

# Proposal for a Basic Income Pilot Project for Notre Dame de Grace (NDG)

### Introduction

The aim of our initiative is to outline and to subsequently effect a plan aimed at not only eliminating poverty from the social landscape of NDG, but, also to create an environment where residents can thrive rather than merely survive. While at the outset our goal is to transform NDG, our larger objective is to create a duplicable model which may be effected across every community in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and the world.

## NDG Demographics

According to the latest Census data (Statistics Canada 2016), there are 67,475 residents in NDG.

15,690 are low income individuals (23.7%)

1,140 Children under 6 from low income families (26.2%)

2,080 Low income Seniors (21.6%)

This means that ≈28% of NDG's populace are living below the poverty line.

### **Poverty Line**

According to the Institute for Research and Socio-Economic Information (IRIS), a single person's needs to avoid poverty in Montreal in 2020 is \$27,948 and a household of two adults and two children would need \$61,009.

Source: IRIS. See link

According to Hydro Quebec statistics, the LICO (Low Income Cut-Off) in 2020-2021 for one person is \$26,426 and

for two people is \$32,899 Source: <u>Hydro Quebec</u>

### The Plan

Our aim is to petition both the Government of Quebec and the Government of Canada to partner on a **Basic Income Pilot Project** aimed at ensuring every resident of NDG 18 years and older receives a total annual income of \$26,000 (\$2,000 every 4 weeks), with no requirement to pay any of this back in any way and at any time.

The fulfillment of this should be quite simple in that through income tax records and social program payments (welfare, disability...) the governments should have everything necessary to ensure proper compensation of every NDG resident.

### Effecting the Plan

In order to ensure that every person in NDG is taken care of and not only has sufficient income, but, also the means to have a much better life, we will use the social network which is already existing in our area, consisting of social workers along with the other social institutions in the neighbourhood.

### Term of the Pilot Project

Our idea is to institute and operate this project for a term of two (2) years with regular assessments/evaluation every 6 months. These evaluations will be performed to gauge the physical, emotional, psychologic and financial health of every person in the program and will be used to determine whether the governments should terminate and/or continue and elaborate the program by adding more communities - across Montreal, Quebec and/or Canada.

### Regenerating Funds

We believe that by instituting changes to taxation levels, all the monies outlaid in the Basic Income Pilot Project may be recovered. We are not recommending that any changes be made in year one, but, that once the program has demonstrated its merit and value in expanding the program to other communities across Montreal, Quebec & Canada.