

**BASIC INCOME NEW ZEALAND
CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT
12 JUNE 2026**

Tena koutou katoa. Thank you all for joining this 2026 Annual General Meeting of Te Utu Tika Hei Oranga I Aotearoa - Basic Income NZ (BINZ)

Opening Remarks

Basic Income NZ is in its 11th year, and it is my privilege to present the Chairperson's report for this past year. This group represents a movement that continues to advocate for the implementation of Basic Income in government policy. The team continues to actively engage in conversations on welfare reform and economic resilience. We have provided commentary to media outlets and have participated in discussions such as with Radio NZ. We have also provided opinions to *Spinoff* and to *Newsroom*. We have responded to government on income and tax reforms.

Public awareness of income insecurity and the cost of living is on the rise as the ever-increasing news and commentaries on television, radio and websites suggest. This tells me that the engagement of Basic Income is a very real option to address these issues.

Our mission is to advance public understanding, political will and practical pathways towards advancing a Basic Income for Aotearoa.

To this end, one of our key actions has been to update our website. We are confident that it clearly and succinctly explains the basis for why Basic Income is a valid response that addresses the social and financial inequalities that exist here in Aotearoa and is presented in a way that its appeal is current. The essence of the messaging is being upfront and front-footing.

That said, we are delighted to have Qiulae Wong of the Opportunity Party join us today, especially given the Party specifically includes Basic Income as a key driver in their suite of policy offerings. Tenei te mihi nui kia koe e te mareikura. We look forward to listening to your korero.

Challenges

Political Resistance - some parties are reluctant to contemplate the viability of Basic Income.

Public Misconception - the view that Basic Income is unaffordable and there is a sense that the incentive to work would reduce.

Despite these challenges, BINZ remains steadfast in the notion that money in circulation combined with an appropriate tax regime is a fiscally appropriate means to improve the overall wellbeing of our population.

Financial Review

The Financial Report is to be presented. We continue to operate with fiscal prudence and transparency.

Governance

There are no issues in terms of governance. Members continue to give their time and expertise to advance our kaupapa.

Looking Ahead

Our resources are limited but our group continues to work through progressing Basic Income. Our activities centre on:

- providing appropriate public education to gain buy in
- strengthening public engagement
- strengthening political engagement
- aligning with organisations committed to economic justice
- growing our membership to build a stronger national movement
- promoting Basic Income as a viable policy option for the country

Closing Remarks

I am proud of our small team of dedicated people who want to make a difference, based on the idea that all adults have the financial capability to live a good life. They include Iain and Gaylene Middleton and Karl Matthys, original members from 2015; Martin Hohmann-Marriot, our South Island-based great guy and Otago University contact; and Gavin Maclean from Gisborne. Finally, I acknowledge the 'behind the scenes' technical expertise of Qaisar Fatimi. He has been a terrific support this past year.

Nga mihi kia ratou.

Nāku noa,

Bella Moke

Basic Income Chair

12 June 2026