

REGION OF WATERLOO BASIC INCOME GUARANTEE & AFFORDABLE HOUSING

"Housing is a human right. Being unhoused is largely a result of inadequate income and a lack of affordable housing" (Dej, et. al, 2023)

A BASIC INCOME GUARANTEE



A Basic Income Guarantee (BIG) is universally available but is only provided to those who need it. A BIG is an income floor below which no one falls, ensuring a minimum income level for everyone.

WHY WE NEED A BIG

- Allows people to participate in the economy and safely live and thrive in their communities
- Every Canadian has money for housing, food, and other basic needs
- Reduces homelessness
- Reduces the financial burden of legal, health and social services
- Improves our individual and collective health and well-being
- Demonstrated improvement in the lives of the Basic Income pilot project participants

WHY WE NEED A BIG WITH HOUSING POLICIES

- Waterloo Region is growing and demand for housing exceeds supply
- Affordable housing is disappearing faster than new ones can be built
- Residents without affordable housing are 1.5 times more likely to report fair to poor mental health
- Homelessness impacts everyone, all age groups, and all communities across Ontario



BASIC INCOME WATERLOO REGION

BIG WORKS WITH OTHER HOUSING POLICIES

- Rent control
- Renoviction bylaw
- Investments in non-market affordable housing
- Build in the right places
- Build smarter and faster
- Make housing affordable and part of liveable communities
- Innovations through mechanisms like community land trusts



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.BASICINCOMEWR.CA



Key references for the Basic Income Guarantee and Housing

Basic Income Guarantee

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References for “Why We Need a BIG with Housing Policies”

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