Citizens Are Shareholders In Australia. Time for some dividends

Summary:
If properly implemented the three step SUMIR program would end poverty. Every person deserves a fair go to build a good life. Step 3 - The Triphasic Citizenship Dividend is the payoff. Pollies that support the elite can easily be identified - they will reject meaningful reform. They prefer business as usual - selling out the people and their country.

At Election 2019 Aussies can go for bold. We are identifying candidates right now that support the SUMIR movement. Join in and end the age of exploitation.

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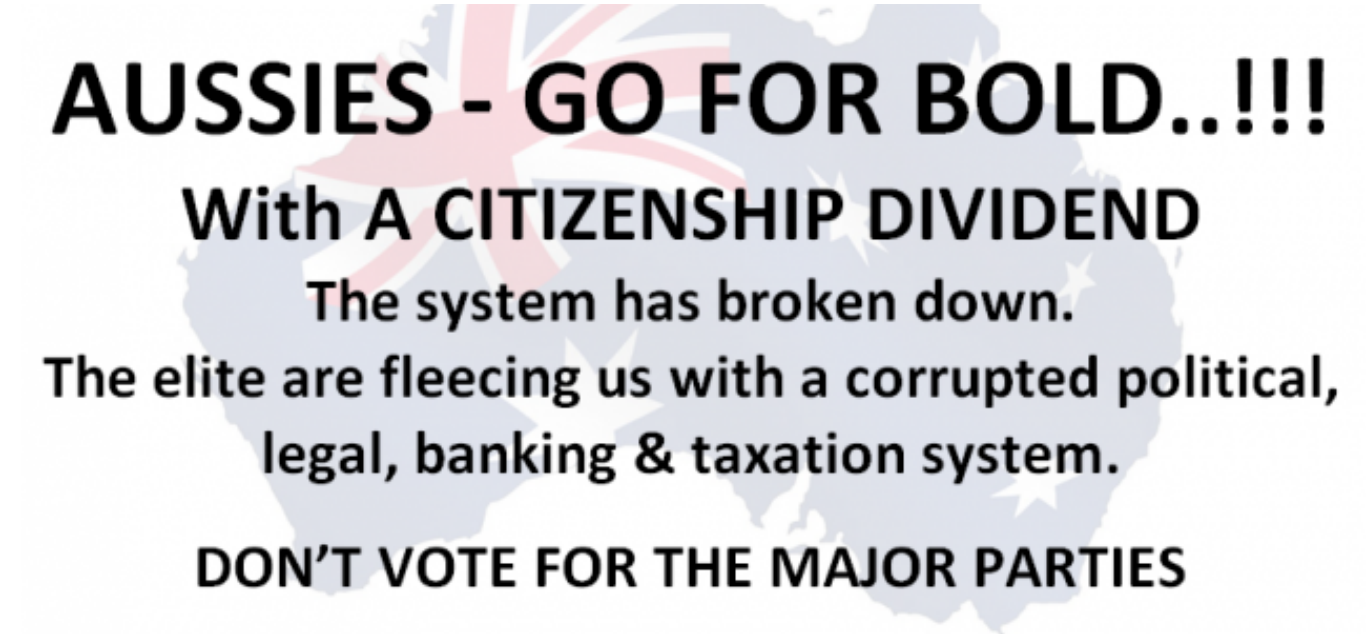

SUMIR® Step 3 – Triphasic Citizenship Dividend

Sumirism is a people powered movement aiming to transform the way societies operate. Three key steps have been identified by Bank Reform Now CEO Dr Peter Brandson as being required to give people a fair go and end the harsh dysfunction we see developing in societies today. The third step –

3. Provide elements of a Triphasic Citizenship Dividend to every person in the country. The components of which are: a basic income (BI); citizenship participation payment (CPP - which will likely organically lead to a “job guarantee”); and a civilised society dividend (CSD). On top of this people can still earn additional incomes by providing valued goods and services to people near and far.

Our world and its economies have changed radically over the last hundred years. The promise of capitalism was that progress would lead to people having a better standard of living with more free time. The wealth boosting and labour saving automation that would have enabled this shift has been hijacked by the ruling class axis. The SUMIR movement brings the common wealth back to the people thus enabling all citizens to get a fair go – a reasonable piece of the economic pie. Plus the increased freedom and responsibilities that come with our suggested "fourth way" of managing a society.

Already it is clear that technological change and dodgy foreign trading is making many jobs redundant. Australian banks have recently announced staff cuts that will likely be in excess of 60,000. That's a lot of workers and their kids looking at tough times ahead.

In addition the way our society is structured sees many of our best and brightest involved in **"bullshit jobs."** These are jobs that are akin to paying one group of people to dig holes and paying another group to fill them.

Many of these time filling jobs exist in the public service where employment is “created” by churning tax revenues. Reform would see a significant reduction in many of these paper pushing - often managerial unproductive jobs. For example if every citizen gets an automatic weekly dividend payment there would be a massive reduction in the need for bureaucrats and other public servants involved in the various government departments.

The private sector also has many artificially created unproductive jobs – very often thanks to government policies. For example – a large number of accountants are required by far too many of us because the government produces copious complicated tax laws. If the laws were simplified there would be much less need for accountants .... and lawyers. **Complicated laws suit the elite and are used as a weapon against the people. The elite can enrich their lawyer cronies to get around the laws, avoid taxes and get away with crimes against the rest of us. A classic example is the way bankers use the law, the courts and the police to get away with unconscionable asset stripping - amongst other crimes.**

If nothing innovative is put in place the forces listed below will see increasing inequality and hardship as well as economic and social turmoil:

- Growing youth unemployment along with a generalised increase in underemployment
- Structural unemployment due to robotics, automation & artificial intelligence
- Job losses flowing from lop-sided trade deals and currency manipulation
- Cyclical unemployment caused by the excesses of rigged financial markets
- Swings in employment caused by poor, counterproductive and often mistaken monetary policy.

People need to survive and thrive regardless how easy or difficult it is to get work in a changing labour market. Businesses need customers who can afford their goods and services. Thus many advocate that every person in the country should get a payment every week. This is not a way of equalising incomes. It is a way of giving everyone a fair go. It is not a welfare payment. It is also not the type of "universal basic income” that many organisations propose. Digital "helicopter money" dropped into bank accounts during the next financial crisis will be the last nail in the coffin of a peoples' freedoms and rights.

Without the other two arms of the SUMIR proposal – any other type of “basic income” is unworkable. There is no point taxing workers more heavily, imposing harsh austerity measures to cut back government spending or increasing government debt to the private banking cartel in order

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to "afford" a regular and equal payment to everyone.

So what does Dr Brandson – founder and CEO - of Bank Reform Now propose? Steps 1 and 2 in the SUMIR program make Step 3 - a Triphasic Citizenship Dividend - achievable in a co-ordinated, affordable and rational way. Let's use Australia as an example.

Each citizen regardless of their assets, income and employment status would receive **a weekly basic income payment.** This will supply a buffer which is not supposed to be a full time income. The precise figure will be determined once the first two SUMIR steps are in place and accurate calculations can be made.

Some people, no doubt, would attempt to live as best they can on a small payment and indulge themselves with a lazy unproductive way of life. The basic income component is not aimed at facilitating that type of lifestyle. Most people will likely choose a different route.

In addition to the Basic Income (BI) there would be a **Citizenship Participation Payment (CPP)** (this will likely organically lead to a **"job guarantee"** which would be administered in a decentralised fashion in regions right around the country). This will also be equal for recipients but it will only be paid to people who contribute in some productive way to the country and their fellow citizens. Thus people would get that payment if they are in paid private employment. People would also get it if they spend time in publicly arranged and paid (up to now often traditionally unpaid) activities of use and import such as: doing voluntary work, charitable work, young child rearing, caring for people with difficulties such as the elderly or disabled, research, studying and teaching.

The work week would be shorter say 25 or 30 hours if someone is only getting that payment. The payment has a living wage floor and a capped ceiling. It will fluctuate to some extent. It is not designed to adversely affect private employment. It will be counter cyclical. So depending on economic conditions people will shift between the private and public sector. So if there is an economic downturn people will still have the dignity of work and an income to sustain them. There is a good and useful job for everyone that wants one. Skills would also be enhanced so there would be a pool of work ready people for the private sector when conditions improve. **Why is this worth exploring? Because if the SUMIR three steps are well introduced it would see the end of poverty as we know it. A very good sign of a civilised society.**

To summarise - advocates of a Job Guarantee suggest - "…The Federal Government introduces and funds a job guarantee that pays a floating productivity linked living minimum income in return for participation for a predetermined time in a meaningful productive community job that is designed and administered by the community…"

We suggest that people would not get the Citizenship Participation Payment (CPP / JG) if they were engaged in criminal activity or other harmful pursuits. In other words if you are doing anything useful, beneficial and productive you would qualify. Obviously this aspect will require discussion and fine tuning. Who decides what is useful and beneficial?

The Civilised Society Dividend (CSD) is the access people have to public services that enhance all our lives and are funded by the community such as education, clean water supply, sewage, high quality roads and other infrastructure.

The SUMIR reforms will mean there will be no debts for people gaining a good education which helps them provide value to the community. Societies will not have to bear ever rising debts and the associated interest payments to have quality services and infrastructure. **The wealth of the nation is not digits on the banking cartel's computers. It is the people and resources of the country. The SUMIR program brings this wealth back to the people.**

The guaranteed payments will open up new opportunities. For example - the simple but unpleasant low skill jobs that still need to be done will still be available but bosses will need to pay more to attract the low skilled labour to do them. Bosses generally will have to treat their staff better because the BI and CPP will give people a buffer. They can more easily leave to find another job with better pay and conditions.

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The SUMIR package will eventually enable people to look after their needs with perhaps half the amount of paid work currently required. That means that the real jobs, the essential jobs and the good jobs that are left to be done can be shared among more people. This ushers in real flexibility.

People could choose to job share in a variety of ways. Perhaps working twenty hours a week in whatever permutation suits the worker, the employer and the person's co-workers.

Some might choose to work six months of the year and spend the other six months on their passionate interests, hobbies and causes.

People could engage in self-improvement by studying in areas of interest that are not necessarily directly work and income related. History, science, math, philosophy, music, art – just imagine the innovation that would eventuate with the freeing up of so many bright and capable people in this way.

This payment system is a fair and sustainable way to share the benefits of the Sovereign Wealth Fund and Sovereign Monetary System that the SUMIR program implements.

This is eminently achievable. There are countries right now that have wisely set up sovereign wealth funds the success of which would be even greater if systemic corruption had been curbed.

Some nations have no income tax at all as a result of wisely developing their resources. The problem of course is that some of these countries have authoritarian rulers who bargain that by giving some value to their citizens they can maintain control and extreme wealth for the upper echelon elite rulers and their families.

BRN proposes that the three step SUMIR program would bring far better results to many more countries and their populations.

People won't have to work in time wasting and soul destroying meaningless work just to survive. They will be able to spend time in useful paid employment as well as spend time in useful unpaid pursuits. Or any mix that works for them.

Clearly many details need to be thought through and developed to minimise perverse incentives and unintended consequences. How are children's payments handled? Should disabled people be given a larger payment? What is the formula to calculate a payment quantum that is workable? Will it be necessary to introduce a means test of some sort? How do we manage the variation in cost of living in different regions? Should we even consider it? Perhaps if you live in Sydney the paid work you engage in will give you enough extra to manage your preferred choice of location? Should banks and businesses be prohibited from giving and collecting on debts (including credit cards) to people whose only income is the BI and CPP? *And* .... what form will private banks actually take in the transition to a country with a properly functioning national bank?

It would be ideal to keep the system as simple as possible because the more complexity, adjustments, variations or exceptions the more expensive and cumbersome the program would be to administer.

Also it is worth considering that there may be imperfections and problems particularly in the early days. There is no perfect system. If people work at it in good faith it could become better than previous systems. It must be better than what many countries are enduring right now.

One thing is certain. Politicians who are stuck in the old ways of – vote buying – tax & spend sleight of hand manipulations – phony policies & promises – corrupt deal making with corporate donors – us versus them divisive politics – are just tinkering around the edges. Real reform requires bold, innovative and new thinking.

Other clever policy initiatives could make the system more easily implemented. For example if our

society decides to seriously attack the war economy a massive amount of wealth and resources would be freed up to improve the lives of populations. It is not hard. After WW2 Japan's military capacity was constitutionally limited. If there was a genuine willingness, every nation would benefit from such a move. If people and countries are mature enough to implement the SUMIR program it is likely they would be ready to profit from a peace dividend too.

Due to a pathological, malignant and radical self-interest power brokers - including most bankers and arms manufacturers - will likely oppose the SUMIR program. That is a pretty good endorsement to begin with. In addition there are elite powers involved in geopolitical machinations that seek to exploit the resources and people of nations that they hold influence over. It's time to recognise this and neutralise it.

People will very quickly identify which politicians are worth supporting (and paying) by their readiness to work with their voters and citizens to bring the SUMIR program to fruition.

The SUMIR movement will only take off with people using their political power - starting right now.

These ideas are not new - BRN has just put them together in an innovative way. South Africa had a Truth & Reconciliation Commission after apartheid fell. Australia used to have a Sovereign bank - the Commonwealth Bank. That bank was to fund the Snowy Hydro scheme – debt free with Sovereign money till political machinations interfered. Also – many nations have built prosperity with Sovereign wealth funds – Singapore, Norway, oil rich Middle East nations. The SUMIR program would enable Australia to do all that and more. With Sovereign Money and Sovereign Wealth our nation should be able to afford the Triphasic Citizenship Dividend …. All possible if people look outside of the box and free themselves from the status quo that binds most people with paper chains, unsustainable debt and unreasonable taxes.

Of course it also means politicians working against the interests of the people must be identified. It is important not to vote for politicians and parties that have traditionally sold the country and people out to elite interests.

Next: Step - Help us work toward our SUMIR® goal. All three components are required ... **and election 2019 is when it must be put on the agenda. Both major parties are weak and not trusted. The perfect time for people power to really have an effect. [Election 2019 link below shows people what needs to be done].**

More information can be found at www.bankreformnow.com.au / BRN Facebook

Websites For More Information: Everyone's Talking About Basic Income. Here Are 8 Problems It Could Fix
http://time.com/5571472/basic-income-society-problems/
Investing in a Job Guarantee – how much?
http://bilbo.economicoutlook.net/blog/

Related Links: Stand - Unite - Make It Right. The Launch
Step 1 - SUMIR - Sovereign Wealth Fund
Step 2 - SUMIR - Sovereign Monetary System
Election 2019 - The People Must Win ... Not A Party

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