

GLI Newsbreeze October 9, 2016

report on October 6 Event

Robyn made her power-point presentation on The Guaranteed Income. Concept, at the RTC. Great effort at promoting the event paid off. We got 18 guests, though not all were there at the same time.

The guests included many new faces and some of the people who tend to show up at these events. Michael Rosenberg the anti-technology guy objected to Robyn talking about the 1961 UN covenant signed by Canada, requiring that living standards must constantly improve. He felt that was impractical given the limited resources of the planet. He got into some histrionics when we tried explaining that resources can be used more efficiently or "progressively utilized" as one theory goes, but he eventually calmed down.

Someone complained that he wanted the presentation to continue, meaning he did not want questions from the floor. Someone excitedly noticed that he had two cellphones out and seemed to be recording, and that was why he wanted a continuous proceeding. However, that was not Robyn's style. Afterward, as we broke up, he got into an affable conversation with Robyn.

We had the inevitable welfare basher there. He thought an income guarantee could just become an incentive for people to have more kids. Someone else scoffed at the idea that \$700 a month would motivate anyone to have a kid. The population decline proponent became more subdued, but kept taking cell phone pictures. He was fairly ragged himself, like another one of these impoverished people who cannot identify with their own situation. He left early.

Every time Robyn does her presentation it improves. It came in at 1:45 min. this time, despite side discussions. So, there was time for more discussions afterwards although some people decided their seats could endure no more.

the meeting after the event

We talked about the Ontario Pilot. Robyn thinks it is nonsense; the province says there would be no GI until the deficit is eliminated, which means never.

We discussed where to take the presentation from here. Robyn is elderly and retired, and can't take on a heavy schedule. She would like to see us develop a speakers bureau, and get some people going around to organizations to deliver the presentation. She would like to be able to train some people; that is what she is particularly qualified for. That sounds like a very good idea to me. We need to discuss further how best to organize this speakers bureau, and learn who would like to be trained to work in it.

Robyn did not feel this was a good format for making a video of the presentation. It needed some further improvements. That is why Jon did not record it. He seems okay with that. The next event I organize I really will need him to record. More on that below.

I would like to thank Jon, Paul, and Suzy for helping make this event a success. Let's do many more successful events.

Future events

I have three ideas for future BI/GLI events and am seeking suggestions for more.

1) Bring in some provincial government staff familiar with the pilot project and offer some suggestions. Also barbecue them if they do not have good answers about how they will run the pilot. This would be something to which to invite the other groups from around Southern Ontario.

2) Invite Fair Vote Canada to explain the relationship between electoral reform and a BI/GLI. Will voting reform make it easier to get BI? Will it make a social justice/ give us a BI party practical?

3) Invite the political parties to each send someone around to discuss their positions on a BI/GLI. If the Libs and deeps will not respond, the Greens likely will. Yet we have to keep it from becoming a Green rally. This would be the federal parties.

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We now have an October 12th event to take in.

Ontario Institute for Studies in Education speaker series is holding a discussion on "Is it time for Basic Income?" It is noon to 1:30 in room 3-104

The panelists are; our friend Senator Art Eggleton, an old BI supporter, and Michael Mendelson. Mendelson is connected to the Caledon Institute, which I recall is opposed to the BI idea, though I might be mistaken.

Here is the event web page. No registration is required.

http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/clsew/Speaker_Series/Oct_12_Guaranteed_Basic_Income_Art_Eggleton_Michael_Mendelson.html

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Now there is a webinar about BI

It goes on October 14. Here is the event web page. The title is "*Basic Income: What is it and what could it mean for social assistance?*"

http://incomesecurity.org/public-education/basic-income-what-is-it-and-what-could-it-mean-for-social-assistance/?utm_source=ISAC+Media+%26+Policy+News&utm_campaign=f1c51000d7-Media+and+Policy+News+emails&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_342c280cba-f1c51000d7-140445945

If you've never done a webinar before, it is important to make sure your browser is compatible with their system. Some of them compel you to get Google Chrome just to join in.

The title and the identity of the organizers suggests it is a “BI will cut social services” kind of thing. We need to learn the oppositions arguments even though we should not respond directly to them.

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The Sudbury Conference? What was that about?

Something happened in Sudbury October. 5th and. 6th. I assumed it was just another organizing meeting, this time for the north area. It was something more than that. It was live streamed but I had other things going on. If it was live streamed, there should be video of it soon. I will try. to find it.

To catch up on what happened there, we have the twitter feed; <https://twitter.com/search?q=%23big2016npi%20&src=typd>

We have the event web site; <http://big2016npi.ca/>

and we have. a BI new a article. About it <http://basicincome.org/news/2016/09/ontario-canada-northern-policy-institute-big-conference-oct-5-6/>

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Other interesting Links

Here is a very good article and site about BI; Ten things to know about Canada’s GAI debate

http://vibrantcanada.ca/blogs/nick-falvo/ten-things-know-about-canadas-guaranteed-annual-income-debate?utm_content=39845592&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter

Our friend Dr. Evelyn Forget was on TVO in June. She said that BI/GLI is the next logical step in the evolution of social provision.

<https://youtu.be/e36U5MQZc5o>

2 publications from Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. Worth curling up with over Thanksgiving weekend.

Basic Income; Rethinking Social Policy

<https://www.policyalternatives.ca/publications/reports/basic-income>

A Policymaker's Guide to Basic Income

<https://www.policyalternatives.ca/publications/reports/policymaker%E2%80%99s-guide-basic-income>

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Computer Problems

I have had some issues with my old computer in the past weeks which has effected my ability to work on BI/GLI and other things. I am sure I got some sort of malicious hack, because everything started to go screwy. I have had this kind of thing before, but since I use a MAC it clears itself up and I can reinstall any files that have disappeared; if I know which ones have disappeared.

For some strange reason a document from a legal case I have been engaged in became the screen background. The people at MAC telephone assistance were baffled. Installing the most recent OS in order to relaunch proved very slow, and they advised me to take it in to the MAC store.

So I spent about seven hours in the wonderful atmosphere at the Eaton's MAC store. Wall to wall people frantic about their malfunctioning hardware on which their lives depend. I don't know how the "MAC geniuses" stand it day after day.

But I got the latest OS in and everything seemed to have cleared up on its own. I decided it was time to get a new miniMAC anyway. This makes me short for the rest of the month but at least that problem is taken care of; it had been getting time to replace it. This one is a lot faster.

There are a couple of problems with it. I haven't had time to take care of them yet. One is that I cannot plug in my backup drive to it. I cannot yet retrieve my contact lists, very useful in promoting events. Puzzling why they disappeared.

The new Pages keeps putting periods where I do not need them. This makes writing a bit more of a chore. And the new Swiftpublisher does not recognize me as its rightful owner. Therefore I cannot produce new graphics or even open the old ones.

Tuesday I will have some time to go after the MAC service people to get this stuff taken care of. I like to clear lots of time to deal with these things because they usually take hours.

As well, I can take time to explore the new features on this thing. One thing I am already feeling is the need for a bigger monitor.

What I really like about MAC is that Apple stands behind what it sells. Yes, the stuff costs more initially, but I believe they save you money over the long run. So, I will keep producing this newsbreeze. Happy Thanksgiving, everyone.