

# UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME PANEL Q & A APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup> 2020

Elizabeth Kay-Raining Bird

Karen Foster

Pierre Stevens

Jennifer Brady

Wayne MacNaughton

Pauline Raven



**Basic Income Nova Scotia Society**  
[www.big-ns.org](http://www.big-ns.org)



# WHAT IS A BASIC INCOME AND WHY IS IT A VITAL IDEA NOW?

- **Elizabeth (Mandy) Kay-Raining Bird** is a speech-language pathologist and professor in the School of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Dalhousie University. She is interested in the undeniable impact of poverty on health and child development. For far too long society has focused upon relieving the symptoms of poverty rather than treating its root cause. A basic income is a root cause solution to poverty and its associated health and societal impacts. This is why Mandy co-founded Basic Income Nova Scotia (BIG-NS) in 2015 and why she continues to educate and advocate for a Basic Income as the BIG-NS chair.

## HOW DO WE PAY FOR A BASIC INCOME?

- **Pierre Stevens** is retired from Dalhousie University where he taught for 35 years, as a Senior Instructor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Pierre grew up in the Netherlands where he benefitted from a government-funded post-secondary education.
- Pierre is currently the Treasurer of both the Basic Income Canada Network and Basic Income Guarantee-Nova Scotia. and a co-founder of Basic Income Guarantee-Nova Scotia.
- Pierre is guided by his belief that every human being has the right to a fair standard of living, and that as a society, and community, we have an obligation to make this possible for all.

## HOW DOES A BASIC INCOME DIFFER FROM OTHER FORMS OF INCOME ASSISTANCE?

- **Wayne MacNaughton** is a long-time anti-poverty and anti-homelessness activist. He is the Nova Scotia representative on the board of Canada Without Poverty and also sits on the board of Basic Income Nova Scotia Society. He moved from being a long-time Income Assistance recipient to being an Old Age Security/Guaranteed Income Supplement recipient 2 years ago.

# WHAT WOULD A BASIC INCOME MEAN FOR (RURAL) NOVA SCOTIA?

- **Karen Foster** is a sociology professor at Dalhousie University. She holds the Canada Research Chair in Sustainable Rural Futures for Atlantic Canada. She was a founding member of Basic Income Nova Scotia.

HOW DOES A BASIC  
INCOME AFFECT  
DETERMINANTS OF  
HEALTH AND FOOD  
SECURITY?

- **Jennifer Brady** is a Registered Dietitian and Assistant Professor at Mount Saint Vincent University. Her work is focused on the intersections of food, health, and social justice, and specifically, the role of health professionals in these issues.

HOW DO WE MOVE  
FROM INFORMING  
PEOPLE ABOUT A BASIC  
INCOME TO ACTUALLY  
GETTING A BASIC  
INCOME?

- **Pauline Raven** is a councillor for District 2 in the Municipality of the County of Kings, NS. She has academic training in psychology, sociology and adult education. She authored the Nova Scotia Child Poverty Report for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives for ten years, and is a long-time anti-poverty activist.