



# HEY – WHAT’S THE **BIG** IDEA!!

## Basic Income Guarantee - Part 1

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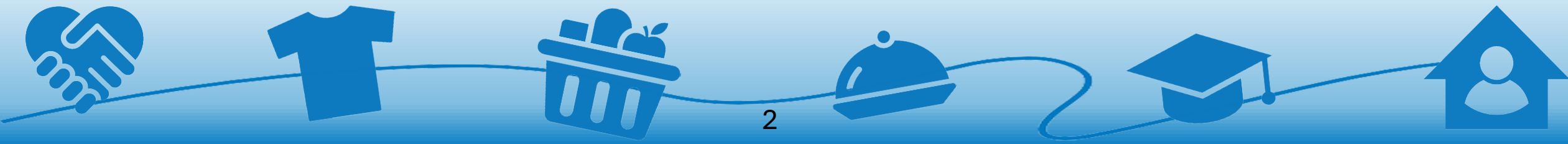


# Basic Income Guarantee

What is it?

Who will receive it?

Why it's evolution not revolution



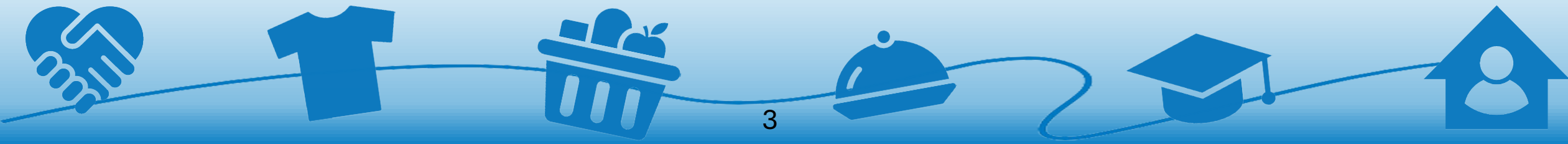


# Vincentians believe that:



All people created by God have inherent dignity

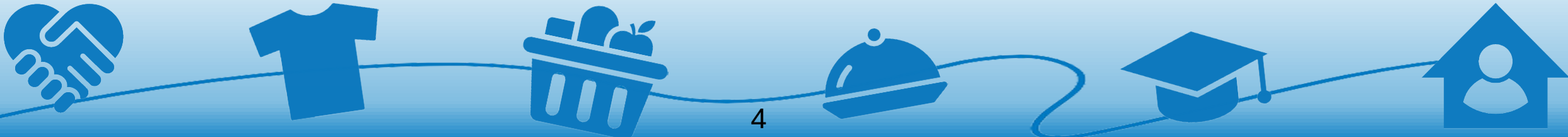
All have a right to a share of the earth's goods that will give them a life of health and dignity





# Why incomes need to evolve

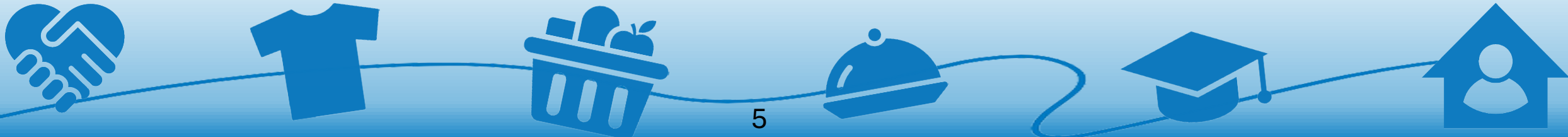
- Changes in the economy
- Social inequalities
- Food/shelter affordability crisis





# How do we know it will work?

- Dauphin Manitoba Project 1970's
- Ontario Pilot 2018-2019
- Finland 2017-2018
- Stockton, California
- Hudson New York 2021-2026



# How to get Involved



- Learn more about BIG
- Talk about it with others
- Engage your elected representatives

[www.ssvp.ca](http://www.ssvp.ca)



# What do we know? How do we advocate?

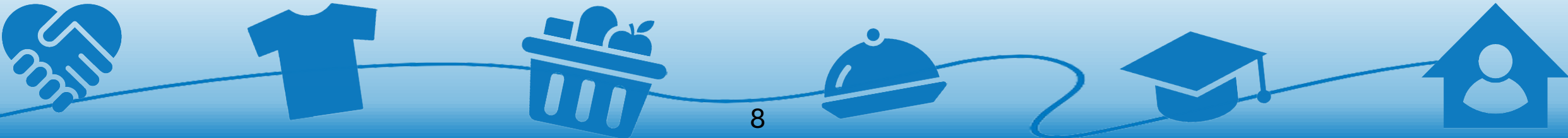




# PEI Project – What is it?

2020 - Final report of the Special Committee on Poverty in PEI tabled including costed recommendations for a Basic Income Guarantee

*2023 - 'A Proposal For a Basic Income Benefit In Prince Edward Island'.* This report outlines issues of cost, financing, labour market effects and more. This work was groundbreaking in that it was the first basic income proposal in Canada which studied, modelled, and presented solutions to key issues.







# Implementation

## Administration

Social assistance is fed/prov

Basic income delivered through federal tax system – what happens when need is developed outside of the federal tax year?

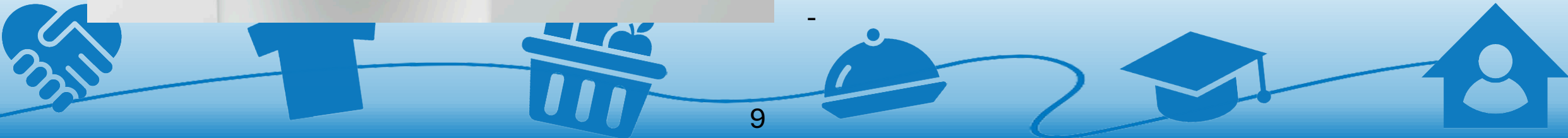
How will basic income will impact the administration of existing programs

## Cost

Currently. Social assistance delivered through Nuclear Family model: yearly gross cost in PEI would be M 309

PEI report used Census Family model. Yearly gross cost is 188 million. Net cost aprox M 100

Recent PBO report uses Economic family model. Cost even lower





# Implementation

## Impact

Currently (2023 report) poverty rate in PEI is at 9.7 %. Using PEI report model, poverty rate would be at 2.1% with everyone lifted out of deep poverty

Labour market displacement: PBO report estimates a reduction of 1.4% less hours worked – less than 1 hour per week.

Studies have shown, people on GBI return to school, learn new skills, can better care for those in need.

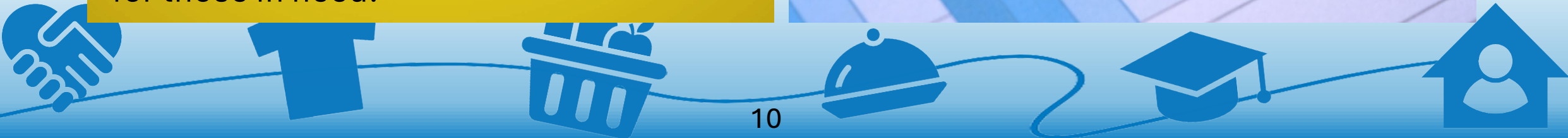
## Financing

Census family reduces the cost of the program by 40% of previous estimates

There will be savings to income assistance (conservative estimate of \$17.4M) and income-tested benefits

Tax increases for highest income earners—modestly increase to cover 1/4 of the cost while ensuring that Islanders with low- and middle-income are better off

Partnership with the federal government





# Advocacy – What we've learned



Grass roots lane:

General information: definitions; impact on health, life, sectors. Current system keeps people in poverty.

Policy, informed Political lane:

The PEI project allows us to answer the question 'how to implement': cost, financing, impacts etc.







# Advocacy – What we've learned

## Know your lane!!



- Identify your audience and understand what type of information they need.
- If you don't know the answer, then reach out to someone who does. We are all learning from each other.
- Details matter
- The PEI project has changed the conversation at all levels. It's important.





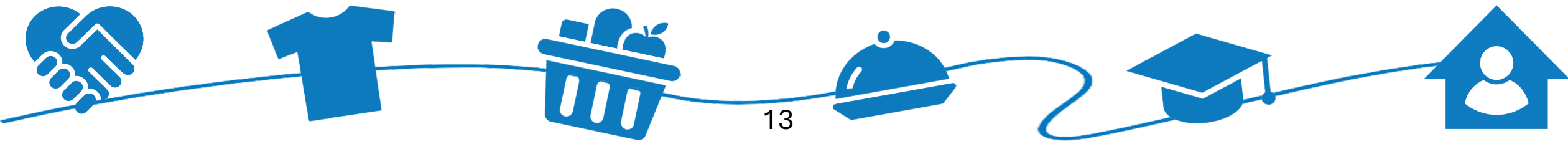
# Talking Points - examples

## Introduction to GBI

- Current system keeps people in poverty
- Current system is not reactive to rapidly changing times
- Benefits of GBI to: health, food security, mental health issues, entrepreneurship
- Reacts to shocks in economy

## MPs and Policy Reps

- PEI report has addressed issues of: cost, financing, labour market
- Social support is a fed/prov issue
- Demo project will provide evaluation and administrative data
- We have experts who can follow up with more detail – get another meeting!







# How We Can Grow GBI

We need to build networks and get more people and organizations involved

We need to work strategically and politically

We need to get in front of politicians

We have the information, we need to use it appropriately



# Break Out Sessions

- Think about and discuss how your community (SSVP) - and you -can get involved
- Think about your broader networks - professional and personal and how to involve them
- We need more people to work strategically in PEI to advocate to their provincial MLA's
- More people and organizations need to advocate to their MP's
- What resources would help you to do this work





# Resources

PEI Project: <https://www.gbireport.ca/>  
project report and supplementary notes

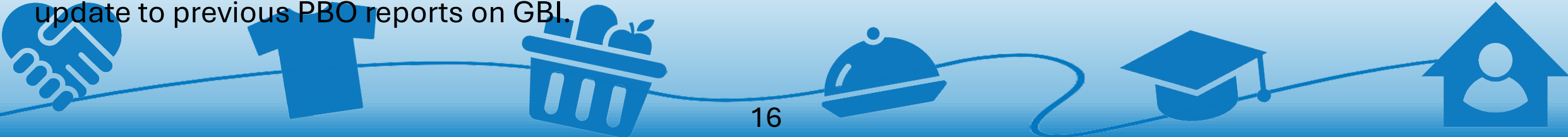
Coalition Canada: <https://basicincomecoalition.ca/en/>  
general information, resources, F&Q

Case for Basic Income Series: <https://basicincomecoalition.ca/en/actions/case-for-basic-income/>  
briefing notes for GBI with respect to different sectors

PBO Report (2025) on GBI:

<https://www.pbo-dpb.ca/en/publications/RP-2425-029-S--distributional-analysis-national-guaranteed-basic-income-update--analyse-distributive-un-revenu-base-garanti-echelle-nationale-mise-jour>

update to previous PBO reports on GBI.







Please complete the evaluation form  
Merci de remplir le formulaire d'évaluation



# Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Société de Saint-Vincent de Paul

[www.ssvp.ca](http://www.ssvp.ca)

