

# RELIGIOUS SOCIAL ACTION COALITION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

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Jews, Christians, Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs and others committed to ending the injustice of poverty  
[www.rsacnl.com](http://www.rsacnl.com)

October 2021

Ms. Yvonne Jones, Member of Parliament, Labrador District, NL

Dear Ms. Jones:

On behalf of the Religious Social Action Coalition (RSAC) of Newfoundland and Labrador, I congratulate you on your re-election in the recent federal election in our country. You have won the favour of the majority of voters in your district and we look forward to your leadership to our province and country.

During the campaign we called upon you to pledge your support, if elected, to work towards a **guaranteed basic income** (guaranteed livable income) for all residents of Canada in need. While we did not hear from you, we sincerely hope that you will work to implement this most-needed program so that all people in Canada can obtain the basic necessities of life, participate in social activities, contribute to society as they are able and live with dignity. I am confident that you will agree that this is the right of every person in your district, our province and country.

You will know that, in the Liberal annual convention in mid-April 2021, delegates voted overwhelmingly in favour of a universal basic income. This top policy priority was in second place out of 26 policy resolutions to come from your convention; with a vote of 491-85.

Elements of a basic income are contained in the Canada Child Benefit of 2015. In 2016, the House of Commons Finance Committee recommended introducing a basic income pilot project. Certainly, when considering the Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement for Seniors, these benefits constitute a guaranteed basic income, with the evidence that these programs have greatly reduced poverty among seniors. Your Leader and our Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, has repeatedly spoken of Canada as a country 'where no one is left behind'. The next natural step is the **inclusion of all people for a guaranteed basic income**. The people of Newfoundland and Labrador and the people of Canada deserve no less.

We know that providing leadership in this way is challenging and involves considerable sacrifice. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. We do look forward to hearing from you.

Marion Pardy (Very Rev. Dr.), Coordinator  
Religious Social Action Coalition of Newfoundland and Labrador

**Directors:** Dr. Mohammed Nazir – Muslim Association of NL; Dr. Steven Wolinetz – President, Jewish Community Havura; Dr. Veeresh Gadag – Hindu Temple of NL; George H Powell - Baptist; Rami Wadhwa – NL Sikh Society; The Rev. Father Paul Lundrigan – Roman Catholic Church; Haseen Khan – Muslim Association of NL; Captain Steven Barrett – Salvation Army; The Rev. Dale Careen – Anglican Diocese of Eastern NL

Copy: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau; Prime Minister of Canada