

A solemn covenant

In 1966 Canada signed "The International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights". In the mid-1970s we ratified this covenant. This should have meant that we would enshrine its provisions in our legal system.

In Article 11, Subsection 1 of this covenant we made clear commitments before the world. Canada agreed to:

- * Provide for an adequate standard of living for everyone in our country.
- * Ensure that everyone in Canada would have adequate food, clothing, and housing.
- * Arrange for living conditions to improve continuously for everyone.

Over forty years later, might we ask what happened to those commitments? Sadly, Canada has not fulfilled them. Isn't it time we made sure that our signing and ratification of this covenant actually meant something?

Contact!

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Facilitator

Robyn Peterson holds an honours B.A. in history and an M.A. in adult education from the University of Toronto.

Over time she has developed a deep interest in the continuing evolution of the human condition. She has coupled this with studies and readings in economic history.

She has a deep concern with the state of our society today and is dedicated to doing what she can to build a better society for everyone. Her newsletter, *Sayout*, addresses different topics around the theme of making our world better.

Robyn has taught over the years within corporations and in community colleges. Most recently she taught at Centennial College in Scarborough, Ontario.

She brings to her sessions a lively spirit and a sincere concern with getting things right in what she teaches as well as relating to participants and their needs as effectively as possible.



What kind of world will he live in?

What can be?

Basic Income where are we now?

- * what is it?
- * will we have it soon?
- * why do we need it?
- * who would benefit?
- * what are the drawbacks?
- * how would it improve our society?
- * How could we pay for it?

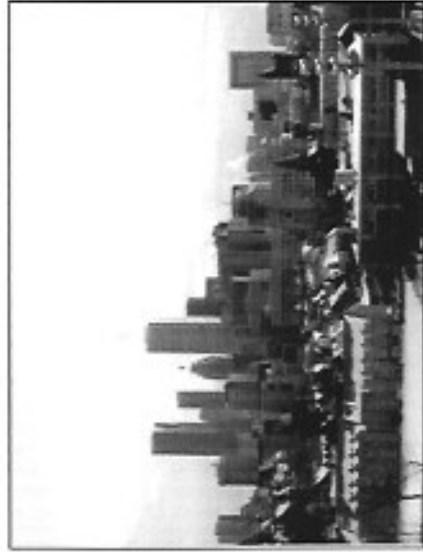
Presentations

We can provide half-day or one-day workshops in your location.

We can also provide presentations customized to your needs. Just ask, and we'll see what we can arrange. We look to fit things as effectively as possible to what will work best in your environment.

Train-the-Trainer

You or your people may wish to conduct guaranteed living income workshops yourselves. Based on our own resources, we'll gladly help you with this.



Do we see the poverty out there?

"While it certainly remains important to have a solid business climate, having an effective people climate is even more essential."

*Richard Florida,
The Rise of the Creative Class*

Dealing with our current crises

It seems that crises of one type or another confront our society on all sides. The bromides and solutions of the past no longer seem sufficient. But we're not helpless. We can do much. Consider the following:

- * Address the issue of precarious employment directly.
- * Provide better financial support to caregivers and volunteers.
- * Improve the incomes of those in need.
- * Help the public in general to understand the importance of a universal income programme to reduce inequality.
- * Provide more employment in areas of sustainable improvements.
- * Ensure food security for all.
- * Provide sufficient affordable housing.
- * Ensure that proper and complete healthcare is truly affordable for everyone.
- * Emphasize dealing with violence in preventative ways, not with more repressive measures.
- * Reform the tax system to improve government revenues.
- * Create a society fit for entrepreneurs.

Productive discussions

We work to further understanding on all sides to ensure that people come to terms with and support income improvements within our society.



Does social upheaval lie in our future?

Are the 99% for real?

In recent years we've heard much about the 99% versus the 1% when it comes to wealth or lack of it in our society.

Politicians will argue in terms of these stark percentages.

Some people say they're not important, because people can always climb out of the 99% with better education and hard work.

Where does reality lie?

Is the reality actually what we want?

Applied to everyone

A proper basic income programme is universal, guaranteed, and set at a level above the poverty line.

You must be able to "live" with it

A universal basic income programme would provide enough income for a person or a family to meet their needs.