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## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Guaranteed Livable Basic Income Bill Could Answer Renewed Calls for a PEI Program**

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

**November 23, 2023 (Ottawa)**— As the National Finance Committee continues its study of [Bill S-233](#), proposing the development of a national framework for a guaranteed livable basic income (GLBI), leading basic income experts yesterday released a report on a model for Prince Edward Island.

The [report](#), “A Proposal for a Guaranteed Basic Income Benefit in Prince Edward Island”, presents a model for a cross-party supported, fully-funded five to seven year demonstration project for PEI.

This report mirrors the current Mandate Letter to the Minister of Social Development and Seniors for PEI to “continue to advocate with the federal government in pursuing a joint pilot program for a Basic Income Guarantee.”

The report’s release on National Housing Day is a fitting one, given the potential for federal-provincial collaboration on guaranteed livable basic income to reduce poverty in PEI by 80% and to help address issues of precarious housing and economic instability.

Bill S-233 is sponsored by Senator Kim Pate and has complementary proposed legislation Bill C-223 introduced in the House of Commons by MP Leah Gazan.

Senator Pate joined today with MP Bonita Zarrillo and the civil society group Together to End Poverty to host a parliamentary breakfast in support of urgent action to address poverty. Senator Pate emphasized how the framework proposed by Bill S-233 could help answer renewed calls from PEI, and across Canada, for collaborative approaches to guaranteed livable basic income.

“Canadians are facing climate, health and financial hard times right now. A framework for a guaranteed livable basic income would benefit Canadians, their families and their communities while strengthening the Canadian economy – and while simultaneously more constructively investing and reducing the \$80 billion our country currently spends on poverty each year,” said Senator Pate.

“A guaranteed livable basic income is not an impossible dream. It is the best tool we have to address climate, health, and homelessness crises. It could allow us to both fight poverty and create a better, more just and hopeful Canada.”

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