Basic Income: Webinar for OHCC

Chandra Pasma
BICN Advisory Council
chandrapasma@hotmail.com
Why is BI so popular?

• Persistence of poverty
Seniors Poverty in Canada: 1976-2015

Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 206-0041
Why is BI so popular?

• Persistence of poverty
• Desire for administrative simplicity
• Concerns about public health and the social determinants of health
• Shift in approach to food security
Why is BI so popular?

- Changes in the labour market:
  - Rise of precarious work
Part-time work

Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 282-0002
Temporary jobs

Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 282-0080
Self-employed

Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 282-0012
Temporary Workers by Age

Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 282-0080
Why is BI so popular?

• Changes in the labour market:
  • Rise of precarious work
  • Expanding gig economy
  • Increasing divide in outcomes between the well-educated and the less-educated
  • Rapid pace of automation
Why is BI so popular?

• Climate change and Just Transition
• Questions about the future of capitalism
Funding a Basic Income

• Income taxes – personal and corporate

• Tax fairness:
  • Eliminating non-refundable tax credits and tax deductions that primarily benefit the wealthy
  • Treating all sources of income equally, regardless of how they are earned
  • Cracking down on tax havens
Funding a Basic Income

- Creating new taxes
- Resource royalties and creation of a sovereign wealth fund
- Shifts in program spending