



**From Ontario Council Pre-Budget Submission, Jan. 27, 2019.**

**POVERTY:**

While we recognize the desire of any new government to evaluate any program from a previous government, we were disappointed with the cancellation of the Basic Income Pilot program.

We will continue to wait for continuing announcements concerning Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP).

While moving people to employment is admirable, it does not work if the person doesn't have the skills, doesn't have the financial support that she would have had on OW or ODSP, doesn't have the funds for transportation to get to work, doesn't have affordable child care.

It has been said that poverty is a full-time job. As the government revamps the system, it is necessary to think holistically. Paid employment is invaluable as long as you are gaining more than you're losing. Going to work requires a support system, something that many of us are lucky enough to take for granted. If it becomes necessary to pay more for transportation, child care, food, housing, etc., than one received from OW or ODSP, then this creates frustration and the return to the system.