

NABIG 2018
Basic Income: Bold Ideas, Practical Solutions
PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

All sessions are at the
Michael DeGroote Centre for Learning and Discovery (MDCL)
McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario
(unless otherwise specified)

Thursday, May 24

NABIG Registration opens at 5:00 p.m.

Opening Event (free, open to the public)

7:00 - 9:00 p.m., doors open at 6:30

BASIC INCOME: MEET THE PATHFINDERS

A personal conversation among national public champions:

Guy Caron, Economist and Member of Parliament from Québec

Art Eggleton, Canadian Senator, and former MP, Cabinet Minister and Mayor of Toronto

Evelyn Forget, Manitoba health economist who uncovered the effects of Mincome on health and wellbeing

Sheila Regehr, Chairperson of the Basic Income Canada Network

Andrew Yang (TBC), American 2020 Presidential Candidate

Moderator: Sue Braiden (Solutions Journalist and former CBC Radio Computer Columnist)

Friday, May 25

Registration opens at 8:00 am

Opening Plenary

8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

Welcome from BICN (Sheila Regehr) and USBIG (Michael Howard)

Opening of the Congress by an Indigenous elder (TBD)

Convergence Plenary (Part 1)

8:45 - 10:15

Sara Bizarro (University of Minho, CEPS - Centre for Ethics, Politics and Philosophy), *Basic Income: What is it good for?*

Judy Whiteduck (Assembly of First Nations), (TBC)

Yv Bonnier Viger (Université Laval, Centre intégré de santé et services sociaux, MD), *Basic Income and Public Health, Combatting Poverty and Social Exclusion*

Barb Boraks (Christian-Jewish Dialogue Toronto), *The Challenges of Convergence*

Moderator: Sheila Regehr (BICN)

COFFEE BREAK

10:15 - 10:40

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Morning Breakout Sessions

10:40 - 12:10

1A) **Justice: Easy to talk about, difficult to implement**

Katherine Bullock (University of Toronto, Political Science, Executive Director of the Islamic Society of North America)
Cheri de Novo (former MPP in Ontario, United Church minister)
Mari-Beth Sloan (Deloitte, Toronto)
Barbara Boraks (CJDT)

1B) **The Ideological, Political and Economic Converging Paths Towards Basic Income**

Mohammad Ferdosi (McMaster University, Political Science, Comparative Public Policy)
Oldrich Bubak (McMaster University, Political Science, Comparative Public Policy)
Thomas McDowell (Ryerson University, Politics and Public Administration)
Angela Miles (Women for a Just and Healthy Planet, University of Toronto), **Feminist Perspectives on Basic Income**

1C) Jason Burke Murphy (Elms College, Massachusetts, Philosophy), **Technological Unemployment as Thought Experiment**

Sergey Zolotov (Lobachevskiy State University of Nizhny Novgorod, Russia), **Possible influence of basic income on labor input in the Russian economy**
David Goutor (McMaster University, Labour Studies), **Living Wage Campaigns and the Basic Income**
Moderator: Shari Laliberté (Faculty of Nursing, School of Health Sciences, Vancouver Community College)

1D) **Carbon Dividends**

Cathy Orlando (Citizen's Climate Lobby Canada) on Prospects for carbon dividend policies in Canada, the US and abroad
Mike Sandler (Centre for Climate Protection) on Possibilities and Challenges for Cap and Dividend
Bruce Hyer (Green Party of Canada) on The Case for Carbon Fee and Dividend
Mark Cameron (Canadians for Clean Prosperity)
Moderator: Brent Ranalli (Ronin Institute, MA, USA)

1E) Maria Wong and Catherine Daalton (Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter), **Connecting Violence Against Women and Poverty**

Rachel Presser (Democratic Socialists of America, NY), **Why Universal Basic Income is Necessary for Adult Survivors of Child Abuse**
David Calnitsky and Pilar Gonalons-Pons (University of Western Ontario, Sociology), **Domestic Violence and Gender Relations in Manitoba's Basic Annual Income Experiment**
Moderator: John Rook (The Mustard Seed, Alberta; BICN)

LUNCH (provided on site)

12:10 - 12:50 p.m.

Afternoon Plenary

12:50 - 1:00

Messages from McMaster University, Hamilton Mayor (TBD), Organizers

Convergence Plenary (Part 2)

1:00 - 2:15

James Mulvale (University of Manitoba, Social Work; BICN), **Making the Green Case for Basic Income: UBI, the Environment and Social Justice**

Kate McFarland (former editor of *Basic Income News*), **My Life as Basic Income Experiment (n = 1)**

Josephine Grey (Conscious Minds Cooperative), **Basic Income and Women's Human Rights**

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Julio Boltvinik (El Colegio de México, Centro de Estudios Sociológicos, former legislator), *For a Non-violent Transition to Post-Capitalism: The Universal Citizen Income and the Case of Mexico*
Moderator: Michael Howard

First Afternoon Breakout Sessions

2:15 - 3:45

2A) ***The basic income difference: stories from LivingProof (Ontario pilot participants)***

John Mills (Basic Income Hamilton) and Tom Cooper (Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction), with Jayne Cardno, Alana Baltzar, Dave Cherkewski, Jodi Dean, Lance Dingman, Margie Goold, Nusrat Mir, Rhonda Castello, Tim Button, Wendy Moore (all part of a training program teach them how to face the media and tell their stories)

2B) Amr Kebbi and Benson Honig (McMaster University, DeGroote School of Business) ***Guaranteed Basic Income and Entrepreneurial Identity***

Patricia Wallinger (Ottawa), ***Engaging the non-market sector to broaden the basic income support base***
Noel Walker and Berent Batur (Basic Income London; University of Western Ontario), ***UBI's Precarious Opposition: How a Fear of Automation is Changing Public Perception of Basic Income***
Moderator: Paul Vallée (Pythian; BICN)

2C) ***Navigating the System: Stories From the Front Line***

Barb Boraks (CJDT)
Amanda Robar (ODSP recipient)
Mark (OW recipient, former business owner)
Tracy Smith-Carrier (Kings College, Social Work, University of Western Ontario)

2D) ***Lessons for basic income from coalition-building around child and family poverty***

Anita Khanna (Campaign 2000)
Laurel Rothman (Campaign 2000, 1998-2014)
Margaret Hancock (Family Service Toronto)
Rene Adams (Parent Activist with Campaign 2000)

2E) Rory Davis (University of Western Ontario), ***Comparing Systems for Basic Income: Finding the Ideal***
Victoria Lehman (Victoria E. Lehman Law Offices, Winnipeg), ***Basic income and self-determination for women, First Nations, people of colour and others who are excluded from the mainstream economy***
Elliot Rossiter (Douglas College, BC, Philosophy and Humanities), ***Reciprocity and Basic Income***
Joe Mancini (The Working Centre, Kitchener, ON), ***Basic income and community infrastructure: enhancing human contributions to society***
Moderator: Tim Ellis (Ontario Basic Income Network) TBC

COFFEE BREAK

3:45 - 4:15

Second Afternoon Breakout Sessions

4:15 - 5:45 p.m.

3A) Josephine Grey (Low Income Families Together, Toronto), ***Basic Income Guarantee for Human Rights***
Peter Joseph (Zeitgeist Movement, CA, USA), ***Basic Income as a Step Towards Sustainable Economic Systems***
Noel Walker (University of Western Ontario, Political Science; Basic Income London) ***Claiming Sufficiency: Toward a Human Right to a Basic Income Grounded in Basic Needs***
David Knezevic Tracy Smith-Carrier and Noel Walker (University of Western Ontario), ***A Basic Needs Guarantee? Exploring the Right to a Basic Income In Canada***
Moderator: Stephen Brown (Deloitte; BICN)

3B) ***Income Security Reform and Basic Income in Ontario: Pathways and Intersections***

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Mary Marrone (Income Security Advocacy Centre)
Laura Cattari (Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction; Canada Without Poverty)
Ruth Koleszar-Green (York University, School of Social Work)

- 3C) Ric Lim (Kreytor, MB), ***Basic Income Through the Eyes of History***
Pierre Madden (BasicIncomeMontreal.org), ***Basic Income: If I explain marriage to you, will you fall in love? (illustrated by: the travesty of 'basic income' in Quebec).***
Floyd Marinescu (BICN: C4Media), ***The Business Case for Basic Income***
Matt Lewis-Strauch (Deloitte Inc.), ***The Future of Work: The Augmented Work Force***
Moderator: Mandy Kay-Raining Bird (Dalhousie University, School of Communication Sciences and Disorders; BIG-NS)
- 3D) Michael Howard (University of Maine, Philosophy; USBIG), ***The Ecological Case for Basic Income: a Challenge for Convergence***
Timothy MacNeill and Amber Vibert (University of Ontario Institute of Technology), ***Basic Income, Sustainable Food Practices, and Post-Consumerism***
Brian Milani (GreenEconomics.net), ***Basic Income in the New Security: Regenerative Development and the Economics of Abundance***
Moderator: James Mulvale
- 3E) ***Income alone is not enough: How financial empowerment complements Basic Income in building.....***
Liz Mulholland (Prosper Canada) on financial empowerment and why it is a necessary complement to Basic Income
Elodie Young (Prosper Canada)
Simon Brascoupé (AFOA Canada) on strengthening Indigenous access to income benefits and financial wellness
Stephen Vanderherberg (Woodgreen Community Services) on successful financial empowerment approaches to building financial security

EVENING EVENT - Open to the Public
Time: TBA

World Premiere of MINCOME: the Film + Experience

An original documentary film on Canada's first basic income experiment, in Dauphin, Manitoba from 1974-78 will premiere inside a 90-minute interactive experience, followed by a panel discussion with:
Ron Hikel (Executive Director of MINCOME), Ken Fisher (Film Director), and The BIG Experience Facilitation Team (Jessica Sharp, Alan Webb and Erica Dixon of dreamBIG).

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Saturday, May 26

Making Basic Income A Reality Plenary (Part 1)

9:00 - 10:15

Jurgen De Wispelaere (University of Bath, Institute for Policy Research, UK), *Universal Basic Income: a Bug or a Feature of the Capitalist Welfare State*

Kourtney Koebel (University of Toronto, Industrial Relations) *Costing a Basic Income*

Other Speakers TBC

Moderator: Sara Bizarro (TBC)

COFFEE BREAK

10:15 - 10:30

Morning Breakout Sessions

10:30 - 12:00

4A) *The BIG Experience: Mincome documentary, grassroots mobilization, training and dialogue*

Ken Fisher (dream BIG)

Jessica Sharp (dream BIG)

Alan Webb (dream BIG)

Erica Dixon (dream BIG)

4B) *Richard Pereira* (author/editor of recent book on financing a UBI), *Financing Basic Income and Addressing the Cost Objection*

Anemone Cerridwen (University of Alberta), *The 50% Solution: A Pigovian approach to paying for a basic income*

Rhonda Fairman (Basic Income Guarantee Canada FB Group), *Basic Income and Cryptocurrency Can Work Together for a Brighter Future*

Robert Stayton (author of a book on solar energy), *Using Solar Energy to Generate Basic Incomes*

Moderator: Tom Cooper (Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction)

4C) *Adopting and Designing a Basic Income Scheme: Politics and Practicalities in Australia and Canada*

Jennifer Mays (Queensland University of Technology, Public Health and Social Work) on political context and policy design in Australia

James Mulvale (University of Manitoba, Social Work) on political context in Canada

Sid Frankel (University of Manitoba, Social Work) on policy design in Canada

Comparison of country experience - all

4D) *Dennis Raphael* (York University) and *Toba Bryant* (University of Ontario Institute of Technology), *A Critical Analysis of the Political and Economic Contexts within which a Basic Income Guarantee is Implemented*

Fernando José Gomes Freitas (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Public Policy and Government), *Basic Income in Brazil: Analysis of arguments advocated by Brazilian publications from 1975 to 2017*.

Elizabeth McGuire (Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits), *Arguing for Basic Income: Making Sense of the Naysayers*

Karl Widerquist (Georgetown University - Qatar, Philosophy), *The Devil's in the Caveats: A Critical Analysis of Basic Income Experiments for Researchers, Policy Makers and Citizens*

Moderator: John Rook (The Mustard Seed, Alberta; BICN)

4E) *Public Health - A Key Ally in Making Basic Income a Sustainable Reality*

Vanessa Parlette (City of Hamilton Public Health Services and alPha-OPHA Health Equity Work Group)

Lisa Simon (Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit and alPha-OPHA Health Equity Work Group)

Jane Shrestha (Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit and Ontario Dietitians in Public Health),

Zsafia Mendly-Zambo (York University, Health, Nursing and Environmental Studies), *Considerations regarding the implementation of UBI as a measure for reducing food insecurity in Canada*

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LUNCH (provided on site)
12:00 - 12:45

Making Basic Income A Reality Plenary (Part 2)

12:45 p.m. to 2:15

Pablo Yanes (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean), Mexico City's Constitution: *Vital Minimum and Basic Income*

Conrad Shaw (creator of Bootstraps, film projects featuring Basic Income), *The Role of Media in Today's Basic Income Movement*

Other speakers TBC

Moderator:

First Afternoon Breakout Sessions

2:15 - 3:45

- 5A) Nasreddine Ammar (Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer, Canada), *Costing a National Guaranteed Basic Income Using the Ontario Basic Income Model*
Helen Kmera (Louis Even Institute for Social Justice, Québec), *Financing the Universal Basic Income: The Ontario, Canada Case and Social Credit*
Sameer Nurmohamed (Osler, Hoskin and Harcourt LLP), *UBI-FIT: Using the Tax System to Fund a Basic Income*
Harvey Stevens (University of Manitoba, Economics), *A Methodology for Assessing Alternative Equal-Cost GBI Designs*
Moderator: Jurgen De Wispelaere

5B) *Bringing the Hallway into the Room: Media Matters*

Open discussion and networking session focused on: 1) how various forms of media are being, and can be, used to promote basic income understanding and dialogue; 2) the implications of today's fast-paced, media-saturated world on efforts to pilot and to affect public policy change towards a basic income. Media practitioners and consumers welcome.
Moderator: Tom Cooper and Laura Babcock (TBC)

5C) *Youth for a Basic Income - For a Better Future*

Roxanne Cohen and Naymah Hasan (Conscious Minds Co-operative, Toronto). This is an interactive, participatory workshop by and about youth, community-building and the transition to a climate-resilient, sustainable and just future
Chris Wiebe (author of Edmonton Centre Youth Council's report, *Basic Income for Working-Age Canadians: A Comprehensive Perspective*), *Basic Income and Welfare Reform*

- 5D) Leandro Teodoro Ferreira (Federal University of ABC, Brazil; Brazilian Citizens Basic Income Network), *From guaranteed minimum income to basic income: Path dependence in public policy*
Leah Hamilton (Appalachian State University, Social Work, NC), *Bueller?, Bueller? American Social Workers and the Universal Basic Income Debate*
Ron Hikel (Ontario Basic Income Network; Executive Director of the Mincome Pilot), *Identifying and Overcoming Political Barriers to Universal Basic Income: Strategies and Tactics for Canada and the USA*
Kourtney Koebel (University of Toronto, Centre for Industrial Relations and Human Resources), *The Political Feasibility of a Basic Income Guarantee in Canada: Lessons from History*
Moderator: Tara Kainer (Kingston Action Group for Basic Income)

- 5E) *How Basic Income could benefit Indigenous communities in Ontario and services required for it to be successful*
Elizabeth Richer (Mamaweswen, The North Shore Tribal Council Niigaaniin Services) and colleagues will discuss the history of welfare agreements between Canada and First Nations and roundtable discussions about basic income with 40 First Nations held in 2017.

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Scott Wemigwans (Mamaweswen)
Christina Agawa Ge-Nad-Mo-Wit (Helper)
Violet Boissoneau (Mamaweswen)

COFFEE BREAK
3:45 - 4:15

Second Afternoon Breakout Sessions
4:15 - 5:45 p.m.

6A) **Basic Income Policy Options in Real (Simulated) Life**

Sheila Regehr (BICN) and colleagues will outline the history, objectives, principles and process of BICN's project to develop and cost basic income options using Canada's Social Policy Simulation Database and Model (SPSD/M)
Rob Rainer (Ontario Basic Income Network; BICN)
Kourtney Koebel (University of Toronto, Industrial Relations) will explain the technical aspects of the modeling and the results of the different options. Open discussion will follow.
Moderator: James Mulvale (University of Manitoba; BICN)

6B) **Social Credit (Monetary Reform) and a Universal Basic Income**

Oliver Heydorn (The Clifford Hugh Douglas Institute for the Study and Promotion of Social Credit), *The Distribution of the Community Credit*
Charles Pinwill (The Minden Retreat Centre, Queensland, Australia), *Income from a National Dividend*
Michael Watson (The Minden Retreat Centre), *The Economy of the Gift*
Robert Klinck, *The Environmental Implications of Social Credit Income Supplementation Proposals*

6C) Aric McBay (National Farmers Union--Ontario), **A pilot proposal for an Income Stability Supplement for new farmers**

Jason Hartwick (Basic Income Peterborough Network), **Building and Mobilizing Local Support for a BIG**
Joli Scheidler-Benns (York University) and Roderick Benns (*The Lindsay Advocate*), **Social Purpose Media: Shifting Community Perspective through Basic Income Advocacy**
Marie Burge (Cooper Institute - PEI Working Group for a Livable Income), **C-BIG-PEI: Hearing the Voice of the Community**
Moderator: John Mills (Hamilton Basic Income)

6D) **Making Basic Income a Reality: What can basic income organizations do?**

Michael Howard (University of Maine; USBIG) and colleagues explore how organizations in the United States can complement each other and cooperate to advance basic income. Open discussion.
Jim Pugh (Universal Income Project)
Garrett Hour (Basic Income America)
Ian Schlakman (Basic Income Action)

6E) **The Alaska Model Now**

Gary Flomenhoft (University of Queensland, Sustainable Minerals Institute; University of Vermont) on extending the Alaska model to overcome the new enclosure of the commons
Paul Hartnett and Laura Bannister (World Basic Income) on using dividends from the global commons to pay a world basic income (by video link from the UK)
Gregg Erickson (Robert Schalkenbach Foundation) on recent history and problematic future of the Alaska Permanent Dividend Fund and Dividend
Malan Rietveld (Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment) on reforming the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend
Moderator: Brent Ranalli (Ronin Institute MA, USA)

SATURDAY EVENING EVENT
6:00 p.m.

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Artists for a Basic Income: A Night of Live Music, Dancing and Dialogue (about cultural livelihood issues)
at the **Phoenix Bar and Grill** on the McMaster Campus
Pub opens at 6:00 p.m., entertainment begins at 7:00 p.m. This evening is open to the public.

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Sunday, May 27

Plenary Announcements

9:00 - 9:10 a.m.

Breakout Sessions

9:10 - 10:30

7A) ***Organizing Opportunities Around Basic Income in the United States***

Jason Murphy (Elm College, Philosophy, Maine)

7B) ***Communicating Basic Income: Lessons from the Past/Choices for the Future***

Alan Gummo (Kingston Action Group for BIG; former public servant with experience communicating complex policies) will moderate an interactive session on ideas for strategic and tactical-level communication to garner public support and influence policy, with attention to affordability, relationship to complementary programs and work disincentive.

7C) ***Le débat au Québec et comment il s'inscrit dans celui qui a cour en Amérique du Nord*** (atelier en français)

Luc Gosselin (Revenu de base Québec)

Pierre Madden (RevenudeBaseVilleray.com)

Yv Bonnier Viger (médecin, L'Université Laval; directeur de la Santé publique Gaspésie-les-Iles)

7D) ***Basic Income Guarantee: How do we get students to care?***

Sharon Yeung (Queen's University; Kingston Action Group for a BIG; Ontario Medical Students Association) will share ideas about educating young people and engaging them in the basic income movement, and facilitate brainstorming and networking

Tim Ellis (Ontario Basic Income Network; Progress Champions, Bernie Sanders campaigner), ***Building Momentum for Basic Income: A How-To of Organizing***

COFFEE AVAILABLE AT 10:15

Moving Forward Plenary and Closing

10:30 - 11:30

*Note that the Basic Income Canada Network's Annual General Meeting will take place from noon to 12:45, open to all who are interested (room TBC).