

BREAKING IT DOWN

When covid happened, everyone receiving a social assistance benefit started getting the entire benefit. Leah isn't sure what the full rate is for a four-person benefit, but for her and her daughter, it's around \$1300/month. Leah's not entitled to the full \$1300/month, though, and she doesn't know how to get the full amount either. But because no ODSP staff were working during Covid, everyone on any disability benefit got the full amount, even though they weren't eligible for the full amount.

When everyone went back to work again, disabled people started getting their regular rates, but each month, a little bit was being deducted to pay back the "overcharge". This isn't the problem. There's nothing wrong with this, other than we have no way to pay it back because no one will hire us.

Barrie Housing charges rent based on the amounts we received, so for Leah, her rent was increased to reflect 30% of \$1300/month, instead of the usual 30% of \$850/month.

Furthermore, in 2020, Leah was also receiving both the CPP Disability benefit, as well as the ODSP benefit. Although people with disabilities can be on both benefit programs at the same time, they can only receive monthly cash payments from one benefit. No one is entitled to cash payments from both benefits at the same time. The reason someone would want to be on both benefit programs, though, is because ODSP covers medical and dental and CPP Disability benefits doesn't.

ODSP also pays Leah's rent directly, so throughout 2020, ODSP just kept paying the BMNPHC directly and now she and thousands of other tenants on social assistance owe thousands to ODSP for rent that is being "paid off" to ODSP.





THE BARRIE MUNICIPAL NON-PROFIT HOUSING CORPORATION O/A BARRIE HOUSING
 339 HURONIA RD.
 BARRIE, ON L4N 8Z1

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA
 www.scotiabank.com/businessservices 1-888-855-1234
 www.banquescotia.com/servicesauxentreprises



PAY
 TO THE
 ORDER OF

**** TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TWENTY EIGHT AND 53/100 DOLLARS

05/09/22

\$2,628.53***

Leah Dyck
 380 Duckworth Street #507
 Barrie, ON L4M 6J8

THE BARRIE MUNICIPAL NON-PROFIT HOUSING CORPORATION O/A BARRIE HOUSING

PER Breda Cunliffe
 PER [Signature]

DATE:05/09/22 CK#: [REDACTED] TOTAL:\$2,628.53*** BANK:Barrie Scotiabank Account 1(barrie1)
 PAYEE:Leah Dyck [REDACTED]

THE BARRIE MUNICIPAL NON-PROFIT HOUSING CORPORATION O/A BARRIE HOUSING

CHEQUE NO. [REDACTED]

Property Address - Code	Invoice - Date	Description	Amount
Summitview - bm_1014	TENANT REFUND 1014-507	SUMMITVIEW # 507 TENANT REFUND	2,628.53
			<u>2,628.53</u>

SECURITY FEATURES INCLUDED - SEE REVERSE / CONTIENT DES CARACTÉRISTIQUES DE SÉCURITÉ - VOIR À L'ENVERS

LEAH'S ASSISTANCE PAYMENT'S IN 2020

Jan 29	Direct Deposit, CANADA CPP/RPC		CPP Disability	925.74
Mar 31	Direct Deposit, ODSP MSP/DIV	ODSP		566.54
Apr 06	Direct Deposit, CANADA CPP/RPC		CPP Disability	1,851.48
Apr 22	Direct Deposit, CANADA FED/FED		CERB	2,000.00
Apr 28	Direct Deposit, CANADA CPP/RPC		CPP Disability	925.74
Apr 30	Direct Deposit, ODSP MSP/DIV	ODSP		1,056.60
May 27	Direct Deposit, CANADA CPP/RPC		CPP Disability	925.74
May 29	Direct Deposit, ODSP MSP/DIV	ODSP		1,056.60
Jun 26	Direct Deposit, CANADA CPP/RPC		CPP Disability	925.74
Jun 30	Direct Deposit, ODSP MSP/DIV	ODSP		1,056.60
Jul 27	Direct Deposit, CANADA FED/FED		CERB	2,000.00
Jul 29	Direct Deposit, CANADA CPP/RPC		CPP Disability	925.74
Jul 31	Direct Deposit, ODSP MSP/DIV	ODSP		1,056.60
Aug 05	Direct Deposit, CANADA FED/FED		CERB	2,000.00
Aug 11	Direct Deposit, CANADA FED/FED		CERB	2,000.00
Aug 21	Direct Deposit, ONT-ODSP DAILY PAY/PAY	ODSP		65.77
Aug 27	Direct Deposit, CANADA CPP/RPC		CPP Disability	925.74
Aug 31	Direct Deposit, ONT-ODSP DAILY PAY/PAY	ODSP		1,122.37
Sep 09	Direct Deposit, CANADA FED/FED		CERB	2,000.00
Oct 08	Direct Deposit, ONT-ODSP DAILY PAY/PAY	ODSP		162.72
Oct 13	Direct Deposit, CANADA EI /AE		E.I (transition from CERB)	1,000.00
Oct 16	Direct Deposit, ONT-ODSP DAILY PAY/PAY	ODSP		290.45
Oct 29	Direct Deposit, CANADA EI /AE		E.I (transition from CERB)	1,449.00
Oct 30	Direct Deposit, CANADA FED/FED		CERB	600.00
Nov 05	Direct Deposit, ONT-ODSP DAILY PAY/PAY	ODSP		96.95
Nov 24	Direct Deposit, CANADA EI /AE		E.I (transition from CERB)	1,932.00
Nov 30	Direct Deposit, ODSP MSP/DIV	ODSP		96.95
Dec 08	Direct Deposit, CANADA EI /AE		E.I (transition from CERB)	966.00
Dec 21	Direct Deposit, CANADA EI /AE		E.I (transition from CERB)	966.00

RENT-GEARED-TO-INCOME (RGI) CALCULATIONS

Leah's rent is calculated based on her income. Social assistance benefits are categorized as 'income deposits'. In 2020, between ODSP, CPP Disability, CERB and E.I., Leah received a total of \$30,947.07, the vast majority of which she has to pay back. She also can't get her ODSP financial breakdown to see how much was paid directly to her housing provider because the local office doesn't keep records that old, and apparently there's "nothing" the Simcoe County ODSP office can do to figure this out.

Leah's housing provider refuses to provide financial breakdowns to tenants who receive government assistance, and this is how they're able to "overcharge" tenants without them knowing it. Tenants are simply not given financial breakdowns and if they ask for one, they're simply ignored.

Another thing no one has noticed yet, either, is that Leah's CPP Disability payments stopped in mid-2020. But if you look at the 'Release Package' pdf attachment provided by Employment and Social Development Canada in their FOI request response, they told Leah that the number of CPP Disability beneficiaries hasn't changed since 2021. Why did the CPP Disability benefit take off a bunch of disabled people after Covid only?

CPP DISABILITY

Leah was removed from CPP Disability in September 2020, which can be seen on the following page. But this Freedom of Information (FOI) response from Employment & Social Development Canada says that the number of CPP Disability beneficiaries hasn't changed since December 2020, which means a ton of beneficiaries were removed right before December, or this information is incorrect.



ATIP Request 2024-00038

There's also a good chance that these numbers are not correct. Did they really complete all their changes between September and December 2020?

Request:

The number of people in the electoral riding of Barrie and Innisfil, Ontario, who received a combined total of \$2,000 or less for all OAS benefits they receive (OAS+GIS), as well as CPP Retirement and CPP Disability in December 2020, December 2021, December 2022, and December 2023.”:

- Number of OAS program recipients whose OAS pension plus GIS was \$2,000 or less
- Number of CPP Retirement beneficiaries (including Post-Retirement benefit) whose amount was \$2,000 or less
- Number of CPP Disability recipients whose disability benefit was \$2,000 or less
- Total number of clients (unique clients) that receive either OAS+GIS, CPP Disability, or CPP Retirement (including Post-Retirement benefit) that was \$2,000 or less

Response:

Month	Number of OAS program beneficiaries whose OAS pension plus GIS was \$2,000 or less	Number of CPP Retirement beneficiaries (including Post-Retirement benefit) whose benefit was \$2,000 or less	Number of CPP Disability beneficiaries whose benefit was \$2,000 or less	Total number of clients that received \$2,000 or less in either OAS+GIS, CPP Disability, or CPP Retirement (including Post-Retirement benefit)
December 2020	16,100	18,300	1,500	20,500
December 2021	16,700	18,800	1,500	20,900
December 2022	17,700	20,000	1,500	22,200
December 2023	18,400	20,700	1,500	22,900

Notes:

1. In December 2020, December 2021, December 2022, and December 2023, the maximum for each benefit was below \$2,000, thus this table includes all OAS and GIS, CPP Disability and CPP Retirement beneficiaries for those months.
2. Numbers are rounded to the nearest hundred.
3. Many beneficiaries aged 65 or older receive both CPP Retirement and OAS benefits.

Data source: Custom tabulation of OAS and CPP Administrative Databases combined with Postal Code by Federal Riding File (PCFRF).

LD

Leah Dyck

April 4, 2024 at 3:59 PM

Re: Reply: Yes, Page: /page/social-assistance-and-caseload-statistics (533587)

To: Pathmanathan, Mithila (She/Her) (MCCSS)

Hey Mithila,

Thank you for getting back to me about this.

I sent an FOI to Ontario Works and the numbers they gave me are lower than your numbers:

A17-027-24
Notice...fer.pdf

Why would they tell me that Ontario Works cases were 2055 when they were actually 2800. Are they allowed to lie like that?

Would I be able to get the real numbers for Ontario Works cases for Barrie and Innisfil for December 2022 and December 2021 as well please?

Thank you,

Leah

MP

Pathmanathan, Mithila (She/Her) (MCCSS)

April 18, 2024 at 10:50 AM

RE: Reply: Yes, Page: /page/social-assistance-and-caseload-statistics (533587)

To: Leah Dyck

Hello Leah,
Thank you for your email.

As requested, please see the table below for Ontario Works and ODSP cases and beneficiaries in Barrie and Innisfil for December 2021 and December 2022.

Upon reviewing the data, we realized that we had previously sent you Ontario Works data filtered for those served by the Ontario Works Barrie office, but this can include individuals who live outside Barrie, so we have revised this to those that live in the City of Barrie. This updated December 2023 data is included in the table below. We have also included Innisfil data for December 2023 for your reference.

Please also note that the Ministry and municipal service managers such as Simcoe may use slightly different definitions of active cases for a given month, which is the likely reason that the numbers you received from Simcoe were different.

Ontario Works Cases and Beneficiaries - Barrie and Innisfil for December 2023, December 2022 and December 2021

	OW Cases	OW Beneficiaries	ODSP Cases	ODSP Beneficiaries
Dec-21				
Barrie	1,686	2,759	4,676	6,184
Innisfil	245	431	665	911
Dec-22				
Barrie	1,892	3,098	4,652	6,111
Innisfil	281	470	652	851
Dec-23				
Barrie	2,274	3,724	4,678	6,136
Innisfil	347	553	659	853

The CCSS either stopped processing applications or they removed a whole bunch of disabled families from their disability program, just like the CPP Disability program did.

Note:

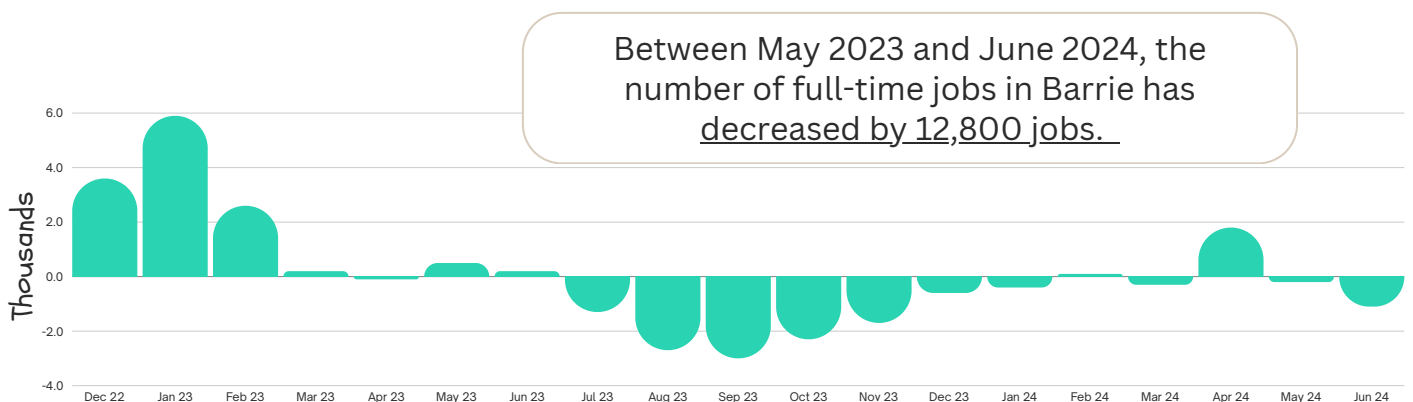
- A case refers to a single individual or a family unit on social assistance (e.g., a family on social assistance is counted as one case).
- The number of beneficiaries refers to the total number of single individuals and heads of family units on social assistance plus all their dependents (i.e., spouses, dependent children and dependent adults).

Thank you,
Mithila

BARRIE & INNISFIL RESIDENTS

DATE	OW (WELFARE)	ODSP (MAIN DISABILITY)	CPP DISABILITY	CPP (<\$2K) & OAS DIFFERENCE
DECEMBER 2020	-	-	1,500	2,200
DECEMBER 2021	1,931	5,341	1,500	2,100
DECEMBER 2022	2,173	5,304	1,500	2,300
DECEMBER 2023	2,621	5,337	1,500	2,300
PERCENTAGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 2020/2021 TO 2023	+35.7%	-0.07%	0%	0%

Leah organized the information that both the CCSS and Employment & Social Development Canada provided her in FOI request responses. Both respondents have prevented thousands of Barrie and Innisfil residents from not only not receiving disability by either removing them from the benefit program or not processing/accepting their application, but they've also done the same thing to the elderly in receipt of the Old Age Security benefit and the Canada Pension Plan.



The Ontario Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, and Employment & Social Development Canada literally starved an entire population group; all low-income disadvantaged and vulnerable people in Simcoe County. And these numbers are just for Barrie and Innisfil. I can only imagine what they are for the rest of Simcoe County.