

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 & 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.