



OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL:
**A JOBS AND INVESTMENT
PLAN FOR ONTARIO**

WHAT **LEADERSHIP** IS.

KATHLEEN WYNNE'S PLAN FOR ONTARIO

Kathleen





OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL: A JOBS AND INVESTMENT PLAN FOR ONTARIO

Our 10-Year Goals:

By 2025, Ontario will have the world's most skilled workforce, increasing our global competitiveness and creating more jobs. Our youth will be prepared for career success. We will have modern transit and transportation infrastructure that moves goods and people quickly across the province and over our borders. We will have a dynamic and innovative economy driven by growing industries and anchored by large companies and small businesses. We will be the most friendly jurisdiction in North America for business start-ups, driving creativity and competitiveness.

OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL: A JOBS AND INVESTMENT PLAN FOR ONTARIO

ONTARIO IS IN A TIME OF ECONOMIC TRANSITION AND NEEDS A PREMIER WHO WILL LEAD. In a tough and turbulent world, where the economies and standards of living in all western countries are under pressure, we are rebuilding and transitioning. We have tremendous strengths to draw on, including a talented workforce and a diversified economy. We have created the conditions for economic growth and, in the past year alone, we've created nearly 115,000 new jobs. **There are 210,000 more jobs than the pre-recession peak.** Companies are hiring again, and more people have the confidence to start new companies. **Economic growth is set to double over the next four years,** and consumer and business confidence are on the rise. **This is cause for optimism, but it is also cause for vigilance.**

Like many other jurisdictions, we are facing complex challenges. Money and businesses are more mobile than ever, lured to places with lower wages or less regulation. Companies are only slowly regaining the confidence to invest after the shock of the recession. Too many Ontarians are still out of work, or do not have enough work. Too many others are worried about their children's economic future. The decisions we make now will make a tremendous difference for Ontario, for good or ill. **Ontario needs strong leadership to secure Ontario's future prosperity.**

We choose to lead. A Kathleen Wynne Government would choose a different path than the opposition parties. Our government will choose to **invest** – in people, in modern infrastructure, in a dynamic and innovative business climate, and in small businesses – so that we can take advantage of our strengths, and create and build the jobs of the future, right here in Ontario. We will **partner with businesses, educators, labour, the not-for-profit sector, and communities** – because we need all hands on deck, working together, so that each person has the best opportunity to succeed in life.

The time to lead is now. By making the right choices, we can make a positive difference in the lives of Ontarians, and we can expand the economic potential of our province and make it into a global powerhouse. **This is our chance. This is the choice.**

As part of our six-part, ten-year plan for Jobs and Investment, a Kathleen Wynne Government will:

- › Invest in **education, training and transition to work**
- › Invest in a **Youth Jobs Strategy**

- > Invest in **transportation and infrastructure**
- > Support a **dynamic and innovative business climate**
- > Support **small business**
- > Be **responsible financial managers**

Parts 1 and 2:

INVESTING IN THE TALENT AND SKILLS OF OUR PEOPLE AND IN A YOUTH JOBS STRATEGY

STRONG LEADERSHIP MEANS INVESTING IN OUR BIGGEST ASSET – OUR PEOPLE. Education is the **most important investment government can make.**

It is the most important thing we can do to ensure the future prosperity of our province. That is why we will **invest in the talent and skills of our people** and in a **Youth Jobs Strategy**. We will continue to enhance our world-class education system, from the earliest years to the most advanced learning. We will evaluate every economic decision through a clear lens: Does it take advantage of and grow the talent and skills of our people?

We will complete the implementation of Full-Day Kindergarten and continue the 30% Off Tuition grant.

A KATHLEEN WYNNE GOVERNMENT WILL INVEST IN PEOPLE BY:

-  **BETTER PREPARING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR SUCCESS.** We will better prepare students for the workforce by:

 - > Guaranteeing that every Grade 7-12 student has access to their own online career planning tool, so that students leave secondary school with a clear path for their initial postsecondary destination, be it apprenticeship training, college, Experience Ontario, university or the workplace.
 - > Supporting guidance counsellors to better prepare students for future careers.
 - > Replacing the current Grade 10 Careers curriculum with one that helps students explore possible careers in a more hands-on way.
 - > Working with schools, school boards, guidance counsellors and business and labour in communities to identify Skills Champions who can mentor students throughout school toward apprenticeship and a successful career.
-  **IMPROVING ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION AND JOBS.** We will remove barriers to college, university and jobs by:

- › **Continuing the 30% Off Tuition Grant:** We will continue to offer the 30% Off Tuition rebate, which saves 260,000 students and their families up to \$1,780 for university students and \$820 for college students for each school year.
- › **Extending the Youth Jobs Strategy:** We will add \$38 million to the Youth Employment Fund in 2014-15 and extend the Strategy to September 2015, placing 30,000 young people in jobs that will move them into future careers.

We will continue the 30% Off Tuition Grant.



INCREASING APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES AND TRAINING.

We will continue to increase the number of apprentices training in Ontario, over and above the 120,000 already in apprenticeship this year, and partner with businesses that invest in on-the-job training for their current employees. To support the success of the College of Trades as it moves into its second year, we will appoint a special advisor to review the College's application process and scope of practice of trades, including how the scope of practice relates to enforcement. We will pause the certification of new compulsory trades during this review.

We will continue to increase the number of apprentices training in Ontario, over and above the 120,000 already in apprenticeship this year, and partner with businesses that invest in on-the-job training for their current employees.



IMPROVING WORK OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW CANADIANS.

We would help newcomers break down the employment barriers they face by:

- › Calling on the federal government to simplify and streamline the Foreign Credential Recognition Program, so that new Canadians trained elsewhere can return to their careers in our country.
- › Introducing the *Ontario Immigration Act* and working with the federal government to expand the Provincial Nominee Program. We want more input into the process of immigration into Ontario, because the federal government is too far removed from the job opportunities we know exist in Ontario.



ENHANCING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ABORIGINAL PEOPLE.

We will promote Aboriginal education and business capacity by:

- › Enhancing educational outcomes for Aboriginal students.
- › Investing \$25 million over three years to create the Aboriginal Economic Development Fund to promote aboriginal business.
- › Increasing the amount available for loan guarantees for renewable energy projects to \$650 million. This will encourage the development of projects that will pay dividends into the future and contribute to sustainable and clean energy generation in the province.
- › Investing \$2.5 million over three years in an Urban Aboriginal Action Plan to help Aboriginal people in our cities find economic opportunities and access social services.

Part 3:**INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE**

STRONG LEADERSHIP MEANS MAKING A COMMITMENT TO FIX TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE NOW. We cannot build a strong economy by putting off to tomorrow what we can and must do today. Long commutes affect our quality of life and we can't attract jobs to Ontario without the infrastructure to support them. With our economy needing a boost, a desperate need for improved highways and transit, and interest rates at record lows, there has never been a more sensible time to invest in our province. As part of our Jobs and Investment plan, we will **invest in infrastructure with a 10-year, \$130 billion building plan**. See more about our plans for investing in modern infrastructure in the *Building the Next Generation of Infrastructure* section of our plan.

Parts 4 and 5:**SUPPORTING A DYNAMIC AND INNOVATIVE BUSINESS CLIMATE, AND SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESS**

STRONG LEADERSHIP MEANS BEING AGGRESSIVE AND CREATIVE IN STRIKING PARTNERSHIPS THAT ARE IN THE SHORT- AND LONG-TERM INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF ONTARIO. Our province is one of the most competitive jurisdictions in the world for new investment, with its highly educated and skilled workforce, competitive tax rates, and light touch regulation. Corporate tax rates in Ontario are the fourth-lowest in Canada and almost 15 percentage points lower than any of our Great Lakes competitors. Competitive tax rates are essential to maintaining a business climate that can attract and grow investment. However, in today's global economy, we must strengthen our competitive advantage and expand our economic potential by fostering a business climate that attracts and supports investment and jobs.

We will **create a dynamic and innovative business climate** that supports key industries, industries with the highest growth potential, and the conditions that make them successful. We will also support small business as the engine of our economy.

A KATHLEEN WYNNE GOVERNMENT WILL SUPPORT A DYNAMIC AND INNOVATIVE BUSINESS CLIMATE BY:

-  **INVESTING IN JOB-CREATING BUSINESSES.** Ontario is one of the most investment-friendly jurisdictions in the world for new investment. We attract most investments on that basis alone. But we also believe that in the worldwide

competition for investment – especially in the auto sector – Ontario must step up and be willing to compete, where necessary, to attract new investment and grow existing investments. We will do this by:

› **Establishing a Jobs and Prosperity Fund:** This 10-year, \$2.5 billion jobs fund will partner with key industries poised for growth, including advanced manufacturing and automotive; agri-food and agri-products; information and communications technology; resources; and tourism, media and culture. We will secure commitments for jobs, training, and research and development from every company that receives funding.

Our 10-year, \$2.5 billion Jobs and Prosperity Fund will partner with key industries poised for growth.

› **Agri-food and food processing:** As part of the Jobs and Prosperity Fund, we will commit \$40 million a year to support growing businesses in the agri-food and agri-products sector, so that we can double jobs and exports by 2020.

› **Investing in Regional Development Funds:** In addition to the Jobs and Prosperity Fund, we will re-commit to the Eastern Ontario Development Fund, Southwestern Ontario Development Fund, and Northern Ontario Heritage Fund at current funding levels, to help smaller businesses outside the Greater Toronto Area that are poised for growth.

› **Helping to build an economy of innovators, entrepreneurs and exporters:**

Manufacturing	We will secure Ontario's position as a hub of advanced manufacturing by making a 10-year funding commitment to the Trillium Advanced Manufacturing Network at Western University's Ivey School of Business.
Quantum computing	We will support the Institute for Quantum Computing at the University of Waterloo with \$25 million over five years, leading to new discoveries that will improve our economy and help create the industries of the future.
Life sciences	We will support early-stage life sciences companies through a \$30-million fund, in partnership with the private sector and hospital foundations.
Start-ups	In partnership with universities, colleges, and business mentors, we will create five new Start-Up Hubs to help high-potential growth companies in the most innovative industries find customers and capital. These hubs will be funded through the Jobs and Prosperity Fund. Ontario will also partner with some of the province's most prominent business leaders, who will donate money, time and mentorship to create the Innovation Futures network of CEOs, which will accelerate the growth of companies coming out of these incubators.
Crowdfunding and smaller-scale manufacturing	We will become the first jurisdiction in Canada to allow a safe, regulated form of crowdfunding, so that inventors and entrepreneurs can raise the money they need to grow their businesses and create jobs. Through the Jobs and Prosperity Fund, we will support the artisanal economy by making small grants available to people who are starting small-scale manufacturing businesses with job-creating potential, and we will support craft artists training the next generation of skilled craftspeople.

We will become the first jurisdiction in Canada to allow a safe, regulated form of crowdfunding.

Expanding trade through partnerships with Chambers of Commerce	We will expand our Going Global Trade Strategy by increasing support for the Global Growth Fund, funded through the Jobs and Prosperity Fund. By partnering with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, local chambers, and chambers representing Ontario's diverse ethnic communities, we will help more Ontario companies win business outside Canada.
Helping Ontario innovators compete for public sector contracts	Many Ontario-based companies have great products but don't have fair access to contracts that the government puts out to tender. We will work with industry representatives to reduce these barriers and amend the procurement process so that the innovative potential of these entrepreneurs can be unlocked.
Growing the craft beer and VQA wine industries	We will implement our \$75 million Wine Strategy, which will encourage increased exports of Ontario's VQA wines and a growing market for Ontario's grape growers. And we will continue to support the dynamic entrepreneurs behind Ontario's craft brewing industry, which is poised for impressive growth and job creation. We will reduce red tape and allow new opportunities for retailing, while making improvements to the province's existing beer retailing system.



HELPING COMPANIES WITH THE COST OF ELECTRICITY. We would help businesses with the cost of electricity by:

- > **Managing costs:** We will reduce electricity costs by up to 15 per cent for large users that are making new investments, and by up to 20 per cent for conservation-minded large electricity users.

Part 6

RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

STRONG LEADERSHIP MEANS MANAGING ONTARIO'S FINANCES IN A PRUDENT AND RESPONSIBLE FASHION. We'll take a measured and moderate approach and continue to strengthen our fiscal fundamentals. We'll continue to spend less per person on government programs than any other province. We've set a target to get our debt-to-GDP ratio back to pre-recession levels. And we are on track to balance Ontario's budget in 2017-18. See more about our approach to responsible financial management in the *Making Government Work for Ontarians* section of our plan.