



Basic Income
Waterloo Region

BASIC INCOME GUARANTEE

An Economic Solution for Canada

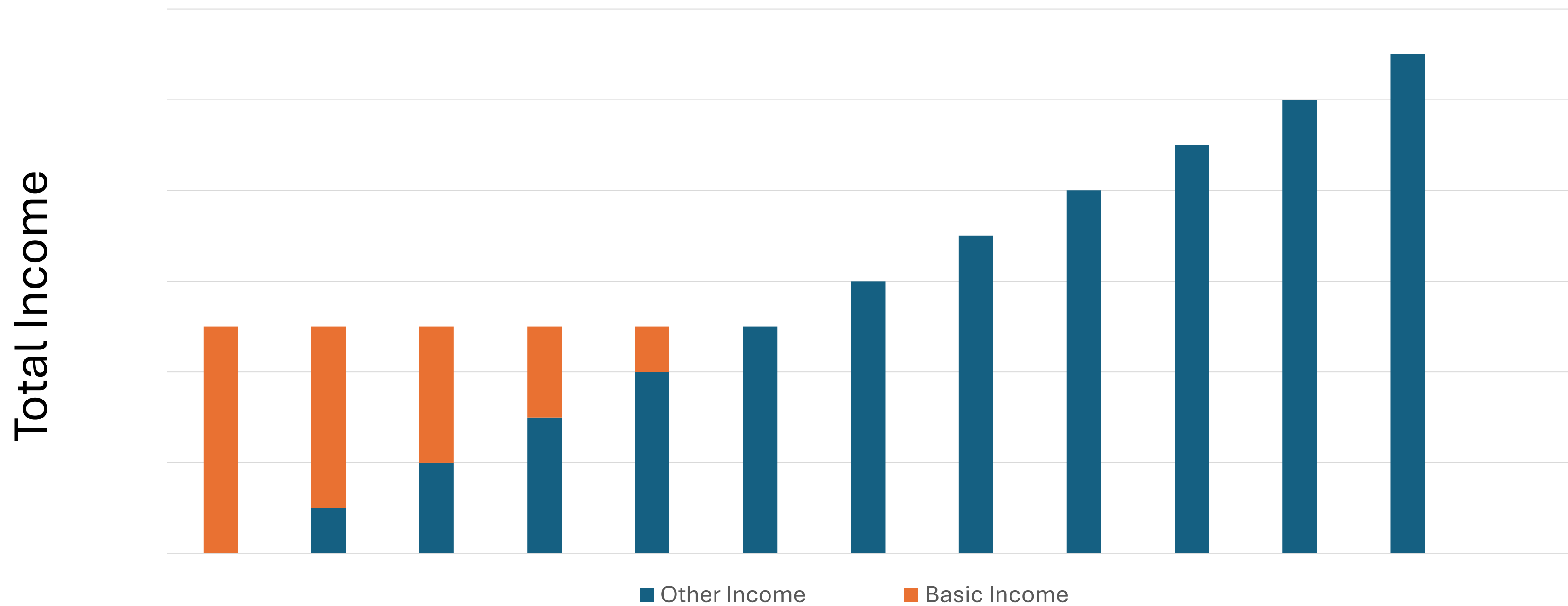
WHAT IS A BASIC INCOME GUARANTEE?

A government payment that ensures everyone has sufficient income when they need it - i.e., sufficient to meet basic needs.

It is delivered only to those who need it. It allows everyone to participate in society and live with dignity regardless of their work status.



BASIC INCOME GUARANTEE



**A Basic Income Guarantee for working-age adults
would fill the gap - Implementing a BIG could cut
poverty rates by up to 40%.**

-PBO, February 19, 2025

01

Canada Child Benefit (CCB)

02

Basic Income

03

**Guaranteed Income
Supplement (GIS)**



WHY A BASIC INCOME GUARANTEE IS ESSENTIAL

A Basic Income Guarantee (BIG)



Provides income protection



Is affordable



Is a solution based on evidence

BIG is an Economic Solution for Canada!



A BIG is Essential for Income Protection



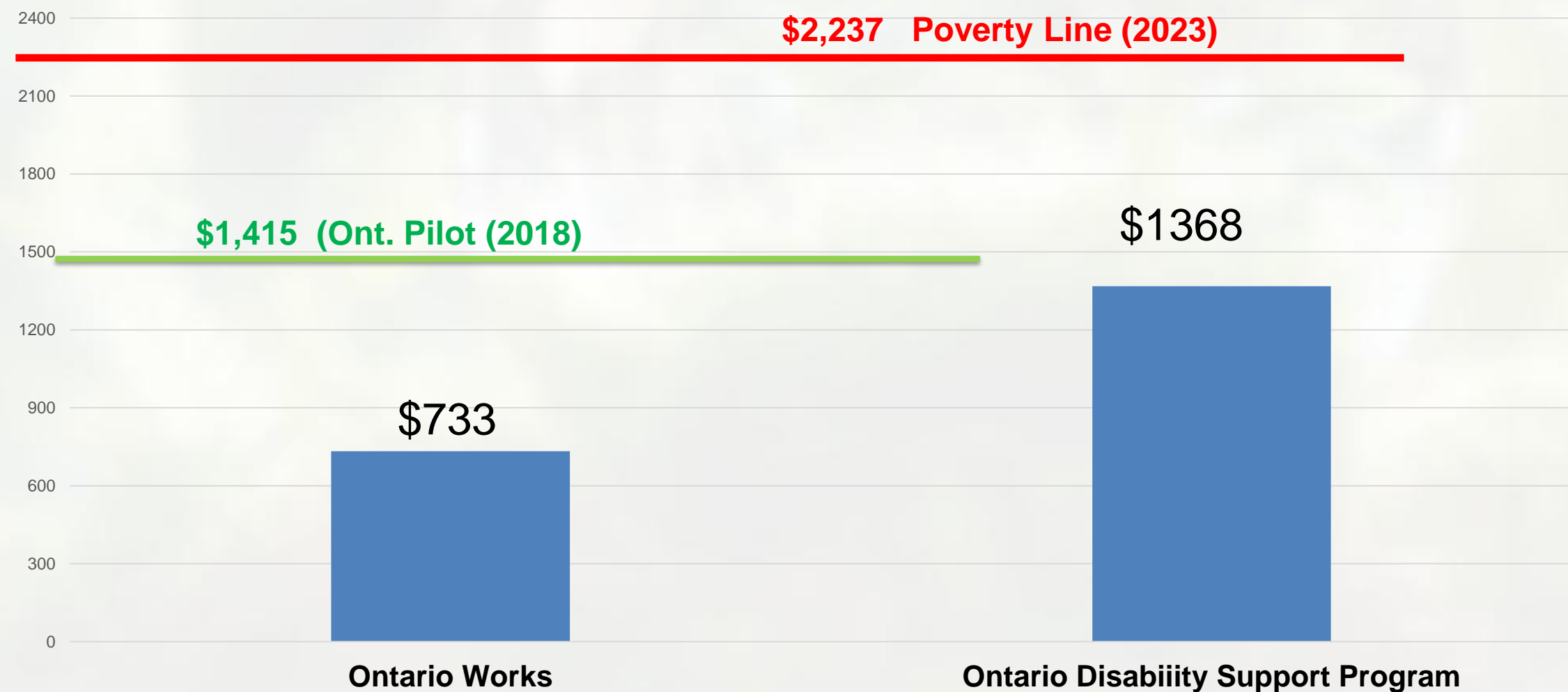
Improves stability/flexibility in times of uncertainty

More and more people are feeling the squeeze of financial precarity.

PRECARIOUS JOBS

- In Canada, precarious employment increased by more than 50% over the past two decades (SSHRC, 2024)
- Underpaid, low-wage workers provide essential services
- 50% of Canadians under 55 years worry they will be impacted by job loss (Angus Reid, 2024)

MONTHLY INCOME FOR AN INDIVIDUAL ON SOCIAL ASSISTANCE (APRIL 2025)



Market Basket Measure – Poverty Line



REDUCES HOUSING PRECARITY AND HOMELESSNESS

- Housing precarity – homelessness study Vancouver
 - Prevent affordability evictions
- Remember homelessness impacts EVERYONE
 - Individuals, families, women fleeing violence, youth, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities
 - All age groups, increasingly the younger working-age population
 - Rural, urban and remote communities across Ontario (Stroebe et al, 2021)

REDUCES FOOD INSECURITY

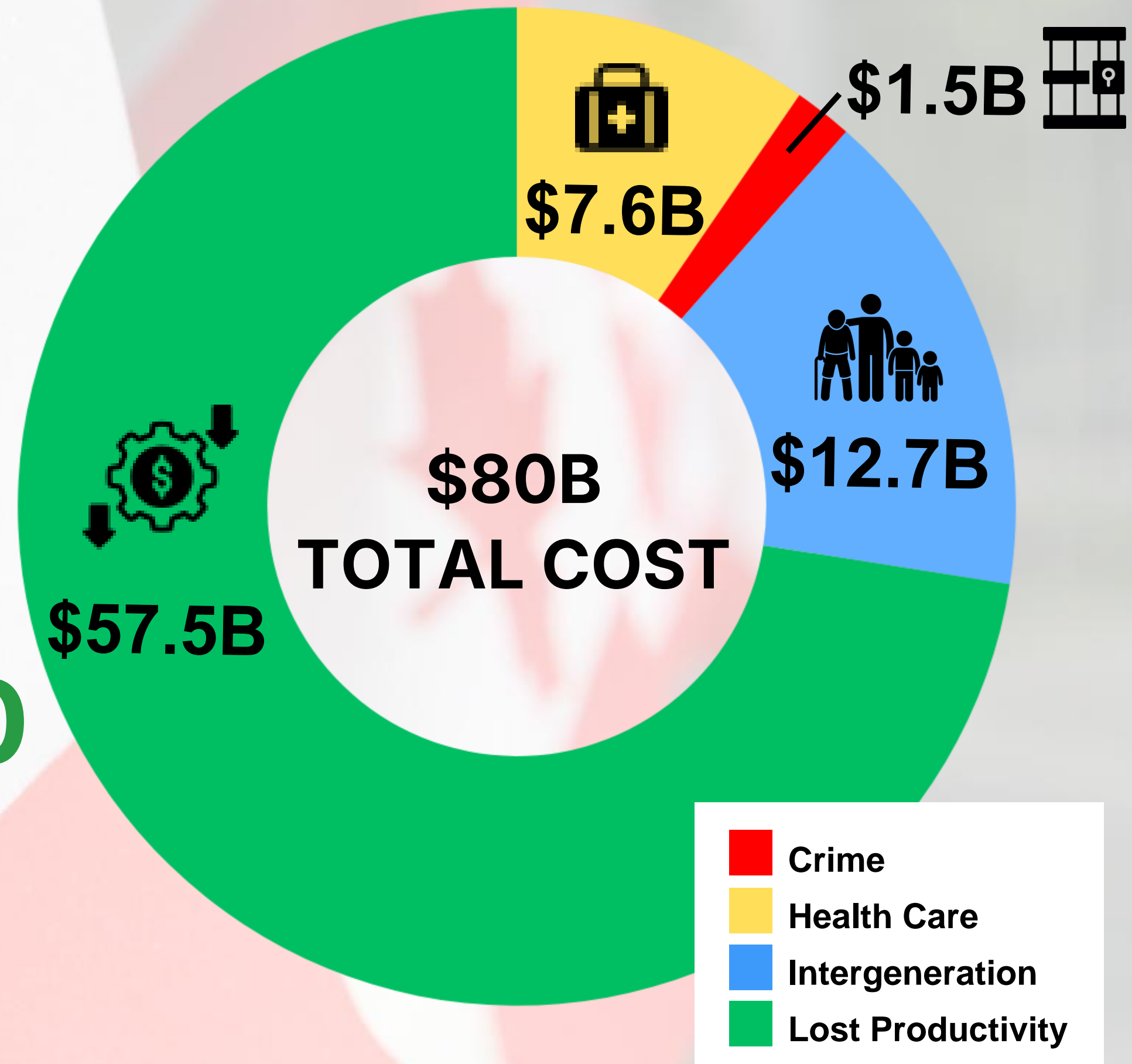
- In 2023–2024, the Food Bank of Waterloo Region and Cambridge Food Bank ... [experienced a] 31% increase compared to the year before." (Food Bank of Waterloo Region, 2024, p. 6)
- About 89% of food bank visits were due to cost of living (housing, food, utilities) (Feed Ontario, 2024)
- Those with jobs have become a growing demographic of food bank visitors (Feed Ontario, 2024)



The background of the image is a dark, moody photograph of various green leaves and ferns. The lighting is low, creating deep shadows and highlighting the textures of the plant life. Overlaid on this background is the text 'Basic Income Guarantee is Affordable' in a clean, white, sans-serif font. In the bottom left corner, there are two overlapping circles: a larger, semi-transparent dark green one and a smaller, solid dark green one.

Basic Income Guarantee is Affordable

**COST OF
CANADA'S
POVERTY:**
\$80,000,000,000
(EVERY YEAR)



COST OF A BIG

DRIVEN BY DESIGN

Examples of cost estimates - Canada

- PBO **net** annual cost based on Ontario pilot - \$40 to \$50 billion (2021)
- PEI demonstration project **gross** annual cost based on economic family - \$53 billion (PBO, 2025)
- PBO **gross** annual amount could be \$107 billion based on the nuclear family (2025)

CRITERIA TO PAY FOR A BIG



Has broad support from Canadians



Does not adversely impact how 97% of Canadians live



Encourages entrepreneurship



Improve tax fairness



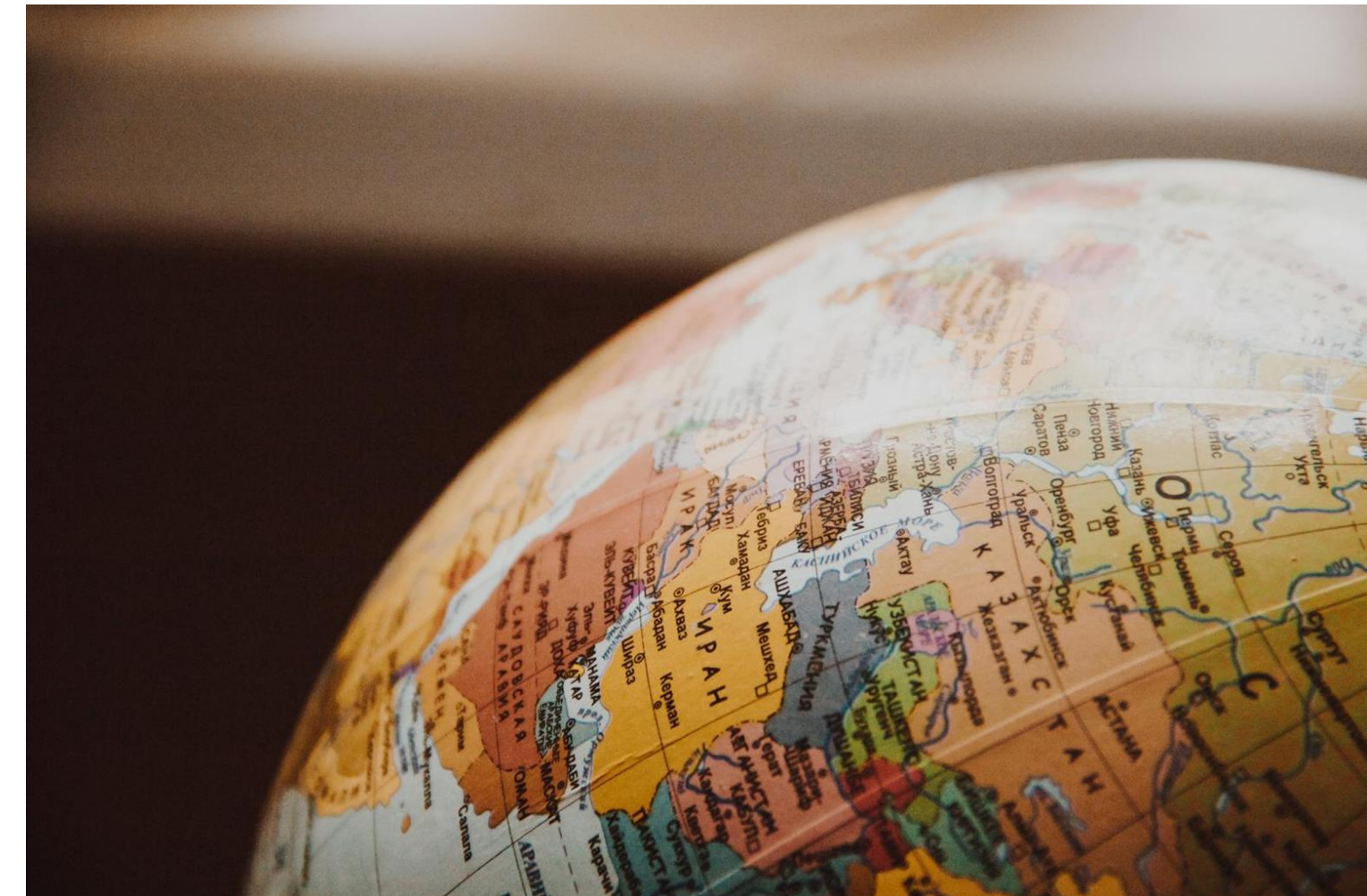
Minimizes deficit financing

A Basic Income Guarantee is Affordable

HOW?

Examples aligned with criteria

- Address tax havens
- Close tax loopholes
- Increases federal corporate taxes for large corporations
- Tackle web giants

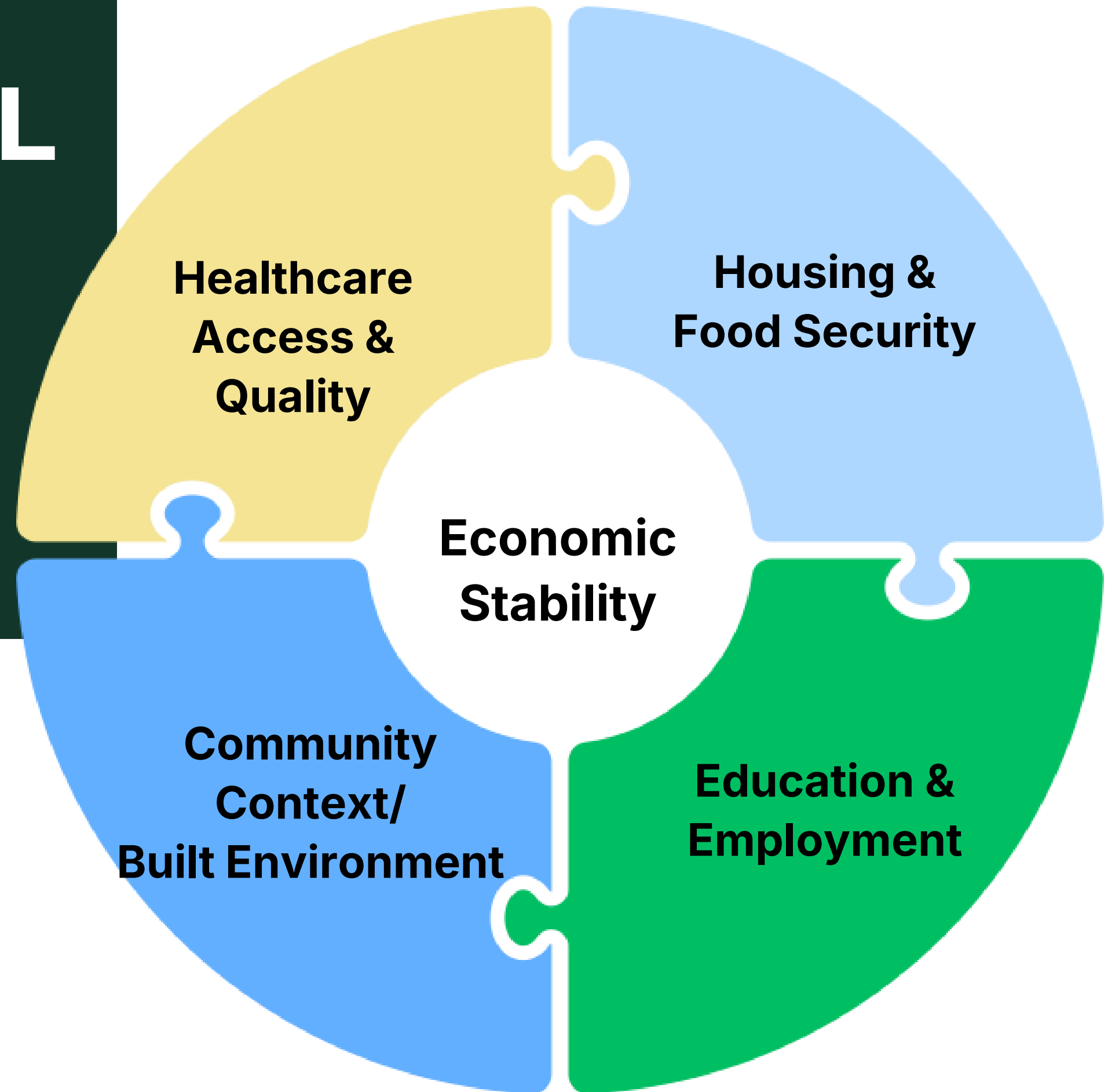


4 STRATEGIES	POTENTIAL TOTAL ANNUAL REVENUE for CANADA	ESTIMATED DIRECT AND INDIRECT HEALTHCARE COSTS SAVINGS
1. Address tax havens	\$68 Billion (PBO, 2019)	<p><u>PLUS</u></p> <p>Public Health Ontario estimated savings of \$21.5 billion annually, preventing primary risk factors for chronic disease.</p> <p>(PHO, 2019, p. 4)</p>
2. Close tax loopholes	\$1 Billion (Anderson, 2022)	
3. Increase Corporate Taxes for Large Corporations	\$38 Billion (Alternative Federal Budget, 2024)	
4. Tackle Web Giants	\$3 Billion (Alternative Federal Budget, 2024 & Gauvin & MacEwen, 2021)	
Total	\$110 Billion	



Basic Income Guarantee Is Based On Evidence

IMPROVES SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH



BENEFITS OF A BIG



Research has found improvements in:

- Financial well-being
- Local economy
- Housing and food security
- Training and employment opportunities
- Social connections
- Physical health and overall well-being
- Mental health and outlook on life
- Public health service access, usage, and reduced ER visits

Important: People do not stop working!

“

The most important question we can usefully answer in rich countries is not how to make them grow richer, but how to improve the quality of life of the average citizen. It may be one of the greatest challenges of our time...

We have the resources.”

Bannerjee & Duflo, 2019

2019 Nobel-Prize Winning Economists





A BASIC INCOME BENEFITS ALL OF US



Provides income protection



Is affordable



Is a solution based on evidence

Basic Income is an economic solution for Canada

CONTACT US



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