Twitter Thread by Dr Lindsay 'Difficult Woman' Tedds[redacted]



Dr Lindsay 'Difficult Woman' Tedds[redacted]
@LindsayTedds



As part of the BC Basic Income project, my team and I were tasked with trying to understand the system of income and social supports available to BC residents. We developed these visualizations which have proven very popular

Pair these with our paper that goes through a detailed description of the system of income and social supports in BC here https://t.co/LosL7sQNc8

TLDNR? There are 194 programs offered by the various governments that are available to support BCers in various stages of life and crises. The federal government offers more supports in terms of money, the province more in terms of basic services.

While complexity has disadvantages, a big advantage is that the multiple points of entry actually means that there are multiple ways a person can be assessed for assistance for all these programs better capturing those that fall through cracks in other programs.

Given that the fed tends to offer cash programs and BC tends to offer basic services and we were asked if BC should offer a basic income, naturally this begs the tradeoff question then should BC replace its services with income supports. Our answer was unequivocally no.

But it seems that this nuance of who offers what, income vs services, in our federalist system and why has been lost. Also lost is fiscal capacity. But that is OK because we got you covered there as well. @trevortombe dove into BC's fiscal sustainability https://t.co/YFeWWBovRm

Which cycles me back to last week when someone asked me how I could be on a @RoyalEconSoc panel that advocated for a comprehensive federal income support system and be on a BC panel that advocated for a targetted and mixed system. Well above is a summative reason.

But let's be clear, no government is able to deliver its supports to the most vulnerable at all. Which is another reason by the panel actually lists a number of recommendations for both the BC and the federal government to shore up gaps in benefit delivery.

We will, in fact, not address poverty, not address material deprivation, unless we address systemic failures in benefit delivery, which, yes, are tied to bias, discrimination, racism, reconcilation, etc. reconciliation.

Which is why the panel commissioned papers on GBA+ and poverty in BC https://t.co/0yZpfoLJe7 GBA+ and Basic income https://t.co/lC87u9JEMY

And a third paper on GBA + and the current system which will be posted shortly as it is just going through final review via the DIP program.