

2025 Wilson Moot Problem

Carrington v. Ontario (Ministry of Northern Development)

Ethan Carrington (pronouns: he/him) is a 26-year-old resident of Draycott, a rural town in Northhaven District, a census district in northern Ontario.

Following the COVID-19 pandemic and facing pronounced poverty, unemployment, and decline in Northhaven District and the surrounding districts and regions, the Government of Ontario enacted the *Growing Northern Ontario Act* (the “*Act*”). The *Act* empowers the province to make investment and policies for improvements in economic growth, infrastructure, healthcare, internet access, tourism, and social benefits for designated districts in northern Ontario.¹ The Province decided to implement the *Act* incrementally, starting first with Northhaven District.

In January 2021, the Province announced its policies for Northhaven District, which included significant infrastructure investments and a social welfare scheme for basic income benefits (the “BIB”, as defined below) starting in March 2021. Under the BIB scheme, all residents of Northhaven District with an annual income of less than \$33,000, including Ethan, would receive unconditional direct monthly payments.

In October 2022, a new provincial government was elected and decided to amend the basic income scheme regulations, substantially reducing the amount of the monthly payments, reducing the income threshold to qualify for the program, and requiring that recipients under the age of 30 participate in certain entrepreneurial and work-training activities to be entitled to payments (the “New BIB Regulations”).

In November 2022, Ethan brought an application for judicial review to the Ontario Divisional Court, seeking:

- (a) a declaration that the New BIB Regulations infringe his rights to life, liberty and security of the person under section 7 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* (the “*Charter*”);

¹ Excerpts of the *Act* and *BIB Regulations* discussed herein are contained as **Schedule “A”**.

- (b) a declaration that the New BIB Regulations infringe his equality rights under section 15 of the *Charter*;
- (c) a declaration that the infringements of sections 7 and 15 of the *Charter* do not represent reasonable limitations on these rights; and
- (d) a declaration that the New BIB Regulations are of no force and effect.²

The application was heard by a panel of three judges of the Divisional Court. The Court accepted the following facts:

1. Ethan was born in January 1998 and grew up in a nearby township in Northhaven District, where Ethan's parents continue to reside. He is a cisgender white man.
2. As of the most recent census, Northhaven District had a population of around 41,000 residents geographically spread out across a few small towns, a dozen townships, and a First Nations reserve. Draycott has a population of approximately 4,600 residents.
3. Ethan did not graduate high school, dropping out in Grade 11. Ethan continued to live at home for a few years before his parents eventually demanded that he leave. Since then, Ethan has lived with various friends and partners on a temporary basis, sharing the rent among a number of people. At times Ethan has stayed at the homeless shelter in Draycott. Ethan has been on the waitlist for subsidized housing for a few years now.
4. Ethan has worked a series of low-paying jobs, including as a bartender, a maintenance worker at a bed and breakfast in Draycott, and as a labourer on a nearby farm. Ethan has occasionally received financial support from his family. Ethan has nonetheless found it difficult to maintain a steady income and is struggling to make ends meet.
5. Ethan lives on persistent low income, below Canada's Official Poverty Line, as measured by reference to the market basket measure, which is roughly \$22,000 for individuals living in rural Ontario and small Ontario towns like Draycott. For the past three years, Ethan has earned just under \$21,000 per year. Ethan faces regular food insecurity and unmet health

² For the purposes of the Wilson Moot, mooters are to assume that the Minister was acting within the bounds of his delegated jurisdiction and the application for judicial review was properly made to the Divisional Court of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice.

needs. Ethan regularly relies on the local food bank and donation stores for food and clothing.

6. Over the past decade, Northhaven District has experienced significant poverty. Northhaven's income and social challenges have been both caused by, and perpetuate, the economic decline felt in the District. While the District once had a strong economy based on forestry, mining of precious metals, and manufacturing, these industries have suffered consistent decline over recent decades.
7. There is hope in the District that further investment and exploration may kickstart the mining and minerals sector and provide opportunities for environmentally sustainable mineral development. Residents of Northhaven also hope to grow the District's tourism industry to take advantage of the region's natural beauty, wildlife, and provincial parks. These tourism opportunities additionally highlight Northhaven and Draycott's cultural history and worldwide reputation as a mining town in the early 1900s. The District additionally has plans to build a new medical centre serving the surrounding townships to improve access to healthcare and jobs.
8. Many of Northhaven's social and economic challenges were exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, the Government of Ontario enacted the *Growing Northern Ontario Act*. The *Act* allows the Minister of Northern Development (the "Minister") to designate certain districts and regions, by way of regulations, for economic investment and growth. The *Act* permits the Minister to set a plan containing policies, goals, and investment relating to land use, industry, commerce, resources, infrastructure development, transportation, housing, education, and social benefits.
9. The *Act* further mandates the Minister to set, by way of regulations, a "program or scheme to provide income support and benefits for prescribed persons who are residents" of the designated districts and regions.
10. In January 2021, the Minister announced he had designated Northhaven District to receive investment and intervention pursuant to the *Act*. The Minister further announced that in light of the success of direct payments made to residents of Northhaven and Ontario as part of the federal government's COVID-19 social benefits scheme, it would be implementing a basic income scheme pursuant to its statutory mandate under the *Act*, to be called the Basic Income Benefit ("BIB").

11. Under the Basic Income Benefit Regulations (the “BIB Regulations”), any resident of Northhaven District between ages 18 and 64 whose personal annual income was less than \$33,000 per year would automatically receive \$18,000 per year in monthly basic income payments. Couples with household income less than \$50,000 per year would receive \$25,000 per year. If the resident earned employment income during the year, their basic income payments would be reduced by fifty cents for each dollar earned.
12. The BIB payments were unconditional in that residents were not obligated to spend their payments on specified categories of goods and services. Residents were not obligated to demonstrate that they were looking for work to receive the BIB.
13. Ethan applied for the BIB as soon as it was announced. Ethan began receiving BIB payments in March 2021.
14. In October 2022, a new provincial government took office, after campaigning on a platform of reduced economic spending. The new government told voters that rising inflation over 2021 and 2022 had been caused by overactive government spending and that their new government would be cutting back on expenditures across the province.
15. In the days after taking office, the new government announced it would be amending the regulations to the *Act* to modify the basic income scheme for Northhaven District. These changes were promulgated through the New BIB Regulations.
16. Pursuant to the New BIB Regulations, starting November 2022, basic income payments would be cut by 50%. Additionally, the threshold for individuals to qualify for the basic income was cut from \$33,000 to \$25,000. The Province also put new conditions on the basic income payments for residents under the age of 30. To continue receiving the basic income, younger residents of Northhaven District were required to participate in a variety of entrepreneurial, remedial education, or work training programs. Residents could enrol in remedial education courses or training at the local technical college, or on-the-job training in qualified professions and industries, including skilled trades. These programs would provide skills training and career development, including in knowledge economy industries like business and finance, technology, and computer science. The New BIB Regulations provided that any resident who was younger than 30-years-old and not enrolled in a qualified program by December 31, 2022, was ineligible to receive the BIB.

17. Ethan did not enroll in a qualified program and was notified by way of a letter from the Ministry dated January 2, 2023, that he was no longer eligible for the BIB and would not receive further payments.

18. In his affidavit in support of his application, Ethan stated in part:

The BIB changed my life. For the first time ever, I consistently had money to buy groceries and proper winter clothes. The payments were not very much, but I didn't have to worry about whether I would have enough money to buy enough food to make it through the week.

With the BIB money, I was able to pay for some fixes to keep my car running and fill it with gas. Instead of having to rely on my friends for rides, I was able to drive to pick up some shifts at a small manufacturing plant just outside of Draycott. I do not particularly enjoy that job, but that work supplemented my income even further. I even started to look for a small apartment so that I would finally have my own place to live. I had finally saved up enough to make a deposit of first and last month's rent and had just moved into the new apartment in October 2022 when the changes were announced.

Once my BIB payments stopped, I felt like my life was over. I considered enrolling in courses at the local technical college, but many of the available programs would have involved classes in the late evening. There are certain jobs at the manufacturing plant which would have qualified under the program for continued basic income payments, but they would have all involved more manual labour, which I don't feel physically able to perform. Without the BIB, I may have to sell my car and some of my things to try and make a little extra money, which will leave me with no way to get to my job. I will not be able to pay for my new apartment. I have broken my lease and moved out. I'm currently back living on a friend's couch. I definitely do not have enough money to pay for groceries, so I'm back to having to rely on the food bank to supplement my diet. I feel anxious all the time about how I am going to make ends meet.

19. On cross-examination, Ethan admitted that when he received basic income payments, he spent those payments on a variety of goods and services, including occasionally on dinner or trips to a casino with his friends and alcohol.

20. Adele Laurent, a social worker in Draycott, also swore an affidavit in support of Ethan's application. She stated in part:

The change in Draycott and the rest of Northhaven District during the basic income program was incredible. Almost overnight there

were fewer residents living in the homeless shelter and fewer visitors to the local food bank. We were able to completely restock the food bank and start donating meals to the local elementary school.

I saw firsthand how the lives of the residents I work with improved. Many of them said they no longer felt depressed or anxious every day. Even the modest basic income payments were enough so that they could feed their families healthy meals, take their children to the local movie theatre, and buy them presents at the holidays. I saw residents spend money on things like new shoes and eyeglasses – these small changes had huge impacts.

The changes to the basic income program have been devastating. Residents feel like their dignity was taken away from them. Our shelter is full again and I'm worried about the increased violence – especially for residents who identify as female, queer, or Indigenous. Frankly, the impact on some people's mental wellbeing has been so severe I'm worried for their lives.

21. Ethan also tendered expert evidence from Dr. Layla Botros of the University of Ottawa Faculty of Social Studies, who studied the impacts of the basic income program in Northhaven. Dr. Botros's evidence was accepted by the Court as follows:
 - A. A disproportionate number of Northhaven residents live on low income below the poverty line when compared to averages across the rest of the province and country. Median household income in Northhaven District ranks in the bottom 10% of all census divisions in the province. Roughly 9% of residents of Northhaven District live on social assistance, almost double the provincial average. In towns and cities across northern Ontario, and in Northhaven, communities deal with higher rates of homelessness, opioid addiction, and food insecurity. Literacy rates for children and adults are lower in Northhaven than the rest of the province. Labour force participation in Northhaven is around 54% and has persisted below the provincial average of roughly 64% for multiple years.
 - B. There are many factors that have contributed to the persistent poverty in the District, including economic decline in the region. There aren't enough well-paying jobs in the region to support the residents. For residents of Northhaven living in poverty, the prospect of overcoming the economic condition of poverty can appear functionally and structurally impossible.

- C. Basic income payments can provide greater stability for those living at or below the poverty line. Data showed that most BIB recipients in Northhaven spent their BIB on essentials like food and shelter. Residents also spent BIB on things like phone and internet plans. Providing basic income can also allow individuals to bear the cost of unforeseen expenses, including recovery from medical events.
- D. Before the changes to the basic income program, Northhaven saw positive impacts on the community's physical and mental health. Hospital admissions decreased by 22%. Police arrests in Draycott fell by almost 35%. It has taken some time to observe unemployment effects, but the data suggests that unemployment rates fell as well. Surveys reported dramatic increases in the mental health and physical activity. A strong majority of residents reported they had reduced their substance consumption and abuse.
- E. The basic income scheme especially helped those with disabilities. The residents who received the basic income payments were disproportionately comprised of individuals with physical and mental disabilities. These individuals received both the basic income payments and additional monthly payments to reflect their disability.
- F. The changes introduced by the New BIB Regulations have been damaging to the community. Rates of hospital visits, police arrests, community violence, and substance abuse are all higher than before the basic income program was implemented. Because of the reduction in the quantity of monthly payments and the threshold to qualify, many residents have lost access or withdrawn from the program and have returned to existing social welfare schemes. Roughly half of the residents under the age of 30 have dropped from the BIB program entirely.
- G. Young people under the age of 30 experience the highest rates of unemployment across Ontario. Youth unemployment is currently at its highest rate across Canada in the last ten years, excluding 2020 (i.e. the initial stage of the COVID-19 pandemic). Youth and young adults are more likely to work in precarious and low-wage jobs, and are accordingly most likely to lose their jobs when larger economic trends like inflation lead to a slower economy. With populations of young people increasing, competition for employment has increased as well. The poverty rate

for Canadians aged 18 to 24 was the highest of any age group as of the most recent census, with 14% of all Canadians in that category living in poverty. Young adult residents of Northhaven District have even higher rates of poverty and have disproportionately suffered the consequences of the economic decline and lack of well-paying jobs in the region.

- H. While the prior basic income scheme was designed to help low-income residents whose income still exceeded the Official Poverty Line, the amended scheme would assist only individuals already living at or below the Official Poverty Line. As the average Canadian living in poverty lives significantly below that Official Poverty Line, the New BIB may be insufficient to help all recipients live at or above the poverty threshold.
 - I. The low-income immobility rate, meaning the probability an individual in low-income in one year will remain in low-income in the following year, has stayed at roughly 75% in Ontario over the past two decades. A smaller percentage of individuals are persistently low-income, meaning the individual is in low-income for more than half of the years over a 5- or 10-year period.
 - J. The impacts of being in poverty for multiple years differ from the impacts of temporary poverty. Living in poverty for multiple years of a defined period, or multiple years in a row, can permanently change an individual's life, and the lives of their dependents. Temporary poverty may be caused by life events or economic change. Persistent poverty is often caused by structural issues in one's life or environment.
22. On cross-examination, Dr. Botros admitted that because of the unconditional nature of the basic income payments, it was difficult to track exactly how residents spent the new income. Dr. Botros further admitted that other social assistance programs which require a means-test or recipients to undertake employment-related activities can be effective to provide income support and reductions in poverty. Dr. Botros additionally admitted that not all residents surveyed had experienced positive change. For instance, some residents who had previously been looking for work reported they stopped actively pursuing new jobs when the basic income payments started.

23. Rajesh Patel, who was appointed Minister of Northern Development in October 2022 following the election of the new provincial government, provided evidence that:
- A. The goal for the *Act* was to promote balanced and rational economic growth in northern Ontario, build stronger local communities, and invest in effective and environmentally-friendly infrastructure projects. The direct and specific social assistance scheme is just one part of the *Act*. The purpose of the *Act* is to provide a plan for long-term growth, not short-term fixes.
 - B. The prior government selected Northhaven District as the first district to be subject to the *Act* because of the District's acute struggles with poverty. The BIB was just one part of the Province's plans for the District – which included investment to build a new medical centre, facilities to promote tourism to the District's extensive lakes and provincial parks, and renovation of critical bridges and highway infrastructure.
 - C. The prior government's BIB scheme was substantially more expensive than originally projected and when compared to other social assistance programs. As a result of economic inflation experienced by the province in 2022 and 2023, the Province had to cut services to other programs and funding, both in both in northern Ontario and in the province's growing urban regions. The province's stability through the current economic climate is dependent on the government making sensible and prudent economic decisions.
 - D. The prior government's plans to build a new medical centre and renovate critical highway infrastructure in Northhaven District have been delayed because of budgetary pressure. As a result of the changes to the BIB, the Province will be able to rededicate funding to these plans to follow through on the prior government's commitments. These investments will have transformative economic potential and lead to hundreds of jobs. The current provincial government is also considering expanding coverage of the *Act* to other nearby northern districts, although this may require further changes to the social welfare schemes implemented by regulations under the *Act*.
 - E. The Province is able to provide effective social assistance with targeted and specific programs for prescribed individuals and groups such as youth, seniors, those who are unemployed, and those living with disabilities. The current

government had identified some instances of BIB fraud, with residents from other Districts attempting to claim entitlement to BIB payments in Northhaven. Some residents may have misreported their income to qualify for the program.

- F. The current provincial government has identified young people as a key demographic for creating economic growth and change. The government wants to ensure that young people are given support, but are also learning skills and taking steps to become self-sufficient and begin productive careers. By making receipt of BIB conditional on participation in these types of programs, particularly programs providing training in the knowledge economy, the government hopes to encourage this individual and long-term growth and development.
24. On cross-examination, Minister Patel admitted that the BIB had significantly decreased the bureaucratic costs associated with implementing other social assistance programs in the District. Minister Patel accepted that prior to the enactment of the New BIB Regulations, the BIB had resulted in decreased healthcare costs in the District, and notable increases in tourism to the region over the 2021 and 2022 summers (as compared to pre-pandemic levels of tourism).
25. Minister Patel further admitted on cross-examination that the Province was unable to guarantee that there were available spots in the youth remedial education, work training, and qualified industry programs to accommodate all BIB recipients under the age of 30. Although some residents voluntarily chose not to participate in these entrepreneurial programs, the demand for jobs and apprenticeships in certain industries accredited under the new program exceeded the number of opportunities available, while other programs experienced almost no enrollment. Minister Patel testified the Province was looking to develop its own job training and remedial education programs, but that there was no fixed timeline for those new programs in Northhaven District.

The Divisional Court heard Ethan's application in September 2023 and granted it in January 2024. Writing for the panel, Justice Margaret Langford held in part:

The guarantee of "security of the person" under the *Charter* must protect the right to secure and stable shelter, food security, and income to support a life outside of poverty. The rights protected by the *Charter* require a guarantee of these basic and fundamental human necessities. In this context, the rights protected by section 7

require certain basic levels of health and safety. The change to the basic income scheme has infringed this basic level of rights. The fact that the Province provides existing social assistance and investment to other industries in Northhaven does not save the New BIB Regulations. The evidence demonstrates the changes to the basic income scheme have been devastating to the health and wellbeing of residents of Northhaven, including Mr. Carrington, who has experienced firsthand the consequences of poverty.

New BIB Regulations do not fulfill the statutory mandate under the *Act* to implement a social benefit scheme. First, the evidence before me suggests the changes to the basic income scheme have decreased the economic strength of Northhaven and are likely to exacerbate poverty in the region and reverse the gains the District was making in unemployment. Second, I am concerned the New BIB Regulations will cause greater harm, violence, and challenge in communities like Draycott, where basic income payments had resulted in demonstrated community improvement.

I find the New BIB Regulations are not saved by section 1 of the *Charter* and must be declared to be of no force and effect. I appreciate the Province is trying to manage a number of competing interests and priorities, and that the need to ensure long-term economic development in our most vulnerable regions is a pressing and substantial objective. However, the New BIB Regulations are not rationally connected to these goals, are not minimally impairing, and have a disproportionate impact on Mr. Carrington's rights.

Considering these findings, I need not address Mr. Carrington's submissions on section 15 of the *Charter*

The Ministry appealed the decision of the Divisional Court. In September 2024, a majority of the Court of Appeal for Ontario allowed the Ministry's appeal. Writing for himself and Justice Zara Rosales, Justice Marcus Beaumont held, in part:

With respect, I cannot agree with the application judge that the New BIB Regulations violate Mr. Carrington's right to security of the person under section 7 of the *Charter*.

Mr. Carrington is seeking a claim to a positive benefit and corresponding obligation on the government to provide a certain level of income. Section 7 does not provide for positive entitlements – it protects the right against deprivations of life, liberty, and security of the person, except in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice. Mr. Carrington has not established such a deprivation. He is not entitled to a continuation of certain government policies. Residents affected by the New BIB Regulations are still able to rely on existing social assistance programs, even if those programs may provide less support.

The New BIB Regulations also do not violate section 15 of the *Charter*. The Court accepts the government's purpose in modifying the basic income program to require residents under 30 to participate in certain programs was to encourage the personal growth and engagement of young people. Mr. Carrington has failed to prove the new restrictions on access to basic income created or exacerbated a disproportionate impact on young people. We also do not agree with our colleague that the ground of "low income or poverty" should be accepted as an analogous ground under section 15 of the *Charter*.

Further, in any event, we find the program's purpose was to improve or ameliorate the conditions of young people and create long-term self-sufficiency, and accordingly satisfies the requirements of section 15(2) of the *Charter*.

Justice Nadia Basu dissented, largely adopting the reasons of Justice Langford, and adding:

I agree with the court below that the New BIB Regulations are an unconstitutional violation of Mr. Carrington's right to security of the person. I do not agree with the majority's characterization that Mr. Carrington is seeking a positive benefit. Rather, he is asking that the Province's measures taken under its voluntarily-enacted social benefit scheme for northern Ontario be constitutionally compliant.

More importantly, in my view the time has come to reconsider earlier precedents and recognize section 7 places at least a minimum positive obligation on the state to ensure that each person enjoys life, liberty, or security of the person. I accept there has been a change in circumstances and evidence that fundamentally shifts the parameters of the debate. I accept that positive rights have been recognized in constitutions elsewhere around the world and the academic support necessary for a change and adoption to positive rights has been established. The recognition of the positive element of section 7 reflects the positive element shared and protected by a number of *Charter* rights, and provides necessary affirmations of dignity which are the very foundation of the *Charter*.

Similarly, I would find the New BIB Regulations infringe section 15 of the *Charter* by creating a discriminatory distinction on the basis of "low income or poverty". It is also time for courts to recognize this quality and characteristic as an analogous ground. Analogous grounds of discrimination serve as the basis for perpetuating improper distinctions not based on merit, but on personal characteristics that are immutable or changeable only at unacceptable cost. The evidence before me confirms the income status of residents of Northhaven cannot be changed except over an extended period of time, with significant state assistance. The section 15 analysis must, in any event, consider intersections of multiple enumerated or analogous grounds.

For the reasons given by the lower court, I agree that these infringements of sections 7 and 15 of the *Charter* are not saved by section 1.

Ethan has been granted leave to appeal the Court of Appeal's judgment to the High Court of the Dominion of Canada on the following issues:

- A. Do the New BIB Regulations infringe Ethan Carrington's rights to life, liberty and security of the person under section 7 of the *Charter*?
- B. Do the New BIB Regulations infringe Ethan Carrington's equality rights under section 15(1) of the *Charter*?
- C. Are the New BIB Regulations an ameliorative program under section 15(2) of the *Charter*?
- D. If the answer to either of the questions A or B is "yes", is the infringement a reasonable limitation on those rights that is demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society?

Schedule "A"

Growing Northern Ontario Act (excerpts)

1. Purpose

The purposes of this Act are,

- (a) To promote balanced and rational economic growth in northern Ontario that builds stronger local communities and invests in effective and environmentally-friendly infrastructure projects;
- (b) To provide income supports to eligible persons, promote social well-being, and effectively serve residents of northern Ontario who need assistance; and
- (c) To ensure long-term vision and goals direct a holistic approach to growth in northern Ontario

2. Definitions

"development plan area" means an area of land designated by the Lieutenant Governor in Council by regulation under this *Act*.

3. Development Plan

- (1) The Minister shall prepare a proposed development plan for all or part of a designated development plan area.
- (2) A development plan may contain.
 - (a) an assessment and identification of priority growth areas, emerging growth areas and future growth areas, over specified time periods;
 - (b) growth strategies for all or part of the growth plan area;
 - (c) policies, goals, dedicated investment and criteria in relation to,
 - (i) intensification and density,
 - (ii) land supply for residential, employment and other uses,
 - (iii) industry and commerce,
 - (iv) the protection of sensitive and significant lands, including agricultural lands, and water resources,
 - (v) non-renewable resources,
 - (vi) the conservation of energy,
 - (vii) infrastructure development and the location of infrastructure and institutions,
 - (viii) transportation planning,
 - (ix) municipal waste management planning,
 - (x) the co-ordination of planning and development among municipalities,
 - (xi) growth-related capital spending and financing,
 - (xii) affordable housing,
 - (xiii) community design,

- (xiv) specified actions to be taken by municipalities to implement or achieve the policies or goals;
- (d) such other policies, goals or matters that the Minister considers advisable.

3. Social Assistance Plan

- (1) The Minister shall implement, by regulation, a program or scheme to provide income support and benefits for persons who are residents of a designated development plan area.
- (2) Income support shall be provided in accordance with the regulations to all persons who satisfy all conditions of eligibility under this *Act* and the regulations.
- (3) The amount of income support to be provided and the time and manner of providing that support shall be determined in accordance with the regulations.

BIB Regulations (excerpts)

1. Definitions

“low-income household” means a couple with an annual household income of less than \$50,000 per year.

“low-income individual” means an individual with an annual income of less than \$33,000 per year.

2. Eligibility

- (1) For the purposes of subsection 3(2) of the *Act*, no person is eligible for income support unless,
 - (a) The person is a resident in the Northhaven census district;
 - (b) The person has been resident in the Northhaven census district for the prior 12 months or longer;
 - (c) The person is aged 18-64; and
 - (d) The person is living as a low-income individual or as a member of a low-income household.

3. Basic Income Benefits

- (1) Each low-income individual eligible under the *Act* and subsection 2(1) of these regulations shall receive \$18,000 per year.
- (2) Each low-income household, where both members of the household are eligible under the *Act* and subsection 2(1) of these regulations, shall receive \$25,000 per year.

4. Receipt of Income

(1) Basic Income Benefits under section 3 shall be reduced by 50 cents for every dollar of income earned by the low income individual or a member of the low-income household through employment. For greater certainty, income earned pursuant to an existing social benefit program or scheme shall not reduce the Basic Income Benefits under section 3.

New BIB Regulations (excerpts)

1. Definitions

“low-income household” means a couple with an annual household income of less than \$33,000 per year.

“low-income individual” means an individual with an annual income of less than \$25,000 per year.

2. Eligibility

(1) For the purposes of subsection 3(2) of the *Act*, no person is eligible for income support unless,

- (a) The person is a resident in the Northhaven census district;
- (b) The person has been resident in the Northhaven census district for the prior 12 months or longer;
- (c) The person is aged 18-64; and
- (d) The person is living as a low-income individual or as a member of a low-income household.

(2) For persons aged 29 years old and younger, no person is eligible for income support unless,

- (a) The person provides proof of enrollment in specified workfare programs.

3. Basic Income Benefits

(1) Each low-income individual eligible under the *Act* and subsection 2(1) of these regulations shall receive \$9,000 per year.

(2) Each low-income household, where both members of the household are eligible under the *Act* and subsection 2(1) of these regulations, shall receive \$15,000 per year.

4. Receipt of Income

(1) Basic Income Benefits under section 3 shall be reduced by 50 cents for every dollar of income earned by the low-income individual or a member of the low-income household through

employment. For greater certainty, income earned pursuant to an existing social benefit program or scheme shall not reduce the Basic Income Benefits under section 3.