

## **Guaranteed Liveable Income Working Group    December 2021 Update**

Grace and Peace to you in Advent. I wanted to give you an update on the work for Guaranteed Liveable Income (GLI) in the past few months.

The Atlantic Group worked in the early Fall to organize an online book study event with Senator Hugh Segal's book *Bootstraps Need Boots*. Unfortunately, this had to be postponed due to lack of availability of the book. Now it is re-organized for the New Year, beginning in January. There have been regular connections of our provincial, regional and national level networks. At this time, there is a need for immediate action.

It has been anticipated for some time and NOW we have learned of the request of Prince Edward Island (PEI) for a five-year demonstration of GLI, not a pilot project, but a program, supported by ALL PEI political parties. It will take MPs votes to support this in Parliament. Therefore, this is a crucial time for us to be in contact with our members of Parliament so that PEI gets the support federally that is needed to launch this five-year GLI program. Given the enormous poverty in the Atlantic region, we need something similar in our provinces.

On November 5, 2021, a group of 47 Senators released a letter calling for Federal Support of PEI Guaranteed Livable Basic Income: “‘Let’s Get ‘er done!’ is the overwhelming sentiment of Prince Edward Islanders seeking federal support to implement a full-scale guaranteed livable basic income (GLBI). From the Premier, to members of the Opposition, First Nations leaders and people in the community, the calls are clear and growing for the federal government to help make this program a reality.”

We have drafted a sample letter that you can use to write to your Member of Parliament. Please read the background information and send a letter right away. Also share this information with others in your community of faith so that many hundreds of letters will be written and delivered to our Government leaders.

You can find your MP's contact information by entering your postal code on the Parliament of Canada website (<https://www.ourcommons.ca/Members/en/search>).

Members of your Working Group will be contacting MPs requesting a meeting with them over the Christmas recess. Politicians and The United Church of Canada have been advocating for this since the 1970's. Now is the time to make it a reality.

In Shared Ministry,  
(Rev.) Rose-Hannah Gaskin  
for the GLI Working Group