

Calgary Dollars

Complementary Currency



**Circulating
new
ideas about
money.**

Monetary Change

A Global Movement



Three Strikes Against the Monetary System

1. Globally-traded as a commodity
2. Interest-bearing creates scarcity
3. Single monetary design

- Globally-traded as a commodity



- Money only “represents” wealth, unlike oil or wheat.

- Currency investors profit from ups and downs, or volatility, in markets, destabilizing entire national economies.

- Bernard Lietaer “a shocking 98 per cent of all foreign trade exchange transactions are speculative”.

- The annual US GDP, 2 trillion dollars can be swallowed by currency speculation in a few hours.

2. Interest-bearing design creates scarcity



-Unlike commodities which degenerate with time or have costs of storage, we've given money the unique characteristic of automatically increasing in value for the holder. I.e., Food rots, gold and silver have the costs of safes, real estate can burn or need maintenance.

-Banks issue money into circulation out of nothing but also claims interest that must be won from others in order to be repaid.



-John D. Rockefeller, for decades the richest man in the world, had 7,000 times the average US annual income. In 2009, the top 25 hedge fund managers alone averaged 12,000 times the average US annual income.

-If you make \$61,000/year USD you're in the top 10% income level in the world.

3. One monetary design fails communities



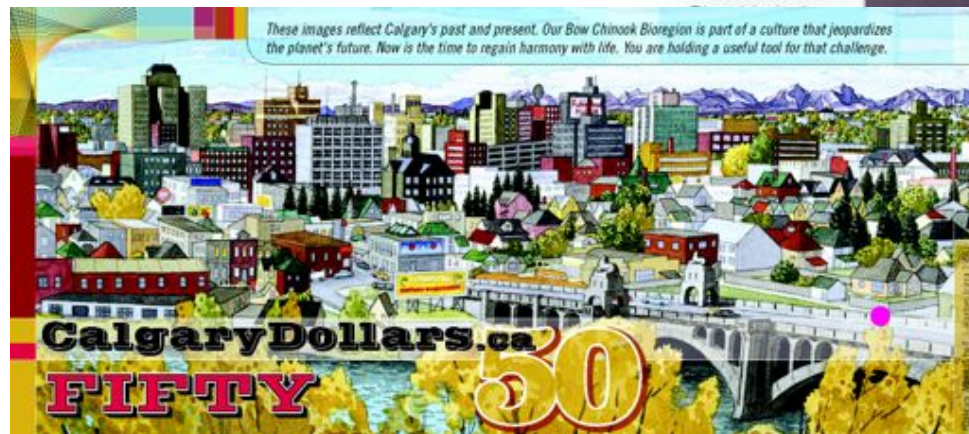
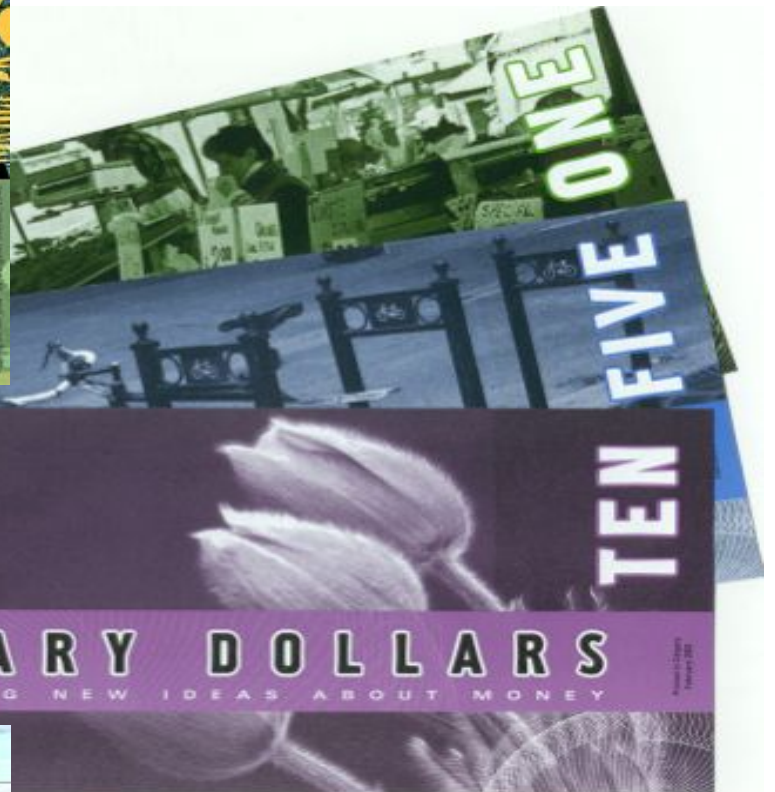
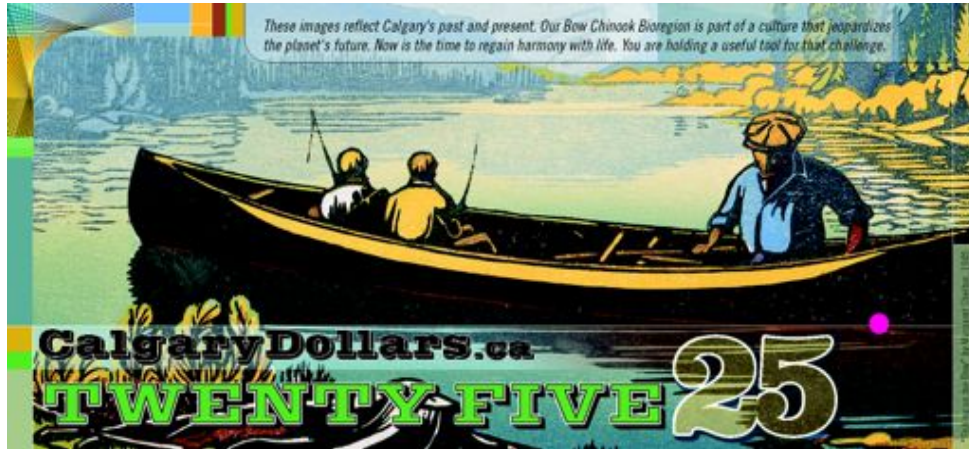
-The Canada dollars is issued nationally. This unifies the country but the economy of Gander Newfoundland is clearly different than Ft. McMurray. Each municipality has to compete for the same financial resources and can't control how money influences their community.

ie, Competition for national money leaves some provinces poor and gentrifying.

Canadian urban planner
Jane Jacobs described
this problem:



“[Cities] need different corrections at given times, and yet all share a currency that gives all of them the same information at a given time. ... Individual city currencies indeed serve as elegant feedback controls because they trigger specifically appropriate corrections to specific responding mechanisms.”





Alberta government's Prosperity Certificate
\$357,680 issued in 1936.



Calgary Dollars

\$80,000 in circulation

500 current registrants

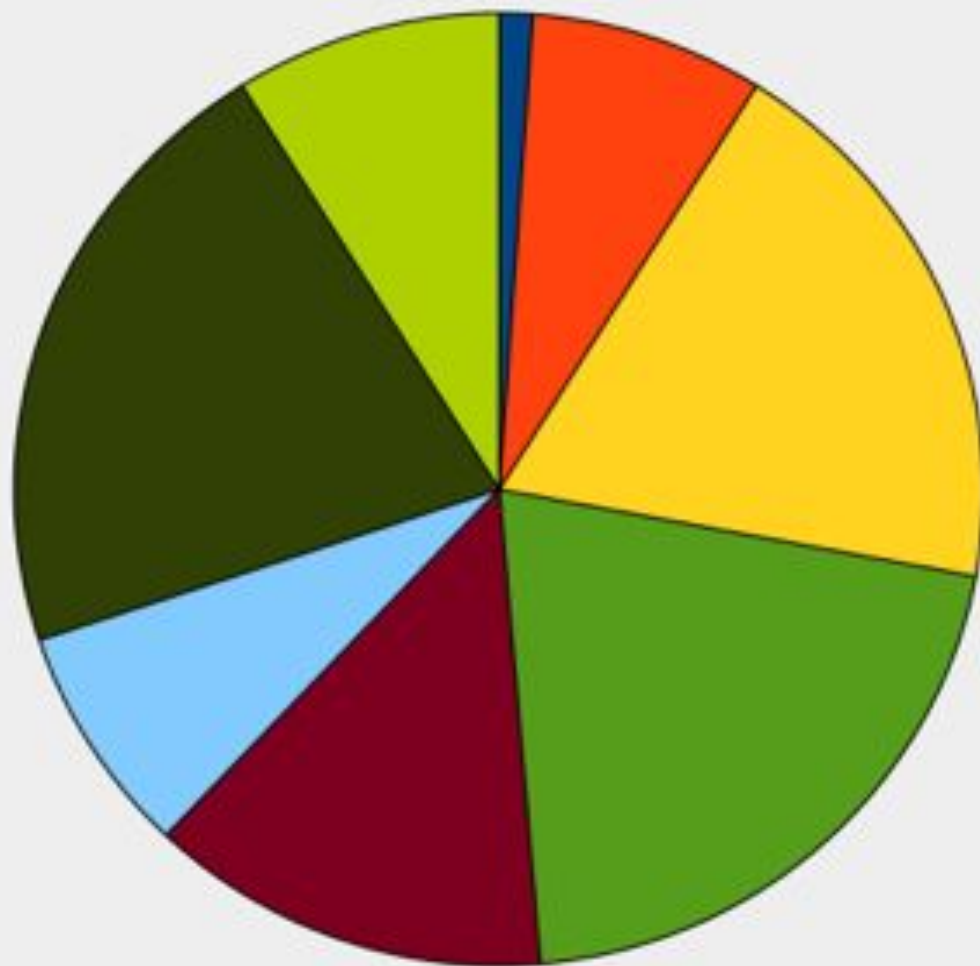
2000 Council Endorsement

Food, Transportation, Media, Retail



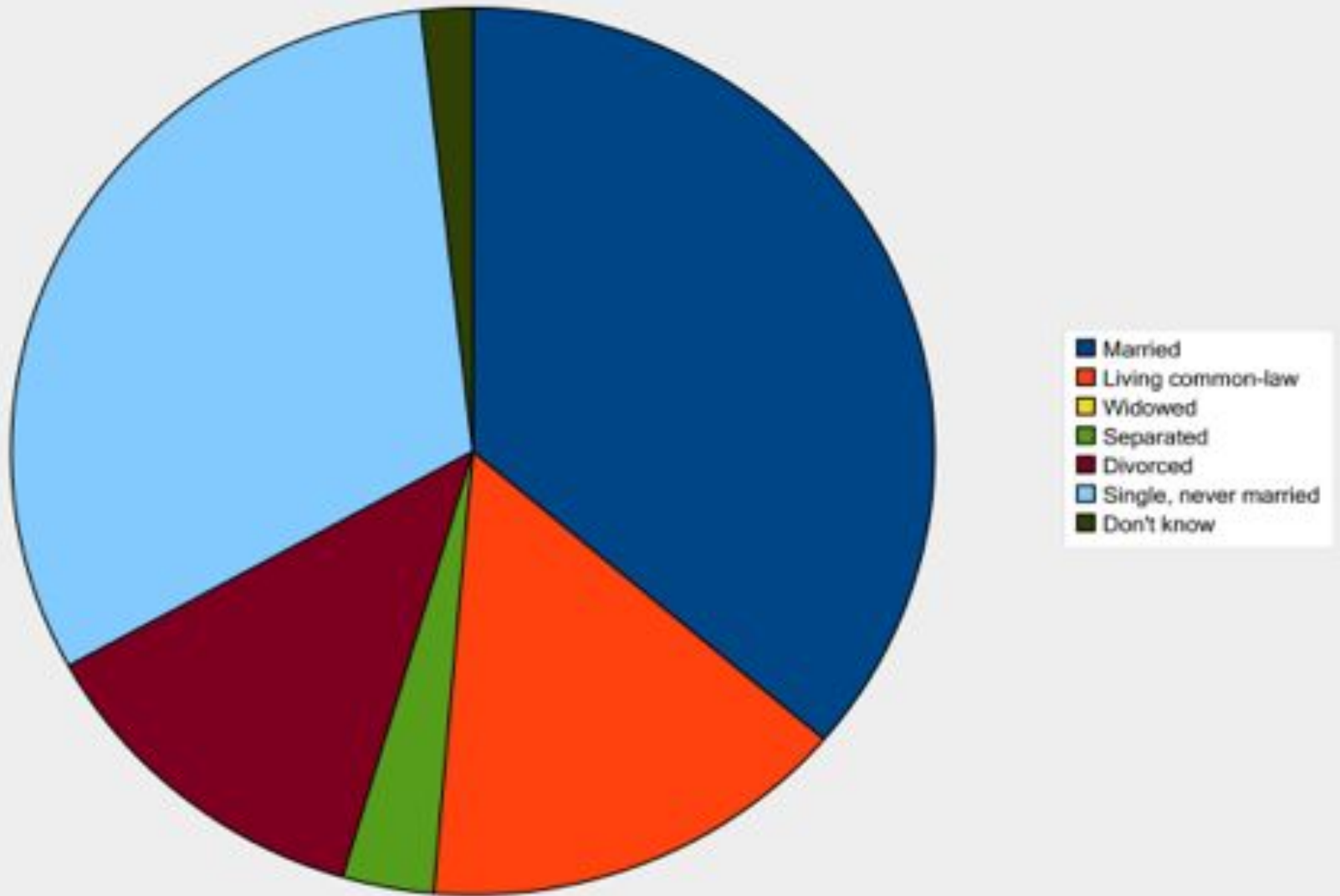
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What is your total MONTHLY household income from all sources right now (BEFORE tax deductions)?



- No income
- Less than \$1,000
- \$1,000 to \$1,999
- \$2,000 to \$2,999
- \$3,000 to \$3,999
- \$4,000 to \$4,999
- \$5,000 or more
- Don't know

What is your marital status?



How do
Complementary
Currencies
impact the lives
of participants?



2010 Analysis

Economic:

-24% earn C\$240/year, 16% over C\$600/yr.

-40% use C\$ to buy food which are often local organic food sources.

-70% earn both Federal income and barter income as a result of C\$ participation, some up to \$24,000/yr.

2010 Analysis

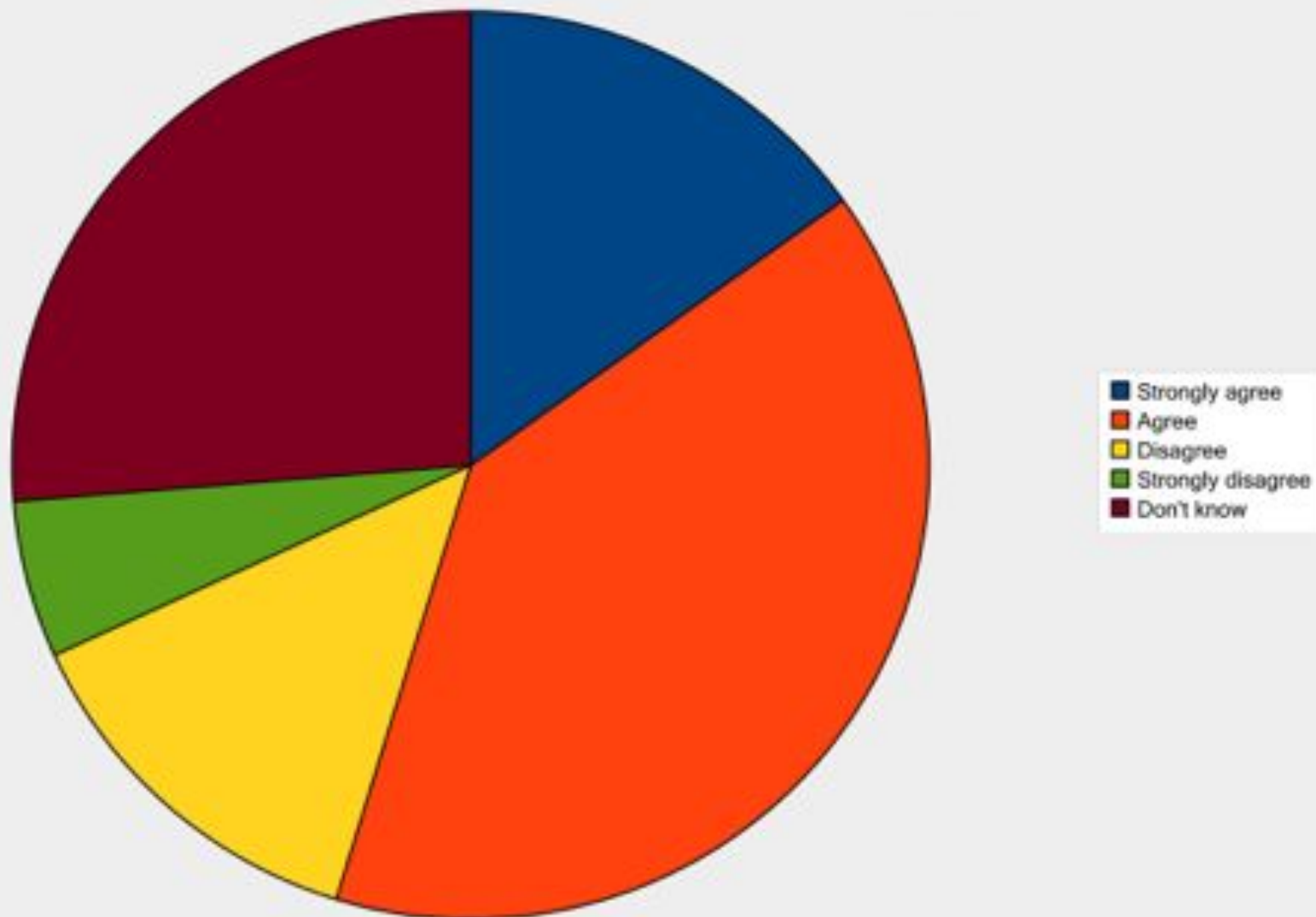
Social:

-50% state they've met someone through C\$ that would lend them \$500 if needed.

-50% decrease in accessing crises services.

-40% state that C\$ has increased their involvement in community issues.

I have established relationships of trust with people in the community since joining Calgary Dollars





Grants to Community Projects:

- \$20,000 per year

- 50% C\$, 50% Canadian \$.

- Determined at monthly event.



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FOUNDATION



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