

# Municipal Campaign Strategy

## United Church Guaranteed Livable Income Network

### Version: Feb. 2023

In addition to reaching out to federal Members of Parliament and Senate members for national legislation, we encourage supporters to initiate or join a municipal campaign to pass a resolution in support of nationwide guaranteed livable income. Then, in addition to municipalities communicating to MPs, MPPs/MLAs, and Premiers, supporters draw attention to these resolutions in meetings and communications with MPs and Senators. The current crop of resolutions is particularly effective because not only do they show support for a GLI, but they also direct municipalities to communicate this support to leaders of the provincial and federal governments, the Premier, and the Prime Minister, and in some cases sitting members of government (MPs, Senators, and MLAs).

### Recent Success

- St. John's, NL: Passed [resolution](#) in October 3, 2022 (contact: Very Rev. Dr. Marion Parady, [m-parady@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:m-parady@nf.sympatico.ca)).
- Fredericton, NB: Passed [resolution](#) in October 24, 2022. [Video](#).
- Moncton, NB: Passed [resolution](#), September 20, 2022. [Video](#).
- Saint John, NB: Passed [resolution](#), January 9, 2023. [News article](#).
- Halifax Regional Municipality: Passed [resolution](#) (15.4.1), June 28, 2022. [Video](#).
- Victoria, BC: Passed [resolution](#) January 2022, and [Union of BC Municipalities](#).

### Emerging Campaigns

- Ontario Basic Income Network is organizing towards a municipal Ontario effort
- Atlantic Canada – [UBI Works broad campaign](#) to municipalities

### Resources

[Basic Income for Municipalities](#) (Ontario Basic Income Network, Basic Income Canada Youth Network, Coalition Canada)

### Contacts/Networks

- Will Robertson, 506-875-9331, [wilhr@outlook.com](mailto:wilhr@outlook.com)
- [Coalition Canada](#)
- [Basic Income Canada Network](#)
- [UBI Works](#)

### Tips

1. Find out if [your municipality](#) has passed a basic income resolution. Contact your local municipal councillors and ask them to bring it to council.
2. Seek out local contacts to collaborate with/join.

3. Reach out to individual councillors. Attend committee/city council meetings.
4. Once passed, be sure to share news with local MPs and Senators to show support for GLI in their constituencies.

## Example Resolutions

### [Moncton, passed Sept 20, 2022](#)

#### Resolution

**WHEREAS** the growing social crisis and impacts of poverty have downstream effects on our municipality, putting unsustainable pressure on our limited resources to deliver necessary public services and social supports as we struggle to keep up with downloaded responsibilities.

**WHEREAS** Basic Income addresses key social determinants of health, such as income and housing, it can alleviate pressures on municipalities to address poverty and fill gaps in social supports, such as shelter, housing, food security and mental health. Research and pilots show that when people have a sufficient and secure income their mental and physical health improves; they have the capacity to secure more affordable, suitable, and safe housing, childcare, healthy food, and transportation; and poverty rates decrease.

**WHEREAS** the provision of a guaranteed livable basic income would benefit individuals, families and communities and protect the most vulnerable in society, it would also support community resilience by facilitating the transition to a local economy that responds to the climate crisis and other major challenges. Evidence shows that a federally funded basic income that improves people's financial stability is possible, as successful income transfer programs already exist in Canada for seniors (Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement) and for parents (Canada Child Benefit (CCB)).

**THEREFORE** be it resolved that the City of Moncton write a letter to the Prime Minister, New Brunswick Members of Parliament, and the Premier of New Brunswick, calling on these orders of government to work towards implementing a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income to eradicate poverty and homelessness, and ensure everyone has sufficient income to meet their basic needs."

Moved: Councillor Charles Léger

Seconded: Councillor Paulette Thériault

Fredericton, passed October 24, 2022

**Report of Governance & Civic Engagement Committee**  
*For City Council – October 24, 2022*

**From:** Office of the City Clerk

**Date:** Wednesday, October 12, 2022

**Title:** Guaranteed Livable Basic Income

**Description:**

The Governance & Civic Engagement Committee, at its meeting held on October 6, 2022, considered a presentation from members of Basic Income New Brunswick which requested Council pass a resolution calling on the provincial and federal governments to work together towards implementing a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income.

The purpose of their presentation was to share with Council the benefits and potential impacts of Basic Income in the community. Such resolutions have been passed by the Union of Municipalities of British Columbia, the Halifax Regional Municipality, and the City of Moncton in recent months. Council was encouraged to take a leading role in basic income advocacy in the province by engaging with New Brunswick Municipal Associations and its Regional Service Commission.

Accordingly, the Committee directed that the following resolution be forwarded to City Council for consideration:

**WHEREAS** the growing social crisis and impacts of poverty have downstream effects on our municipality, putting unsustainable pressure on our limited resources to deliver necessary public services and social supports as we struggle to keep up with downloaded responsibilities; and

**WHEREAS** Basic Income addresses key social determinants of health, such as income and housing, it can alleviate pressures on municipalities to address poverty and fill gaps in social supports, such as shelter, housing, food security and mental health. Research and pilots show that when people have a sufficient and secure income their mental and physical health improves; they have the capacity to secure more affordable, suitable, and safe housing, childcare, healthy food, and transportation; and poverty rates decrease; and

**WHEREAS** the provision of a guaranteed livable basic income would benefit individuals, families and communities and protect the most vulnerable in society, it would also support community resilience by facilitating the transition to a local economy that responds to the climate crisis and other major challenges. Evidence shows that a federally funded basic income that improves people's financial stability is possible, as successful income transfer programs already exist in

Canada for seniors (Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement) and for parents (Canada Child Benefit (CCB)).

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Fredericton write a letter to the Prime Minister, New Brunswick Members of Parliament, and the Premier of New Brunswick, calling on these orders of government to work towards implementing a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income to eradicate poverty and homelessness, and ensure everyone has sufficient income to meet their basic needs."

**St. John's, passed October 3, 2022**

### **Resolution**

WHEREAS the growing social crisis and impacts of poverty have downstream effects on our municipality, putting unsustainable pressure on our limited resources to deliver necessary public services and social supports as we struggle to keep up with downloaded responsibilities.

WHEREAS Basic Income addresses key social determinants of health, such as income and housing, it can alleviate pressures on municipalities to address poverty and fill gaps in social supports, such as shelter, housing, food security and mental health. Research and pilots show that when people have a sufficient and secure income their mental and physical health improves; they have the capacity to secure more affordable, suitable, and safe housing, childcare, healthy food, and transportation; and poverty rates decrease.

WHEREAS the provision of a guaranteed livable basic income would benefit individuals, families and communities and protect the most vulnerable in society, it would also support community resilience by facilitating the transition to a local economy that responds to the climate crisis and other major challenges. Evidence shows that a federally funded basic income that improves people's financial stability is possible, as successful income transfer programs already exist in Canada for seniors (Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement) and for parents (Canada Child Benefit (CCB)).

And WHEREAS, a private members motion was tabled in the House of Assembly on November 3, 2021 and **unanimously** adopted urging the government to establish an all-party Committee on basic income, with a mandate to review and make recommendations on: eligibility and minimum income amounts, interaction with existing income supports, additional poverty reduction initiatives, cost-benefit analysis, potential models for such a program and a timeline for implementation: and further resolving to urge the government to ensure that the Committee has the resources it needs to conduct its work and engage Federal Members of Parliament from Newfoundland U Labrador to participate.

That the City of St. John's write a letter to the Prime Minister of Canada, Newfoundland & Labrador Members of Parliament, Newfoundland & Labrador Senators and the Premier of Newfoundland & Labrador, confirming council's support for the concept of Guaranteed Livable Basic Income. Furthermore, we call upon the province to establish the all-party committee, as approved in November, 2021 to thoroughly review the concept of Guaranteed Livable Basic Income.

Victoria, passed Jan. 27 2022

**Council Member Motion: Guaranteed Liveable Basic Income Advocacy to Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Convention**

That Council endorse the following Resolution, and forward the same to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) for consideration at its annual convention in April 2022. That this resolution be forwarded to the January 27, 2022 Council to follow Committee of the Whole meeting for ratification.

Whereas municipalities are at the front line in dealing with community impacts when people are unable to support their own wellbeing,

And whereas poverty has a downstream effect on municipalities, putting unsustainable pressure on their limited resources to deliver necessary public services and social supports as they struggle to keep up with downloaded responsibilities,

And whereas the Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated municipal constraints, leaving them to deal with exposed gaps in our social safety net resulting from growing economic, racial and health inequalities,

And whereas basic income addresses key social determinants of health, such as income and housing, it can alleviate pressures on municipalities to address poverty and fill gaps in social supports, such as shelter, housing, food security and mental health

And whereas evidence from basic income research and pilots shows that when people have a sufficient and secure income their mental and physical health improves; they have the capacity to secure more affordable, suitable, and safe housing, childcare, healthy food, and transportation; and poverty rates decrease thereby helping to alleviate the downloaded pressure on municipalities to support the wellbeing of their residents,

And whereas the provision of a guaranteed livable basic income would benefit individuals, families and communities and protect the most vulnerable in society, it would also support community resilience by facilitating the transition to a local economy that responds to the climate crisis and other major challenges,

And whereas evidence shows that a federally funded basic income that improves people's financial stability is possible, as successful income transfer programs already exist in Canada for seniors (Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement) and parents (Canada Child Benefit (CCB),

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC calls on the Government of Canada to implement a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income, ensuring everyone has sufficient income to meet their needs, which would go a long way towards eradicating poverty and homelessness, alleviating the pressure on municipalities to use their limited resources to fill gaps in our failing social safe net, And be it further resolved that AVICC endorse this Resolution, and forward the same to the

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Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) for consideration at its annual convention in September 2022.

[Union of BC Municipalities](#) (UBCM): Passed Sept 2022



[Saint John, NB, Resolution presented and passed January 9, 2023](#)

**Subject: Guaranteed Livable Basic Income**

**Background:**

There is an effort across Canada to have the federal government look at a guaranteed livable basic income in Canada. Municipal councils are sending letters to all level of government members to keep them aware of the ask and get support. Fredericton and Moncton have each passed the resolution below and I would request that the City of Saint John support the motion.

**Motion:**

WHEREAS the growing social crisis and impacts of poverty have downstream effects on our municipality, putting unsustainable pressure on our limited resources to deliver necessary public services and social infrastructure supports as we struggle to keep up with the evolving needs of our community.

WHEREAS Basic Income addresses key social determinants of health, such as income and housing, it can alleviate pressures on municipalities to address poverty and fill gaps in social supports, such as shelter, housing, food security and mental health. Research and pilots show that when people have a sufficient and secure income their mental and physical health improves; they have the capacity to secure more affordable, suitable, and safe housing, childcare, healthy food, and transportation; and poverty rates decrease.

WHEREAS the provision of a guaranteed livable basic income would benefit individuals, families and communities and protect the most vulnerable in society, it would also support community resilience by facilitating the transition to a local economy that responds to the climate crisis and other major challenges. Evidence shows that a federally funded basic income that improves people's financial stability is possible, as successful income transfer programs already exist in Canada for seniors (Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement) and for parents (Canada Child Benefit (CCB)).

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council of the City of Saint John directs the Office of the Mayor to write a letter to the Prime Minister, New Brunswick Members of Parliament and the Senate, the Premier of New Brunswick, Members of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick, and the Fundy Regional Service Commission, calling on these orders of government to work towards implementing a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income to eradicate poverty and homelessness, and ensure everyone has sufficient income to meet their basic needs."

Respectfully Submitted,

(Received via email)

John MacKenzie  
Deputy Mayor  
City of Saint John