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Guaranteed Living Income Toronto Newsbreeze November 13

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Basic income: The devil is in the details

By Redeye Collective November 5, 2016

<http://rabble.ca/podcasts/shows/redeye/2016/11/basic-income-devil-details>

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Local, Federal and Provincial consultations- reminders

Suddenly, everybody wants to hold consultations about poverty reduction strategies again. Activists for BI/GLI, rather than shining these, should be right in there trying to get the income guarantees concept onto the agenda. Also, trying to build links with the anti-poverty activists.

Locally; the city of Toronto wants to create a lived experience advisory group. The information about it is here.

<http://www1.toronto.ca/wps/portal/contentonly?vgnextoid=459e005dd01e6510VgnVCM10000071d60f89RCRD&vgnextchannel=de8f727e05c79410VgnVCM10000071d60f89RCRD>

If you apply, do not sound like too much of an activist for BI or anything else. Just emphasize your lived experience. Many BI activists have some lived experience. You should be up to speed on the experiences of the "commitment to Community" group and the way the city has jerked them around. Contact them at; <http://www.socialplanningtoronto.org/c2c>

Provincially;

I went into the provincial consult on the Pilot scheme last week. Here is a reminder; <https://www.ontario.ca/page/basic-income-pilot-consultation#section-3>

Federally;

The federal government is now in the "poverty reduction strategy" game. The web page about it was in last weeks issue. Here is the discussion document; http://www.esdc.gc.ca/en/reports/poverty_reduction.page

The Kingston group has had letter writing campaign doing to the federal minister, Duclos, for awhile. I recall a while back I ran a copy of their template letter about it. However, I think people really should write in their own words. But here is the article about it; <http://leadersandlegacies.com/2016/10/26/kingston-group-kick-starts-national-letter-writing-campaign-to-duclos-on-basic-income/>

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Upcoming meetings

Basic income Toronto Organization On Tuesday, November 13, a meeting should be happening at Metro hall, third floor, room to be announced. It should be at 7 PM. I say should because again we have no announcement and no agenda.

The Health and Strength Action Group will be doing it again on Thursday, November 17 at 1:30 pm at the Riverdale Community Health Services Center at 955 Queens street east. We have a few things to report on, but especially the HSAG response to the Maytree report on BI.

We have another **provincial meeting of local BI groups**. Once again, it was almost impossible to find out anything about it. I finally got through to the organizer of the event who signed me up. I was the last one who could sign up late

about it. I finally got through to the organizer of the event who signed me up. I was the last one who could sign up late. But then she discovered space was more restricted in the hall than she thought and she had to drop me.

This indicates a problem we have in the Toronto BI community and to some extent in the provincial and national groups. It is a lot like the trouble that goes on in social action groups which get targeted for cooptation or which develop exclusive cliques. There comes to be a conscious effort to control and throttle information.

But sometimes the communication problem is also due to inexperience. Many people new to organizing things do not understand that in order for people to attend something, they first have to know about it. You never just assume that the owed is going to get up. This is why it is very important to build up contact lists and information networks, and keep in regular contact.

Structure is important.

It is also a bit hard to learn just what is going on at this meeting in Peterborough. It is all day, on Saturday, November 19. It is described as a "workshop" and we must assume it is about the Ontario pilot project. It would help to know more than that.

The event would have been useful to me just to have been able to meet some people from outside Toronto and establish contact. It would be good if someone who attends this event can provide me with a good report on it.

But if we cant get to the Ontario wide meetups, maybe we could bring al Ontario here. It is time to start planning a meeting in Toronto about "The Pilot". Some speakers should be invited from out of town. More on this.

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Some **interesting new arguments** against, or at least ambivalent about, a BI pilot.

The Devil is in the Details from Jenifer Laidley at ISAC

<http://www.livingrant.ch/ISAC-Laidley-Basic-Income-The-Devils-in-the-Details-Oct-2016.pdf>

John Clarke from OCAP is at it again too; **Ontario's Austerity Government Sets Basic Income Trap**

<http://www.livingrant.ch/Ontario's%20Austerity%20Government%20Sets%20Basic%20Income%20Trap%20The%20Bullet%20No.%201330.pdf>

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Here is an example of some of the dumber criticisms of a BI/GLI which we will have to deal with. **The "Kontemptible Kartoon"**

www.livingrant.ch/curdocs/mcnaught-gain-comic0001-copy.jpg

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Roderick Benns, the Leaders and Legacies guy, has published a book called "**Basic Income: How a Canadian Movement Could Change the World**"

<http://basicincome.org/news/2016/11/new-book-collection-leaders-legacies-roderick-benns/>

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Next GLI breeze will be November 20

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