomen/weten-wat-werkt/ (https://www.utrecht.nl/werk-en-inkomen/weten-wat-werkt/) (accessed on August 2, 2016)
- [21] ^ Give Directly, https://www.givedirectly.org/basic-income (https://www.givedirectly.org/basic-income) (accessed August 2, 2016)
- [22] ^ Y Combinator, "Moving forward on Basic Income", https://blog.ycombinator.com/moving-forward-on-basic-income (https://blog.ycombinator.com/moving-forward-on-basic-income) (accessed on August 2, 2016)
- [23] ^ Osterkamp, R. (2008), Basic Income Grant – a critical analysis of the first results. In: NEPRU Quarterly Economic Review, September.
- [24] ^ *A Little More, How Much It Is...: Piloting Basic Income Transfers in Madhya Pradesh, India* (New Delhi, SEWA Bharat supported by UNICEF India Office, Jan. 2014)

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- [25] ^ Forget, E. (2011), *The Town with No Poverty: The Health Effects of a Canadian Guaranteed Annual Income Field Experiment*, Canadian Public Policy, 37(3), September.
- [26] ^ In all provinces save Quebec.
- [27] ^ It began under the Douglas government in Saskatchewan in the early 1960s, before its national application was studied by the Diefenbaker government under Justice Emmett Hall to become a federal program under the Pearson administration between 1963 and 1968.
- [28] ^ Aggregated statistics or results should only be made public once it has been established that they do not allow for any individual participant's identity to be inferred or retrieved.
- [29] ^ Suggested, existing administrative data sets, related to health and to all other outcomes and characteristics of interest, to which access should be obtained by the research team, are listed in section H (technical notes) at the end of this discussion paper.
- [30] ^ According to a review of the caseload of Ontario Works clients for the city of Toronto, temporary poor health was the most common barrier to employment (38 percent of individuals on Ontario Works for two years or more, and 24 percent of those on Ontario Works for less than two years).
- [31] ^ Combining data on educational outcomes and time use could also help in pinning down the mechanisms through which a Basic Income could influence children's academic achievement.
- [32] ^ Previous research has also highlighted the negative impact of long unemployment spells on health outcomes through isolation and lower income (for example Nichols, Mitchell, and Lindner (2013) Consequences of Long-Term Unemployment, Urban Institute), which is susceptible to reinforce the dynamics linking poor health, labour force participation and poverty. The pilot could provide an opportunity to test if a Basic Income could alter these dynamics, and if so, to what extent.
- [33] ^ Information provided by Toronto Employment and Social Services, August 2016.
- [34] ^
- [35] ^ Either through unique identifiers or using probabilistic techniques.
- [36] ^ Eventually, a Basic Income that is generous enough could replace, for example, the Ontario Sales Tax Credit or the Harmonized Sales Tax Credit (upon agreement with the federal government), but this option should be explored after completion of the pilot.
- [37] ^ Children and seniors are already subject to some form of Basic Income through the GIS/OAS and the CCB. In the case of a full roll out, the government would have to decide if and how a Basic Income should apply/be available to full-time students. Excluding them while extending a Basic Income to individuals aged 18 to 64 would potentially result in creating important disincentives to enrolling in post-secondary education, to which prospective first generation university students, or individuals from lower socioeconomic background are more likely to respond. Solutions considered might include integrating the various forms of financial support available to students (for example OSAP, MAESD grants, etc.) with a Basic Income program. These options all involve a level of complexity that should be further explored with local agencies in charge of administering Ontario Works and ODSP, and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development. Such an integration could also be designed for the purposes of a pilot, but is likely to add a layer of complexity in terms of programs coordination and may not be achievable within the timeline chosen to conduct the pilot.
- [38] ^ The amount of benefits should be based on the family's income in the previous fiscal year, but mechanisms should be set to allow for changes in family income and composition to be reflected in the payments between fiscal years. Individuals should be provided with an opportunity to signal such changes (marriage, divorce, child birth, job loss, etc.) for their benefits to be revised; those changes could later be verified against the tax returns filed by the individual. Payments should be made using direct deposit, mailed cheques, or via a community agency when the first two options are not possible.
- [39] ^ Payments could also be issued bi-weekly for individuals who, for example, suffer from disabilities that may be associated with financial planning challenges.
- [40] ^ The tax rates in Winnipeg portion of the Mincome experiment were 35 per cent, 50 per cent and 75 per cent. The work reduction effects of Mincome were in the order of seven per cent somewhat weaker than the 10 percent – 17 per cent found for the US experiments. Hum, Derek and Simpson, Wayne, "Economic Response to a Guaranteed Annual Income: Experience from Canada and the United States," *Journal of Labour Economics*, Vol. 11, No. 1, pp. S263-S296 (1993) and Prescott, David; Swidinsky, Robert; and Wilton, David, "Labour supply estimates for low-income female heads of household using Mincome data", Canadian Journal of Economics, Vol. 19, No. 1, (1986).
- [41] ^ The additional amount received by individuals with a disability should be at least $500, but ideally that amount would also be informed by an up-to-date assessment of the costs of living with a disability. The value of $500 should be increased if necessary in the light of this assessment.
- [42] ^ Sometimes, for a handful of residents who would have been randomly selected to participate in the pilot.
- [43] ^ Moreover, a low baseline level of mobility would limit the number of cases of individuals for whom traditional Ontario Works/ODSP services would have to be organized.
- [44] ^ Inspiration for this component of the pilot could be taken from the existing examples of initiatives taken by Indigenous communities to adapt the existing social assistance programs in Ontario (such as Ontario Works) to the realities of First Nations communities, and in a culturally appropriate way. One example of such programs is Niigaaniin, which currently serves the seven North Shore First Nations (http://www.niigaaniin.com/index.php/about-niigaaniin (http://www.niigaaniin.com/index.php/about-niigaaniin))
- [45] ^ For example, by reducing the likelihood of homelessness, reducing the probability of reapplication after leaving welfare, or increasing the duration of periods off welfare for clients reapplying.
- [46] ^ Research in developing countries also suggests that pairing unconditional cash transfers and improved access to counseling generate stronger (positive) impacts when implemented together.
- [47] ^ It should be noted however that health utilization data may not be as easy to retrieve from recent immigrants not yet covered by OHIP, and whose health care utilization could not be monitored using most administrative files.
- [48] ^ Ontario Works currently brings a single adult to 45 per cent of the LIM for Ontario, while ODSP brings a single individual with a qualifying disability to approximately 70 percent of the LIM (most of the additional benefits allowing to cover from the extra costs associated with the special needs incurred by the disability itself)
- [49] ^ For example, the prescription drug coverage, the children dental coverage, support for vision care, coverage for eye examination, benefits for diabetic or surgical supplies and dressings, travel and transportation for medical purposes, assistive devices, other extended health benefits, employment benefits and other benefits.
- [50] ^ Regulation 298, section 50(3).
- [51] ^ Which could be attested by a health professional.
- [52] ^ As mentioned above, while established at a monthly minimum of $500, this amount would ideally be informed by a re-assessment of the costs of living with a disability.
- [53] ^ As described in section D (iii).
- [54] ^ Although some do not represent tests of a universal Basic Income per se because of the eligibility criteria associated with participation, most do not specify specific claw-back mechanisms (as in a NIT).
- [55] ^ The Mincome experiment provided some promising insights on the responses, both in terms of labour market participation and of health and education outcomes, of an NIT in the Canadian context, and various NIT experiments were conducted in the U.S. in the 1970s. However, given the important changes undergone by the labour markets since then, and the introduction of various new policy tools that might interact with an NIT, obtaining new evidence on the effects of such a program seems important.
- [56] ^ Except for one group of individuals in the RCT who would receive a Basic Income guarantee equivalent to the LIM. All other groups in the pilot (including participants in the saturation sites) would receive 70 per cent of the LIM.
- [57] ^ To that extent, a strategy to reach individuals without a fixed address should also be elaborated.
- [58] ^ As was the case, for instance, with other experiments such as At home/Chez soi.
- [59] ^ Other measures to facilitate participation (such as the provision of transit fares, childcare, meals, etc.) from participants in the interview should also be made available. Moreover, the use of various technologies (phone, secure online surveys, etc.) could be considered. Interviews should moreover be conducted in accessible spaces.

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- [60] ^Moreover, limiting the analysis to evaluation based on existing administrative data that requires no further intrusion in participants' lives during the pilot and no additional time commitment on their part may help in limiting attrition. Nearly half (47.21 per cent) of the individuals in the Winnipeg sample who left the Mincome experiment after enrolling and who gave a reason for doing so mentioned that the interviews were either too long, too intrusive or too extensive as the main reason for attrition. Overall, (Mason, G, (1983) *Methodological and Logistical Issues in Social Experiments: The Case of Mincome*, Working Paper 1, Institute for Social and Economic Research)
- [61] ^For example, previous projects matching administrative health data to MCSS administrative records for ODSP recipients based on these four variables had success rates beyond 90 percent.
- [62] ^The interviews conducted in the first phase of the pilot should consider exploring the concept of household as a decision making unit, to determine if, in the absence of tax filers' spousal SINs, individuals sharing an address can be an appropriate way to define a household, and to link records.
- [63] ^This entity should for instance meet the requirements of the *Ontario Personal Health Information Protection Act*.
- [64] ^For example, some of the 120 standardized indicators developed by the Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario. These indicators could also of course be retrieved from aggregated data sources, such as IntelliHEALTH. Other indicators not available at the individual level could also be considered, to measure the community-level impacts of the pilot; for example the Early Development Instrument data (ideally at least one wave prior to the pilot and one wave during or after its implementation for the communities corresponding to saturation sites).
- [65] ^Examples provided by the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) – Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) Health Equity Workgroup.
- [66] ^Information of First Nations in the existing MCSS data holding may be limited, and therefore, a pilot design should address the issue of data collection for First Nations participants (including if a saturation site is selected in collaboration with First Nations leadership).
- [67] ^If not possible, publicly available, data at the school/school board level could be used to evaluate educational community-level effects of BI for the saturation sites components of the pilot.
- [68] ^
- [69] ^For the purposes of running the pilot's operations (for example, determining the benefits to be paid to each participants under the Basic Income based on their income), the Automated Income Verification data by the MOF might be used.
- [70] ^Another issue to be considered if tax data is accessed from MOF, is the capacity to access historical tax data for individuals who might have filed in other provinces in the years prior to the pilot (but who would still meet the eligibility criteria to participate).

This is Exhibit "27" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Archived News Release

This document was published on November 03, 2016 and is provided for archival and research purposes.

Ontario Seeking Input on Basic Income P

Province Launching Consultations on Innovative Way t

November 3, 2016 1:20 P.M. | Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Ontario is seeking public input to help inform the design of a basic income pilot, which is an innovative new approach to providing income security.

The pilot would test whether a basic income is a more effective way of lifting people out of poverty and improving health, housing and employment outcomes. Through the consultations, Ontario is seeking input from across the province, including from people with lived experience, municipalities, experts and academics. The province will also work with Indigenous partners to tailor a culturally appropriate engagement process that reflects the advice and unique perspective of First Nations, urban Indigenous, Métis and Inuit communities.

The province is consulting on key questions, including: who should be eligible, where the pilot should take place, what the basic income level should be and how best to evaluate it. The consultations will be guided, in part, by a discussion paper by the Hon. Hugh Segal, Finding a Better Way: A Basic Income Pilot Project for Ontario, and will run from November 2016 to January 2017. People can participate by:

- Attending a regional in-person discussion hosted by the province.
- Commenting online at ontario.ca/basicincome.

Exploring innovative ways to deliver supports and services is part of our government's plan to create jobs, grow our economy and help people in their everyday lives.

Quick Facts

- Finland, the Netherlands and Kenya are also looking at developing pilot projects that test the idea of a basic or guaranteed annual income.
- Y-Combinator, a California technology company has announced it will be piloting a Basic Income project that is expected to run for five years.
- The government will prepare a final report on what we heard during the consultations, and introduce a plan for the pilot by April, 2017.
- Organizations interested in hosting their own basic income pilot consultations can go to ontario.ca/basicincome for the consultation guide.

Additional Resources

- Join the online consultations
- Read the summary of the Hon. Hugh Segal's recommendations
- About social services

Quotes

"We are always looking for innovative, evidence-based solutions that can help us end poverty and improve public services to make them simpler, more efficient and more effective for the people who need them the most. This pilot is an opportunity to test that approach, and we look forward to hearing as many views as possible, including from people with lived experience, community partners and experts, to ensure we get it right."

Dr. Helena Jaczek
Minister of Community and Social Services

"We know that many Ontarians are still living in poverty and that we must continue to look for ways to address this challenge. A basic income pilot is an innovative, evidence-generating tool that will help us identify what's working, measure our progress and expand our toolbox as we explore better ways to build a foundation for Ontarians to reach their full potential."

Hon. Chris Ballard
Minister of Housing and the Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy

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This is Exhibit "28" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Ontario

This page was published under a previous government and is available for archival and research purposes.

Archived - Basic Income consultations: What we heard

This report outlines what was heard when Ontarians were invited to share their feedback on the design of a Basic Income Pilot.

Effective March 2019 we are winding down the basic income pilot project. Learn more (https://news.ontario.ca/mcys/en/2018/08/ontarios-government-for-the-people-announces-compassionate-wind-down-of-basic-income-research-projec.html).

Ministers' message

Testing new ways to provide income support and fight poverty

We believe that every family deserves the dignity and security of a life free from poverty. That's why our government is proud to launch a Basic Income Pilot to test a different approach to providing people with income support.

Using the Discussion Paper (https://www.ontario.ca/page/finding-better-way-basic-income-pilot-project-ontario#section-8) written by the Honourable Hugh Segal as a starting point, consultations were held across the province, giving people a voice in determining what the Pilot could look like. Through this report, we are pleased to present what we heard on how best to design and implement the Basic Income Pilot to address the needs of low income individuals. We continue to work with Indigenous partners to ensure that the unique perspectives of their communities are heard.

Building on this feedback, we will introduce a Basic Income Pilot that will test an evidence-based model on how to improve health, employment and housing outcomes for the people of Ontario.

The Pilot will complement our Poverty Reduction Strategy (https://www.ontario.ca/page/realizing-our-potential-ontarios-poverty-reduction-strategy-2014-2019). It will also help inform the work of our Income Security Reform Working Group (https://news.ontario.ca/mcss/en/2016/06/ontario-establishing-income-security-reform-working-group.html), which has been tasked to build a multi-year plan to reform social assistance within the broader income security landscape.

As we design the Pilot, we will ensure that no one will be worse off because they have chosen to participate. This means that participants can always exit the Pilot if their circumstances change. Evaluation results from the Pilot will be made public to help inform the future income security system.

Basic income is a simplified approach to income support. Beyond a basic income, we know that people in Ontario will need other important services like the Ontario Child Benefit. We will ensure that participants have the information they need to decide if the Basic Income Pilot might be right for them based on their unique circumstances.

The energy and enthusiasm that stakeholders, advocates, people with lived experience and other interested individuals brought to the consultations was truly remarkable. As this report demonstrates, the consultation process has provided us with much to consider as we design a model for a Basic Income Pilot in Ontario.

We would like to thank everyone who participated in this important consultation. We are carefully considering all of the feedback we have received as we work to introduce a Basic Income Pilot and are eager to begin the Pilot later this year.

The Honourable Dr. Helena Jaczek
Minister of Community and Social Services
The Honourable Chris Ballard
Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy
Minister of Housing

Background

Every day, individuals and families receive income supports through Ontario Works (http://www.mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/ow/), the Ontario Disability Support Program (http://www.mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/odsp/), the Ontario Child Benefit, and various other tax credits and benefits. While we have heard that we must continue to improve these programs through rate increases and other improvements and through targeted measures in the Poverty Reduction Strategy (https://www.ontario.ca/page/realizing-our-potential-ontarios-poverty-reduction-strategy-2014-2019), we believe more could be done.

We want to test a new approach to improving the health and well-being of people living on low incomes. That's why in June 2016, we asked the Honourable Hugh Segal for advice on how to design and implement a Basic Income Pilot in Ontario. Mr. Segal submitted a discussion paper, Finding a Better Way: A Basic Income Pilot for Ontario, which we used as the starting point for our consultations with Ontarians.

What is basic income

A basic income is generally seen as a payment from the government to a person or family to ensure they receive a minimum income level.

Different than social assistance, a basic income can be:

- given to anyone who meets the income eligibility criteria
- generally simpler to administer

A basic income can be implemented in a number of ways, including:

- giving the same amount of money to everyone
- topping up the incomes of people who earn less than a certain amount
- setting up a system where people who earn less than a certain amount get a payment from the government, instead of paying taxes

How the consultations worked

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We sought input from people across the province, including people with lived experience with poverty, municipalities, experts, academics, and the general public. We are also working with Indigenous partners to engage with First Nations, urban Indigenous, Métis and Inuit communities.

Broad and inclusive consultations

Our consultations were broad and inclusive, gathering input from a cross-section of people in Ontario. To ensure that everyone had an opportunity to express their opinions on how a Basic Income Pilot should work, we used four complementary approaches to gather feedback:

1. In-person public meetings
2. An online survey for the public
3. An online survey aimed at people who either work in or are interested in the sector
4. Written submissions from the public, community and related groups

Between November 3, 2016 and January 31, 2017:

- 32,870
  people responded to the public survey
- 1,213
  people responded to the expert survey
- 1,193
  people attended the in-person meetings
- 537+
  written submissions from private citizens and community groups

The public input we received through the consultations is crucial to designing and implementing an effective Basic Income Pilot.

Consultation findings at a glance

Many individuals who participated in the consultations support the idea of a Basic Income Pilot. In general, they want the Pilot to:

1. **Include a representative sample of participants**
   Many agreed that Pilot participants be restricted to residents of the Pilot sites aged 18-64. Among those who participated in in-person consultations, there was also strong agreement that the pilot should include people who are currently receiving social assistance (Ontario Works, Ontario Disability Support Program).
2. **Have representative locations**
   Consultation participants supported selecting locations that represent a cross section of social, economic and demographic profiles that are reflective of the entire province. A majority agreed that the Pilot should include urban, rural and northern locations, with varying populations and poverty rates that are representative of the diverse circumstances experienced across the province.
3. **Lift people out of poverty**
   There was strong agreement that the Basic Income amount should be set at a level that will lift participants out of poverty. There was a divide over how much that level should be, with some participants recommending a level of 75% of the Low Income Measure (LIM). Others thought that it should be set at 100% of the LIM. The LIM is a common income-based definition of poverty, equal to half of the median household income in Ontario, and adjusted for the number of household members. For 2016, 75% of the LIM would be $16,989 for a single person or $24,027 for a couple.

4. **Run efficiently**
   Participants were asked if they agreed with piloting the Negative Income Tax (NIT) model, also described as a "refundable tax credit," that would guarantee a certain level of income. There was solid support for this model, with many respondents noting that it would be a simple, fair system that would encourage employment. While the Discussion Paper specifically recommends against using a Universal Basic Income (or "demogrant") where all adults in the Pilot would receive the same payment regardless of income level, some people in the in-person consultations suggested using this method.
5. **Measure specific outcomes**
   Participants were primarily focused on the following four outcomes that they believe would be most directly impacted by a basic income: **health, housing, food and work behaviour.**

What we heard

The following is a summary of the thousands of comments, suggestions, and opinions we received during the consultations. Participants provided us with creative and innovative answers to many of the questions that arose during the consultations. As in any public consultation, there were also some varying opinions on how we should proceed. This summary is a snapshot of the entire consultation process, organized under the following headings:

- Determining eligibility for the Pilot
- Selecting locations for the Pilot
- Determining the Basic Income benefit amount
- Delivering the Pilot results
- Evaluating the Basic Income Pilot

Determining eligibility for the Pilot

Consultation participants were asked to suggest specific groups of people for the Pilot, and to consider what factors the Pilot should use to determine their eligibility.

Eligibility

Many agreed that Pilot participants should be residents of the Pilot sites who are aged 18-64. There was strong agreement that people currently receiving social assistance (Ontario Works, Ontario Disability Support Program) should also be eligible for the Pilot, which was also suggested in the Discussion Paper. Some also wanted to include seniors in the Pilot, and others suggested including youth aged 16 and 17 who are living independently. Many of those consulted suggested that the criteria for Pilot eligibility should be broad.

Diversity

Participants felt that it was important to ensure a diverse sample of the population, taking into account some groups that are more likely to benefit from a basic income. Some specific groups suggested were:

- those engaged in precarious work
- people trying to enter the workforce (e.g. new graduates and immigrants)
- people receiving Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program benefits
- undocumented residents
- single parents
- First Nations people and communities
- newcomers
- refugees
- homeless people

Income determination

Participants were divided in their opinions on whether to use either individual income or family income to determine eligibility for the Pilot. Participants pointed out advantages for both criteria.

People who preferred using **family income** for eligibility noted:

- family income is the most accurate and fair measure of household resources
- income disparity within families means one member could qualify while others wouldn't
- family cost of living is shared
- household expenses are higher for families than individuals
- family members support each other financially

People who preferred using **individual income** for eligibility noted:

- it provides individuals with more autonomy and choice
- it may reduce financial pressure to remain in abusive relationships
- unemployed members of a family could receive their own basic income directly

Selecting locations for the Pilot

Participants in the consultations were asked to suggest criteria and a process for selecting Pilot locations. They considered whether the Pilot should be launched in multiple communities simultaneously, or phased-in over time.

Variety of locations

Many agreed that the Pilot should include urban, rural, and northern locations, with varying populations and poverty rates. Participants strongly supported selecting locations that reflect the diverse social and economic contexts of Ontario's communities.

Locations with demonstrated need

Another area of broad agreement was to select areas that demonstrate the greatest need, or where there are disproportionately high poverty rates. Participants offered specific suggestions to help select relevant communities that would provide meaningful Pilot data. These included:

- areas most in need, based on regional poverty rates
- areas with low employment rates
- First Nation communities, including urban, rural and isolated locations
- the 10 regions in Ontario with the most people receiving social assistance benefits
- areas with poor health statistics and limited access to housing
- locations with significant economic disparities
- communities with a distressed manufacturing sector

Locations willing to participate

Most participants emphasized the importance of selecting communities that are willing and even enthusiastic to participate in the Pilot. To accomplish this, they suggested:

- identification of suitable communities
- no requirement that communities must apply to be considered
- a simple application process for interested communities

- a random selection process drawing from a pool of interested/suitable communities 000843

Some participants suggested that if someone moves from a designated Pilot area, they should not lose access to Basic Income.

Diverse populations

Many groups underlined the importance of defining diversity in the context of specific communities. For example, diversity in an urban community would likely differ significantly from diversity in a rural setting.

Most groups expressed a preference for locations that reflect various aspects of the province's diversity. These include:

- communities with high levels of ethno-cultural diversity
- First Nations communities

Simultaneous start up

Many participants preferred a simultaneous launch of the Pilot in all locations across Ontario. Advantages cited include:

- different groups can be compared in real time
- the ability to provide data sooner
- being able to offer help to participants sooner
- more reliable and comparable data
- limiting the amount of variation in the study arising from differing timelines

Some suggested a staggered approach to implementing the Pilot, citing the opportunity to work out operational challenges. Possible benefits of a staggered approach include taking the time necessary to slowly roll out the Pilot in a thoughtful and practical way.

Determining the Basic Income benefit amount

Consultation participants considered how much a basic income should be and what that amount should do - should it raise incomes significantly, or provide a modest level of stability? They were also asked to suggest what other services and supports should accompany basic income, and what elements of existing programs (e.g., Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program) should be replaced by the Basic Income during the Pilot.

The Discussion Paper (https://www.ontario.ca/page/finding-better-way-basic-income-pilot-project-ontario) recommended using the Low Income Measure (LIM), a common income-based definition of poverty, to set benefits rates. The LIM is equal to half of the median household in Ontario, and adjusted for the number of people in the household.

Lifting people out of poverty

There was agreement that the Basic Income amount should be set at a level that will lift participants out of poverty, with mixed opinion on how much that level should be, ranging between 75% or 100% of LIM. There was a recognition that the amount should consider the additional needs of families with children. There was a general agreement with the Discussion Paper recommendation that people with disabilities receive an additional $500 per month, in addition to the 75% and 100% LIM amount.

Table: Potential Basic Income amounts

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Household size	75% LIM 2016 estimate	100% LIM 2016 estimate
Single person	$16,989	$22,653
Couple	$24,027	$32,036

Working with existing programs

There was widespread concern about the effect that a basic income could have on those who are currently receiving Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program benefits. In virtually every consultation, participants agreed with the principle outlined in the Discussion Paper that "no individual will be made worse off during or after the Pilot."

There was also general agreement that current features of existing benefits (dental, drugs, assistance devices, medical transportation, vision care, etc.) for those on social assistance should be maintained with the Basic Income Pilot.

A small number of participants suggested that the Basic Income should replace other benefit programs, such as Employment Insurance, Old Age Security, Canada Pension Plan, etc.

Many participants also commented that social assistance rates should be raised immediately in order to better meet Ontarians' needs.

Considering cost of living

Many consultation participants referred to the cost of living in communities across Ontario, where it can be higher in some urban and northern areas of the province. For example, the amount required to cover living expenses and basic needs such as food and housing differs according to where one lives. Respondents agreed this should be considered when determining how much a basic income should be.

Additional services and benefits

Many consultation participants offered suggestions for additional services that should be available for participants in the Basic Income Pilot. These suggested services include:

- employment services
- financial literacy training
- income tax support services
- food/nutrition education
- internet access
- life skills training
- medical benefits (including dental and drug)
- mental health and addictions support

Delivering the Basic Income Pilot

Participants were asked if they agreed with the Negative Income Tax (NIT) model, as recommended in the Discussion Paper. Also defined as a refundable tax credit, this model would guarantee a certain level of income regardless of circumstances.

The Discussion Paper specifically recommends against using a Universal Basic Income (or "demogrant") where all adults in the Pilot would receive the same payment, subject to income tax. The paper notes that other jurisdictions are testing this method, and that financial costs would be prohibitive. Despite this, many people in the in-person consultations suggested using this method, acknowledging the higher costs.

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Consultation participants also offered opinions on how the Basic Income Pilot should respond to changes in a person's income.

Choosing a benefit delivery model

In the NIT model, benefits are provided to those whose income falls below a minimum level. Benefits are adjusted at an established rate, as earned income increases or decreases. Some respondents preferred this delivery model. The preference for NIT rose significantly in step with their understanding of how it would work in practice.

Many respondents who agreed with the use of the NIT model noted that it would be a simple, fair system that would encourage employment. Most preferred to have some type of income tracking (such as the existing income tax system) in place.

Suggestions to enhance delivery through an NIT include:

- additional supports to help participants navigate the income tax system
- setting income levels annually, and allowing for more frequent payments (e.g. monthly or bi-weekly)

Many participants also stated that the Basic Income Pilot should be flexible to reflect changes in a person's circumstances, for example, job loss, divorce or changes in income. This would ensure that the Basic Income continues to provide stability and income security if a new challenge arises.

For those who favoured a Universal Basic Income model (equal payments to all in the Pilot regardless of income level), its simplicity was seen as a great strength, while its costs were often cited as prohibitive.

Delivering payments

Most participants who favoured the NIT model also felt that delivery using the income tax system would work best. Opinions on how participants should receive their payments were quite consistent. Various payment systems were suggested, including direct deposit, email money transfers, and reloadable payment cards. Some noted that these payment methods would also ensure privacy and reduce bureaucracy.

Evaluating the Pilot results

Evaluation of the Pilot depends on reliable, secure data that reflect measurable outcomes. Consultation participants ranked the importance of 10 outcomes that could be affected by the Pilot. These outcomes range from health and education to food insecurity and social inclusion. The participants also offered their views on how to protect the privacy of Pilot participants, while ensuring that the data generated by the Pilot is useful for planning purposes and future programs.

Measuring outcomes: health and housing top the list

The Discussion Paper suggested 10 measurable outcomes to be assessed in order of importance by consultation participants. They are:

- health
- life and career choices
- education outcomes
- work behaviour, job search and employment status
- community level impacts where the Pilot operates in local areas
- direct administrative costs or savings
- changes in food security status

- perceptions of citizenship and inclusion for participants
- impact on mobility and housing arrangements.
- impact on participants' relationship with existing social programs

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There was a general agreement that four of the 10 outcomes listed in the Discussion Paper are particularly important: **health, housing, food, and work behaviour**. Many participants noted that improvements in these four areas would improve outcomes in most of the other suggested areas. Others declined to rank them, stating that all the outcomes were important.

Participants also offered their own ideas for indicators to assist in measuring progress toward the 10 outcomes. These included:

- food bank usage
- health care wait times
- enrolment in post-secondary and trade programs
- volunteer activity
- homelessness rates
- crime rates
- domestic violence rates
- community safety
- quality of life (e.g. family time, arts)
- mental health
- rates of addiction
- high school and postsecondary graduation rates
- visits to hospital and doctors' offices
- community involvement
- ability to cope and provide for family

Protecting participant privacy

Many participants expressed a strong preference for strict protection of the Pilot participants' privacy and confidentiality. Another common thread was a belief that participants could (and would) share their personal information, as long as it could not be traced back to them. Many participants said that if they were in the Basic Income Pilot, they would share their anonymous personal information if they knew how it would be used. Some did not agree that any data should be shared.

With those privacy caveats in place, a strong majority understood and accepted the need to share anonymized research findings with the public. Many also believed that Pilot participants should have access to the results before they are released to the public.

Encouraging participation

Consultation participants offered numerous creative ideas to encourage participation in the Pilot. They include:

- communicating through the media
- helping people to understand how their information will be used
- simplifying the application process
- providing success stories
- being transparent about the purpose of the Pilot as the basis for further research
- emphasizing that it could reduce government spending in the future
- explaining that there will be support provided to participants after the Pilot ends
- discussing the benefits of participation in the Pilot
- ensuring service providers receive education about the Pilot

Comments beyond basic income

Activists from the "Raise the Rates" campaign attended some of the consultations and read a motion from the floor calling for an immediate increase in social assistance rates.

Submissions to the Basic Income Pilot consultations

The Ministry received submissions from a wide variety of groups and organizations, along with hundreds of submissions from individuals.

Municipalities

Regional Municipality of York

Regional Municipality of Durham - staff

Regional Municipality of Durham - community

Simcoe Muskoka District Health UNIT (on behalf of alPHA-OPHA and Public Health Ontario)

Simcoe County

City of Kawartha Lakes

Region of Peel - staff

Region of Peel - community

London's Child and Youth Network and City of London, Social Services - Lived Experience

London's Child and Youth Network and City of London, Social Services - Staff

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Halton Region

Ontario Municipal Social Services Association

City of Niagara Falls

United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

Toronto Public Health

City of St. Thomas

Community organizations

Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario

Basic Income Earth Network, Belgium

Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and Empowerment Council 000848

Campaign 2000/Family Service Toronto

Canadian Diabetes Association

Canadian Mental Health Association

CNIB

Coalition of Community Health and Resource Centres of Ottawa

Dietitians of Canada

Down Syndrome Association of Simcoe County

Group Ottawa for Basic Income Guarantee

Guelph and Wellington Task Force for Poverty Elimination

Halton Poverty Roundtable

Hamilton Community Food Centre

Income and Community Development Pillar, Thunder Bay and District Poverty Reduction Strategy

Income Security Advocacy Centre

Land O'Lakes Community Services

Louis Even Institute of Social Justice

March of Dimes Canada

Middlesex-London health Unit

Niagara Poverty Reduction Network

North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit

North Lanark Community Health Centre

Ontario Association of Interval & Transition Houses (OAITH) Survivor Group

Ontario Council, Canadian Federation of University Women

Ontario Economic Development Society

Ontario Native Welfare Administrator's Association

Ontario Network of Employment Skills Training Projects

Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association

Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health

Ottawa Poverty Reduction Network

Peel Poverty Action Group

Poverty Reduction Network Sarnia-Lambton

Registered Nurses Association of Ontario

Rideau Community Health Services

Sault Ste. Marie and Algoma District

Scarborough Civic Action Network (SCAN)

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Social Planning Council of York Region

St. Catharines Road to Empowerment

St. Clare's Multifaith Housing Society

Toronto-Danforth Provincial Liberal Association

United Way Peterborough

University of Toronto Public Health & Preventive Medicine Resident Physicians

West Neighborhood House

West Neighborhood House, Informal Economy project

Yonge Street Mission

YWCA Toronto

Labour

Ontario Federation of Labour

Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU)

Canadian Union of Public Employees, Ontario

Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 79

Basic income groups

Voice of the Poor Committee

Basic Income Waterloo Region

Hamilton Basic Income

Basic Income Peterborough Network

Kingston Action Group for a Basic Income

Political organizations

Green Party of Ontario

Green Party of Canada

Ministry of Community and Social Services and Ontario Works Offices

ODSP office, Scarborough

ODSP Client Advisory Group

ODSP office, Brantford

ODSP office, Simcoe

ODSP Special Services At Home (SSAH), and Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD)

Lanark County Ontario Works

ODSP office, 47 Sheppard Ave. E, Toronto

ODSP office, Sudbury

Ontario Works, City of Kingston

Updated: August 2, 2019
Published: March 16, 2017

Related

Basic Income Pilot home page (https://www.ontario.ca/page/basic-income-pilot-consultation)

Finding a Better Way: A Basic Income Pilot for Ontario

This is Exhibit "29" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Archived News Release

This document was published on March 16, 2017 and is provided for archival and research purposes.

Ontario Releases Basic Income Consultat

Province Moving Forward with Pilot Program in 2017

March 16, 2017 9:30 A.M. | Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Ontario is releasing a report that summarizes the feedback gathered from thousands of people across the province on how to design and deliver a basic income pilot.

Basic income is a payment to eligible families or individuals that ensures a minimum income level. It is designed to help people meet their basic needs while supporting long-term social and economic prosperity and security for everyone.

More than 35,000 people and organizations shared their ideas on a range of topics including who should be eligible for a basic income, which communities to include, how a basic income should be delivered and how the pilot should be evaluated, during the consultations.

Consultation feedback supports a basic income pilot that:

- Includes Ontario residents aged 18-64 living in socially and economically diverse communities, in urban, rural and northern locations
- Helps people living on low incomes meet their basic needs
- Lifts people out of poverty, with long-term improvements in health, employment and housing.

The consultations help build on the advice the government received from the Honourable Hugh Segal in his discussion paper.

The province continues to engage with First Nations, urban Indigenous, Métis and Inuit communities to ensure their unique perspectives are heard and to tailor a culturally appropriate approach that reflects their advice.

All input received through the consultation process is being considered as the government works to introduce a plan for Ontario's Basic Income Pilot in spring 2017.

Exploring new ways to help people living in poverty reach their full potential is part of the government's plan to create jobs, grow the economy and help people in their everyday lives.

Quick Facts

- Between November 3, 2016 and January 31, 2017, about 1,200 participants attended 14 public consultations held in communities across Ontario. Over 34,000 people completed the online survey. Written submissions were received from more than 80 community organizations and groups with expertise and experience in fighting poverty.

- The province is looking to create a pilot that would test how a basic income might benefit people living in a variety of low income situations, including those who are currently working.

- Finland launched a guaranteed income pilot in January 2017 and the Netherlands and Kenya are also looking at developing pilot projects that test the idea of a basic or guaranteed annual income.

- Y-Combinator, a California technology company has announced it will be piloting a basic income project that is expected to run for five years.

Additional Resources

- Read Basic Income Consultations: What We Heard
- Watch a video on the basics of Basic Income
- Read Finding a Better Way, a basic income discussion paper by Hugh Segal and a summary of his recommendations

Quotes

"We are committed to taking a careful and evidence-based approach to the design and implementation of the basic income pilot. The collaborative consultation process we have undertaken will help us to deliver an effective basic income pilot and explore solutions that support long-term economic prosperity and security for everyone in Ontario."

Dr. Helena Jaczek
Minister of Community and Social Services

"Every family in Ontario deserves the security and dignity of a life free from poverty. After hearing from people in person and through over 34,000 responses online, I'm energized to build on their feedback and introduce a basic income pilot that will test how to improve health, employment and housing outcomes for the people of Ontario."

Chris Ballard
Minister Responsible for Poverty Reduction

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This is Exhibit "30" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Archived News Release

This document was published on April 24, 2017 and is provided for archival and research purposes.

Giving More People an Opportunity to G Ahead

Ontario Basic Income Pilot to Launch in Thunder Bay, Hamilton and Lindsay

April 24, 2017 9:15 A.M. | Office of the Premier

Ontario is launching a pilot project to assess whether a basic income can better support vulnerable workers, improve health and education outcomes for people on low incomes, and help ensure that everyone shares in Ontario's economic growth.

Premier Kathleen Wynne announced details of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP) project today at LiUNA Station in Hamilton. The three-year study will test how a basic income might expand opportunities and job prospects of those living on low incomes while providing greater security for them and their families.

Ontario's economy is in a relatively strong position, however many people in the province are not feeling that growth in their everyday lives. People are struggling to keep up with the rising cost of living and facing "precarious employment" with little job security or benefits. This pilot will study whether a basic income can bridge that gap and give people the security and opportunity they need to achieve their potential.

Three regions will take part in the study. Pilots will start in late spring in Hamilton, including Brantford and Brant County; and in Thunder Bay and the surrounding area. The third pilot will start by this fall in Lindsay.

The Basic Income model Ontario has developed will ensure that eligible participants receive:

- Up to $16,989 per year for a single person, less 50 per cent of any earned income
- Up to $24,027 per year for a couple, less 50 per cent of any earned income
- Up to an additional $6,000 per year for a person with a disability.

A basic income supports people to begin or continue working, or to further their education. Participants in the pilot will be able to increase their total income by combining a basic income with 50 cents from every dollar they earn at work.

Through this pilot, people who earn less than the basic income amount through employment will receive regular payments to help them better afford basic needs such as housing and food. The three test regions will host 4,000 participants eligible to receive a basic income payment, between the ages of 18 to 64. By late spring, people in these areas will begin receiving information about the pilot and how to participate. The province is partnering with these communities and other experts to make sure that the Ontario Basic Income Pilot is fair, effective, and scientifically valid.

Ontario is also in the early stages of planning a separate, parallel First Nations Basic Income Pilot, co-created and

designed with First Nations partners. 000857

Our approach to basic income is a simplified way to deliver income support that provides a floor under which nobody can fall, regardless of their circumstances. The design was based on advice received from Special Advisor on Basic Income, Hugh Segal, who delivered his report in November. It was also informed by the thousands of people and organizations we heard from during our province-wide consultations.

Ensuring everyone has the opportunity to reach their potential is part of our plan to create jobs, grow our economy and help people in their everyday lives.

Quick Facts

- Ontario is one of a number of places, including Finland, Kenya and the Netherlands, that have launched or are considering a basic income program.
- People eligible for the Ontario Basic Income Pilot will be randomly chosen to receive the basic income or to be part of a control group who don't receive it.
- People receiving support through Ontario Works who enter the pilot will continue to receive the Ontario Drug Benefit, and people on the Ontario Disability Support Program will continue to receive the Ontario Drug Benefit and dental benefits.
- A single person earning $10,000 per year from a part-time job would receive an additional $11,989 in basic income ($16,989 less 50% of their earned income), for a total income of $21,989.
- A third-party research consortium that will evaluate the study will be announced shortly. The province will form an advisory group with research and evaluation experts to ensure that the pilot is conducted with the utmost integrity, rigour and ethical standards.

Background Information

- Ontario's Basic Income Pilot

Additional Resources

- Find out more about eligibility for the Ontario Basic Income Pilot
- Basic Income Consultations: What We Heard
- Advice to the government in the Honourable Hugh Segal's discussion paper
- A video on the basics of Basic Income
- Premier Lays Out Plan for Fairness and Security in Uncertain Times

Quotes

"Everyone should benefit from Ontario's economic growth. A basic income will support people in our province who are reaching for a better life. It gives people the security of knowing they can cover their basic needs and the ability to earn more through work. I believe this pilot is one way that government can be a force for good, and I am excited that Ontario is a leader in piloting this approach to help more people in our province get ahead and stay ahead."

Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario

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"The Ontario Basic Income Pilot will be testing a new approach to income support in a careful, step-by-step way to ensure we get it right. We are starting small, and using the lessons learned as we build the pilot out in further phases. Our goal is to better understand whether this approach could help people living on low incomes in their everyday lives."

Dr. Helena Jaczek
Minister of Community and Social Services

"Every person struggling in poverty is a person denied the ability to reach for a better life. The Basic Income Pilot will help us test ways to make everyday life easier for Ontarians by removing barriers that still stand in the way of improved health, employment and housing for too many among us. Testing a Basic Income is just one way we're working to ensure that every family has the dignity and security of a life free from poverty."

Chris Ballard
Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy

This is Exhibit "31" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

000860

Ontario

This page was published under a previous government and is available for archival and research purposes.

Archived - Ontario Basic Income Pilot

Learn about the pilot project.

Effective March 2019 we are winding down the basic income pilot project. Learn more (https://news.ontario.ca/mcys/en/2018/08/ontarios-government-for-the-people-announces-compassionate-wind-down-of-basic-income-research-projec.html).

Background

In March 2016, we committed, in the Ontario Budget, to create a Basic Income Pilot Project to test a growing view at home and abroad that basic income could provide a new approach to reducing poverty in a sustainable way.

In June 2016, we asked the Honourable Hugh Segal for advice on how we could design, deliver and evaluate a basic income pilot. Segal submitted a discussion paper, which we used to consult with people in Ontario about the design of a Basic Income Pilot.

Those consultations took place from November 3, 2016 to January 31, 2017 and you can read the report back (https://www.ontario.ca/page/basic-income-consultations-what-we-heard) to learn more about what we heard during the consultation.

The Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP) was announced by Premier Kathleen Wynne in Hamilton in April 2017 and the first phase to enroll participants, was successfully completed in April 2018, with full participation across the three pilot sites.

What is a basic income

A basic income is a payment to eligible couples or individuals that ensures a minimum income level, regardless of employment status.

Different than social assistance, a basic income can be:

- given to anyone who meets the income eligibility criterion
- given to someone who may be working but earning below the basic income level
- generally simpler to administer

How the pilot works

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Two groups of eligible applicants were asked to participate:

1. The Basic Income Group are receiving monthly basic income payments for up to a three-year period.
2. The Comparison Group do not receive monthly Basic Income payments, but will actively participate in the research study.

People in these two groups are regularly asked about their health, employment and housing through surveys. Third-party evaluators then compare people in these two groups to see whether a basic income helps people living on low incomes better meet their basic needs and improve their education, housing, employment and health.

Participants from Lindsay are not being assigned to a comparison group. In Lindsay, the Pilot will measure the community-level outcomes of a basic income, e.g. hospital usage.

Participation in the comparison group is essential to the success of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Participants in the comparison group are an important part of the study — it also provides the opportunity to be a part of a ground-breaking pilot. Participants are compensated for their time and effort.

Pilot locations

The Pilot is being run in:

1. Hamilton, Brantford, Brant County
2. Thunder Bay, along with the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge, Township of Shuniah, Municipality of Neebing, Township of Conmee, Township of O'Connor, Township of Gillies
3. Lindsay

The province has enrolled over 4,000 people in the pilot and in addition over 2,000 people will be participating in the comparison group (https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-basic-income-pilot#comparison). This group will not receive monthly Basic Income payments, but will actively participate in the research study.

We chose a mid-size community as well as urban, rural and urban/rural mixed areas so the pilot would be representative of Ontario's population. We assessed regions based on their economic need and indicators, demographics, and availability of local resources and services.

What will be measured

The government will test how a basic income might help people living on low incomes better meet their basic needs, while improving outcomes in:

- food security
- stress and anxiety
- mental health
- health and healthcare usage
- housing stability
- education and training
- employment and labour market participation

Pilot evaluation

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The pilot will be evaluated by a third-party research group, made up of a team of leading researchers, experts and academics led by St. Michael's Hospital and McMaster University.

We're also creating:

- the Minister's Advisory Council, led by Susan McIsaac, former President and CEO of United Way, Toronto and York Region, to give advice and recommendations about the pilot study to the Minister of Community and Social Services and the Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy
- a Research and Evaluation Advisory Committee, led by Dr. Kwame McKenzie, Special Advisor to the Ontario Basic Income Pilot and CEO of the Wellesley Institute, to monitor the pilot and ensure it's conducted with integrity, rigour and meets ethical standards.

How participants were chosen

Participants are:

- 18 to 64 years old for the duration of the pilot.
- living in one of the selected test regions for the past at least 12 months or longer (and still live there):
  - Hamilton, Brantford, Brant County
  - Thunder Bay, along with the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge, Township of Shuniah, Municipality of Neebing, Township of Conmee, Township of O'Connor, Township of Gillies
  - Lindsay
- living on a low income (under $34,000 per year if you're single or under $48,000 per year if a couple)

Payment amount

The payment will ensure a minimum level of income is provided to participants. Aligning with the advice of Hugh Segal, payments based on 75% of the Low Income Measure (LIM), plus other broadly available tax credits and benefits, would provide an income that will meet household costs and average health-related spending.

Following a tax credit model, the Ontario Basic Income Pilot will ensure that participants receive up to:

- $16,989 per year for a single person, less 50% of any earned income
- $24,027 per year for a couple, less 50% of any earned income

People with a disability will also receive up to $500 per month on top.

Working and going to school during the pilot

Participants can go to school to further their education or begin/continue to work while receiving the basic income. The basic income amount will decrease by $0.50 for every dollar an individual earns through work.

Impact on seniors

Seniors are not included in the pilot because most seniors (65+) receive more money through the current seniors' benefits including:

- Old Age Security
- Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Ontario Guaranteed Annual Income System

Impact on other benefits

Child benefits

Participants currently receiving child benefits, such as the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) and the Ontario Child Benefit (OCB), will continue to be eligible to receive them during the pilot.

CPP and EI benefits

Participants receiving Employment Insurance (EI) or Canada Pension Plan (CPP) payments will have their monthly basic income payment reduced dollar for dollar.

Drug and dental benefits

People receiving support through social assistance needed to withdraw from Ontario Works or the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) to participate in the pilot and receive Basic Income. People who leave Ontario Works to participate in the pilot continue to receive the Ontario Drug Benefit. People who leave ODSP to participate in the pilot continue to receive the Ontario Drug Benefit and dental benefits.

Updated: April 8, 2019
Published: April 24, 2017

Related

Read the basic income discussion paper (https://www.ontario.ca/page/finding-better-way-basic-income-pilot-project-ontario) by Hugh Segal and a summary of his recommendations (https://www.ontario.ca/page/finding-better-way-basic-income-pilot-project-ontario#section-1)

Basic Income Pilot in-person discussion summaries (https://www.ontario.ca/page/basic-income-pilot-person-discussion-summaries)

Poverty Reduction Strategy (https://www.ontario.ca/page/poverty-reduction-strategy-annual-report-2016)

This is Exhibit "32" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

000865

tbnewswatch.com

Thunder Bay to take part in basic income pilot

Apr 24, 2017 10:51 AM by: Doug Diaczuk
Updated Apr 24, 2017 11:03 AM



Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne. (File).

THUNDER BAY - The government of Ontario is launching a basic income pilot project and Thunder Bay will be one of three cities taking part.

Premier Kathleen Wynne made the announcement in Hamilton on Monday morning. The pilot project will take place over three years to determine how a basic income could provide more opportunities for people living on a low income.

"One income used to be enough for most families," Wynne said during the announcement. "And now, even with two people working, it's tough to save, it's tough to feel like you are getting ahead, and it's tough to feel confident that your job will still be yours or still be around in five years or 10 years, or even less."

"The project will explore the effectiveness of providing a basic income to people who are currently living on low income, whether they are working or not," Wynne continued. "People participating in our pilot communities will receive a minimum amount each year, a basic income, no matter what."

Thunder Bay and the surrounding area was chosen as one of three cities to take part in the pilot this spring. Hamilton will also be participating in the spring and Lindsay later on in the fall.

As part of the basic income model, eligible participants will receive up to $16,989 per year for a single person and up to $24,027 per year for a couple, less 50 per cent of any earned income. Individuals living with a disability will receive an additional $6,000 per year.

"We must do more than simply protect people's wages and their ability to earn a good living," Wynne said. "We must work to create a fair economy that provides opportunity and security for everyone."

According to Wynne, the Ontario economy is in a strong position and all economic indicators are pointing in the right direction to start the pilot and assisting those with low income.

"We must make sure that hard work is rewarded with a decent pay-cheque," she said. "We must make sure that the opportunities to our people, and especially our young people, that those opportunities not only endure, but that they grow."

Throughout the three regions, 4,000 participants between the ages of 18 and 64 who are eligible will be randomly selected to receive basic income or be part of a control group that does not receive it. Information on how to participate will be sent to eligible participants later this spring.

"We are starting small, a three-year project in these selected communities to start, but our goal is clear - we want to find out whether a basic income makes a positive difference in people's lives, whether this new approach gives them the ability to begin to achieve their potential and whether it is an approach that can be adopted across our province as a whole," Wynne said.

The three-year pilot project will be evaluated by a yet to be determined third-party research consortium. City of Thunder Bay acting mayor, Iain Angus, who was present for the announcement in Hamilton, had concerns about the evaluation process.

"Can you assure us that in this one, it's a three-year pilot, that the evaluation will be ongoing and in the event it proves what we all think it will prove, that an announcement will be made prior to the end of the three years of not only the continuation for those people who are part of the pilot, but as well as expansion?" Angus asked.

According to Wynne, the evaluation process on the pilot will be ongoing and the future of the basic income in Ontario will be determined based on a number of different factors.

"Some of the outcomes of job retention, retention in education, better health outcomes, those will take a little bit of time to demonstrate, if we see those," she said. "That's why it's three years. If we could

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figure it out in six months, we would figure it out in six months, but it takes a bit longer than that. By the end of the three years, we will have a good idea of where it is going and be able to talk about what comes next."

The government of Ontario is also planning a separate First Nations basic income pilot, which is still in the early stages.



About the Author: **Doug Diaczuk**

Doug Diaczuk is a reporter and award-winning author from Thunder Bay. He has a master's degree in English from Lakehead University
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Happy Amused Afraid Don't Care Sad Frustrated Angry

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Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Archived News Release

This document was published on October 04, 2017 and is provided for archival and research purposes.

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Helping Provi and Opportunity

400 People to Receive a Basic Income This Month, Pilot Launching in Lindsay

October 4, 2017 9:00 A.M. | Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Four hundred people from Hamilton, Brantford, Brant County and Thunder Bay and the surrounding area will be receiving a basic income this month as part of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP), giving them the chance to expand their opportunities and job prospects while providing greater security for themselves and their families.

Ontario's economy is in a relatively strong position, however many people in the province are not feeling that growth in their everyday lives. People are struggling to keep up with the rising cost of living and facing "precarious employment" with little job security or benefits.

Launched in the spring of this year, the three-year, 4,000-participant pilot is testing whether a basic income can better support vulnerable workers, improve health and education outcomes for people on low incomes, and help ensure that everyone shares in Ontario's economic growth.

Progress so far includes:

- This month 400 people will receive a basic income payment, with more applications currently being processed. Enrollment in Lindsay will begin next week.
- Establishing a Minister's Advisory Council, led by Susan McIsaac, former President & CEO of United Way Toronto and York Region, which will provide advice and recommendations to the government to achieve successful delivery of the pilot.
- Striking a Research and Evaluation Advisory Committee, led by Dr. Kwame McKenzie, CEO of the Wellesley Institute and Special Advisor to the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, which will provide advice and recommendations on the evaluation of the pilot.
- Selecting a team of leading researchers, experts and academics led by St. Michael's Hospital and McMaster University to evaluate the pilot.

As part of the next phase of the pilot, engagement will continue with First Nations and Provincial and Territorial Organizations on a First Nations Basic Income Pilot.

Ensuring everyone has the opportunity to reach their potential is part of our plan to create jobs, grow our economy and help people in their everyday lives.

Quick Facts

Media Contacts

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Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Archived News Release

This document was published on April 24, 2018 and is provided for archival and research purposes.

Helping People Get Ahead and Stay Ahea

Enrollment in Ontario's Basic Income Pilot Now Successfully Completed

April 24, 2018 2:15 P.M. | Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Ontario is providing more than 4,000 people with a basic income, successfully completing the enrollment phase of the three-year pilot.

Ontario launched the pilot one year ago today, becoming a leader in real-world testing of whether a basic income can help people living on low incomes. With enrollment complete, the pilot will now look at how a basic income might expand opportunities and job prospects while providing greater security for people living on low incomes and their families.

Through the pilot, people who earn less than the basic income amount through employment receive regular payments to help them better afford basic needs such as housing and food. Providing a predictable amount of money each month may also allow them to start or continue to work, or further their education.

In the pilot, participants in Lindsay, Hamilton Brantford and Brant County and Thunder Bay receive regular payments so they can better afford basic needs such as food and housing. This includes:

- Up to $16,989 per year for a single person, less 50 per cent of any earned income
- Up to $24,027 per year for a couple, less 50 per cent of any earned income
- Up to an additional $6,000 per year for a person with a disability.

Ensuring everyone has the opportunity to achieve their potential is part of the government's plan for fairness, and providing care and opportunity during this period of rapid economic change. The plan includes free prescription drugs for everyone under 25, and 65 or over, through the biggest expansion of medicare in a generation, free tuition for hundreds of thousands of students, a higher minimum wage and better working conditions, and free preschool childcare from 2 ½ to kindergarten.

Quick Facts

- Ontario's Basic Income Pilot has now reached full enrollment across all three sites in Hamilton, Brantford and Brant County, Thunder Bay and the surrounding area and Lindsay.
- The province has enrolled over 4,000 people in the pilot and in addition over 2,000 individuals will be participating in the comparison group. This group will not receive monthly Basic Income payments, but will actively participate in the research study.
- The pilot is being recognized internationally for its leadership and innovation including being a finalist in

Fast Company's World Changing Ideas Awards. 000873

- A wide cross-section of people are enrolled in the pilot including single people, couples, people who were previously receiving social assistance, students, those precariously employed and unemployed.
- Participants were chosen randomly to receive basic income or be part of a control group.
- As part of the study, participants will complete surveys regularly.
- Led by Dr. Kwame McKenzie, Special Advisor to the Ontario Basic Income Pilot and CEO of the Wellesley Institute, a Research and Evaluation Advisory Committee is monitoring the pilot for rigour and integrity. A third-party research group — led by researchers, experts and academics at St. Michael's Hospital and McMaster University — will evaluate the results.

Additional Resources

- Visit ontario.ca/basicincome

Quotes

"While our economy is in a strong position, and every young person can now go on to post-secondary school no matter their family's income, and nearly half of the province will soon have access to free prescriptions, there is still much we need to do to build a province where everyone is included in our economic growth. The Ontario Basic Income Pilot is essential to that. It is changing lives today and helping us plan for a future in which people have the supports they need to get ahead in a rapidly changing economy."

Premier Kathleen Wynne

"This marks an important milestone, but even more importantly, the Ontario Basic Income Pilot is already making a difference in people's lives. We are hearing that early pilot participants are feeling less stress and anxiety about paying their bills and enjoying a better life. The pilot is part of our province's long-term plan to focus on people living on low incomes and along with our historic $2.3 billion investment in significant social assistance reforms as outlined in our recent Budget, we are helping more people in their daily lives."

Michael Coteau
Minister of Community and Social Services

"As we reach this important milestone and hit full enrollment in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, I want to thank all of our partners – the dedicated Pilot team and the community organizations who have worked tirelessly to help us get to this day. We couldn't have done it without you and, thanks to your hard work, we can now begin the important work of the study and testing this new approach to supporting people living on low incomes. This Pilot is a key part of our work to test in new ways to reduce, prevent and end poverty in this province."

Peter Milzcyn
Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy

Media Contacts

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Ontario Community and Social Se... ✓
@ONSocialService

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Helping People Get Ahead and Stay Ahead
Ontario is providing more than 4,000 people with a basic income, successfully completing the enrollment phase of the three-year pilot.
news.ontario.ca

10:03 AM - 24 Apr 2018

2 Retweets **3** Likes

1 2 3

Disabled Couple @DisabledCouple · 24 Apr 2018
Replying to @ONSocialService
Woot, Oh wait never mind most of us on #ODSP Still suffering being over 60% under the poverty line. Fun fact I learned that since the 90's when the #Conservatives were in power from inflation that the #liberals have screwed #ODSP by almost $200 a month....

Ontario Community and Social Se...
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12:38 PM - 7 May 2018

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Peter Milczyn
@PeterMilczyn

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1:33 AM - 25 Apr 2018

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1 3 7

Charlie Parker @cp9082 · 25 Apr 2018
Replying to @PeterMilczyn
Peter, can you help explain this?

Ontario waits your response...

Ontario's books off the mark by billions: Auditor General - iPolitics
According to Ontario's auditor general, the province's finances are "not reasonable" and it's deficit is close to double what the Liberals are puttin...
ipolitics.ca

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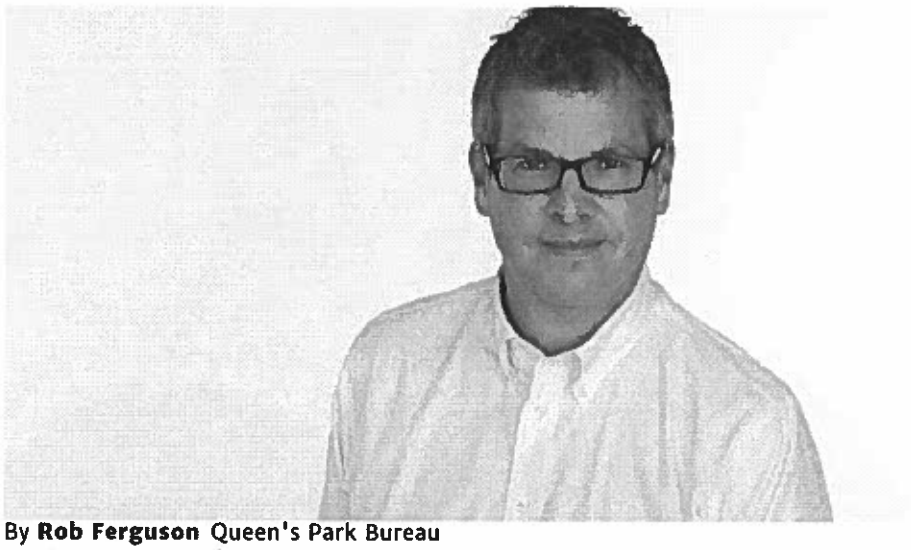
QUEEN'S PARK

Ontario minister admits she broke election promise when she axed basic income project



By **Rob Ferguson** Queen's Park Bureau
Wed., Aug. 1, 2018 | 3 min. read

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Conceding she broke a Progressive Conservative election promise by axing a Wynne-era pilot program aimed at finding a new path for people on welfare, Social Services Minister Lisa MacLeod says she made a "tough decision."

The basic income pilot project involving about 6,000 people in the Hamilton, Brant, Lindsay, and Thunder Bay areas was a "disincentive" for people to find jobs, MacLeod told reporters Wednesday.

"When you're encouraging people to accept money without strings attached it really doesn't send a message that our ministry and our government wants to send," she said.

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"We want to get people back on track and make them productive members of society where that's possible."

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Ontario government scraps basic income pilot project, limits welfare increase to 1.5 per cent

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The three-



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Cancellation of Ontario's basic income project sparks global outrage

year pilot project, which cost $50 million annually, was designed by Kathleen Wynne's Liberal government with help from former PC senator Hugh Segal. It gave single participants just under $17,000 annually and couples just over $24,000 in hopes the money — about double standard welfare rates — would boost their odds of finding employment and improving their housing, health and nutrition.

Critics of the cancellation said the fledgling program enabled participants to move into apartments and go back to college, university or other training programs to lift themselves off social assistance.

"This minister is callously dashing their hopes for the future," said NDP Leader Andrea Horwath. "This minister is out of touch. She has no idea what people living in poverty are facing."

But MacLeod insisted the program wasn't living up to its promise, although she could not provide any details or analysis when she announced the decision Tuesday. On the same day she also revealed a planned 3 per cent welfare increase for September would be cut in half.

"The decision (was) in the campaign and you find the realities when you're in government," MacLeod said before she walked away from reporters' questions for the second day in a row.

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Wynne's basic income experiment deserves to live a full life: Wells



Ontario government scraps basic income pilot project, limits welfare increase to 1.5 per cent

During the campaign, a spokeswoman for PC Leader Doug Ford said "nope" when asked if the basic income pilot would be scrapped, and added "we look forward to seeing the results."

Green Leader Mike Schreiner said the decision on the pilot program — leaving participants with an uncertain future — appears to be based on ideology given the lack of a detailed explanation from MacLeod.

"It's cruel to rip that away from people with one month's notice and clearly having no evidence, analysis or facts to back up the decision they made," added Schreiner, the MPP for Guelph.

He said the basic income pilot had the potential to be a "small government, non-bureaucratic solution to eliminate poverty," providing eligible recipients with money while saving on costly staff time for welfare case workers — who MacLeod lamented spend the vast majority of their time on paperwork.

The minister's words about improving incentives to get people off welfare ring hollow because the Conservatives are suspending rules allowing social assistance recipients to keep $400 monthly, up from $200, earned through part-time jobs, said interim Liberal Leader

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"It's all doublespeak. She's trying to say one thing and doing absolutely the other," he added, pleading with the new government to continue the basic income pilot project that thousands of people "took a chance" on.

"The government owes them the respect to continue the program, and more importantly to continue the program to get the information that Ontarians need to find a way to help lift people out of poverty, to create incentives."

MacLeod said people on the pilot program will be treated "ethically and humanely."

"If they are eligible for Ontario Works, for example, we'll repatriate them on to that program" or help with the Ontario Student Assistance Program, she added.

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Rob Ferguson is a Toronto-based reporter covering Ontario politics. Follow him on Twitter: @robferguson1

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VERITAS IRB

Research ethics simplified.

INDEPENDENT REVIEW BOARD COMMUNICATION

IRB Review Date:	April 19, 2018
IRB Tracking Number:	16143-10:32:0618-04-2018
Sponsor:	Government of Ontario
Study Name:	The Ontario Basic Income Pilot Study
Study Expiration Date:	May 2, 2018

RE: Changes to Research – Study Protocol – Unconditionally Approved
Changes to Research – Study Related Materials – Conditionally Approved

The following documents were reviewed and acknowledged by the Independent Review Board in compliance with normative documents governing research with humans:

1. Communication from the Ministry of Community and Social Services, dated April 17, 2018
2. 'MEMORANDUM TO: Veritas IRB Inc.' dated April 11, 2018
3. Study Protocol, Version 2.2, dated March 19, 2018
4. 'Ontario Basic Income Pilot – Baseline Survey – Post-Enrollment', English version, undated, submitted April 11, 2018
5. 'Community Poll – Survey Questions', English version, undated, submitted April 11, 2018
6. 'Ontario Basic Income Pilot – Suicide/Threat Incident Protocol' – Guideline, English version, undated, submitted April 11, 2018.

Please find below the status of approval for the following documents:

Study Protocol Version 2.2 (dated March 19, 2018)	■	*Unconditionally Approved*
	☐	*Conditionally Approved*
	☐	*Deferred*
	☐	*Disapproved*
'Ontario Basic Income Pilot – Baseline Survey – Post-Enrollment' (English version, undated, submitted April 11, 2018)	■	*Unconditionally Approved*
	☐	*Conditionally Approved*
	☐	*Deferred*
	☐	*Disapproved*
'Community Poll – Survey Questions' (English version, undated, submitted January 3, 2018)	☐	*Unconditionally Approved*
	■	*Conditionally Approved*
	☐	*Deferred*
	☐	*Disapproved*

VERITAS IRB

The following is a note from the Independent Review Board:

- The questions to be asked are relevant to the purposes of this aspect of the research as described in the protocol. The language is neutral and respectful. However, a procedure for obtaining consent from participants in this component of the research must be provided for.

The following is a condition of the Independent Review Board:

- Respondents to this poll qualify as research participants, and as such, it is important that their consent be obtained before gathering any data. In keeping with a proportionate approach and the need to maintain the person's interest, a brief, verbal consent process would be appropriate provided that it is adequately documented. Nonetheless, a minimum of information must be provided before asking the person if they wish to participate and stating the following (As consent shall be given voluntarily, as per Article 3.1 of the Tri-Council Policy Statement 2: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS 2) 2014):
    - The purpose of the study
    - The funder (i.e. Ministry of Community and Social Services),
    - The subject matter of the questions
    - Assurance that participation is voluntary
    - Contact information for subsequent questions
    - The degree to which responses are identifiable (it appears they are actually anonymous).

'Ontario Basic Income Pilot – Suicide/Threat Incident Protocol' – Guideline (English version, undated, submitted April 11, 2018)	■	*Unconditionally Approved*
	☐	*Conditionally Approved*
	☐	*Deferred*
	☐	*Disapproved*

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

- A procedure for obtaining and documenting consent for the 'Community Poll – Survey Questions' must be submitted to the Independent Review Board for review and approval.

Should you have any questions or require clarification of any issues, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you.

Veritas IRB Inc.

Verified by Pier-Luc Pichette on 20-Apr-2018 @ 16:47

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

Study Protocol v2.~~1~~2

2018

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Project Summary

The Ontario Basic Income Pilot will examine the impact of providing a basic income to adults, regardless of employment status. To be eligible, applicants must be age 18-64 for the duration of the Pilot, have an income of less than approximately $34,000 for a single person or $48,000 for a couple and have lived in Hamilton, Brant County, Brantford; Thunder Bay and the surrounding area; or Lindsay for at least one year. ~~There will be up to 2,000 p~~Participants in ~~each of~~ the Hamilton/Brant/Brantford and Thunder Bay sites ~~and eligible applicants~~ will be randomly assigned to receive the basic income or not. In Lindsay, up to 2,000 eligible applicants will receive the basic income. Those receiving the basic income will get up to $16,989 per year for a single person or $24,027 for a couple, plus up to an additional $6,000 per year for each person with a disability[1]. The basic income will be reduced by 50% of employment earnings. Other income, such as Employment Insurance and pensions, will reduce the basic income by 100% (dollar for dollar).

This revised study protocol replaces the version approved by the Veritas Independent Review Board (IRB) on May 3, 2017. This submission seeks to obtain the IRB's approval for the implementation of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

The Pilot will test how a basic income might help people living on low incomes better meet their basic needs, while improving outcomes in:

- food security
- stress and anxiety
- mental health
- health and healthcare usage
- housing stability
- education and training
- employment and labour market participation

[1] Disability is determined using the disability definition and determination under Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), Canada Pension Plan – Disability benefit, or Developmental Services Ontario.

General Information

Protocol Title: Ontario Basic Income Pilot: Study Protocol

Version: 2.24

Date: March 21, 2018

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Overview of Process

The Ontario government will administer the intervention. A team of researchers led by St. Michael's Hospital and McMaster University are undertaking the evaluation of the Pilot. The Ontario government began recruiting participants as of June 2017 and engaged the evaluators in October 2017. As recruitment began prior to the selection of the evaluation team, Dr. Greg Mason (University of Manitoba) and Dr. Walter Wodchis (University of Toronto), contracted as academic advisors to the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, drafted the initial baseline survey data and a survey research service (PRA Inc.) collected data from participants at the beginning of the study. The initial study protocol (Appendix D) was approved by the Veritas IRB and serves as the basis for this revision of the protocol.

The purpose of the revised protocol is:

1. To review changes to process and materials since the original protocol was approved (listed in the following section)
2. To provide more detailed explanation of some steps being taken to minimize risks to participants in the project
3. To fulfill the requirements of St. Michael's Hospital as the lead evaluation institution

These revisions are being submitted to Veritas IRB, which initially approved the project, and to the St. Michael's Hospital Research Ethics Board (REB). It may also be submitted to the Hamilton Integrated Research Ethics Board (HiREB) via Clinical Trials Ontario.

Summary of Changes to Protocol

Substantive changes to the study in each version are as follows:

V2.2

- Goals, design and analysis for the community-level evaluation detailed
- Community-level survey appended as a research tool
- Changes made to the procedure for stratification
- Changes made to the Summary and Study Design regarding the distribution of participants across sites
- Recruitment closing date added

V2.1

- Additional recruitment procedures have been added to facilitate enrolment.
- Procedures for substitute decision makers have been clarified

V2

The revised protocol has been reformatted for clarity. Substantive changes to the study are:

- The baseline survey has been modified to more clearly address the outcomes of interest and to make the survey easier to answer (see Appendix B).
- The saturation site (Lindsay) has been added to the Protocol. This arm of the evaluation was omitted from the original study protocol, although it was always planned. See Subject Selection Procedures.
- Despite stating that all participants in two of the sites would be randomized to intervention group (referenced also as the Basic Income group) or control group (referenced also as the Comparison group), the Ministry has placed all participants enrolled to date in the Intervention group. See Modifications to Sample and the section on addressing these modifications in the Analysis Plan.
- Recruitment procedures have shifted primarily to open in-person recruitment, instead of invitations to apply by mail. Applications can still be submitted by mail.
- Detail has been added to the mechanism for randomization.
- The set of study activities has been revised:
    - Reduced number of surveys
    - Contact information updates between surveys for comparison group participants
    - Qualitative interviews added
    - Additional data linkage sources have been specified
- Increased detail on risks of project and mitigating factors in place

Revised study materials are presented in Appendix A, the revised baseline survey in Appendix B and relevant administrative materials in Appendix C. The original study protocol and baseline survey, as approved by Veritas IRB, are included in Appendix D.

Rationale and Background Information

Two Generations of Experiments

The concept of a Basic Income draws from two intellectual sources. First, Milton Friedman (1962) championed basic income in the form of a negative income tax[2] on both fairness and administrative efficiency grounds. He saw this form of basic income as being the most effective way to address poverty, while also reducing the scope and costs of government. Second, socialists have advocated for a basic income as a human right. Recently, anti-poverty advocates such as Anik (2016), the Green Party of England and Wales (2015) and Pai (2017) have taken up the cause and advocated for the adoption of a basic income in countries such as Finland and the United Kingdom.

It is possible to discern two waves or generations of scientific interest in a basic income. On the heels of President Johnson's War on Poverty, academics in the United States launched a series of large scale social experiments examining citizens' responses to a variety of policies such as housing allowances, health insurance, and basic incomes in the form of negative income taxes. The major income maintenance studies of the seventies, including Canada's own major research effort the Manitoba Basic Income Maintenance Experiment, or Mincome[3], used randomized experiments that tested the responses of households to varying levels of income guarantees and various tax-back rates on earnings.

This first wave of income maintenance experimentation used large scale social experiments. Participants were randomly selected into a variety of intervention groups as well as comparison groups. Each participant completed successive interviews (typically spaced every three or four months) over the life of the study. For example, participants in the Mincome experiment completed 11 such interviews that collected information on labour force participation, changes in assets, and family dynamics. The core issue of the day was to measure the extent to which recipients would adjust their participation in the workforce. Quite bluntly, would recipients elect to reduce their hours of work if they received a basic income?

The short answer is "a little." Economists concluded there was some reduction in work effort, especially by women with children, but that the response was quite modest [(Hum and Simpson 1993) and (Prescott, Swidinsky, and Wilton 1985)]. Summaries of these major experiments and the research around outcomes have been completed by Hum

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[2] A negative income tax offers a supplement to a household based on earnings and other income, which guarantees that recipients will never fall below a specified threshold income. As earnings and other income increases, the supplement gradually falls to 0. The guarantee level (and therefore the supplementary payments) generally increases with the number of adults and children and possibly the presence of disabilities. In contrast, a universal income awards a fixed sum that also varies with size of household but not income. However, as the income of the recipient increases, amounts over the guarantee level are taxed back. These two approaches are often treated interchangeably in popular presentations, when in fact they have different redistributive and ethical foundations (Tondani 2009).

[3] See page 2 in Simpson et al.(2017) for an overview of the Manitoba Basic Income Experiment.

and Simpson (2001), Moffit (2003) and Munnell et al. (1987). A current review of Mincome and its potential to support research appears in Simpson et al. (2017).

After 1990 or so, interest in the income maintenance experiments and the question of work effort largely abated. Analysts studying poverty policy turned their attention to welfare reform. It took the Great Recession and financial crisis of 2007/08 to reawaken interest in a basic income. Technological job displacement, the bankruptcy of the middle class, and inequality all converged to push the basic income agenda.

This second generation of income maintenance policy and research reflects a much broader range of interests. For example, Evelyn Forget used health data of Dauphin residents at the time of Mincome to conclude that a basic income could reduce use of the healthcare system. This offers the possibility that any increase in spending on a basic income may be offset by reduced health spending by government. Current proponents of a basic income now identify a broad spectrum of outcomes in addition to work participation adjustments, including changes in housing, increased inclusion in the community, increased food security, reduced stress and increased capacity to undertake education and training reach financial independence. A recent compendium of the theory and research around a basic income is available in Widerquist et al. (2013).

The Need for an Ontario Pilot

Why is a Pilot needed in Ontario and in 2017? Four important changes have occurred since the seventies that require policy makers to receive updated information:

1. The world of work has evolved. Increase in the labour market participation rate of women, reductions in traditional manufacturing jobs, and increasing skill requirements mean that low-income households face higher barriers to work.

2. The social assistance landscape has changed. In the seventies, social assistance (or welfare as it was known then) punished those who worked and taxed any earnings with a 100% tax-back; social assistance payments declined dollar for dollar with earning income. This created a strong work disincentive. Now social assistance recipients always retain a portion of their earned income.

   In addition, the welfare reform of the nineties and early millennium created barriers for able persons to receive welfare. Applicants judged able to work were placed into training programs and had eligibility for assistance curtailed by mandated work expectations. The result was that the nature of the social assistance caseloads has transformed to a point where 50% to 60% are disabled. For example, approximately 57% of Ontario's 2015-2016 average monthly caseloads are made up of Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) recipients, while only 43% is made up of Ontario Works (OW) recipients. Aside

from extra health benefits, these recipients face fewer expectations to work or participate in training.

3. The income maintenance experiments of the seventies relied exclusively on self-reported data. These studies used very sophisticated interviewing procedures, typically in-person to gather all variables of interest. In addition to quarterly behavioural questions (e.g., work attachment), participants completed monthly income reporting. In contrast, in 2017, opportunities exist to collect certain variables from administrative data. Of particular important are health data. Obviously, this raises privacy issues, but gathering such administrative data is becoming more common practice.[4]

4. While the first-generation studies focused on work effort, current outcome of interest are much broader. The changing nature of work, technological job displacement, and the importance of health are all creating the impetus to undertake research into basic income that meets current policy needs.

In the 2016 Ontario Budget, the Province of Ontario presented a commitment to introduce a basic income pilot that would "test a growing view at home and abroad that a basic income could build on the success of minimum wage policies and increases in child benefits by providing more consistent and predictable support in the context of today's dynamic labour market. The pilot would also test whether a basic income would provide a more efficient way of delivering income support, strengthen the attachment to the labour force, and achieve savings in other areas, such as health care and housing supports."

The province appointed the Honourable Hugh Segal to provide advice on the design and implementation of a Basic Income Pilot in Ontario, as announced in the 2016 Budget.

Mr. Segal was asked to deliver a Discussion Paper to the province by fall 2016 to help inform the design and implementation of the Pilot. In his November 3, 2016 discussion paper entitled: "*A Basic Income Pilot for Ontario: Finding a Better Way,*" Hugh Segal outlines the background and rationale for the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. See the attached discussion paper "*A Basic Income Pilot for Ontario: Finding a Better Way*" for additional information.

On September 23, 2016, the Minister of Community and Social Services and the Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy both received updated mandate letters, which included a joint commitment to "... design and introduce a Basic Income Pilot, building on the advice of the Special Advisor and broader public consultation, by the end of April 2017."

[4] See the Data Security and Confidentiality section for additional information.

The Premier of Ontario announced a clear goal in piloting a basic income in Ontario. As stated in Premier Kathleen Wynne's speech on April 24, 2017: "Our goal is clear: We want to find out whether a basic income makes a positive difference in people's lives – whether this new approach gives them the ability to begin to achieve their potential. And whether it is an approach that deserves to be adopted across our province as a whole."

It is important to note that the classic experiments of the seventies were very expensive, and many collapsed under the weight of expectations. In part, they were too complex and featured experimental manipulation to measure a single outcome – changes in work response. The design matrix for Mincome appeared as follows, showing the three levels of guarantee and three tax rates:

		Tax rate (t) on total Income(Y)[5]		
		35%	50%	75%
Guarantee at enrolment(G)	$3800	Plan 1 (n=55)	Plan 3 (n=61	Plan 6 (n=49)
	$4600	Plan 2 (n=67)	Plan 4 (n=70)	Plan 7 (n= 29)
	$5400	X	Plan 5 (n=56)	Plan 8 (n=45)

Plan 9 (Controls) (n=94)

In the first generation of basic income, the benefit level guarantee varies with family size. In Mincome, additional children would increase actual payments in each plan. Therefore, the actual payment varied, allowing researchers to complete a multivariate analysis incorporating variations in the guarantee, tax-back and a range of demographic variables. This is a complex design and Ontario will avoid this level of complexity.

The Ontario Basic Income Pilot rests on a long and strong academic tradition, and the notion of a social experiment is well founded. The need to map a series of inter-related outcomes is an important policy requirement in 2017, which did not exist in 1975. This requires simple experiment that tracks multiple outcomes, such as the pilot that the

[5] There is a second dimension of taxation on wealth, but this was used to adjust payments and was not integrated into the experimental design.

Ministry has designed. As stated by the Honorable Hugh Segal (2016) in his discussion paper:

> "The idea of ensuring that individuals be able to reach a level of basic income—minimum income, guaranteed income, etc.—has been presented as a route to poverty abatement across the globe for decades. However, research on the implications and implementation of such policies is still scarce, and mostly comes from experiments conducted prior to the substantial transformations undergone by labour markets in economies such as Ontario's in the past decades. In that context, testing, through a pilot project, how Ontarians' lives and well-being would be improved by a Basic Income will allow the government to obtain the best evidence on crucial questions."

Logic Model

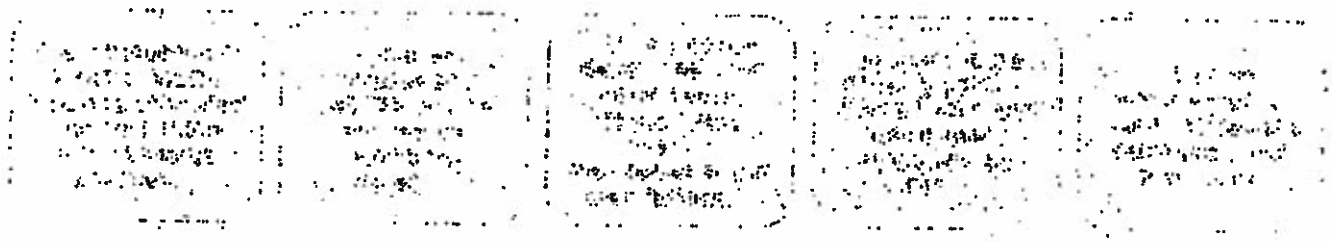
The Ministry's theory of change relating to the implementation of the Pilot is that:

> The introduction of a Basic Income featuring enhanced income support with no strings attached will increase and stabilize income and reduce economic anxiety, to help people better meet their basic needs, reduce stress, invest in themselves and their families, and to improve their housing stability, mental health and employment outcomes, so that they are more free to be able to make choices and decisions about their future.

Figure 1 below presents an overview of the theory of change that includes more detail on when participants will experience specific changes in response to an increase in income. An important point is that, while the increase in basic income initiates changes, the outcomes also interact. The Ministry expects that immediate, short, and medium-term outcomes will be measurable through the evaluation of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

Figure 1: Logic Model

A summary Logic Model depicting this pathway is shown below.



Basic income can...	In the short term...	In the medium term, improve...
• Be simpler and less intrusive • Help more people in poverty not just social assistance recipients • Reduce barriers to enter the workforce	• Reduce depth of poverty • Increase food security • Decrease anxiety and stress	• Mental-health and well-being • Health care usage . • Housing Stability • Education and training

Study Goals and Objectives

In April 2017, the Premier of Ontario announced the details of the Pilot. The Pilot will study whether a basic income can better support vulnerable workers and give people the security and opportunity they need to achieve their potential. It will also study whether giving people a basic income can be a simpler and more economically effective way to provide income security support to people living on low incomes.

The evaluation of the Pilot will measure outcomes in areas such as:

- Food security
- Stress and anxiety
- Mental health
- Health and healthcare usage
- Housing stability
- Education and training
- Employment and labour market participation.

Research Question

Based on this background, the central research question to be addressed by this study is: "Does providing a Basic Income improve mental health outcomes? Does it also affect housing and food security, education, labour force participation and health care use?"

Based on the determination that health is the most generally applicable to all recipients of Basic Income and is an important objective for all recipients coupled with prior evidence that mental health is associated with income and likely causally related to other outcomes under study, the Ministry identify mental health outcomes as our primary outcome for the study.

Hypothesis: Basic Income will contribute to improved mental health, including reduced stress and food insecurity

Low socio-economic status has been linked to increased stress and anxiety, higher risk of mental and physical illness, and a shorter life expectancy (Marmot, 2004). Socio-economic status has also been reported to be a leading determinant of mental health status (Raphael, 2009).

Increased income and income security is expected to improve mental health by addressing the inability to meet basic needs (food, clothing, housing, etc.) as well as increasing the ability of recipients and their families to participate in a broader range of social activities. Increased income is likely to raise confidence about the future and reduce the stress of managing household budgets immediately, which will have an immediate impact on anxiety levels.

The mechanism that translates low relative social status into absolute differences in health outcomes is through low control or a lack of autonomy and low social participation. Research studies, such as the landmark Whitehall Study, have shown that low social positioning and low control at work activates stress pathways, which is linked to low heart rate variability, raised cortisol levels, and low exercise functional capacity indicating that mental health interacts in a variety of ways with work and physical health outcomes (Marmot, 2004).

It is anticipated that the provision of a Basic Income and improvements to economic status will lead to improvements in mental health status by reducing minimizing perceived social status gradients and enabling participants to have greater income security and more control over personal and work-related decisions.

As for the method of testing, the main indicator variables will derive from the mental health component of the baseline questionnaire and the on-going questionnaires. The questions were adapted from other standardized and related surveys and questionnaires.

Other Outcome Areas of Interest

The study will also seek to determine whether the intervention impacts outcomes in any of the following domains:

- Housing
- Food security
- Education
- Labour market outcomes
- Poverty
- Health and use of health care services

Below is a brief summary of existing literature for each domain exploring the likelihood that the intervention will impact this domain by changing participants' income.

Housing

Poverty, income inequality and housing instability are highly correlated. A study that tracked income polarization amongst Toronto's neighbourhoods found that between 1970 and 2005 the proportion of:

- Middle-income neighborhoods decreased from 66% to 29%
- High-income neighborhoods increased from 15% to 19%
- Low-income neighborhood increased from 19% to 53%
- Extremely low-income neighborhoods increased from 1% to 9% (Hulchanski, 2010).

Similar trends were also found across in the rest of the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area. Ontario's median monthly shelter cost for rented dwellings is now $892, which is higher than the Canadian median at $822 per month (National Housing Survey, 2011). Another study found that families allocating over 30% of their incomes to shelter had increased odds of food insecurity compared to those that allocated 30% or less (Kirkpatrick & Tarasuk, 2011).

Increasing the financial support given to our seniors with an income top-up since the mid-1970s has led to an increase in the choices they can make about their own lives and has fostered a reduction in inadequate housing. It has also helped increase longevity while postponing serious debilitating illness, improving the lives not only of the recipients, but of their families and communities as well (Prus, 2002; Huguet et al., 2008; Senate Committee, 2009).

Stable housing is associated with numerous positive externalities. The At Home/Chez-Soi national study, which provided homeless participants with stable housing, found that those in the Housing First (HF) intervention group spent fewer nights in shelters, fewer use of emergency shelter use, fewer ER visits, and greater use of food banks (Goering

et al., 2014) Housing tenure, housing affordability, and housing quality have been linked to self-rated health, mental health, and some physical health outcomes (most notably, respiratory ailments) (Kirkpatrick & Tarasuk, 2011). Stable housing and safer neighborhood residence can also support early childhood and adolescent development, particularly around outcomes related to cognitive, behavioral, and academic abilities (Leventhal & Brooks-Gunn, 2000; Duncan & Brooks-Gunn, 2000).

Food Security

Income is strongly associated with food security (Tarasuk, Mitchell, & Dachner, 2016). Other relevant factors include some that are directly related to income, such as renting versus owning a dwelling, reliance on social assistance as the primary source of household income, and low levels of education (Sriram & Tarasuk, 2016). Food security will be important to monitor both as an outcome itself and as a potential mediating factor affecting mental health and other outcomes of interest.

Education

Living in low-income circumstances has been shown to impede the school readiness of preschool children, reduce the likelihood of success in educational achievement throughout the educational trajectory, reduce the ability to afford postsecondary education, and increase the likelihood of living in low-income circumstances as an adult (Brownell, Marni et al., 2004; Dooley, Payne & Robb, 2009; Ferguson, Bovaird, & Mueller, 2007).

Meanwhile, conditional cash transfers have been found to be associated with increased school enrolment, school attendance, and school performance in other jurisdictions (Davala, Jhabvala, Standing, & Mehta, 2015). In the United States, during the negative income tax experiments in the 1970s, children in experimental families showed positive effects for elementary school test results, while other states found increased school continuation rates for both adolescents and adults (Forget, 2011).

Labour Market Outcomes

The findings from the income maintenance experiments and the evaluation of the National Child Benefit suggest that reduction in labour market attachment is relatively slight for men, and somewhat larger for women. This reduction in female work effort applies primarily to women in two-earner households and with children under six at home, especially if one or more of the children has a special need. Female single parents show less reduction in work effort when they are the recipients of unconditional cash grants.

Most importantly is that work decisions in couples are often a joint decision. According to the theory of rational choice, the member with weaker employment prospects and lower wages will reduce work effort. Given the reduction in traditionally male occupations and the relative stability of traditionally female occupations, it is possible that work effort adjustments for the Pilot may not reflect prior patterns and a higher percentage of men may reduce their work effort.

Some observers have argued that a basic income security will lead to greater entrepreneurialism by lowering the risk of business failure and extending the "runway" for a start-up business (Steddon 2016). This experiment will consider self-employment rates and income, though the targeting of this study may middle- to high-income earners who may be more likely to start a business.

Depth and incidence of poverty

The relationship between Basic Income and level of income may seem tautological, as increased income reduces the severity of poverty and may reduce its prevalence. However, in the medium term, the extent to which recipients experience reduced poverty depends on their work response to the basic income, which could include changes in labour force participation, hours worked, job quality.

Prior studies have found that some individuals, especially those responsible for caring for younger children and relatives with disabilities, will reduce work effort. This mediates the actual reduction in poverty levels. The other group that decreased work effort were those completing education, which may mediate poverty reduction in the short term, but increase it in the long term. An additional element of importance will be whether basic income allows individuals to pursue higher quality jobs or their own businesses (the secondary hypotheses on education and labour market attachment explore these potential pathways in greater detail).

Community-Level Effects

In Lindsay, where it is expected that a large proportion of people who are eligible for the basic income will receive it, there are likely to be "spillover" effects that go beyond the individuals and families directly receiving basic income. These positive externalities are what Dr. Evelyn Forget has called the "social multiplier" effect (Forget, 2011) in the Dauphin, Manitoba site of the MINCOME Basic Income experiment.

The evaluation will seek to answer the following two questions:

1. What is the impact at the community level of the OBIP in Lindsay? Specifically, the evaluators will consider the following domains:
    - General economy
    - Labour market

- Housing market
- Community safety
- Human capital
- Family and household stability
- Social capital
- Public health

2. How do both participants and non-participants living in Lindsay perceive the impact of the OBIP on their community?

Study Design

This study contains two major components – a randomized trial conducted in two locations and a "saturation site", where up to 2,000 eligible adults receive the intervention. The total target number of participants is 6,000, including both the randomized trial and the saturation site.

Subject Selection Procedures

The population for this study will include residents of Hamilton, Brantford and Brant County (HBB), Thunder Bay and the surrounding area (TB) and Lindsay:

- The recruitment population in TB region is defined by the geographic boundaries of the Thunder Bay Census Metropolitan Area, excluding the Fort William Census Subdivision.
- The recruitment population in HBB region is defined by the combined Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) boundaries of the City of Hamilton CMSM and the City of Brantford CMSM. (These align with the respective Census Subdivisions.) CMSMs are service delivery agents for social assistance, childcare, and affordable and social housing.
- The recruitment population in Lindsay is defined by the Forward Sortation Area K9V (i.e., individuals whose residential postal code begins with those three characters).

The two sites where participants will be randomly assigned to intervention or comparison groups are HBB and TB; Lindsay is the saturation site. Regions were selected based on their economic need and indicators, demographics, and availability of local resources and services.

The Ministry has set requirements for eligibility such that participants must be:

- 18 to 64 years old for the duration of the intervention (no older than 61 at intervention start)
- living in one of the selected test regions for the past 12 months or longer
- living on a low income (under approximately $34,000 per year for singles or under $48,000 for couples)

If enacted in policy, this intervention would only apply to adults age 18-64 (most children and older adults already have some form of guaranteed income via child benefits and seniors benefits). The Ministry also wished to discourage migration for the purpose of participating in the pilot, which could potentially bias outcomes.

Identified sub-populations of interest include people with disabilities, Indigenous people, families (especially single-parent families) with children and marginalized populations. These populations are all overrepresented among low-income people in Ontario and would be significantly affected if this intervention were adopted more broadly.

Stratification

The Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP) is a broad-based initiative that covers a number of target groups and could have differential effects across different social groups. As such, it is desirable to stratify the sample to ensure proportionate representation of the relevant policy target and demographic groups.

The relevant categories for stratification are:

- Age (18-29; 30-49; 50-61)
- Sex (Male; Female)
- Marital Status (Single; Married/Common-Law)
- Social Assistance (Recipients of Ontario Works; Recipients of ODSP; or Non-Recipients)
- Post-Secondary Education, full-time or part-time (Student; Non-Student)

Combining these categories would create 24 strata (3x2x2x2), which is unmanageable, so full-fledged stratification is impractical. Instead, recruitment and enrolment will be managed with ~~guidelines~~ targets for these 5 different groups~~, within approximately +/- 5% of their prevalence in the eligible population~~ in order to achieve a minimum sub-group (cell) size of 25 individuals for each of the categories in each arm of the study (comparison, treatment, saturation). ~~. For instance, if women and men each comprised exactly 50% of the income eligible population in Thunder Bay and 2,000 individuals were to be randomized, then the sample would require 950-1,050 participants of each in the Thunder Bay portion of the pilot.~~ Adaptive recruiting strategies will be used to meet stratification targets, without being restricted by firm quotas.

The groups selected give a balanced perspective to sampling and avoid a critical pitfall, which is the potential for heavy over-sampling of specific groups. Sex is used, rather than gender, to follow Statistics Canada's data and to create exhaustive categories, as

required for stratification. Gender will be the variable of interest in analysis, as determined by the baseline survey. In the initial study protocol, presence of health benefits was proposed as a possible stratification variable. While it may be important to consider differential impacts based on health insurance status, the evaluation team does not feel it should be a variable affecting recruitment.

~~Precise estimates for these populations will be determined in consultation with Statistics Canada, using the most recent data available, preferably from the 2016 census. This sampling strategy is only relevant for participants who are randomly assigned to intervention or comparison groups and does not apply to the Lindsay site, where 2,000 eligible individuals will be accepted.~~

Power Calculation

To compute minimum sample sizes to test the effect of the intervention on any outcome requires a measure of the mean/median value and the standard deviation of that indicator. One then predicts the expected change in the outcome value and sets the power (Beta value) which is the likelihood that a significant effect will be detected when one exists. It is customary to set this at 0.8, but this can be increased or decreased, with commensurate sample size adjustments.

A challenge of the Pilot is that the qualifying group is diverse and the size of benefit will vary depending on initial circumstances. Participants will not uniformly move from one income category to another, as reported in prior studies on the outcomes of interest. This means that *a priori* calculations of statistical power will be imprecise.

Effect sizes will also vary greatly by category. Mental health status, may be one of the more difficult measures on which to assess change. Weissman et al. (2015) find that the prevalence of serious psychological distress, as determined by a score of 13 or greater on the Kessler-6, declines from 8.7% among adults below the US poverty line to 5.1% among adults whose income is above the poverty line but not double the poverty line. This would require a sample size of 848 to detect a change with 90% power (or 612 with 80% power). The evaluation team is unaware of any available evidence for the PSS-4, however Cohen and Janicki-Deverts (2012) use the PSS-10. They found a mean difference of 1.08 points between individuals in the lowest income category and those in the next lowest. The required sample size to detect a statistically significant difference is virtually identical – 859 with 90% power (or 620 for 80% power). The PSS-4 could be less sensitive, but the income line set by Janicki-Deverts was also relatively high, so a lower bar may elicit a greater effect.[6]

[6] The PSS-10 measure used individual income of less than $25,000 (USD 2009) against $25,000-$35,000. In contrast, the US poverty line used for K6 was about $12,000 USD in 2013 for a single person or $24,000 for a family of four. Che and Chen (in the next paragraph) vary low income by household size, with the line at $15,000 (CAD 1998) for a household of 1 or 2 people and middle income at $15,000-$30,000.

Food security, in contrast, should be one of the easiest effects to detect. Che and Chen (2001) reported that 34.5% of low-income households experienced food insecurity in the prior 12 months against 14.3% of middle-income households. Here, a significant difference could be detected with 90% power with a sample size of only 77 (or 56 for 80% power).

Detecting changes in the average low income gap ratio is highly likely, as the nature of the intervention directly affects this outcome for most participants. Changes in the prevalence of low income are less certain, as it is a simple binary indicator. The share of people crossing this income threshold will depend on the income structure of the population recruited; many with very low incomes may not reach the line.

Modifications to Sample

Prior to the implementation of new procedures proposed by the evaluation team, the Ministry elected not to randomize participants and has included all participants in the intervention group. This will reduce the number of participants who are randomized between groups and will mean that the comparison group is larger than the intervention group among those who are randomized. In Hamilton-Brantford-Brant, 491 individuals were not randomized and in Thunder Bay 427 individuals were not randomized. ~~The exact a~~Allocation ratios for remaining participants have been set based on an assumption of 2,000 participants per site (see Randomization section). ~~and chance will be determined based on when the Ministry decides to begin the randomization process, but it is expected that approximately 400-500 individuals at each site will receive the intervention without being randomized, as per the table below. This information is updated since the last study deviation report submitted November 21, 2017.~~

	~~Hamilton / Brantford~~	~~Thunder Bay~~
~~Pre-randomization~~	~~491 intervention~~	~~427 intervention~~
~~Post-randomization~~	~~500 intervention 1,000 comparison~~	~~573 intervention 1,000 comparison~~

While this reduces the sample below 90% power for mental health outcomes within each site, most analyses will be pooled across all randomized participants, maintaining sufficient power to find effects even for indicators such as mental health, where the effect-to-standard deviation ratio is expected to be smaller. Further consequences of this change are discussed in more depth elsewhere, particularly in the Analysis Plan section.

Recruitment Procedures

Pilot recruitment was implemented using a phased approach. The purpose of implementing in phases was to use the initial phase to assess the anticipated risks (e.g., recruitment, sampling approach and retention, obtaining informed consent); assess the impact of the intervention on individuals and any implications related to the Pilot design; identify implementation barriers (e.g. challenges to enrolment); and test the feasibility of the evaluation framework in order to calibrate the administration and evaluation for scale up in the following phase.

The initial round of recruitment was conducted via invitation by mail to specific individuals. Recruitment by this method was not targeted and showed a low response rate. Facing lower than targeted enrolment numbers, the Ministry changed the approach to allow any member of the household to apply beyond the invited individual.

A further shift changed focus to in-person recruitment, which will be the primary recruitment method going forward. Individuals may sign up for an in-person session on the public Ontario Basic Income Pilot website (see Appendix A10) or by phone. Individuals who have already received mailings may still be in the process of applying (these individuals will receive a notice that they will be dealing with the evaluation team to complete the new survey – Appendix 8). Prospective applicants may also request a package to complete by mail if they do not wish to attend a session in-person. Each method is described below.

Modified recruitment materials are included in Appendix A. Most information has been condensed into the single application package and consent form (A1), with some additional information in an accompanying handout (A2). These forms include information to assist in understanding the risks and benefits of participating. The revised Application Form includes consent to participate in the research and evaluation of the Pilot. Participants also provide all information required to determine eligibility for the Pilot.

As of February 2018, Ontarians who contact 211 looking for financial support will be informed of the eligibility criteria for participation in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot and referred to the program.

The Ministry is looking to increase awareness among low-income individuals who are not utilizing Ontario Social Assistance programs. To this end, the Ministry is reaching out through its local community networks to explore strategies for increasing awareness in the Pilot communities. Additional materials may be added to this protocol in the future.

Participation in the Pilot is voluntary, and people selected for the Pilot may choose to opt out at any time. All recruitment activities are carried out by the Ministry.

Recruitment will close on April 16, 2018.

Mail

Mailing addresses for all households within each study site were determined based on a validated address list from Environics Canada, a market research and data analytics company. The list of addresses from Environics was pulled from a database that was updated weekly, in part verified and vetted by Canada Post, and that met all applicable privacy and security considerations. Environics selected a random sample of individuals as a recruitment pool from each study site and provided this list to the Ministry. Participants were only permitted to apply if they received an invite (no other member of the household could apply). The selection did not stratify the addresses according to income or selected census tracts or enumeration areas with lower incomes.

The (full) mail-out package included a cover letter introducing and explaining the OBIP, application and consent form, information booklet, and a pre-paid return envelope to all individuals in the recruitment pool. The application materials also identify a telephone number and email address that potential applicants can use to ask questions and become well informed prior to applying for this program.

To be included in the study, prospective applicants completed the Application and Consent Form and mailed (using a pre-paid return envelope) the form to the Ministry to confirm eligibility. Confirmation often required contacting applicants (by phone or email) to validate data required to determine eligibility. Applicants received written notification advising them of their eligibility status.

The Application and Consent Form includes consent from applicants to participate in the research and evaluation of the Pilot. The Application Package contained all information required to determine eligibility for the Pilot, as well as to assist in understanding the risks and benefits of participating. Participation is voluntary, and people selected for the Pilot may choose to opt out at any time.

As of November 29, any eligible person in the three sites may contact MCSS via e-mail or phone to request an application package be mailed to them (contact information is listed on the project website).

Baseline data is collected once eligibility had been determined. Baseline surveys and a second consent related to the collection, use and disclosure of personal information related to the evaluation and administration of the OBIP is sent to applicants. Contact information from the pool of eligible applicants was also shared with a survey research company (PRA Inc.), so that they could contact individuals and complete baseline data collection over the phone or online.

In order to streamline the application process, as of February 1, the Ministry will allow applicants to submit their documentation by dropping off applications and supporting

documentation at enrolment sessions instead of submitting it via mail, which can cause delays in the process. In order to better facilitate the completion of applications, the Ministry's enrolment staff will begin utilizing secure email in order to receive and process the required documentation from applicants.

In-Person

By early September 2017, MCSS had begun testing two expedited enrolment processes:

- "Targeted referral in-person session" includes potential applicants who are referred by a network of local community agencies (lists of agencies below). MCSS invites these individuals to register for an in-person session held in the community. At that meeting that may complete all steps of the application process, including the eligibility assessment and Baseline survey. According to MCSS both registered and nonregistered applicants attended these meetings. These were likely friends and other family attended the session, where most completed the application process in-person.

- "On-site agency in-person session" involves stationing members of the enrolment team at a community agency (e.g. food bank) to provide application information to people who happen to visit that agency. The team assists in the enrolment. However, most "applicants" retained the material and submitted it by mail.

Ministry staff work closely with potential applicants, who have been "prescreened" by the agency. The agency role was important in creating trust in the process. The fact that friends and family may accompany the invitee, increased the productivity of the approach. This process creates the understanding by the applicant that acceptance is more certain than in the mail process.

As of November 29, the Ministry launched in-person sessions open to everyone living in the Pilot locations. At in-person sessions, Ministry staff explain the intervention – including that participants will need to withdraw from OW or ODSP if they are assigned to receive a basic income – and provide participants with the same forms that participants would receive by mail. Individuals complete the application form, including consent to participate. A Ministry staff member reviews the application for eligibility and may provide participants with assistance in comparing their current income and benefits to what they would receive if selected for a basic income.

Once determined eligible, a member of the evaluation team then provides a tablet for the applicant to immediately complete the baseline survey or administers the interview directly, if additional support is required. Applicants may ask questions of the evaluation team members on site at any time. Participants receive a contact card with the date of

their next follow-up interview and phone numbers for both the Ministry and the evaluation team if they have any questions in future (Appendix A9).

In order to increase enrolment, the Ministry is setting up mobile enrolment sessions intended to bring enrolment staff into more remote or rural communities. Mobile units will be operating in the Lindsay and Thunder Bay sites as of February 2018. The Ministry is also setting up drop-in enrolment sessions that do not require prior registration. The mobile units and drop-in sessions follow the same parameters as the standard enrolment sessions, however surveys may not be conducted on-site as they are during standard enrolment sessions. Instead participants may be referred to the evaluators' survey research team, and the evaluators will be provided with applicants' contact information so that they can follow-up.

In order to increase the accessibility of enrolment sessions to potential applicants with mobility limitations or who may lack access to transportation, the Ministry will be providing taxi chits to potential applicants. Taxi chits will be provided exclusively to get to and from enrolment sessions. Arrangements may be made directly with the taxi companies rather than providing vouchers.

Screening procedures for mail and in-person applications

Upon completion of the application form, a Ministry staff member reviews the form to determine if all of the eligibility criteria are met. Income tax records are used to verify income eligibility and residence is self-reported. If an individual has not filed income taxes, they may declare their income by completing the Attestation Form (Appendix A11). They will be required to file taxes for future years if receiving a basic income and will receive assistance to do so, if needed.

Randomization Procedures

Participants in HBB and TB will be randomly assigned to intervention or comparison in a ratio of approximately 1:2 in HBB and 11:20 in TB, using a block randomization process. This will ensure that the intervention group receives exactly 1,000 participants in each location[7] and the comparison group receives slightly more than 1,000 participants in each location; having slightly more than the target number in the comparison group is a side-effect of conducting block randomization in sufficiently small blocks.

Blueprint will carry out a batch random assignment process on a regular basis to support timely notification of participants as to the outcome of their application (e.g. weekly). Participants will be included in each random assignment batch if they meet the following criteria:

[7] Including those recruited prior to randomization

- They are eligible applicants.
- They have completed a baseline survey.
- They have not previously been assigned to intervention or comparison.

Blueprint will ensure transparency and objectivity by documenting the following supporting materials:

1. The full set of unique identifiers for the participants to be randomly assigned in that batch.
2. Documentation outlining the steps taken to finalize that participant list.
3. The approach for assigning participants to condition, including the algorithm used to generate random assignment blocks, the seed used to produce the random assignment blocks, and the list order used for allocation of participants to random assignment blocks.
4. The resulting allocation of participants to intervention and comparison according to these steps.

Blueprint will send the unique identifiers of both groups to MCSS throughout the month 2-3 days in advance of the deadline for payment requests to be sent to the Ontario Ministry of Finance (which is responsible for administering the Basic Income payments). MCSS will then communicate to participants whether they have been assigned to the intervention or the comparison group.

Applicants selected to be in the intervention group will receive a letter from MCSS informing them of the benefit amount that they will receive. The letter will also outline the method and frequency of payment, which is once per month, by either direct deposit or cheque. Applicants selected to the comparison group will be thanked and reminded of the agreement to complete follow-up surveys (with compensation). Materials for this purpose are in Appendix A5 and A6. If there are more eligible applicants than required, applicants not selected to participate in the Pilot will be thanked for their interest and notified that they were not selected to participate.

Blinding

Blinding is not possible for the intervention recipients or the implementation team, though the baseline survey will be completed prior to assignment.

Study Intervention

Active Intervention

Participants in the intervention group or the saturation site will receive a basic income (modelled as a tax credit) for up to 3 years.

The benefit unit is the tax family (using the Canada Revenue Agency's definition): single or couple. This definition does not include children. Singles or couples with children are eligible for the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, but additional support for the children will derive from the existing Canada Child Benefit and Ontario Child Benefit, which greatly simplifies the program and the experiment.

Income of the benefit unit is obtained through the previous year's income tax information. Generally, the benefit unit's combined income reduces the Basic Income payment, except for the exempt categories outlined below. This is similar to the reduction in social assistance payments when recipients have earnings or other income. The Basic Income payment can be reduced to a minimum of zero.

If the applicant (and spouse/common-law partner, if applicable) have no income, they will receive the maximum amount, as per the table below.

Ontario Basic Income Pilot – Maximum Benefits		
	Single	Couple
Maximum Basic Income Amount	$16,989	$24,027
Maximum Basic Income Amount plus Disability Supplement for one person with a disability	$22,989	$30,027 ($36,027 if both people have a disability)

All employment earnings reduce the Basic Income at a rate of 50% (50 cents on the dollar). The earnings threshold is the amount of earned income where, based on the benefit reduction rate (50%), the Basic Income payment is reduced to zero. This is equal to:

- $33,979 for single adults with no disability
- $45,979 for single adults with a disability
- $48,054 for couples with no disability
- $60,054 for couples with one adult with a disability
- $72,054 for couple with both adults with a disability

"Other income", including public/private pensions and unemployment benefits (Employment Insurance), reduces the Basic Income payment at a rate of 100% (dollar for dollar). Income related to children or other social assistance payments are exempt and do not reduce the Basic Income payment.

Generalized Basic Income payment calculation:

> Basic Income payment = Maximum Benefit - 50% of Earnings - 100% of Other Income

Payments will be made on a monthly basis, on or around the 25th of the month, except for December, where payments are made in the middle of the month.

Participants in the Intervention Group will not be eligible for Ontario Works or the Ontario Disability Support Program so long as they are receiving the intervention. Participants who were receiving Ontario Works or ODSP support when they entered the intervention group will need to withdraw from social assistance but will continue to receive drug benefits and, where relevant, dental benefits. However, they will no longer be eligible for other supplemental health benefits, employment-related benefits and employment supports through social assistance.

Participants in the Basic Income group will be responsible for filing their taxes each year so that their Basic Income payments can continue to be assessed. If they experience a change in circumstances in-year (between tax filings) that would significantly impact their Basic Income payment, they may request a reassessment in-year. In-year changes may include substantial changes in income, change in relationship status and/or change in disability status.

Comparison Group

The comparison group will receive no intervention. Participants will continue to be eligible for OW, ODSP and all other benefits as they previously were.

Study Assessments and Activities

Surveys

Baseline Survey

Baseline data will be collected once eligibility has been determined but before randomization. This is to avoid unnecessarily collecting data from applicants who are not eligible, and to ensure that the outcomes of the randomization do not affect the responses to the baseline data collection survey. No participant will be considered enrolled or selected (randomized) to the intervention or comparison until they have completed the baseline survey.

The Ministry developed and implemented an initial baseline survey, which has been revised by the evaluation team to enhance outcome measures. The revised survey will be implemented before randomization begins or at the outset of randomization. In most cases, questions are on similar topics, however entirely new modules have been added on financial security, parenting, current needs, unmet need for care and positive wellbeing. A rationale for changes is presented in Appendix B2.

A primary source of questions for the baseline survey is existing Statistics Canada surveys that have been conducted on provincially and nationally representative samples. Other measures are from well validated questionnaires in academic literature. In all cases, these measures have demonstrated validity and reliability, and provide a comparison group to assess sample representativeness relative to the Ontario population. All questions are available for use without restrictions, except for the EQ-5D-5L for which a license is being secured and requires tight adherence to set guidelines. Other questions will be amended as needed to ensure clarity and to minimize respondent burden in the context of the Pilot.

It is expected that most respondents will complete a survey using a tablet at an in-person session or by telephone with a member of the Survey Research Unit at St. Michael's Hospital. These forms of administration will allow easy application of the skip logic that reduces the length of the survey. Where surveys need to be completed by paper, some simplifications will be made. See Appendix B1 for the revised questionnaire, including a link to an online version of the survey.

Applicants who completed an application but did not complete a survey will be contacted by telephone to determine whether they want to complete the survey online, by telephone, receive a paper copy or withdraw from the study. Telephone surveys will be able to be completed immediately or at a later time, as preferred by the applicant.

Follow-Up Surveys

All participants will complete a follow-up survey 12-months after their baseline survey. The exact questions for these surveys are not yet finalized, but will be very similar to the baseline, but with irrelevant questions removed. When finalized, these surveys will be submitted to the REB as an amendment to this Protocol.

Qualitative Interviews

Qualitative data will be gathered for several purposes: to evaluate the process by which the intervention is implemented, to provide Indigenous perspectives on the intervention, to provide greater understanding of the intervention's impacts on people with disabilities and to surface the means by which the intervention had an impact and possible unintended consequences.

The use of qualitative methods is critical to the evaluation because the limitations of survey data mean that it is almost impossible to anticipate all the ways in which the program roll-out and functioning will intersect with people's lives. Further, survey data may be of limited utility for segments of the target population. People with intellectual and developmental disabilities, cognitive impairments or other disabilities may be

unable to complete a written, online or telephone survey. Interviews will be used to address each of these issues.

The evaluation team realizes that some individuals receiving ODSP, because of their disability (e.g., intellectual disability) will be unable to consent for themselves, and the team will have to rely on caregivers or a professional who can appropriately act as a proxy respondent. As needed, the evaluation team will provide ASL interpretation, attendant care and alternative formats for materials – braille, large font, audio, and accessible spaces for interviews, and transportation.

In order to do this, it will be imperative to identify those people who are unable to provide reliable data in survey format as early as possibly in the data collection process. The evaluation team has added a question in the baseline survey about whether the Pilot participant completed the survey on their own, whether they had assistance or whether they were unable to do so.

Qualitative materials are still being developed and will be submitted for ethics review before being implemented.

Contact Updating

To minimize attrition, members of the comparison group will be asked to update their contact information at four-month intervals between surveys. The Survey Research Unit at St. Michael's Hospital has experience with this using this approach in the At Home/Chez Soi Study, and found that it was particularly effective for maintaining contact with participants assigned to the comparison group.

Compensation

All participants will receive $50 for completing the baseline survey. Participants in the intervention group will be compensated for completing the follow-up survey and participants in the comparison group will be provided a higher compensation for completing the follow-up survey, as a means of preventing attrition. Participants in the comparison group will also receive compensation for updating their contact information four months and eight months after completing the baseline survey. If people in the intervention group become ineligible for the basic income throughout the study period, they will be compensated at the higher rate for completing the surveys.

Schedule of Activities and Roles

The following sequence of forms and surveys is planned:

- Application and consent form
- Baseline survey

- 4-Month check-in (comparison group only)
- 8-Month check-in (comparison group only)
- 12-Month follow-up survey

Prior to the selection of the evaluation team, a third party research company (PRA Inc.) collected all baseline surveys. After the selection of the evaluation team, there was a period of transition where the Survey Research Unit at St. Michael's collected some surveys and PRA Inc. collected others. After the launch of the revised procedures described in this protocol, all evaluation activities will be conducted by the evaluation team, including the Survey Research Unit (survey administration, follow-up, contact updating and qualitative interviews), Blueprint (hosting of survey platform, support with technical requirements and qualitative interviews) and McMaster (qualitative interviews).

Community-Level Evaluation

Comparison Communities

In Lindsay, where it is expected that a large proportion of people who are eligible for the basic income will receive it, there are likely to be "spillover" effects that go beyond the individuals and families directly receiving basic income, and out to the broader community. To measure these effects, the Evaluation Team will compare changes in Lindsay to changes in similar communities that are not part of the Basic Income Pilot.

The Evaluation Team examined the five next-largest communities and the five next-smallest communities that are within 50 to 200 km of Toronto by road (Lindsay is about 125 km from Toronto). Five criteria were used to assess comparability:

- Age
- Median income
- Share of population in each of the three lowest deciles of the Canadian income distribution
- Aboriginal identity
- Visible minority status

Based on these criteria, the best fit comparator communities are Port Colborne, Wasaga Beach, and Owen Sound (see Table 1). Collingwood and Cobourg may also be included for administrative data analysis where data are relatively accessible.

Table 1: Comparison of similar-sized communities, 50-200 km from Toronto

	Lindsay	Port Colborne	Wasaga Beach	Owen Sound	Collingwood	Cobourg	Thorold	Alliston	Fergus	Keswick	Grimsby
Population	*20,713*	18,306	20,675	21,341	21,793	19,440	18,801	18,809	20,767	26,757	27,314
Distance to Toronto (km)	*124*	147	145	189	146	118	121	87	106	71	84
Age 0-14	*13%*	13%	12%	14%	14%	13%	16%	18%	18%	18%	17%
Age 65+	*29%*	25%	33%	25%	26%	31%	16%	22%	20%	12%	19%
Median Income (economic family)	*71,936*	72,599	72,435	68,672	81,920	80,269	81,455	93,273	99,234	96,648	107,500
Bottom Decile	*12%*	9%	8%	13%	10%	8%	11%	5%	5%	7%	4%
Second Decile	*13%*	12%	11%	15%	12%	10%	10%	8%	6%	8%	5%
Third Decile	*13%*	13%	12%	13%	12%	11%	11%	9%	8%	9%	7%
Aboriginal Identity	*3%*	5%	3%	4%	3%	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Visible Minority	*3%*	2%	2%	4%	5%	4%	10%	8%	3%	9%	5%
Total Difference		11%	13%	16%	24%	25%	41%	63%	71%	77%	89%

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Community-Level Survey

To understand the broader impact of the OBIP in Lindsay, beyond the impact on individuals receiving BI, the evaluation team will carry out telephone and/or internet surveys in Lindsay and in the comparison communities. The initial survey will be conducted as soon as possible, before the majority of eligible Lindsay residents begin to receive a basic income. The follow-up survey will be conducted at 12 months following the initial survey with additional annual surveys possible. The evaluation team will survey approximately 500 people in each of the communities, however the final number will be determined in consultation with a market research firm engaged to carry out the survey.

Any adult in Lindsay and in the communities identified will be eligible to participate including participants receiving BI. All participants in Lindsay will be asked whether s/he is receiving BI, and if so, when s/he started receiving the BI payments. Telephone interviews will be approximately 10-15 minutes in length.

The content of the surveys will be aimed at items not collected in the secondary data (see below). The questions to be asked in the survey are provided in Appendix B4.

Secondary data analysis

Many community-level effects in Lindsay will be monitored through sources of secondary data available in the community. Table 2 presents a list of measures the evaluation team will seek to monitor if sufficient data is available.

Table 2: Community-Level Measures from Secondary Data

Domain	Category	Measure
General economy	Business development	# Business license applications
		# Bankruptcies
		% Commercial real estate vacant
Labour market	Wages	Median wage
	Labour supply	Unemployment rate
	Labour demand	# Job vacancies
		# Minimum wage job vacancies
Housing market	Home ownership	Residential home sales
	Rental	Vacancy rate (rental)
		Median rent
		Bottom quintile rent
	Homelessness	# Unique individuals in shelters
		# Nights of shelter use (total per year)
	Food	Price of Nutritious Food Basket

Other Prices and Economic Activity	Fuel	Regular gasoline price (vs. Ontario average)
	Leisure activities	Restaurant sales
		Recreation centre use
		Cinema ticket sales
	Transportation	Transit ridership
		Intercity bus sales
Human capital	High school completion	High school completion rate
	Early development	Change in median EDI scores
		Change in EQAO scores
	Library use	# Library patrons
		# Books circulated
Community safety	Emergencies	# 911 calls
		# Emergency dept visits
	Injuries	# Emergency dept visits: unintentional injuries
		# Emergency dept visits: intentional injuries, not suicide
Family and household stability	Family separations	Divorce rate
		# Children in CAS
	Domestic violence	# ED visits for domestic violence
		911 calls for domestic violence
		Women & family shelter use
	Teen pregnancy	Teen pregnancy rate
Social capital	Civic participation	Voter participation in elections
	Social inclusion/interaction	Volunteer numbers in community organizations
Public health	Healthy behaviours	Alcohol sales
		Cigarette sales
	Communicable diseases	Outbreaks of communicable disease
		STI rates
		# Food bank users

Safety Considerations

Risks

The only significant risk in the study is that a participant who previously received assistance from Ontario Works or the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) could be worse off in particular circumstances. There are two primary instances in which this is possible:

1. A participant with a very large disability-related cost may not be able to cover that cost with the additional resources provided through a basic income, but may have otherwise been able to have it paid by ODSP.
2. A participant with a lien against their income could have basic income payments garnished. Social assistance income is protected from garnishment by legislation and regulation, but basic income payments may not be protected.

The Application and Consent Form includes an indicator for whether the applicant is a recipient of Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP). Any participant who is a recipient of one of these programs will be informed of these risks in advance. However, should either of these scenarios come to pass, a participant can leave the Pilot and rejoin social assistance via the reapplication process for Ontario Works or rapid reinstatement process for ODSP. It is estimated that approximately 40% of the eligible population will be Ontario Works or ODSP recipients.

Individuals may lose eligibility or receive reduced amount of other income-tested government benefits and services due to an increase in income, but it is highly unlikely that the value of these will outweigh the benefits described below. These are described in the Application Form and the accompanying Additional Information.

Informed Consent

It is important for applicants to be fully informed about the choices they are making, which may mean that they may need to seek help to obtain and understand related information.

All materials given to participants, including the application, consent form and questionnaire, have been written with the goal of being comprehensible with a grade 6-8 education level, as per the Ontario Cabinet Office Communications Style Guide. Individuals requiring assistance may be supported by a translator, who will swear that they have competence in both languages, have translated accurately and that they believe the participant understands to what they are consenting. Participants who are unable to read or unable to sign will have a witness who swears that the contents of the consent form were accurately explained and that the participant has freely given consent.

At the time of application, MCSS will collect consent for the participant to enrol in the study and (if relevant) to remove themselves from Ontario Works or ODSP (Appendix A1). If registering in-person, the participant is provided with an Additional Information form and will have the opportunity to discuss potential benefits and drawbacks of the Pilot with an MCSS staff member. The participant may also ask an evaluation team member any questions they have about data

use, collection or linkage. If a respondent completes the application and baseline survey remotely, they must submit the consent form with their application to participate. All participants who are currently on Ontario Works or ODSP and all applicants who applied by mail who are selected for the intervention group will be contacted by phone before the intervention begins to review the potential positive and negative consequences of their decision and to allow participants to withdraw from the Pilot before entering the intervention, if desired. The script for this call is provided in Appendix A7.

Participation in the Pilot is voluntary, and people chosen for the Pilot may opt out at any time.

Capacity to Consent

Given the potential importance of this intervention for people with disabilities, including people with severe disabilities, it is important to include individuals who may not have capacity to consent to participation in research. When dealing with participants, the recommendations of TCPS 2 will be followed.

If, at the discretion of the evaluator obtaining consent, an individual lacks the ability to comprehend the decision and/or to communicate consent, consent will be sought via a substitute decision maker. A substitute decision maker must be either a Guardian of Property Continuing Power or Attorney for Property (Appendix A13). A member of the evaluation team will not be accepted as a substitute decision maker under any circumstances.

Participants will still be involved to the greatest extent possible. If able to communicate, participants will be asked for their feelings about participating in the evaluation and those feelings will be honoured. Where the participant is able to answer some survey questions, an interview may be administered jointly with the participant answering those questions she/he is able to and a substitute decision maker answering other questions. A substitute decision maker will only be asked questions about the participant's circumstances and never be asked questions about how the participant is feeling.

The evaluation team does not expect any participants to acquire or regain decision-making capacity during the course of the evaluation. However, if they should, the evaluation team would promptly seek consent directly from the participant and would withdraw the participant from further evaluation activities if they did not wish to give that consent.

The evaluation is expected to provide direct and significant benefits to participants.

Benefits

Direct Benefits

Benefits of participating in the program include the increase in income among Basic Income group participants and the expected improvements in outcomes monitored as part of the evaluation of the Pilot. Individuals who do not receive Basic Income payments will be compensated for participating in surveys. There are no other anticipated risks or benefits arising to individuals not receiving the Basic Income.

Indirect Benefits

Ontarians will benefit from the knowledge of the positive and/or negative outcomes of a basic income. The Pilot results will inform provincial policy regarding basic income.

Data Security and Confidentiality

All parties involved in the implementation, data collection, analysis and reporting will strictly adhere to all confidentiality procedures. Data will be stored and maintained on secure computerized databases with appropriate encryption and password protection. Data security will strictly adhere to applicable privacy legislation including the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA), and the Personal Health Information Privacy Act (PHIPA). Any and all data transfers between organizations will be fully compliant with FIPPA, PHIPA and the Government of Ontario Information and Technology Standards (GO-ITS) (https://www.ontario.ca/page/information-technology-standards).

After linkage, data will be de-identified, so these data will use only study identifiers and not names, individual addresses or other personal contact information.

Technological, physical and behavioural safeguards will ensure the evaluation team can only access the specific sets of sensitive information they need to do their work, and will include:

- Secure internal server: data can only be accessed through an internal server or through access to hosted data in third-party data centre, both of which can only be accessed from Blueprint's offices. Internal server is located in a locked room with access limited to the individual responsible for the protection of privacy and confidentiality. Access to the office where the server room is housed and the network connected to the server is restricted to personnel.

- Need-to-know access: staff are only authorized to access sensitive data if they are a member of the evaluation team, have undergone government contractor security clearance, and require it for evaluation work, and access is revoked after the work has concluded. All staff are trained to follow strict data management and account security protocols to minimize any risk of a data breach.
- Technological safeguards: all sensitive data stored on internal network is encrypted using AES-256 encryption protocols when not in use. Internal network is only accessible to internal users and is protected by a firewall and ongoing access monitoring. Password policies for network access are automatically enforced and can be remotely revoked at any time.

All staff are governed by confidentiality agreements that strictly prohibit the unauthorized use, duplication, or disclosure of all sensitive data including personal information. Authorized uses of data are clearly enumerated in all agreements and staff must demonstrate that they understand and are committed to their agreement before they are granted any access to sensitive information.

Results of the analysis and any research publications arising from the evaluation will not identify any participating individuals. In the event of a breach of confidentiality, the Ministry will inform the Veritas IRB, any other REBs that review the project and all affected participants immediately.

All electronic data will be securely hosted by Blueprint ADE or the survey platform provider Qualtrics in Toronto, Canada. Identifying information will be securely transferred to the Survey Research Unit at St. Michael's Hospital so that evaluation team can contact individuals to complete surveys or update their contact information. The Survey Research Unit at St. Michael's Hospital will store paper surveys inside a locked facility and locked cabinets and use an Access database hosted inside St. Michael's Hospital to store identifying information and related participant reference numbers.

All evaluation data will also be securely transferred to the Ministry and managed under the Ministry's data governance framework, following the Privacy Impact Assessment and Threat Risk Assessment for all data processes and systems.

Analysis Plan

Survey and Administrative Data

Hamilton-Brant-Brantford and Thunder Bay

Baseline characteristics will be reviewed to compare balance of basic income and intervention groups on baseline income, gender, and age groups. Where feasible, adjustments will be made to improve the representation within the design matrix. After each year in the pilot program, evaluation measures will report on the effect of the intervention on the key hypothesis, as well as other outcomes of interest (differences in income, food security, employment or education status, and mental and physical health).

Assuming balance in baseline covariates, simple t-tests or chi-square tests for continuous and categorical outcomes will be used to compare outcomes between basic income and comparison groups.

These simple tests may mask important factors influencing the outcomes. Therefore, a range of econometric procedures will be used to test for net impact of the basic income. The basic form of the tests will use the following equation:

$$\Delta O_i = A_0 + \sum B_k X_k + \sum C_l Z_l ,$$

where O_i is the outcome of interest, X_k a vector of participant attributes (status and behaviours) and Z_l a vector of policy factors including the basic income and the presence of health benefits.

All survey information will be processed using standard software (SAS, Stata and/or SPSS, augmented by Excel) to support data management and analysis.

Lindsay

At the individual level, administrative data from participants will be compared to a control group of similar non-participants from other communities in the province. Propensity score matching methods will be used to identify individual controls, based on key characteristics prior to the start of the Pilot (e.g., age, sex, immigration status, income, source of income, etc.).

At the community level, survey data will be compared to the selected comparison communities outlined above. Where administrative data exists and is accessible for the entire province, a synthetic control group will be constructed using a data driven procedure that weights control communities to minimize the mean squared error prediction for a set of observed predictors. Some examples of possible predictors at the community level include quarterly unemployment rate, industry shares, change in housing values, percent of population living in rural areas and at the individual level include income, primary source of income, gender, marital status and age. This approach, using a combination of communities to construct a counterfactual, often provides a better comparison for the intervention than any single community (Abadie, 2010).

A placebo test will be conducted where each of the control communities used to construct the synthetic control group are treated as intervention communities to measure changes in the community level outcomes. These sensitivity analyses will be used to determine whether the observed trajectory of community level outcomes observed in Lindsay is greater than the degree of random variation in the data set and therefore indicative of a real policy effect (Basu et al, 2017).

The OBIP policy effect will be measured using difference-in-differences analyses between the observed outcomes in Lindsay after the introduction of the OBIP and both the outcomes in the proposed control groups and the counterfactual outcome constructed from the synthetic control group (the weighted average of trajectories from the control communities) after subtracting the difference in outcomes pre-intervention.

It is important to acknowledge that the synthetic control approach does not achieve the strength of an RCT in controlling for unobserved covariates. However, this approach attempts to minimize bias in the OBIP effect estimates from both observed and, to some extent, unobserved confounding and represents a more rigorous approach than simple before and after comparisons (Basu et al, 2017).

Addressing Modifications to Sample

The most rigorous analysis will use a pre-post, difference-in-difference analysis with the OBIP participants in HBB and TB who complete the revised baseline questionnaire and undergo randomization. The study design will result in an imbalance in the number of participants randomized to the comparison and intervention groups in HBB and TB (approximately 1,000 comparison and 700 intervention at each site). This imbalance will result in a small loss in statistical power. However, the imbalance may actually prove to be beneficial in one respect; because higher attrition rates are expected in the comparison group, the initial imbalance at baseline may result in approximately equal numbers of comparison and intervention participants for whom 12-month follow-up data are available.

The evaluation team will also be able to conduct full pre-post, difference-in-difference analyses with all OBIP intervention participants in HBB, TB, and Lindsay who complete the revised baseline questionnaire. The evaluation team notes, however, that these analyses would combine data from participants randomly assigned to intervention in HBB and TB and participants non-randomly receiving the intervention in Lindsay.

Despite the changes to the baseline questionnaire, much of the data from the original survey will still be used. For some outcomes, the evaluation team will be able to create equivalent variables from different questions in the original and

revised baseline questionnaires. For example, a question in the old baseline survey ('downhearted and blue') can be used a predictor of a 'probable case' of mental illness and so too can a scale in the new survey (the Kessler-6). For these analyses and for those where questions have not changed at all the evaluation team will be able to use data from all 6,000 OBIP participants.

It will also be possible to conduct analyses comparing follow-up data for all participants, since all participants recruited before and after revision of the baseline survey will complete the same follow-up surveys. These analyses will have the advantage of including all participants, but will have the disadvantage of combining participants assigned to the Basic Income group on a non-random basis with participants assigned to the Basic Income group on a randomized basis. In addition, these analyses will not be able to examine pre-post changes for a number of outcomes, due to differences between the original baseline questionnaire and the follow-up questionnaire, which will be based on the revised baseline survey.

The evaluation team will be able to conduct full pre-post, difference-in-difference analyses on outcomes from administrative data from all OBIP participants, regardless of the baseline questionnaire they completed at recruitment, collecting updated consent forms, if necessary.

The evaluation team cannot go back to OBIP participants who completed the original baseline questionnaire and ask them to complete a new questionnaire. These participants were not randomized, so they cannot be treated equally to other participants even if they have the same questionnaire data. In addition, if the evaluation team went back and re-surveyed them, the team would not be capturing them in a 'true baseline' state; they would already have been receiving the intervention, in some cases for up to six months.

Collaboration with Other Researchers

Beyond the evaluation team, a larger group of researchers has agreed to contribute to the evaluation of the Pilot. They provided input into the evaluation plan and will help to guide analysis. The list of participating researchers and their primary institutional affiliations follows. Consultations with additional researchers may occur, as needed.

Name	Affiliation
Peter Juni	St. Michael's Hospital, Applied Health Research Centre
Rick Glazier	Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences
Nav Persaud	St. Michael's Hospital, Centre for Urban Health Solutions
Ross Upshur	University of Toronto, Dalla Lana School of Public Health

Brendan Smith	Public Health Ontario
Laura Rosella	University of Toronto, Dalla Lana School of Public Health
Malcolm King	Simon Fraser University, Faculty of Health Sciences
Ahmed Bayoumi	St. Michael's Hospital, Centre for Urban Health Solutions
Wanrudee Isanaranuwatchi	St. Michael's Hospital, Centre for Excellence in Economic Analysis Research
Valerie Tarasuk	University of Toronto, Department of Nutritional Sciences
Daniyal Zuberi	University of Toronto, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work
Ann Fudge-Schormans	McMaster University, School of Social Work
Michael Boyle	McMaster University, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences
Arjumand Siddiqui	University of Toronto , Dalla Lana School of Public Health
Paul Kurdyak	Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences
Simon Coulombe	Wilfred Laurier University
Ketan Shankardass	Wilfred Laurier University, Department of Health Sciences
Philip Oreopoulos	University of Toronto, Department of Economics
Kory Croft	University of Toronto, Department of Economics
Evelyn Forget	University of Manitoba
Arthur Sweetman	McMaster University, Department of Economics

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Governance

Ministers' Advisory Council

The Ontario Basic Income Pilot Minister's Advisory Council (MAC) is to provide advice and recommendations to the Minister of Community and Social Services and the Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy to achieve the successful delivery of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot aimed at testing whether providing consistent and predictable income support will lead to better outcomes for individuals.

The objectives of the MAC is to provide timely, thoughtful advice and recommendations based on their knowledge, expertise and experience in health, education, social services, research and evaluation.

Research and Evaluation Advisory Committee

The Research and Evaluation Advisory Committee (REAC) is to provide strategic advice and recommendations on how to best evaluate the outcomes of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot and such other assistance as may be required by the Minister of Community and Social Services and the Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy that relates to the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

The objectives of the REAC are for members to provide timely, thoughtful advice and recommendations on research and evaluation matters to ensure the Basic Income Pilot evaluation is rigorous, defensible, and comprehensive.

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Appendices

Please refer to attachments for the following:

Appendix A – Recruitment and Application Materials

- A1 – Application & Consent Form
- A2 – Additional Information Forms
- A3 – Notification of Ineligibility
- A4 – Notifications of Eligibility
- A5 – Notification of Selection to Comparison Group
- A6 – Notifications of Selection to Basic Income Group
- A7 – Follow-Up Phone Call Script
- A8 – Evaluation Transition Letter
- A9 – Contact card
- A10 – Online Recruitment
- A12 – Application Requested Letter
- A13 – Confirmation of Substitute Decision-Maker / Declaration of Assistance
- A14 – Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) Letter

Appendix B – ~~Baseline Survey~~Research Tools

- B1 – Revised Baseline Survey
- B2 – Rationale for Changes to Baseline Survey
- B3 – Survey Cover Letter
- B4 – Community-Level Survey

This is Exhibit "39" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

VERITAS IRB

Research ethics simplified™

INDEPENDENT REVIEW BOARD COMMUNICATION

IRB Review Date:	May 1, 2018
IRB Tracking Number:	16143-13:04:0630-04-2018
Sponsor:	Government of Ontario
Study Name:	The Ontario Basic Income Pilot Study
Study Expiration Date:	May 2, 2019

RE: Continuing Review – Unconditionally Approved

The following documents were reviewed and acknowledged by the Independent Review Board in compliance with normative documents governing research with humans:

1. Communications (2) from the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services dated April 9, and May 1, 2018
2. Sponsor Review of Ongoing Research dated March 20, 2018
3. Appendix for Sponsor Report, undated, submitted March 20, 2018
4. Principal Investigator Review of Ongoing Research dated April 27, 2018
5. Appendices for Principal Investigator Report, dated April 27, 2018.

The following is a query from the Independent Review Board:

- With respect to the reasons for withdrawal, what is the total number of withdrawals and the number of withdrawals for each reason? If the exact numbers are not readily available, an estimate would suffice.

NOTE

- The Independent Review Board has renewed its unconditional approval of the above-referenced Study and all associated documentation for the period of May 3, 2018 to May 2, 2019.

Should you have any questions or require clarification of any issues, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you.

Veritas IRB Inc.

Verified by Pier-Luc on 2-May-2018 @ 12:29

VERITAS IRB

SPONSOR REVIEW OF ONGOING RESEARCH REPORT

1. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Submitting Party:	Debbie Burke-Benn		
Company Name:	Ministry of Community and Social Services		
Phone	(416) 212 -2083	Fax	( ) -
Email Address:	Debbie.Burke-Benn@ontario.ca		
Street	40 Dundas St. W. 4th Floor Suite 421		
City:	Toronto	Province / State:	Ontario
Country:	Canada	Postal / Zip Code:	M5G 2C2

2. STUDY IDENTIFICATION

Sponsor of the Research:	Government of Ontario	
Protocol Number:	16143	(If there is no Protocol Number check here: ☐)
Protocol Title:	The Ontario Basic Income Pilot Study	

3. STUDY ENROLMENT

☐ Study not yet initiated:
- ☐ Funding issues
- ☐ Other: _____

☐ Study is dormant:
- ☐ Funding issues
- ☐ Accrual problems (see recruitment difficulties below)
- ☐ Other: _____

☑ Enrolment open and is at: 69% percent of projected enrolment.

☐ Enrolment closed – experimental procedures continue.
Date last Participant enrolled: ____/____/____ (DD / MM / YYYY)

☐ Enrolment closed – follow-up only. No further experimental procedures.
Date last Participant enrolled: ____/____/____ (DD / MM / YYYY)

Projected Study Closure Date: 27 / 05 / 2021 (DD / MM / YYYY)

Number of Study Sites participating in Study under the jurisdiction of the Veritas IRB:	3
Number of Study Sites under the jurisdiction of the Veritas IRB withdrawn from Study: (do not include screen failures)	0
If any, please provide reasons for Site withdrawal:	
Total number of Participants enrolled into Study at the Site(s) under the jurisdiction of the Veritas IRB:	4,183
Total number of Participants withdrawn from Study at the Site(s) under the jurisdiction of the Veritas IRB :	50

If any, please provide reasons for Participant withdrawal:
- ☐ Lack of Efficacy
- ☐ Adverse Event(s)
- ☐ Lost to Follow-Up (unable to contact Participant)
- ☐ Withdrew consent (Specify if any reason given): _____
- ☑ Other (Specify): See attached appendix A

VERITAS IRB

4. STUDY PROTOCOL

What is the date of the Study Protocol currently in use, including any Amendments?	Study Protocol: 22 / 01 / 2018 (DD / MM / YYYY) Last Amendment: 22 / 01 / 2018 (DD / MM / YYYY)
Has there been any new information since the last approval which may impact the design of the Study Protocol (e.g. new scientific advances in this field of research, new relevant literature on this Study or the Investigational Product, interim research findings)?	☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, please provide details and/or copies to the IRB:	

5. INVESTIGATOR'S BROCHURE

What is the date of the Investigator's Brochure currently in use, including any Amendments?	☐ Investigator's Brochure: ___ / ___ / ___ (DD / MM / YYYY) ☐ Last Amendment: ___ / ___ / ___ (DD / MM / YYYY) ☒ N/A (e.g. no product involved, approved product, medical device)

6. SAFETY / RECOMMENDATIONS

Since the last IRB review, has there been any suspected Non-Compliance (see attached glossary)? *If yes, attach a summary describing the nature of the suspected Non-Compliance.*	☐ Yes ☒ No
Since the last IRB review, has there been any other relevant information regarding this Study, especially information about risks associated with the Study or Study Product which may affect the willingness of Research Participants to continue to take part in the Study? *If yes, attach a copy or summary of this information.*	☐ Yes ☒ No
How many unexpected and related Serious Adverse Events were experienced in this Study at the Site(s) under the jurisdiction of the Veritas IRB in total?	0
How many unexpected and related Serious Adverse Events were experienced in this Study at the Site(s) under the jurisdiction of the Veritas IRB since last approval?	0

7. STUDY MONITORING

Is this Study supervised by a Data Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB)?	☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, has the DSMB conducted a review of this Study that has not yet beensubmitted to the IRB? *If yes, please provide a copy of their Evaluation Letter(s).*	☐ Yes ☐ No
Since the last IRB review, did the Sponsor monitor the Study? *If yes, please provide details of the monitor's major findings, if any.*	☐ Yes ☑ No
Have there been any Multi-Center Trial Reports? *If yes, attach a copy of all Multi-Center Trial Reports.*	☐ Yes ☑ No

I certify that I have submitted all the required documentation and that the above information is accurate and truthful to the best of my knowledge.

Debbie Burke-Benn
Print Name

DBBenn
Signature

20 / 03 / 2018
DD / MM / YYYY

Accumulative Withdrawals
Reason
Traditional social assistance provides more resources
Undisclosed Reason
Aged Out
Deceased
Selected into Comparison group

VERITAS IRB

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR REVIEW OF ONGOING RESEARCH REPORT

1. PI/SITE ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Principal Investigator:	Debbie Burke-Benn		
Site / Clinic / Company Name:	Ministry of Community and Social Services		
Site Contact Person for IRB Issues:	Debbie Burke-Benn		
Contact's Phone	(416) 212 - 2033	Contact's Fax	( ) -
Contact's Email Address:	Debbie.Burke-Benn@ontario.ca		
Street:	40 Dundas St. W. 4th Floor, Suite 421		
City:	Toronto	Province / State:	ON
Country:	Canada	Postal / Zip Code:	M5G 2C2

2. STUDY IDENTIFICATION

Sponsor of the Research:	Government of Ontario		
Protocol Number:	16-143	(If there is no Protocol Number check here: ☐)	
Protocol Title:	The Ontario Basic Income Pilot Study		

3. STUDY ENROLMENT

☐ Study not yet initiated:
- ☐ Funding issues
- ☐ Other: _____

☐ Study is dormant:
- ☐ Funding issues
- ☐ Accrual problems (see recruitment difficulties below)
- ☐ Other: _____

☐ Enrolment open and is at: _____ percent of projected enrolment.

☑ Enrolment closed – experimental procedures continue.
Date last Participant enrolled: 19 / 04 / 2018 (DD / MM / YYYY)

☐ Enrolment closed – follow-up only. No further experimental procedures.
Date last Participant enrolled: _____ / _____ / _____ (DD / MM / YYYY)

First Participant In: 27 / 07 / 2017 (DD / MM / YYYY)	Projected Date of Study Enrolment Completion: _____ / _____ / _____ (DD / MM / YYYY)

Total number of Participants enrolled in this Study at this Site:	6,506	Total number of Participants withdrawn in this Study at this Site:	76

If any, please provide reasons for Participant withdrawal:

- ☐ Lack of Efficacy
- ☐ Adverse Event(s)
- ☐ Lost to Follow-Up (unable to contact Participant)
- ☐ Withdrew consent (Specify if any reason given): _____
- ☑ Other (Specify): See Appendix A

Were there any difficulties recruiting or retaining Participants in this Study? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please explain:
See Appendix B

VERITAS IRB

4. STUDY PROTOCOL

What is the date of the Study Protocol currently in use, including any Amendments?

Study Protocol: 21 (DD) / 03 (MM) / 2018 (YYYY) Last Amendment: 21 (DD) / 03 (MM) / 2018 (YYYY)

5. INFORMED CONSENT DOCUMENTATION

Date of the Informed Consent Documentation currently in use: 25 (DD) / 01 (MM) / 2018 (YYYY)

Was the Informed Consent Document duly signed by the Study Participant and the Investigator or his delegate prior to any Study related procedures? See Appendix C	☐ Yes ☐ No
Were copies of the Informed Consent Document provided to each Study Participant? See Appendix C	☐ Yes ☐ No
Were any problems encountered while communicating the Study to the Study Participants?	☑ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please list problem categories:

- ☑ Informed Consent Document is too technical
- ☑ Informed Consent Document is too long
- ☐ Same questions are constantly asked by Study Participants
- ☑ Other (please explain): See Appendix C

6. RECRUITMENT MATERIALS

Are there any Recruitment Materials used in this Study? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what is the date of the following Recruitment Materials currently in use?

☑ Poster	21 (DD) / 11 (MM) / 2017 (YYYY)
☐ Flyer	DD / MM / YYYY
☐ Newspaper ad	DD / MM / YYYY
☐ Radio ad	DD / MM / YYYY
☐ Television ad	DD / MM / YYYY
☑ Other: See Appendix D	

7. INVESTIGATORS

Are there any changes in the duties of the Investigators participating in the Study at this Site?	☐ Yes ☑ No
If yes, please provide details:	
Does the Principal Investigator have any new conflicting interests since the last approval of the Study at his/her Site?	☐ Yes ☑ No
If yes, please provide details:	
Has the Principal Investigator been audited for any study by Health Canada, the FDA or OHRP since the last approval of the Study at this Site?	☐ Yes ☑ No
If yes, please provide details and/or a copy of the Audit Report as soon as possible:	
Are there any current investigations or charges involving the Principal or Sub-Investigator(s)?	☐ Yes ☑ No
If yes, please provide details:	
Are all Investigators participating in the Study at this Site approved by the IRB? *If no, please provide their Curriculum Vitae and Medical License for review and approval.*	☑ Yes ☐ No

☐ I have provided an updated copy of Current Medical Licenses of all Investigators participating in the Study at this Site for the upcoming year.

VERITAS IRB

8. SAFETY AND COMPLAINTS	
Since the last IRB review, have there been any Unanticipated Problems (including Adverse Events) involving risks to Participants or others that have not yet been reported to the IRB? *If yes, attach a summary describing the Unanticipated Problems involving risks to Participants or others.*	☐ Yes ☑ No
Since the last IRB review, have there been any significant Protocol Deviations that have not yet been reported to the IRB? *If yes, attach a summary describing the nature of the significant Protocol Deviations.*	☐ Yes ☑ No
Have there been any Protocol Deviations that do not require reporting to the IRB but are repeating or are of similar nature? *If yes, attach a summary describing the nature of the Protocol Deviations.*	☐ Yes ☑ No
Since the last IRB review, have any Participants or others complained to the Site about the research? *If yes, attach a summary describing the number and nature of the complaints.*	☐ Yes ☑ No
How many unexpected and related Serious Adverse Events were experienced in this Study at this Site in total?	0
How many unexpected and related Serious Adverse Events were experienced in this Study at this Site since last approval?	0

9. STUDY MONITORING	
Since the last IRB review, did the Sponsor monitor the Study?	☑ Yes ☐ No
If yes, what is the number of monitoring visits to this Site?	10, See Appendix E
In the opinion of the Principal Investigator, have the risks or potential benefits of this research changed? *If yes, attach a summary description of those changes.*	☐ Yes ☑ No

I certify that I have submitted all the required documentation and that the above information is accurate and truthful to the best of my knowledge.

Debbie Burke-Benn Diane Pissaud
Print Name

Signature of the Principal Investigator (per Debbie Burke-Benn) 27 / 04 / 2018
DD MM YYYY

APPENDIX A – WITHDRAWAL REASONS

Accumulative Withdrawals
Reason
Aged Out
Deceased
Self-Determined
Undisclosed/Other
Traditional social assistance provides more resources
Group Selection

APPENDIX B – RECRUITMENT DIFFICULTIES

Recruitment was slower than expected due to challenges reaching interested and eligible individuals, mistrust of the initiative, desire to participate only if selected to treatment group and concerns about loss of social assistance benefits. Multiple recruitment strategies were employed, as detailed in the most recent protocol. The total recruitment target was ultimately achieved.

APPENDIX C – INFORMED CONSENT DOCUMENTATION

The informed consent documentation was signed by all participants, but not by the investigator.

A copy of the participant's application, which contains all informed consent materials, is available to all participants. Only a few participants asked for a copy of their application, and those have been provided to participants. Any participant may request a copy of their application at any time and the Pilot team will provide it.

Some participants experienced issues understanding the study due to literacy or comprehension issues. The Pilot team explained the application and informed consent documentation to all participants. Phone calls were made to participants who submitted their applications by mail or e-mail. Participants with identified issues (such as literacy) or more complex cases (such as transitioning from Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program to the Ontario Basic Income Pilot) were contacted by Pilot staff to ensure comprehension.

APPENDIX D – RECRUITMENT MATERIALS

Application Package – Jan 25, 2018
Information Booklet – May 2017
Posters – Nov 21, 2017
Post cards – Nov 21, 2017
Web copy – Nov 21, 2017
Enrolment calendar- Feb 14, 2018

Buck slip – Nov 21, 2017

APPENDIX E – STUDY MONITORING

The PI made at minimum the following monitoring visits:

- Four visits to Hamilton, Brantford, Brant County
- Five visits to Lindsay
- One visit to Thunder Bay and surrounding area

All documents collected from all sites are reviewed by the Pilot team prior to enrolment in the study.

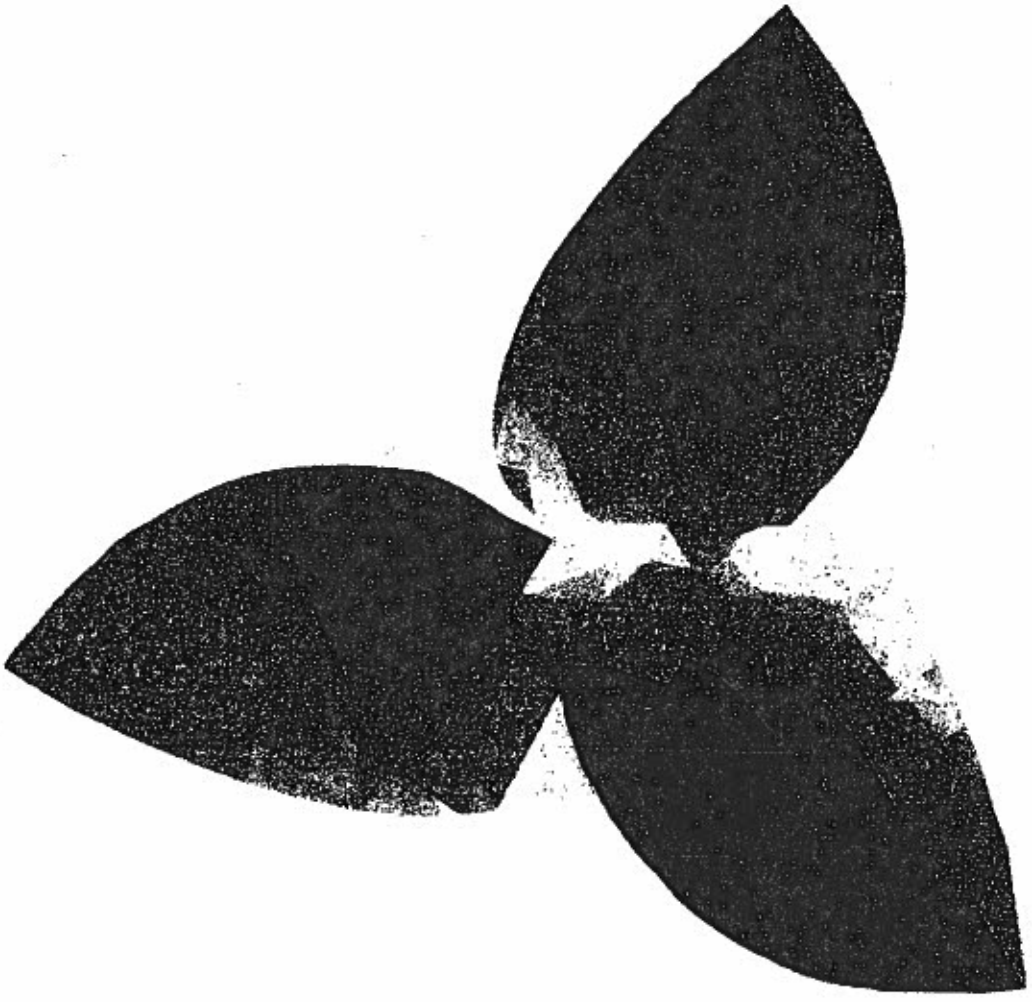
This is Exhibit "40" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.



Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

JOBS FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

2016 ONTARIO BUDGET



The Honourable
CHARLES SOUSA
Minister of Finance

As a result, this year, the government will continue to engage with delivery partners, clients and sector advocates to chart the path to comprehensive reform that effectively reduces poverty, supports people in their efforts to participate in the economy, and provides human services in a way that makes sense to the people who need them. This process will look across government and at the broader income security landscape to ensure that various existing and future programs work together to help Ontarians. The government will also engage with First Nation, Inuit and Metis communities to ensure that the path forward recognizes unique challenges on- and off-reserve and helps all Ontarians live a better life.

One area of research that will inform the path to comprehensive reform will be the evaluation of a Basic Income pilot. The pilot project will test a growing view at home and abroad that a basic income could build on the success of minimum wage policies and increases in child benefits by providing more consistent and predictable support in the context of today's dynamic labour market. The pilot would also test whether a basic income would provide a more efficient way of delivering income support, strengthen the attachment to the labour force, and achieve savings in other areas, such as health care and housing supports. The government will work with communities, researchers and other stakeholders in 2016 to determine how best to design and implement a Basic Income pilot.

This is Exhibit "41" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Sybil Grant

From:	Minor, Gabe (MCSS) <Gabe.Minor@ontario.ca>
Sent:	September 22, 2017 9:07 AM
To:	Rod Sutherland; Hennessey, Natalie (MCSS)
Cc:	Blyth, Wendy (MCSS)
Subject:	Information Booth at the LEX
Attachments:	170920 - Basic Income - Postcard_PRINT_V2.pdf; 170920_ BI_Brochure - ENG - PRINT.PDF

Good morning Rod and Natalie (Wendy covering),

Further to our conversation Monday and in preparation for this weekend, I wanted to let you know the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP) plans for our booth at the Lindsay Exhibition. The OBIP team will be hosting a booth, located indoors in the Commonwell Mutual Exhibition Building, in Row E. We will be at the booth during the following times:

Friday	10am – 10pm
Saturday	10am – 10pm
Sunday	10am – 6pm

Postcards will be handed out to any/all visitors interested, and any visitors who would like more information regarding the OBIP will be provided with an information brochure. I have attached both documents to this email. The team will also collect names and contact information from visitors who are interested in learning more about or who are interested in applying for the Basic Income.

Minister Milcyzn will be visiting the booth on Sunday morning, and staff have been provided a media protocol for their use.

We would greatly appreciate if you could share this information with your colleagues from the Local Network that I met with on Monday. In addition, I know you wished to share our plan for the LEX with your respective staff in case they received any questions from ODSP or OW recipients.

If you have any questions, please feel free to send me an email or drop by to see me on Friday evening at the LEX.

Thanks and have a great weekend,

Gabe Minor
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Ministry of Community and Social Services

Ontario's Basic Income Pilot: You and Your Family Can Get Help to Make Ends Meet!

What is Ontario Basic Income Pilot?

The Ontario Basic Income Pilot is a three-year study about whether a basic income is a better way of helping people living on low incomes.

The Lindsay pilot is starting this fall.



We can **help you** make ends meet and you can **help us** test this new way of supporting people on low incomes.

Call or email us to find out more: BasicIncome@ontario.ca 1-844-217-4516

Ontario

Ontario's Basic Income Pilot: You and Your Family Can Get Help to Make Ends Meet!

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Ontario

Who will evaluate the pilot?

A third-party research consortium will evaluate the pilot. The province will form an advisory group with research and evaluation experts to ensure the pilot is conducted with the utmost integrity, rigour and ethical standards.

For more information about the pilot, please visit **www.ontario.ca/basicincome** or call **1-844-217-4516**

Ontario's Basic Income Pilot

Studying the impact of a basic income



Ontario

What is basic income?

A basic income is a payment to eligible families or individuals that ensures a minimum income level regardless of employment status.

Why study a basic income?

The pilot will test whether a basic income can better support vulnerable workers, improve health and education outcomes for people on low incomes, and help ensure that everyone shares in Ontario's economic growth. It will measure outcomes in:

- Food security
- Stress and anxiety
- Mental health
- Health and health care usage
- Housing stability
- Education and training
- Employment and labour market participation

Where is the pilot taking place?

The three-year pilot will take place in the following locations:

- Hamilton, Brantford, Brant County - launched spring 2017
- Thunder Bay and the surrounding area - launched spring 2017
- Lindsay - launching by fall 2017

How does it work?

Individuals receiving the basic income will be compared to the selected control group.

Up to 4,000 participants receiving basic income payments will be included in the pilot at full implementation.

Participants will be:

- Randomly selected
- 18 to 64 years old
- Living in one of the test locations for the past 12 months or longer
- Living on a low income.

Ontario is also planning a separate, parallel First Nations Basic Income Pilot, with First Nations partners. We will consider advice that has been received and continue to reach out to other Provincial Territorial Organizations and First Nations to determine a co-creation process for a basic income pilot for First Nations.

How much will participants receive?

The payment will account for other income and ensure a minimum level of income is provided. Participants will receive:

- Up to $16,989 per year for a single person, less 50 per cent of any earned income
- Up to $24,027 per year for a couple, less 50 per cent of any earned income
- Up to an additional $6,000 per year for a person with a disability.

Participants can go to school to further their education or begin/continue to work while receiving the basic income.

Income from other programs, such as the Canada Pension Plan and Employment Insurance, would reduce the basic income payment dollar for dollar. Income related to children, such as the Ontario Child Benefit and child support, would be exempt. People receiving support through Ontario Works who enter the pilot will continue to receive the Ontario Drug Benefit, and people on the Ontario Disability Support Program will continue to receive the Ontario Drug Benefit and dental benefits.

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A third-party research consortium will evaluate the pilot. The province will form an advisory group with research and evaluation experts to ensure the pilot is conducted with the utmost integrity, rigour and ethical standards.

For more information about the pilot, please visit **www.ontario.ca/basicincome** or call **1-844-217-4516**

Ontario's Basic Income Pilot

Studying the impact of a basic income



Ontario

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- Housing stability
- Education and training
- Employment and labour market participation

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Income from other programs, such as the Canada Pension Plan and Employment Insurance, would reduce the basic income payment dollar for dollar. Income related to children, such as the Ontario Child Benefit and child support, would be exempt. People receiving support through Ontario Works who enter the pilot will continue to receive the Ontario Drug Benefit, and people on the Ontario Disability Support Program will continue to receive the Ontario Drug Benefit and dental benefits.

This is Exhibit "42" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Sybil Grant

From:	Buchan-Terrell, Allison (MCSS) <Allison.Buchan-Terrell@ontario.ca>
Sent:	April 10, 2018 12:05 PM
To:	amalik@hkpr.on.ca; dlbowman@nexicom.net; Furness, Brandy (MCSS); fhunting@hkpr.on.ca; Hope Lee; Mack, Jackie (MCSS); jknot@knfht.ca; loaderl@lao.on.ca; lorrie@apch.ca; mhodson@knfht.ca; mmills@hkpr.on.ca; m.perry@cklfamilyhealthteam.com; Hennessey, Natalie (MCSS); pbartondyke@ckl.unitedway.ca; Rod Sutherland; heather@kawarthalakesfoodsource.com
Cc:	laidleyj@lao.on.ca; Burke-Benn, Debbie (MCSS)
Subject:	Basic Income - Local Network Update and Daily Tips - April 10, 2018
Attachments:	FINAL - Basic Income Revised Application Form - English - Crop Marks.pdf; Lindsay Enrolment Calendar - April 2-17, 2018.docx

Hello Local Network Members,

Thank you again for taking the time to talk with me last week – I very much appreciated your suggestions as we head into our final week of enrollment.

I have one key update for you as we enter the final week of enrollment, including some suggested copy for daily tips and the final enrollment session calendar leading up to the application.

If you have any questions, please continue to email Debbie directly at Debbie.Burke-Benn@ontario.ca and copy me at Allison.buchan-terrell@ontario.ca. You can also call us at 1-844-217-4516 or send us an email at basicincome@ontario.ca.

All the best,

Allison (on behalf of Debbie and the whole Basic Income Pilot team)

Daily Tips

Following up on the excellent suggestion from our call, we've come up with eight tips for the final week of enrollment in Lindsay and included some suggested copy you can use on social media or however you choose.

1. **You can apply with your 2017 taxes.**

   Just filed your taxes? Did you know that you can use your 2017 taxes to apply to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot? All you need to do is bring your 2017 Notice of Assessment to an enrollment session. Don't have your Notice of Assessment, you can also attest to your 2017 income. Find a session near you at Ontario.ca/basicincome.

2. **You can walk in to an enrollment session to apply – no appointment necessary**

   Walk-ins welcome! You don't need to make an appointment – You can walk in to an Ontario Basic Income Pilot enrollment session and apply. Find a session near you at Ontario.ca/basicincome.

3. **What does being part of a study mean for me?**

   The Ontario Basic Income Pilot is a study. What does that mean for you? It means you will fill in surveys with questions about what impact a basic income has on your life. Your experience is an important part of the study. You will be compensated for the surveys you fill in.

   The Ontario Basic Income Pilot is a study. What does that mean for you? You are making a valuable contribution to ground-breaking made-in-Ontario research that is helping us learn whether a basic income could better support people living on low incomes.

4. **Social Assistance and BI**

   What happens if you want to withdraw from the Ontario Basic Income Pilot and go back to OW or ODSP? The Pilot team will help you every step of the way to get you back on OW and ODSP. You won't go a month without a payment as you make the transition back to OW or ODSP. And, if you're on ODSP, you will not have to be re-assessed for your disability.

5. **Lindsay as a unique part of the study**

   Lindsay is a special part of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. In Lindsay, all participants will receive a Basic Income so that researchers can study the community-level outcomes, like hospital usage and community involvement.

6. **BI and other benefits, like CCB/OCB**

   What happens to your Canada and Ontario Child Benefit, if you get a Basic Income? You can still receive the CCB and the OCB while you participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot and these benefits do not count as income and so will not be deducted from your Basic Income payment.

7. **Missing Information**

   Want to apply to the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, but worried that you're missing some information? No problem. Go to a session and start your application – we'll help you complete it. Find a session near you at Ontario.ca/basicincome.

8. **The BI Team is here to help with your application**

   Not sure whether a basic income will be right for you? We're here to help. Come to an enrollment session and learn what being part of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot will mean for you. Find a session near you at Ontario.ca/basicincome.

   Want to apply to be part of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, but need some help filling in your application? Come to an enrollment session and we'll walk you through your application step-by-step. Find a session near you at Ontario.ca/basicincome.

   The deadline to apply to the Ontario Basic Income Pilot is April 16th.

Enrollment

Thank you for helping us spread the word about the April 16, 2018 application deadline in your communities – we really appreciate it.

All of the enrollment sessions leading up to the application deadline have now been posted on http://Ontario.ca/basicincome and are open for registration on Eventbrite. See the full list of sessions for your community below and in the attached calendar.

I have also attached an electronic copy of our application form that you can send to people so that they can start an application at home.

One thing we're letting everyone know is that fastest way to complete their application is to go to an enrollment session. That way they can drop off a complete application or any outstanding information and save on postage or they can complete all of the steps, including the baseline survey, at once.

I can also confirm that we are sending out letters to all of the people with applications currently in process to let them know there is a deadline and what information is outstanding from their application, so they can complete it on time.

Upcoming Enrollment Sessions

April 10 – Enrollment Session
Location: Celebrations
Address: 35 Lindsay St. North
Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

April 10 – Enrollment Session
Location: I.E. Weldon Public School (cafeteria)
Address: 24 Weldon Rd, Lindsay
Hours: 6:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.

April 11 – Enrollment Session
Location: Kawartha Lakes Library
Address: 190 Kent St. Basement
Hours: 11 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

April 11 – Enrollment Session
Location: Central Senior Middle School (gym)
Address: 242 Kent St W
Hours: 6:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.

April 12 – Enrollment Session
Location: Celebrations
Address: 35 Lindsay St. North
Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

April 13 – Enrollment Session
Location: Celebrations
Address: 35 Lindsay St. North
Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

April 14 – Enrollment Session

Location: Queen Victoria Public School
Address: 11 John St
Hours: 11a.m. - 5 p.m.

April 14 – Enrollment Session
Location: St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School
Address: 260 Angeline St S
Hours: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

April 16 – Enrollment Session
Location: Kawartha Lakes Library
Address: 190 Kent St. Basement
Hours: 11 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

April 17 – Application Drop-Off Session
Location: Celebrations
Address: 35 Lindsay St. North
Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
IMPORTANT: only for dropping in missing documents, new applications will not be accepted

000973

Ontario Basic Income Pilot Application Form

Need help or have questions? Call: 1-844-217-4516 **Email:** basicincome@ontario.ca

Disponible dans les deux langues officielles. Veuillez contacter les administrateurs du Projet pilote portant sur le revenu de base en composant le 1-844-217-4516 ou en envoyant un courriel à basicincome@ontario.ca pour demander une copie en français.

Please read the application form fully and fill out the sections that apply to you. To complete the application form, you will need your:

- Social Insurance Number (SIN)
- Health Card (Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP))
- Income Tax Forms (**If you did not file your taxes, you can still apply to be in the Pilot**), such as:
  - 2016 Notice of Assessment
  - 2016 T1 General Income Tax Form OR 2016 Detailed Notice of Assessment OR your Proof of Income Statement
- Document(s) that show that you and/or your spouse/common-law partner receive disability supports or services
- Signed consent form

You can submit this application form either:

In person – if you are bringing this application to an in-person enrolment session, please read the application form fully and fill out the sections that apply to you and your spouse/common-law (if applicable). You may also need to bring information about your spouse/common-law partner and children.

By mail – you can complete this application form, attach your documents, and mail it to back us.

If you need any help filling out this application form, please call us at **1-844-217-4516** or email **basicincome@ontario.ca** – **we are here to help**!

I agree to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot and I certify that the information given on this form and, in any attached documents, is to the best of my knowledge correct and true.

_____ _____

Signature of Applicant Date

_____ _____

Signature of Spouse/Common-Law Partner Date

© Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2018.

Ontario

Step 1: Applicant's Personal Information

Reference Number (Ministry Use Only)

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Applicant Information

Last Name:	First Name:
Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):	Social Insurance Number:

Gender Identity: ☐ Man ☐ Woman
☐ I don't identify with the options above. My gender identity is: _____

Are you currently a student at a college or university? ☐ Part-time ☐ Full-time ☐ No

Home Address

Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:

How long have you lived at the above address? _____ Years _____ Months

Previous Home Address (if you have not lived at your home address for at least 12 months)

City/Town:	Province:

How long did you live at this previous home address? _____ Years _____ Months

Mailing Address (complete only if different from home address)

Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:

Contact Information

Email:	Home Phone:	Cell Phone:

Do you prefer to be contacted by email or phone? ☐ Email ☐ Home Phone ☐ Cell Phone

Your language of correspondence: ☐ English ☐ French ☐ Other. Please Specify: _____

Social Assistance Status (if applicable)

Check the box that applies:
☐ Ontario Works
☐ Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

Ontario Works or ODSP Member ID
(9-digit number on your pay stub):
_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Health Card Number (if you are on social assistance)

If you checked the box for Ontario Works or ODSP on the previous page, please fill out your Health Card number (OHIP) so that you can still get drug benefits.

Health Number (OHIP): __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __	Version Code (2 letters after 10 digits) __ __

Do you have children: ☐ **YES** ➔ Fill out the Health Number(s) below ☐ **NO** ➔ Go to Disability Status

Children less than 16 years of age. As a parent, you can provide personal health information on behalf of your child(ren) if they are under 16 years of age. Please fill out their health card numbers (OHIP) so that they can still get drug benefits.

Health Number (OHIP):	Version Code:	Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):
Health Number (OHIP):	Version Code:	Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):
Health Number (OHIP):	Version Code:	Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):

Dependent children, who are 16 and 17 years of age, must provide their own health number so that they can still get drug benefits. They will also need to consent to the collection and use of their personal health information, and sign the consent form on page 9. This is because the age of majority is 16 years of age in the Personal Health Information Protection Act.

Health Number (OHIP):	Version Code:	Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):
Health Number (OHIP):	Version Code:	Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):
Health Number (OHIP):	Version Code:	Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):

Disability Status (if applicable)

If you have a disability, **please check all** supports that you receive:

- ☐ Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- ☐ Services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
- ☐ Canada Pension Plan/Québec Pension Plan – Disability

Spouse/Common-Law Partner

Do you have a spouse/common-law partner?* ☐ **YES** ➔ Go to Step 2 ☐ **NO** ➔ Go to Step 3

*** What is a common-law partner?**

This applies to a person who is not your spouse, with whom you are living in a conjugal relationship, and to whom at least one of the following situations applies. He or she:

a. has been living with you in a conjugal relationship, and this current relationship has lasted at least 12 continuous months;

   Note: In this definition, 12 continuous months includes any period you were separated for less than 90 days because of a breakdown in the relationship.

b. is the parent of your child by birth or adoption; or

c. has custody and control of your child (or had custody and control immediately before the child turned 19 years of age) and your child is wholly dependent on that person for support.

Step 2: Spouse/Common-Law Partner's Personal Information (if applicable)

Spouse/Common-Law Partner Information

Last Name:	First Name:
Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):	Social Insurance Number:

Gender Identity: ☐ Man ☐ Woman
☐ I don't identify with the options above. My gender identity is: _____

Are you currently a student at a college or university? ☐ Part-time ☐ Full-time ☐ No

Home Address (complete only if different from applicant's home address in Step 1)

Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:

How long have you lived at the above address? _____ Years _____ Months

Previous Home Address (if you have not lived at your home address for at least 12 months)

City/Town:	Province:

How long have you lived at the above address? _____ Years _____ Months

Mailing Address (complete only if different from home address)

Apartment/Unit Number:	Street Number:	Street Name:
City/Town:	Province:	Postal Code:

Contact Information

Email:	Home Phone:	Cell Phone:

Do you prefer to be contacted by email or phone? ☐ Email ☐ Home Phone ☐ Cell Phone

Your language of correspondence: ☐ English ☐ French ☐ Other. Please Specify: _____

Social Assistance Status (if applicable)

Check the box that applies:
☐ Ontario Works
☐ Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

Ontario Works or ODSP Member ID
(9-digit number on your pay stub):
_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Health Card Number (if you are on social assistance)

If you checked the box for Ontario Works or ODSP above, please fill out your Health Card number (OHIP) so that you can still get drug benefits.

Health Number (OHIP): _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ | Version Code (2 letters after 10 digits) _ _

Disability Status (if applicable)

If you have a disability, **please check all** supports that you receive:

☐ Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
☐ Services and supports through Developmental Services Ontario
☐ Canada Pension Plan/Québec Pension Plan – Disability

Step 3: Attach your tax forms and other documents if you are mailing in this application form or bring these with you to the in-person enrolment session

INCOME TAX FORMS: Attach a copy of these tax forms for both you and your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable) with your application:

- 2016 Notice of Assessment
- 2016 T1 General Income Tax Form **OR** 2016 Detailed Notice of Assessment **OR** your Proof of Income Statement Card

What if I do not have a copy of my T1 General Income Tax Form?

If you don't have your T1 General Income Tax Form, you can request the information from your 2016 tax return from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

There are two ways to do this:

1. If you have access to the internet and a printer, you can log on to your My Account profile at the CRA website. You can then view and print your **2016 "Detailed Notice of Assessment"** or your **"Proof of Income Statement"**. These documents contain all of the information that you submitted in your T1 and other tax return documents.
2. You can also call the CRA at 1-800-959-8281 and request these documents be mailed to you.

Once you have the printed or mailed copies of these documents, include them with your application, or bring them with you to an in-person enrolment session.

What if I did not file my taxes in 2016?

If you and/or your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable) did not file your taxes in 2016, you can send in your 2015 Notice of Assessment and 2015 T1 General Income Tax Form or 2015 Detailed Notice of Assessment or Proof of Income Statement.

If you and/or your spouse/common-law partner (if applicable) did not file any taxes in 2015 and 2016, **call us at 1-844-217-4516** and we can send you a **Declaration of Income** and you can give us an estimate of how much money you made in the 2016 tax year, including any deductions.

To continue to be in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, you will have to file your taxes for the current year and we can help you file your taxes, if needed.

DISABILITY STATUS: If you checked any of the Disability Status boxes in Step 1 and/or Step 2, attach a copy of any documents that show that you are eligible to or already receive any supports.

For example, you can attach a copy of:

- Notice of eligibility
- Payment stub

Need help? Call: 1-844-217-4516 **Email:** basicincome@ontario.ca

Step 4: Consent Form (please read and sign on page 9)

We want to make sure that you understand what it means for you to be in the Pilot and how it could impact you.

Your participation in the Pilot is up to you. If you want to participate in the study, you need to consent to everything below to be part of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

To be in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP), I/we understand and consent to the following: (check each box)

Administration

I/we understand the following:

- ☐ That the requirements to be able to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP) and understand that Basic Income payments might affect my/our other government and non-government subsidies, benefits, and services, particularly those that are based on my/our income:
  - Tax benefits, such as Ontario Child Benefit (OCB) and Canada Child Benefit (CCB)
  - Provincial programs, such as subsidized housing – Rent-Geared-to-Income (RGI), Trillium Drug Program, Healthy Smiles Ontario, and Child Care Fee Subsidy.
- ☐ That I/we cannot receive monthly Basic Income payments and Ontario Works or ODSP payments at the same time.
- ☐ That my/our participation in the Pilot is voluntary, and I/we can leave the OBIP at any time for any reason. As a research participant, if I/we withdraw consent and leave the study, I/we have the right to have my/our data and information withdrawn as well.
- ☐ That if I/we leave the OBIP, I/we cannot enroll back into the OBIP.

I/we consent and agree to the following:

- ☐ To the collection, use, and disclosure of personal information, like names, date of birth, address, change in my/our spousal relationships and Social Insurance Number (SIN), contained in this form by and between the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) and the Ministry of Finance (MOF) for the purposes of determining eligibility for the OBIP, processing and administering Basic Income payments, and for research.
- ☐ To the collection and disclosure of the personal information between the MOF and the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) for the purposes of verifying income, determining eligibility and determining Basic Income payments for the duration of my/our participation in the Pilot. This authorization will only apply if I/we are participating in the OBIP as part of the Basic Income Group or the Comparison Group. The amount of basic income I/we receive will be shared with MCSS for Pilot administration and evaluation purposes.
- ☐ To the disclosure by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) of my/our tax records, on condition that the information will be used solely by the MOF to verify income and to determine eligibility under the OBIP. This authorization is valid for the 2016 and following taxation years for which I/we am eligible to participate in the OBIP. The authorization will expire upon termination of the OBIP and/or when my/our participation in the OBIP ends.

- ☐ To let MCSS gather and use my/our personal information, including Ontario Works or ODSP member IDs, for the purposes of administering the OBIP and administering Ontario Works and ODSP.
- ☐ That, if I/we apply for assistance from the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP), my/our personal information including my/our first name, last name, SIN, date of birth, and income will be shared between MCSS and MAESD, and any other organizations involved in the administration of the OSAP, such as postsecondary institutions and the National Student Loan Service Centre, for the purposes of administering and financing OSAP and by Employment and Social Development Canada administering and financing the integrated Canada-Ontario Student Loans Program. "Administering and financing" include all the activities listed on my/our OSAP application form.

Research and Evaluation

I/we understand the following:

- ☐ That in order to participate in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP), I/we also must participate in a research study. This study is being done to find out what impacts a basic income has on people's lives. I/we understand the OBIP Evaluation Team is conducting this study. I/we understand that the OBIP Evaluation Team will ask questions about my/our health, employment, housing and other outcomes of interest.
- ☐ All participants living in Lindsay will receive Basic Income payments for up to a three-year period.

  Participants living in Hamilton, Brantford, Brant County or Thunder Bay and surrounding area will be assigned to two groups. One group receives Basic Income payments for up to a three-year period. The other group is called the Comparison Group, and they do not receive Basic Income payments. This helps the OBIP Evaluation Team find out if Basic Income payments has an impact on people's lives.

  To make sure the Pilot is fair, participants are assigned to their group randomly using a process that gives everyone the same odds of being assigned to each group. This process is automated and cannot be influenced by either government or the OBIP Evaluation Team.
- ☐ That if I/we am/are randomly placed in the Comparison Group, I/we **will not** receive Basic Income payments, but I/we **will** be compensated for each survey I/we complete.
- ☐ That personal information collected through surveys and other ways will be confidential and stored in a secure digital environment. I/we understand that only government ministries and agencies, and the OBIP Evaluation Team will have access to this information.
- ☐ That my/our name and personal information will not be included in results and reports of this study, and that my/our data will be de-identified for research purposes.

If selected to participate in the OBIP, I/we consent and agree to the following:

- ☐ To complete a baseline survey before I/we will be randomly assigned to either the Basic Income Group (and receive a Basic Income payments) or the Comparison Group (and **not** receive Basic Income payments).
- ☐ To work with the OBIP Evaluation team to fill out surveys and other documents, and to be contacted about other optional research, like focus groups.

- ☐ To let MCSS gather and use my/our personal information, like names, date of birth, address and Ontario Works or ODSP member IDs, to link to Ontario Works and ODSP databases and study the impact of a basic income compared to social assistance.
- ☐ To let the OBIP Evaluation Team collect my/our Health Card Number (OHIP) in the baseline survey for the purposes of health research.
- ☐ To let MCSS gather, use and share my/our personal information and personal health information, like names, date of birth, address, and Health Card Number, with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) and its agencies, including the Institute of Clinical and Evaluative Sciences (ICES), to link to health-related databases and study how a basic income impacts my/our health outcomes, health care usage, dental care usage, including Healthy Smiles Ontario, by my/our children, and other information related to my/our health.
- ☐ To let MCSS gather, use and share my/our personal information, like names, date of birth, address and Social Insurance Number (SIN), with the Ministry of Finance (MOF) and Statistics Canada to link to tax, employment, immigration and social assistance databases and study how a basic income impacts my income and other tax benefits.
- ☐ To let MCSS gather, use and share my/our personal information, like names, date of birth and address, with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD) to link to related databases and study how a basic income impacts my/our post-secondary education, training and employment.

Social Assistance (if this applies to you)

I/we understand the following:

- ☐ That:
  - If I/we am/are leaving Ontario Works, my/our family will still get drug benefits
  - If I/we am/are leaving Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), my/our family will still get drug benefits and I/we will still get dental benefits.
- ☐ That:

  If I/we am/are leaving Ontario Works or ODSP, I/we will not get the following health, employment, and other benefits, including:

  - **Health benefits**, such as vision care; help with diabetic supplies, incontinence supplies, and medical transportation; help with the consumer contribution for the Assistive Devices Program; health benefits for recipients who are no longer eligible for social assistance and have high health costs; basic health benefits for recipients who leave social assistance for work and don't get coverage through their employer; help with extra costs of a special diet for a medical condition.)
  - **Employment benefits**, such as help to cover child care costs if working, starting a job or involved in work-related activity; help with the costs of starting a job, training program, or business; help with financial management through the Work-Related Benefit (ODSP only), help with moving from income support to work (ODSP only). programs,
  - **Other benefits**, such as the Transition Child Benefit and Guide Dog Benefit.

  This list above covers most benefits provided through social assistance. Please speak with your Ontario Works or ODSP caseworker to confirm which benefits you are currently receiving.

- ☐ That my/our other government and non-government subsidies, benefits, and services may change if I/we leave Ontario Works or ODSP to participate in the OBIP.
- ☐ That Basic Income payments may not be protected from garnishment and that Basic Income payments may affect my/our current financial situation, including outstanding debts and money owed for spousal or child support.
- ☐ That if I/we decide to leave the OBIP, I/we can reapply to Ontario Works or be rapidly reinstated to ODSP.

I/we consent and agree to the following:

- ☐ To leave Ontario Works or the ODSP to get Basic Income payment because I/we cannot receive a monthly Basic Income payments and Ontario Works or ODSP payments at the same time.
- ☐ To let MCSS collect, use and share my/our personal information, like names, date of birth, address and member IDs, with Ontario Works and/or the ODSP to ensure that I/we don't incur Ontario Works or ODSP overpayments.
- ☐ To let MCSS collect and share my/our personal health information, such as my health card number (OHIP), with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) to make sure that I/we will still get my/our drug benefits and dental benefits.

Informed Consent Signature: Please Sign Here

We want you to make an informed decision before you sign this consent form. If you still have any questions about this consent form or how participating in the Pilot will impact you, please call us at 1-844-217-4516.

I/We have read the consent and understand what it means to be a part of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

_____	_____
Signature of Applicant	Date
_____	_____
Signature of Spouse/Common-law Partner	Date

Any household members or dependent children, who are 16 and 17 years of age, must provide their consent to the collection and use of their personal health information, and sign the consent form. This is because the age of majority is 16 years of age in the Personal Health Information Protection Act.

_____	_____	_____
Signature of Dependent age 16 or 17	Print Name	Date
_____	_____	_____
Signature of Dependent age 16 or 17	Print Name	Date

Notice of Collection

(Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Ministry of Revenue Act, Personal Health Information Protection Act)

We want to make sure that you know who you can talk to if you have any questions about being in this research study.

We are asking for your personal information for administrative, research, and evaluation purposes. If you have any questions about how we are collecting, using, and sharing your personal information you can contact the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP) Administrators directly by mail to the Basic Income Pilot Branch, 77 Wellesley St. W., Box 175, Toronto, ON M7A 1N3, by phone at 1-844-217-4516 or by email at **basicincome@ontario.ca**.

If you need any explanations or have any questions about the scientific and scholarly aspects of the OBIP research, please email **basicincome@ontario.ca** or call 1-844-217-4516 and direct research-related inquiries to the Primary Contact, Debbie Burke-Benn. Or you can contact the OBIP Evaluation Team with research related questions.

Primary Contact

Debbie Burke-Benn, Director
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Ministry of Community and Social Services
Telephone: 1-844-217-4516

OBIP Evaluation Team

Survey Research Unit
Telephone: 1-800-410-4614
Email: obip@smh.ca

Lead Researcher
Stephen Hwang, MD, MPH
Centre for Urban Health Solutions
St. Michael's Hospital
Telephone: 416-864-5991
Toll-free: 1-800-410-4614
Email: obip@smh.ca

Independent Review Board

An Independent Review Board (IRB), Veritas IRB, has reviewed this study. An IRB is a group of scientific and non-scientific individuals who perform the initial and ongoing ethical review of the research study with your rights and welfare in mind.

Please call the IRB if you need to speak to a person independent from the Pilot and the evaluation team.

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, call the Manager of Veritas IRB 24 hours per day and 7 days per week at 514-337-0442 or toll-free at 1-866-384-4221.

Funding Support: the Government of Ontario is funding this study.



Ontario Basic Income Pilot

LINDSAY ENROLMENT CALENDAR – APRIL 2-17, 2018

Apr 2	Apr 3	Apr 4	Apr 5	Apr 6	Apr 7
	Celebrations 35 Lindsay St. North 11 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Kawartha Lakes Library Address: 190 Kent street, basement 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	*Info sessions* 10 a.m. 20 Sussex St S 2:30 p.m. 48 St Paul St	Celebrations 35 Lindsay St. North 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	King Albert Public School 49 Glenelg ST 11a.m. - 5p.m.
Apr 9	**Apr 10**	**Apr 11**	**Apr 12**	**Apr 13**	**Apr 14**
Kawartha Lakes Library 190 Kent street, basement 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Lindsay collegiate and vocational institute (cafeteria) 260 Kent St W 6:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.	Celebrations 35 Lindsay St. North 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. I.E. Weldon Public School (cafeteria) 24 Weldon Rd, Lindsay 6:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.	Kawartha Lakes Library 190 Kent St. Basement 11 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Central Senior Middle School (gym) 242 Kent St W 6:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.	Celebrations 35 Lindsay St. North 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Celebrations 35 Lindsay St. North 10 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Queen Victoria Public School 11 John St 11a.m. - 5p.m. St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School 260 Angeline St S 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Apr 16	**Apr 17**				
Kawartha Lakes Library 190 Kent St. Basement 11 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Celebrations 35 Lindsay St. North 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. IMPORTANT: only for dropping in missing documents, new applications will not be accepted				

000985

Ontario

This is Exhibit "43" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Kaley Duff

From: Amaechi, Uche (MCSS) <Uche.Amaechi@ontario.ca>
Sent: October 31, 2017 2:21 PM
To: mariat@paro.ca; Mike Harding; dzweep@fayepeterson.org; debra@beendigen.com; terri.zoccole@tbifc.ca; valerie.stortini@tbifc.ca; buildingbridges@paro.ca; lori_mitchell@can.salvationarmy.org; evergreenaunitedneighbourhood@tbaytel.net; Sally Colquhoun (KINNA); nwcentre@tbaytel.net; Paul Capon; mklassen@tbaytel.net
Cc: Minor, Gabe (MCSS); Cabral, Courtney (MCSS)
Subject: RE: Recap of Teleconference on upcoming Basic Income Sessions in Thunder Bay (Nov 6 &7)
Attachments: Question and Answer for Open Call in Thunder Bay.docx; Script for Open Call - Thunder Bay.docx; Document Check List 1.docx; Document Check List 2.docx

Hello All,

Please find attached the communication material to be used for the upcoming Open Calls:

- Question and Answer for Open call in Thunder Bay Document – This document is to only be used internally with staff to answer questions about Basic Income and where the sessions will be taking place. Please **do not** share externally.
- Document Check List (1 and 2) – This document can be shared with potential applicants. Document 1 incorporates the logos of the Indigenous agencies, while the other does not. Please use which ever version you think is best.
- Script for Open Call – This document can be used to call individuals about the Open Call sessions.

Our Ministry would like to publicly thank the community agencies that helped us with the Open Calls. I would like to ask which of you would be interested in being publicly acknowledged for your support and cooperation? Please let me know.

Finally, a gentle remainder to send me a copy of the tracker with updated numbers of individuals planning to attend.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Uche Amaechi | Jr. Policy Analyst
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Tel: 416-212-2358

From: Amaechi, Uche (MCSS)
Sent: October 30, 2017 9:13 AM
To: 'mariat@paro.ca'; 'Mike Harding'; 'dzweep@fayepeterson.org'; 'debra@beendigen.com'; 'terri.zoccole@tbifc.ca'; 'valerie.stortini@tbifc.ca'; 'buildingbridges@paro.ca'; 'lori_mitchell@can.salvationarmy.org'; 'evergreenaunitedneighbourhood@tbaytel.net'; 'Sally Colquhoun (KINNA)'; 'nwcentre@tbaytel.net'; 'Paul Capon'; 'mklassen@tbaytel.net'
Cc: Minor, Gabe (MCSS); Cabral, Courtney (MCSS)
Subject: RE: Recap of Teleconference on upcoming Basic Income Sessions in Thunder Bay (Nov 6 &7)

Hello all,

Please find the correct tracking chart attached with all participating agencies listed.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Uche Amaechi | Jr. Policy Analyst
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Tel: 416-212-2358

From: Amaechi, Uche (MCSS)
Sent: October 27, 2017 5:31 PM
To: 'mariat@paro.ca'; Mike Harding; 'dzweep@fayepeterson.org'; 'debra@beendigen.com'; 'terri.zoccole@tbifc.ca'; 'valerie.stortini@tbifc.ca'; 'buildingbridges@paro.ca'; 'lori_mitchell@can.salvationarmy.org'; 'evergreenaunitedneighbourhood@tbaytel.net'; 'Sally Colquhoun (KINNA)'; 'nwcentre@tbaytel.net'; 'Paul Capon'; 'mklassen@tbaytel.net'
Cc: Minor, Gabe (MCSS); Cabral, Courtney (MCSS)
Subject: Recap of Teleconference on upcoming Basic Income Sessions in Thunder Bay (Nov 6 &7)

Hello All,

Thank you to those who were able to make it on to the call this morning. I wanted to provide an a recap of what was discussed and also loop in those who were unable to call in.

We have scheduled two Open Call Sessions in Thunder Bay for the week of November 6th as follows:

MONDAY	TUESDAY
November 6th **Venue: Matawa Building** **Time: 12PM - 6:00 PM**	**November 7th** **Venue: West Thunder Bay Community Center** **Time: 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM**

As mentioned on the call, we are looking for your cooperation to inform individuals about the sessions and the allotted time slots available (noted in the attached tracker). The goal is to have 20 individuals confirmed to attend for each time slot.

This will help us tremendously in administering two successful sessions. Please send me your lists as you update them.

The updated communication material handed out to individuals will come to you on Tuesday, apologies again for the delay.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Thanks,

Uche Amaechi | Jr. Policy Analyst
Basic Income Pilot Branch

Poverty Reduction Strategy Division
Ministry of Community and Social Services
Tel: 416-212-2358

ONTARIO

Question and Answers for Community Agencies (OPEN CALL)

1. **What is the basic income pilot?**

   The Ontario Basic Income Pilot is a three-year pilot project taking place in Hamilton, Brantford and Brant County, Lindsay and Thunder Bay that will test whether a basic income could be a simplified and effective way to reduce poverty and support more people living on low incomes.

2. **Why test a basic income?**

   We would like to test if a basic income could be an effective way to reduce poverty and help people on low incomes — including the almost 70 per cent who are not currently receiving the province's Social Assistance financial support — to enhance their health, housing, education and job prospects.

3. **Who can answer questions about the Basic Income Pilot?**

   There are **three ways to get in touch** with us if you have questions about pilot:

   - Website: http://ontario.ca/basicincome
   - Email: basicincome@ontario.ca
   - Phone: 1-844-217-4516

   If an individual indicates they do not want to use these channels, you can email basicincome@ontario.ca . Please include the individual's email or phone number and the nature of their inquiry, and an OBIP Administrator will contact them directly.

4. **Where will the Basic Income Pilot study take place?**

   The Basic Income Pilot will take place in:
   - Hamilton, Brantford and Brant County
   - Thunder Bay, along with Oliver Paipoonge, Shuniah, Neebing, Conmee, O'Connor, and Gillies townships.
   - Lindsay

5. **What time should I attend the Matawa Building or West Thunder Bay Community Center and how long will I need to be there?**

   Appointment times will be scheduled by your community agency contact. Scheduled times for Monday November 6th at the Matawa Building are 12:00 pm, 3:00 pm, and 4:30. Scheduled times for Tuesday November 7th at West Thunder Bay Community Center are 9:30 am, 12:30 pm, and 2:00 pm. You can expect that you will be at the

appointed time for an hour and a half but length of time could be impacted by a number of factors (I.e. how many other people arrive at around the same time).

6. **What if I cannot attend the enrollment dates listed?**

   The Basic Income Pilot will be attending Thunder Bay again with future dates for enrollment.

7. **Will there be transportation assistance the Matawa Building and West Thunder Bay Community Center?**

   Bus tickets will be available for those who require them.

8. **How will people be selected to receive the Basic Income payment?**

   The Pilot will **randomly** select two groups of eligible applicants who will be asked to participate in the research study:

   One group will receive monthly Basic Income payments for a three-year period. This group is called the **Basic Income Group**.

   One group will **not** receive monthly Basic Income payments, but will actively participate in the research study by completing surveys, for example. This group is called the **Control Group** and will receive compensation for their time and effort

9. **Can participants receive Basic Income payments and Social Assistance payments at the same time?**

   No. People who receive social assistance will need to withdraw from social assistance to participate in the Basic Income Pilot study. Control Group participants will not have to withdraw.

   Ontario Disability Support Program recipients will be reinstated without medical adjudication once the pilot study ends.

10. **How was I chosen for the Basic Income Pilot?**

    In order to ensure there is a diverse group of potential applicants for the Basic Income Pilot, agencies across Thunder Bay were asked to share information about open enrollment opportunities with members of your community.

Question and Answers for Community Agencies (OPEN CALL)

11. Will applicants who will turn 65 before the end of the Pilot be eligible to participate?

OBIP participants between the ages of 18 and 64 may be eligible to receive Basic Income payments.

To support the objectives of the study, the enrolment will focus on ensuring that Pilot participants can maximize their participation in the Pilot and receive payments for as long as possible. This will also help ensure the validity of the study.

12. Am I eligible if I have lived in the Pilot region for 12 months or more but I haven't changed my address with CRA (e.g. because I am a student, etc.)?

Yes, if you can provide other verification of your residency for the 12 months preceding the date the application was received.
For example, bank statements or other official documents (e.g. university enrolment documents) can be used to verify your residency in the Pilot region for the 12 required months.
If so, you may be eligible to apply. You would need to change your address with the CRA before you file your 2017 tax return.

13. How will other income sources for children will be treated, e.g., child support, DCCB amounts, etc.?

All income support related to children will not be counted as income for the purposes of assessing eligibility and/or OBIP payment amounts. This includes, but is not exclusive to:

- The Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD) program;
- Special Services At Home (SSAH);
- Child support payments;
- Canada Child Benefit;
- Ontario Child Benefit;
- CPP-Disability benefits related to children;
- Temporary Care Assistance (TCA) payments;
- Transition Child Benefit (TCB);
- Veteran's benefits for dependent children (e.g. Canadian Forces Income Support, War Veterans Allowance, etc.)

14. Will clients under the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee be involved?

Yes, if an applicant has a guardian of property (e.g. from the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee) that guardian of property can manage all the property of the

individual, including interactions with and payments received from the OBIP on behalf of their client.

15. What documents do I need to bring?

Verification required for the Basic Income Pilot application:

a. Copies of Notice of Assessment and T1 General form from 2016
b. Copies of Notice of Assessment and T1 General form from 2015 if 2016 taxes were not completed
    i. Completed attestation form (provided by Basic Income Pilot) if 2016 or 2015 taxes not completed
c. Direct Bank Deposit information
d. Verification of Disability from:
    i. Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
    ii. Canada Pension Plan Disability (CPP-D)
    iii. Developmental Services Ontario (DSO)
e. Proof of address:
    i. Drivers licence, utility bill/statements

Individuals who cannot Provide Direct Deposit information will be able to complete the application process that day. They can provide us with banking information at a later date and will receive a cheque instead, if deemed eligible.

*** If individuals cannot provide all other required information noted above they will not be able to fully complete the application process that day. ***

16. What if I have no fixed address and or are homeless?

Please provide a supporting letter from a local agency or organization you are connected with to confirm you have resided in the pilot area for the last twelve months. The basic income pilot will need to contact you throughout the duration of the pilot, contact information (post, email or telephone), even if it is through a community agency will be required in order to participate.

17. What if I don't have the documents required to complete the application?

If required documents are missing, potential applicants can either complete an attestation form in place of tax documents or can submit the application with the documents at a later date in the included postage paid envelope. Basic Income Pilot

Staff are available to assist even after the Open Call dates and the individual applying will be provided with this contact information.

18. Can I email in the required supporting documents if I did not bring them?

Copies of supporting documents are to be sent by post to the Ontario Basic Income Pilot. Emailing copies of documents is not secure and is not advised. Prepaid envelopes will be provided to applicants.

19. What if applicants cannot read or write?

Basic Income Pilot staff will be onsite to assist as necessary.

20. Can individuals who have not been informed by a community agencies attend enrollment?

Potential applicants will have been informed by community agencies and provided a specific time to attend enrollment.

21. Is my support person (Agency worker, family member etc.) able to assist me with the application and survey for the Pilot?

Yes, you may receive assistance in completing your application, Basic Income Pilot staff are available to assist with the application process along with an on-site translator.

22. What does "household" mean when applying for the Basic Income Pilot

Household refers to anyone who may permanently reside at that address, this can include roommates/sharers, family members or tenants. There can only be one applicant per household.

23. "What is in it for me"?

We need your help to test if a basic income could be a more effective way to reduce poverty and help people on low incomes — including the almost 70 per cent who aren't currently receiving Social Assistance — to enhance their health, housing, education and job prospects.

24. What happens if I'm part of the study?

To start, the pilot will select two groups of eligible applicants who will be asked to participate in the research study:

- The Basic Income Group will receive monthly basic income payments for up to a three-year period.
- The Control Group will not receive monthly Basic Income payments, but will actively participate in the research study.

People in these two groups will be regularly asked about their health, employment and housing through surveys. Third-party evaluators will then compare people in these two groups to see whether a basic income helps people living on low incomes better meet their basic needs and improve their education, housing, employment and health.

25. Why is there only couples and singles listed under the financial eligibility criteria?

The Basic Income Pilot uses the definition of tax family in the same way as the Canada Revenue Agency, this does not include children or other adults within the household. Child tax benefits and payments are not considered for the eligibility criteria.

26. Are diabetic test strips covered by Basic Income Pilot drug benefits?

People who withdraw from Ontario Works or the Ontario Disability Support Program to participate in the Pilot will continue to receive drug benefits through the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB). The ODB covers the cost of diabetic testing strips based on an individual's current treatment method and clinical guidelines set by the Canadian Diabetes Association.

The table below provides information on the maximum number covered by the ODB:

Diabetes treatment	Maximum number of strips (per year) covered
Patients managing diabetes with insulin	**3,000**
Patients managing diabetes using medication with higher risk of causing hypoglycemia (low blood sugar)	**400**

Diabetes treatment	Maximum number of strips (per year) covered
Patients managing diabetes using medication with lower risk of causing hypoglycemia (low blood sugar)	**200**
Patients managing diabetes through diet/lifestyle therapy only (no insulin or medications used)	**200**

More information on the Ontario Drug Benefit can be found here: https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-coverage-prescription-drugs.

27. Are Basic Income payments subject to garnishment?

We are taking a phased approach to the implementation of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot, starting small, building up, learning as we go, and making sure we get it right.

We are studying the issue of garnishment and how we will handle it within the Pilot. One of our guiding principles is that no one can be left worse off as a result of the pilot. And that everyone who enters the pilot does so only with full, informed consent.

This means that we are making sure that when an individual is making the decision as to whether or not they want to be part of the pilot, they have all the information they need in order to make this decision.

If participants choose, they may exit OBIP at any time. In this case, they will be rapidly reinstated back onto social assistance.

28. What happens if something changes in my circumstances (e.g. income) mid-year?

A significant change in circumstance could include:

- Change in Family Composition (marriage, divorce, separation, etc.)
- Change in Disability Status.
- Change in income that would have a substantial impact on the monthly payment amount and potentially cause financial hardship.

Each scenario will be addressed individually to assess the impact on the participant. In-year changes to payment amounts will be made in all cases where it's clear that the

participant's change in circumstances will result in hardship to the participant (e.g. a loss of income).

Participants who experience a change in disability status will need to verify that they are eligible for ODSP, CPP-D or services and supports provided by Developmental Services Ontario.

29. Will participants be required to access EI/WSIB prior to OBIP if they have an in-year change in employment?

Participants who request an in-year change due to loss of employment will be not be required to apply for EI.

Instead, each case will be addressed individually and if it appears the participant may be eligible for EI, they will be asked to apply prior to seeking an in-year change from the OBIP.

30. Can individuals participate in the OBIP and receive Basic Income payments while they are appealing a DAU decision about their disability?

Yes, individuals can participate in the OBIP and receive Basic Income payments while they are appealing a DAU decision about their disability. The same rules and timelines related to internal reviews and appeals to the Social Benefits Tribunal apply.

If an individual's appeal is successful and she/he is found to be a person with a disability under ODSP, the individual will have to decide whether to continue participating in the Pilot (and receive the disability supplement) or withdraw from the Pilot to receive ODSP income support. Individuals cannot receive both social assistance and Basic Income payments.

31. Who is conducting the baseline survey if it isn't the government?

PRA, Inc. is a third party research company which is conducting the Ontario Basic Income Pilot Baseline Survey for the Government of Ontario.

32. How would WSIB income be recorded? What about Non-Economic Loss WSIB income?

Some income from WSIB is not included in a person's tax return, including interest payments, non-economic loss awards, medical expenses, survivor's lump sum payments, burial expenses, and personal care allowances. This income would not be included in the calculation of the basic income amount and not affect someone's eligibility for OBIP.

Question and Answers for Community Agencies (OPEN CALL)

If there are additional questions, please contact Evan Herbert, Senior Policy Analyst, at 416-212-2233 or evan.herbert@ontario.ca

Ontario

Script for Open Call in Thunder Bay

Have you heard about the study happening in Thunder Bay?

The Government of Ontario is looking for people interested in participating in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

Participants in the pilot could receive a monthly basic income payment to ensure a minimum income level, regardless of employment status.

Would you be interested in learning more or even applying to be part of the pilot?

In order to be eligible you must:

- **Be between the ages of 18-64**
- **Living in the Thunder Bay pilot region for a minimum of 12 months**
- **Be living on a low income**

You can go to the Matawa First Nations Building at 233 Court St South and speak with a member of the Ontario Basic Income Pilot's local team. They will also be located at West Thunder Bay Community Center at 15 Edward St South. They would be happy to answer any questions you might have and help you fill out an application.

Enrolment dates and times are as follows:

- Monday November 06, 2017 - Matawa First Nations Building
- Tuesday November 07, 2017 - West Thunder Bay Community Center

Enrolment time slots for both dates:

- November 06: 12 pm, 3 pm, 4:30 pm
- November 07: 9:30 am. 12:30 pm, 2:00 pm

What do I need to bring?

2016 Notice of Assessment
2016 T1 General Form

Ontario

If you did not file your taxes in 2016, attach a copy of your:

Attestation Form (to be provided on-site at Open Call Session)
2015 Notice of Assessment
2015 T1 General Form

If you are applying as a couple, your spouse/common-law partner is required to attend and should also have these documents.

If you did not file your taxes you can complete a form which will be provided by the Basic Income Pilot team acknowledging that the completion of your current and ongoing income tax will be filed annually (Attestation Form).

Please bring a void cheque or a Direct Deposit Authorization form issued by your bank

If you cannot provide Direct Deposit information you will still be able to complete the application process. You can provide your banking information at a later date and will receive a cheque instead, if deemed eligible.

If you or your spouse/common-law partner are disabled and currently receiving support through the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), Canada Pension Plan Disability (CPP-D) or Developmental Services Ontario (DSO), please bring verification of your disability income.

Please be advised you will not be able to enrol into the Pilot if you do not bring a hard copy of the documents discussed above with you.

If you do not have a copy of your T1 General Form and/or your Notice of Assessment, you can request this information from Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

There are two ways to do this:

1. If you have access to the internet and a printer, you can log on to your "*My Account*" profile at the CRA website. You can then view and print your **2016 or 2015 "Detailed Notice of Assessment"** and/or your **"Proof of Income" document**.

2. You can also call the CRA at **1-800-959-8281** and request one of these documents which will be mailed to you.

Ontario

If you have a child that is 16 or 17 years old they will need to sign a consent form. This means your child will either need to be present to sign this form, or they can sign this form and return it to us in the mail.

Before attending one of the sessions please make sure you (and your spouse/common-law partner, if applicable) bring the documents on the checklist.

CHECKLIST:

1. Piece of ID ☑
2. 2016 T1 General Form ☑
3. 2016 Notice of Assessment ☑
4. Void Cheque or Direct Deposit Authorization ☑
5. Verification of Disability Income ☑

Ontario Basic Income Pilot

Anishinabe Women's Crisis Home & Family Healing Agency

NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO WOMEN'S CENTRE
EMPOWERING WOMEN BY PROVIDING A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT TO EXPLORE THEIR NEEDS

In order to be eligible you must:

- **Be between the ages of 18-64**
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Ontario

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Ontario Basic Income Pilot

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3. 2016 Notice of Assessment ☑
4. Void Cheque or Direct Deposit Authorization ☑
5. Verification of Disability Income ☑

This is Exhibit "44" referred to in the Affidavit of Tracey Mechefske sworn August 21, 2019.

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits (or as may be)

Kaley Duff

From: Amaechi, Uche (MCSS) <Uche.Amaechi@ontario.ca>
Sent: November 3, 2017 1:43 PM
To: mariat@paro.ca; Mike Harding; dzweep@fayepeterson.org; debra@beendigen.com; terri.zoccole@tbifc.ca; valerie.stortini@tbifc.ca; buildingbridges@paro.ca; lori_mitchell@can.salvationarmy.org; evergreenaunitedneighbourhood@tbaytel.net; Sally Colquhoun (KINNA); nwcentre@tbaytel.net; Paul Capon; mklassen@tbaytel.net
Cc: Minor, Gabe (MCSS); Cabral, Courtney (MCSS)
Subject: RE: Recap of Teleconference on upcoming Basic Income Sessions in Thunder Bay (Nov 6 &7)
Attachments: Open Call Tracking Chart.docx

Hello All,

Thank you to those who were able to make it on to the call this morning. Attached the updated tracker identifying how many individuals are already scheduled to attend the Open Calls next week. Please use the updated tracker to sign up individuals in empty time slots. As a reminder, we are aiming for around 20 individuals per session.

I also wanted to make clear two very important eligibility criteria we would like you all to communicate to individuals planning to attend:

1. **People must be within the eligible age range, which is between the ages of 18-64, for the entire duration of the three-year study. This will help ensure that people receive a basic income and participate for the full duration of the study.** This is very important for the evaluation of the Pilot because it provides the evaluators with the most complete information needed to measure the outcomes of a basic income on an individual's life.

2. **Individuals can apply if they live in the same household i.e. they are singles or couples filing their taxes in their own right and living at the same residence. This may include, parents and their adult children who live together, siblings living together, roommates, rooming houses, etc.**

Thank you again, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Uche Amaechi | Jr. Policy Analyst
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Tel: 416-212-2358

From: Amaechi, Uche (MCSS)
Sent: November 02, 2017 4:23 PM
To: 'mariat@paro.ca'; 'Mike Harding'; 'dzweep@fayepeterson.org'; 'debra@beendigen.com'; 'terri.zoccole@tbifc.ca'; 'valerie.stortini@tbifc.ca'; 'buildingbridges@paro.ca'; 'lori_mitchell@can.salvationarmy.org'; 'evergreenaunitedneighbourhood@tbaytel.net'; 'Sally Colquhoun (KINNA)'; 'nwcentre@tbaytel.net'; 'Paul Capon'; 'mklassen@tbaytel.net'
Cc: Minor, Gabe (MCSS); Cabral, Courtney (MCSS)
Subject: RE: Recap of Teleconference on upcoming Basic Income Sessions in Thunder Bay (Nov 6 &7)

Hello All,

Thank you to those who have sent us updated numbers for the upcoming Open Calls next week.

We are hoping to schedule a quick teleconference tomorrow at 11:00 AM to check in and see where we are at before Monday.

Hope everyone can make it. Please let me know if you have any questions

Thanks,

Uche Amaechi | Jr. Policy Analyst
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Tel: 416-212-2358

From: Amaechi, Uche (MCSS)
Sent: October 31, 2017 2:21 PM
To: 'mariat@paro.ca'; 'Mike Harding'; 'dzweep@fayepeterson.org'; 'debra@beendigen.com'; 'terri.zoccole@tbifc.ca'; 'valerie.stortini@tbifc.ca'; 'buildingbridges@paro.ca'; 'lori_mitchell@can.salvationarmy.org'; 'evergreenaunitedneighbourhood@tbaytel.net'; 'Sally Colquhoun (KINNA)'; 'nwcentre@tbaytel.net'; 'Paul Capon'; 'mklassen@tbaytel.net'
Cc: Minor, Gabe (MCSS); Cabral, Courtney (MCSS)
Subject: RE: Recap of Teleconference on upcoming Basic Income Sessions in Thunder Bay (Nov 6 &7)

Hello All,

Please find attached the communication material to be used for the upcoming Open Calls:

- Question and Answer for Open call in Thunder Bay Document – This document is to only be used internally with staff to answer questions about Basic Income and where the sessions will be taking place. Please **do not** share externally.
- Document Check List (1 and 2) – This document can be shared with potential applicants. Document 1 incorporates the logos of the Indigenous agencies, while the other does not. Please use which ever version you think is best.
- Script for Open Call – This document can be used to call individuals about the Open Call sessions.

Our Ministry would like to publicly thank the community agencies that helped us with the Open Calls. I would like to ask which of you would be interested in being publicly acknowledged for your support and cooperation? Please let me know.

Finally, a gentle remainder to send me a copy of the tracker with updated numbers of individuals planning to attend.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Uche Amaechi | Jr. Policy Analyst
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Tel: 416-212-2358

From: Amaechi, Uche (MCSS)
Sent: October 30, 2017 9:13 AM
To: 'mariat@paro.ca'; 'Mike Harding'; 'dzweep@fayepeterson.org'; 'debra@beendigen.com'; 'terri.zoccole@tbifc.ca';

'valerie.stortini@tbifc.ca'; 'buildingbridges@paro.ca'; 'lori_mitchell@can.salvationarmy.org'; 'evergreenaunitedneighbourhood@tbaytel.net'; 'Sally Colquhoun (KINNA)'; 'nwcentre@tbaytel.net'; 'Paul Capon'; 'mklassen@tbaytel.net'
Cc: Minor, Gabe (MCSS); Cabral, Courtney (MCSS)
Subject: RE: Recap of Teleconference on upcoming Basic Income Sessions in Thunder Bay (Nov 6 &7)

Hello all,

Please find the correct tracking chart attached with all participating agencies listed.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Uche Amaechi | Jr. Policy Analyst
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Tel: 416-212-2358

From: Amaechi, Uche (MCSS)
Sent: October 27, 2017 5:31 PM
To: 'mariat@paro.ca'; Mike Harding; 'dzweep@fayepeterson.org'; 'debra@beendigen.com'; 'terri.zoccole@tbifc.ca'; 'valerie.stortini@tbifc.ca'; 'buildingbridges@paro.ca'; 'lori_mitchell@can.salvationarmy.org'; 'evergreenaunitedneighbourhood@tbaytel.net'; 'Sally Colquhoun (KINNA)'; 'nwcentre@tbaytel.net'; 'Paul Capon'; 'mklassen@tbaytel.net'
Cc: Minor, Gabe (MCSS); Cabral, Courtney (MCSS)
Subject: Recap of Teleconference on upcoming Basic Income Sessions in Thunder Bay (Nov 6 &7)

Hello All,

Thank you to those who were able to make it on to the call this morning. I wanted to provide an a recap of what was discussed and also loop in those who were unable to call in.

We have scheduled two Open Call Sessions in Thunder Bay for the week of November 6th as follows:

MONDAY	TUESDAY
November 6th **Venue: Matawa Building** **Time: 12PM - 6:00 PM**	**November 7th** **Venue: West Thunder Bay Community Center** **Time: 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM**

As mentioned on the call, we are looking for your cooperation to inform individuals about the sessions and the allotted time slots available (noted in the attached tracker). The goal is to have 20 individuals confirmed to attend for each time slot.

This will help us tremendously in administering two successful sessions. Please send me your lists as you update them.

The updated communication material handed out to individuals will come to you on Tuesday, apologies again for the delay.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Thanks,

Uche Amaechi | Jr. Policy Analyst
Basic Income Pilot Branch
Poverty Reduction Strategy Division
Ministry of Community and Social Services
Tel: 416-212-2358



Day	Time	Community Agency	Number of Expected Eligible Participants
Nov 6, 2017	12:00 PM-2:00 PM	**Northwestern Women's Center**	2
		Evergreen a United Neighborhood	
		Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Center	2
		Matawa First Nations Management	
		Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic	
		The Salvation Army	
		Faye Peterson House	
		PARO Center	
		Lakehead Social Planning Council	31
		Beendigen Inc.	
			Total: 33
	3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	**Northwestern Women's Center**	2
		Evergreen a United Neighborhood	
		Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Center	3
		Matawa First Nations Management	
		Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic	
		The Salvation Army	
		Faye Peterson House	
		PARO Center	
		Lakehead Social Planning Council	10
		Beendigen Inc.	
			Total: 15
	4:30 PM-6:00 PM	**Northwestern Women's Center**	1
		Evergreen a United Neighborhood	
		Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Center	3

		Matawa First Nations Management	
		Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic	
		The Salvation Army	
		Faye Peterson House	
		PARO Center	
		Lakehead Social Planning Council	7
		Beendigen Inc.	
			Total: 11

Nov 7, 2017	9:30 AM -11:30 AM	**Northwestern Women's Center**	
		Evergreen a United Neighborhood	
		Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Center	
		Matawa First Nations Management	
		Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic	
		The Salvation Army	
		Faye Peterson House	
		PARO Center	
		Lakehead Social Planning Council	12
		Beendigen Inc.	
			Total: 12
	12:30 PM- 1:30 PM	**Northwestern Women's Center**	
		Evergreen a United Neighborhood	
		Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Center	
		Matawa First Nations Management	
		Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic	
		The Salvation Army	
		Faye Peterson House	
		PARO Center	
		Lakehead Social Planning Council	14
		Beendigen Inc.	
			Total: 14

	2:00 PM- 3:00 PM	**Northwestern Women's Center**	
		Evergreen a United Neighborhood	
		Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Center	
		Matawa First Nations Management	
		Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic	
		The Salvation Army	
		Faye Peterson House	
		PARO Center	
		Lakehead Social Planning Council	10
		Beendigen Inc.	
			Total: 10

DANA BOWMAN et al.
Plaintiffs

-and-

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF ONTARIO
Defendant

Court File No. CV-19-00000035-00CP

ONTARIO
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

PROCEEDING COMMENCED AT
LINDSAY

MOTION RECORD OF THE PLAINTIFFS
(MOTION TO CERTIFY CLASS ACTION)
VOLUME 2 OF 3

CAVALLUZZO LLP
474 Bathurst Street, Suite 300
Toronto ON M5T 2S6

Stephen J. Moreau, LSO# 48750Q
Kaley Duff, LSO# 74986A
Tel: 416-964-1115
Fax: 416-964-5895

Lawyers for the Plaintiffs