

**(1) RECOMMENDATIONS THAT ARE IMPLEMENTED****Recommendation 1**

The Committee endorses in principle the institution of an income guarantee program for all persons aged 65 and over and recommends to the Federal Government that this proposal be given immediate study.

**ACTION TAKEN**

This recommendation has been implemented as follows:

1. Beginning in 1966 the qualifying age for universal Old Age Security pension was reduced annually by one year so that by 1970 the plan was universal for all individuals 65 years of age and over.

2. In 1967 a Guaranteed Income Supplement was initiated that pays to the aged, on an income tested basis, a supplement that is reduced by one dollar for every two dollars of other income received (excluding Old Age Security benefits). According to the provisions of that Act the basic amount of the monthly pension was seventy-five dollars; the amount of the supplement was thirty dollars in 1967 and in any year after 1967, forty per cent of the amount of the pension paid, minus one dollar for each full two dollars of the pensioner's monthly base income.<sup>(1)</sup>

(1) Revised Statutes of Canada 1970, Old Age Security Act, Volume V, Chapter O-6, pp. 2-5.

3. In 1972 legislation was passed that assured that benefit levels would be fully adjusted once a year to keep pace with the cost-of-living index.<sup>(2)</sup> During 1971 the basic amount of the monthly pension was eighty dollars. This was adjusted according to the Consumer Price Index so that in 1972 the basic monthly pension was eighty-two dollars and eighty-eight cents. As of April 1971, the amount of the supplement varied as to the category of the pensioner. Pensioners who were single or pensioners who were married to a person who was not receiving a pension received a maximum of fifty-five dollars. Pensioners who were married to a person who was receiving a pension received forty-seven dollars and fifty cents each. These amounts were changed because of the Consumer Price Index, and in 1972 a single person or a married person whose spouse is not a pensioner received a supplement of sixty-seven dollars and twelve cents. Those married pensioners whose spouses were also pensioners received fifty-nine dollars and sixty-two cents.

4. In September 1973 the Government announced that adjustments would be made quarterly to commence in October 1973.<sup>(3)</sup> The adjustments would be made as of October first, January first, April first and July first.

The following table illustrates the amount of basic payments and supplement payments from 1967 to the present.

(2) Statutes of Canada, 1972, An Act to Amend the Old Age Security Act, Chapter 10, pp. 101-104.

(3) Bill C-219, An Act to Amend the Old Age Security Act September 6, 1973, Chapter 35, pp. 3-4.

**TABLE 1**  
**AMOUNT OF SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS AND GUARANTEED INCOME SUPPLEMENT**  
**1967-1974**

Category of Pensioner	Social Security Plans	Jan.	Jan.	Jan.	Jan.	Jan.	April	Jan.	April	Oct.	Jan.	April
		1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1971	1972	1973	1973	1974	1974
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Single Person or Married Person Whose Spouse is not a Pensioner	Old Age Pension.....	75	76.50	78	79.58	80	80	82.88	100	105.30	108.14	110.09
	Maximum Guaranteed Income Supplement...	30	30.60	31.20	31.83	33.61	55	67.12	70.14	73.86	75.85	77.22
<b>TOTAL.....</b>		<b>105</b>	<b>107.10</b>	<b>109.20</b>	<b>111.41</b>	<b>113.61</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>150.00</b>	<b>170.14</b>	<b>179.16</b>	<b>183.99</b>	<b>187.31</b>
Married Person Whose Spouse is a Pensioner	Old Age Pension.....	75	76.50	78	79.58	80	80	82.88	100	105.30	108.14	110.09
	Maximum Guaranteed Income Supplement...	30	30.60	31.20	31.83	33.61	47.50	59.62	62.30	65.60	67.37	68.58
<b>TOTAL.....</b>		<b>105</b>	<b>107.10</b>	<b>109.20</b>	<b>111.41</b>	<b>113.61</b>	<b>127.50</b>	<b>142.50</b>	<b>162.30</b>	<b>170.90</b>	<b>175.51</b>	<b>178.67</b>