

REFERENCE GUIDE FOR BASIC INCOME CANADA NETWORK'S

"Signposts To Success: Report Of A BICN Survey Of Ontario Basic Income Recipients"

HEALTH

"(Basic income) allowed me to pay for my drug prescriptions required for my heart condition and my hip replacement pain."

We know from the government's own baseline survey, the cost of medical treatment was a significant barrier for most participants entering onto the Ontario Basic Income pilot.

Basic income was used to purchase: glasses (24%), medication (41%), and receive dental care (32%).

After enrolling, participants experienced fewer health problems and were able to reduce medication.

FINANCES

"I was able to pay arrear taxes owed to city otherwise possible foreclosure which was putting me in deep depression and was feeling suicidal."

Three quarters of pilot participants experienced housing unaffordability before enrolling in the pilot. With a Basic Income 83% of participants surveyed found it easier to pay their bills.

FOOD INSECURITY

"I was beginning to lose weight slowly because I could actually afford better options."

A lack of income leads to food insecurity and forces people to make impossible choices; eat unhealthy food or go hungry.

With a basic income 74% felt they could make healthier food choices

"I gained weight! I am in normal range now."

EMPLOYMENT

"I was able to search for a good apprenticeship without settling for something less professional."

Before the pilot, 35% of respondents in the baseline survey indicated they worked full or part-time. After one year on Basic Income, 44.25% of participants who responded to BICN's survey indicated they had worked at some point in 2018.



WHAT IS NEXT FOR BASIC INCOME IN CANADA?

82.63% of Basic Income participants are worried.

International researchers, health-care providers, chambers of commerce, 120 Canadian business leaders, food banks, 30,000 signatories to an online petition, as well as the participants, are all urging the federal government to step in and rescue the Ontario Basic Income Pilot.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government has a unique opportunity to demonstrate bold leadership by intervening and completing a full, evidence-based evaluation of the project.

Time is running out...

The full report can be found on the Basic Income Canada Network website <https://www.basicincomecanada.org>

**Hamilton Roundtable
for Poverty Reduction**