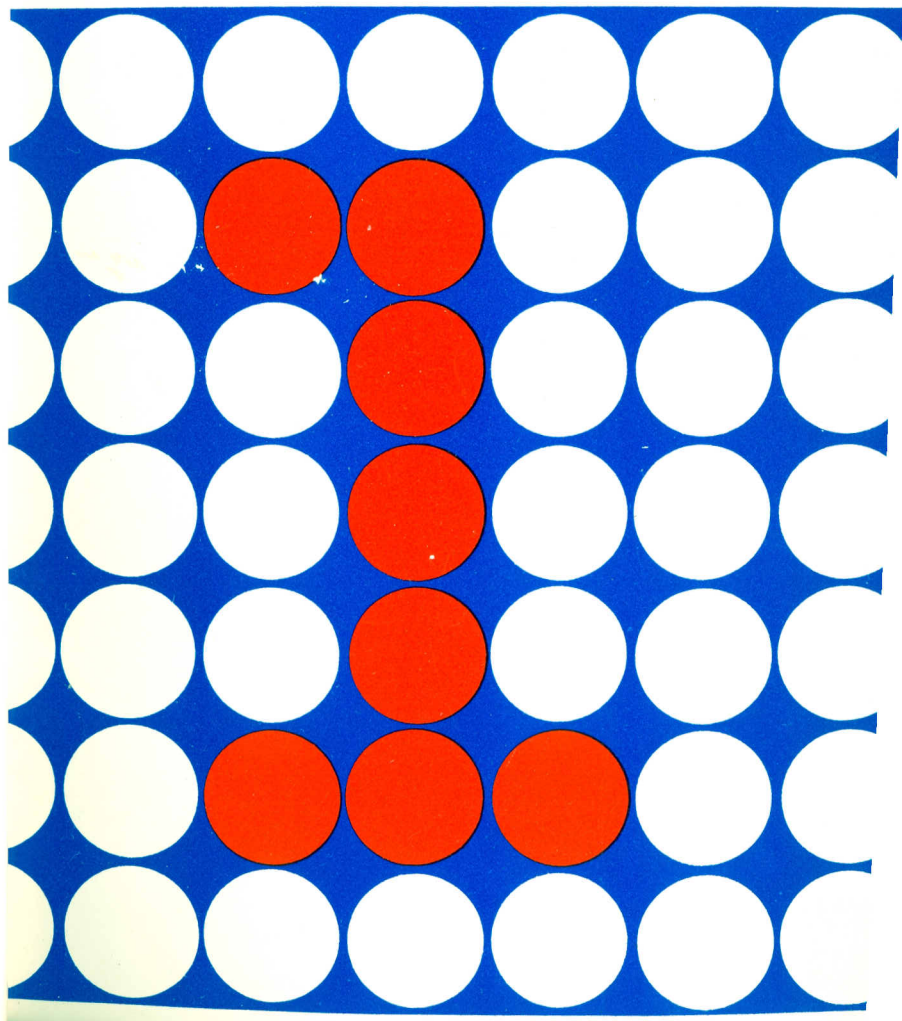


e priorities of the **Davis Government**



INTRODUCTION

In the last few years people have developed an increasing awareness that it is not good enough for governments to react in a haphazard way in adapting to the changing needs of society. The need for co-ordination and thinking ahead has crystallized particularly since we have discovered how most problems are so intertwined with every other aspect of society that they do not lend themselves to easy answers. One governmental decision can have a chain-reaction effect that creates more problems than it solves. Faced with this prospect, what can governments do?

The Davis Government has acted quickly and decisively since it took office. The very structure of government has been altered to allow for the greater co-ordination and planning that is essential if we are to meet the challenges facing us. The government reorganization based on recommendations of the Cronyn Committee on Government Productivity, has progressed smoothly. Its objectives of returning policy-making to the hands of the people's elected representatives and greater co-ordination of policy decisions have been met successfully even at this early stage. Not all of the problems of society will be solved overnight, but your Ontario Government will be better able to cope with them in an intelligent, positive way.

The material in this pamphlet represents the beginning of a new phase in Ontario's development. A phase in which the human condition or "quality of life" will receive foremost attention. The Davis Government has been elected with an overwhelming majority by the people of Ontario. And this is a reflection of the confidence that the people have in this Government's ability to govern wisely. Its record of achievement to date demonstrates that the Davis Government is worthy of this confidence.

ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL NATIONALISM

The Davis Government believes that the development of a healthy, Canadian-directed economy is of the utmost importance. This is clearly reflected in Premier Davis' comments on the subject. On June 15, 1972 he told the Legislature that the Ontario Government is committed to a policy of positive economic and cultural nationalism in five fundamental elements that it feels should be included in a Canadian foreign investment policy:

- 1) There should be more prominent Canadian participation in new enterprises;

- 2) Canadians should be dominant on the Boards of Directors of subsidiary firms in Canada;
- 3) Means should be found to increase Canadian equity participation in all Canadian-based enterprises;
- 4) We should encourage portfolio rather than equity investment from foreign sources;
- 5) Clear guidelines should apply to the performance of foreign industry and unions in Canada.

This commitment has already been translated into action in a number of areas where the Province has jurisdiction: for example, the key sectors of investment and natural resource processing, the important and sensitive area of book publishing and distribution, and the broadening of opportunities for Canadians to participate in the economy through the tax relief and incentive programs.

At the same time the establishment of a Joint Committee on Economic Policy was announced, to bring together the talents, experience, and research capacities of business, labour and government in order to develop a more cohesive and co-ordinated set of policies and programs and to maximize economic growth and employment opportunities in Ontario.

The Select Committee on Economic and Cultural Nationalism is focusing upon the problem of maintaining full access to the great cultural traditions of the world without suppressing Canadian creative expression, the promotion of accessibility to cultural facilities for the various regions of the Province and the proper balance of support between creative and performing artists.

Premier Davis also announced the creation of an investment capital information service to be operated by the Ministry of Industry and Tourism. This is to provide information on available sources of investment capital for small and medium size companies and Canadian entrepreneurs in Ontario.

ONTARIO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – NORTHERN ONTARIO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Changes in and additions to loan programs administered by the Ontario Development Corporation and the Northern Ontario Development Corporation, give preference to Canadian owned companies.

Performance loans are available to Canadian owned manufacturing firms locating or expanding in designated slow growth areas. These loans are interest free and, if the borrower performs satisfactorily, no repayment of principal is required.

Small business and venture capital repayable term loans have been introduced to assist Canadian owned companies. Small business term loans are available to businesses in the fields of manufacturing and services closely allied to manufacturing. Venture capital assistance is provided for Canadian companies wishing to introduce new products and technology to Ontario industry.

Export loans which provide financing of the production, warehousing and shipment of goods for export are available to supplement services offered by other financial institutions.

The Corporations also provide term financing through mortgages and debentures as well as lease-back buildings or rental arrangements for manufacturers outside large metropolitan centres wishing to expand their production space or increase manufacturing equipment.

Tourist industry term loans are available for resort operators wishing to expand or improve their facilities.

Term financing is provided for companies required to install approved pollution control equipment but are unable to finance the cost from their own resources.

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental problems are a major concern of the Davis Government. The creation of the Ministry of the Environment, and legislation to bring all existing legislation in this area under one Ministry, has enhanced the capacity of the Ontario Government to deal with these problems. Areas of concern are not simply limited to water and air pollution. The Ministry is working on such threats as noise, soil and heat pollution, as well as the more visible problem of litter. There is also a serious commitment to improving the quality of life in our major urban centres.

Recent developments include a public education campaign in litter control, a Task Force on Litter composed of people from government, citizen groups and industry looking for ways to combat the litter problem, and a student program to locate abandoned automo-

biles for removal. The Canada-U.S. agreement to clean up the Great Lakes was signed in April of 1972. Ontario is taking an active part in carrying out this agreement. Provincial control has now been extended to cover the construction, enlargement or alteration of sewage systems and a fund paid for by waste well operators has been set up to provide anyone whose water supply has been contaminated by their wells with an alternate source of water supply.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Although unemployment in Ontario is often caused by factors beyond the power of the Ontario Government, Premier Davis has from the outset of his administration declared his intention to reduce unemployment by all possible means.

Toward this end, all Government undertakings are considered in the light of encouraging new employment opportunities throughout the Province. With a rapidly expanding work-force, Ontario must maintain a strong, expanding economy in order to provide jobs for its residents. The Ontario Government is helping to create jobs through the encouragement of new business development, product innovation and research, and the expansion of business facilities through loans. Many of these loan programs are available through the Ontario Development Corporation.

Other measures include seasonal employment incentives, municipal works incentives, tax credit for investment in machinery and equipment and trade missions abroad to seek new products for manufacture in Ontario.

EDUCATION

The focus of education in the 1970's is to provide the highest possible quality of education and to enable the student to take an active rather than a passive role in the learning process.

Greater participation by the teachers in curriculum planning is actively encouraged. It is now possible for teachers to design their own course and submit it for approval to the Ministry of Education. This allows for greater flexibility to meet local conditions and permits a teacher with knowledge or interest in a topic not included in the curriculum guidelines, to pass that knowledge on to interested students.

There is now a much wider range of material available for use in special subject areas, as well as a stress on Canadian material, especially in sensitive areas such as the social sciences.

Students have benefited from this new approach by taking subjects which are more related to the world around them. Traditional subjects such as History, English and Science have actually gained in popularity, which indicates that students, allowed to develop an interest in learning, will not necessarily avoid these subjects.

During the 1960's, with the large expansion of school facilities and number of teachers, the costs of education rose dramatically. This had the effect of substantially increasing the tax burden. With the introduction of cost ceilings, the Government is tailoring school board budget increases to prevent heavy tax increases, while maintaining high standards in the quality of education. It should be emphasized that these cost ceilings are not intended to reduce actual school budget expenditures to below that of previous years. But rather the purpose is to control the increase in costs and at the same time make more efficient and innovative use of existing resources.

HEALTH CARE

The Davis Government is continuing to improve the quality of health care available to the people of Ontario. Special attention has been given to the improvement of medical services in the remote areas of the Province by providing incentives for doctors and dentists to locate in these communities.

Recently all health services in the Province were combined under one plan known as the **Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP)**. Health care insurance has been extended for those who are in nursing homes and homes for the aged.

Under PARCOST, pharmacists are authorized to substitute the lowest cost interchangeable pharmaceutical product that they have to replace the drug prescribed unless the doctor has indicated otherwise. The name and price of the drug must be on all prescriptions.

New legislation will permit the licensing and practice of Dental Technologists who can deal directly with the public in the fitting of dentures.

YOUTH

The Davis Government realizes the difficulty that young people have in finding direction in their lives. This is true of both those who enter the labour force after secondary school and those who continue on with higher education. An important decision for anyone is choosing an occupation that allows for the creative development and personal happiness of the individual.

There are programs of the Ontario Government designed to help high school and university students find useful summer employment emphasizing community service, cultural and learning programs. The Summer 72 Programs have provided some 18,500 jobs for students at a cost of \$21.4 million. One such program is known as **Ontario Youth-In-Action**. It offers to share costs with communities who are willing to develop useful summer projects, get as many people involved as possible and make use of existing facilities in the community. While only students are hired for paid jobs, there is emphasis on volunteer participation from all age brackets.

When a young person has finished his full-time education and enters the labour force his needs change. The Government is doing everything possible to create the economic conditions that will allow companies to hire more people as they enter the labour force. The Government recognizes the right of every individual to employment opportunities in our society, but firmly believes that individual initiative should continue to play a major role in the economy.

URBAN TRANSPORTATION

The Davis Government recognizes the importance of transportation of people and goods in our society. At the same time there is an increasing awareness of the limitations of the internal combustion engine, especially in densely populated urban areas. The car has come to dominate the city, bringing with it increased air and noise pollution, injuries to people, wider streets, narrower sidewalks, more parking lots and clogged expressways.

The alternative is an emphasis on public or mass transportation. This will be done by extending service of bus, subway and surface rail lines. These present modes of travel are continually improving. But there are new and exciting alternatives to these familiar systems that are now possible as a result of new technologies.

The Ontario Government is actively encouraging the development of a new intermediate capacity public transit system. By the Fall of 1975 a working experimental system will have been evaluated. When costs and effectiveness are known, the Government will decide whether the new system will be used on a mass basis. The Government is also providing Ontario-based industry with the opportunity to take an active part in the development of these new technologies and the design of system components. If the project succeeds these industries will be in a strong position in the world market for such system components.

Recognizing the need for an integrated transportation network, a Joint Technical Transportation Planning Committee, representing the Province and Metropolitan Toronto, is reviewing transportation requirements for the Metropolitan Toronto region.

An extension of GO Transit service will begin operating between Toronto and Georgetown in mid-1973, with intermediate stops in Weston, Malton, Bramalea, and Brampton.

The Ontario Government now subsidizes 50% of a municipality's costs in providing public transportation in order to give incentives for better service and increased usage by the public.

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

The Government of Ontario, within the framework of government measures to develop and expand the economy of Ontario, has given special attention to the Northern areas of the Province through a \$1 million expenditure for a mineral exploration assistance program to encourage mining in Northern Ontario and a resources transportation program in the North under which construction continues on Pickle Crow Road and Red Lake Road. Provincial aid is being extended to Northern Ontario broadcasting companies to provide a second network of Canadian television programming in the Thunder Bay area. There has been an expansion of air service in the North. The creation of **NORONTAIR** has established a regular passenger service between Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, Timmins and Earlton.

The **Northern Ontario Development Corporation (NODC)**, a part of the Ministry of Industry and Tourism, is providing performance and term loans to secondary manufacturing industries, tourist resorts, local transportation companies, and also to companies in need of funds for the purchase of pollution control equipment. **NODC** offers

advice and counselling on technical and general business problems facing Northern Ontario businesses.

Recent **NODC** loans were granted to businesses in North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, Timmins, Hornepayne, Timagami, Chapleau, Haileybury, Searchmount, Kenora, and Thunder Bay. These loans were mainly in the tourist industry, reflecting the Government's decision to elevate the tourist industry to its proper place as an important part of the economy in Ontario.

LABOUR

The Ministry of Labour is seeking to ensure that its programs and activities are appropriate and relevant to the economic and social demands of the 1970's.

The Government wants to create a working environment in the Province that is productive and is in the best interests of management and labour alike, and it believes that the Ministry of Labour can play a key role in meeting the social and economic challenges that come together in the work place.

As many people know, there have been criticisms of the collective bargaining process and there have been problems with it. The Ministry is working hard, in co-operation with both employers and unions, to improve the mediation process in order that costly strikes which hurt employees, employers, and society at large, can be avoided. It is felt that the best kind of agreement between labour and management is one that is agreed to by both sides of their own free will, without coercion from government. This basic philosophy will be the foundation of improvements in this area.

Four Main Program Areas

1. Occupational Safety
2. Industrial Relations, which includes Conciliation and Mediation Services, The Labour Relations Board and Labour Arbitration Management Commission
3. The Human Rights Commission
4. Employment Services, which includes the Employment Standards Branch and the Women's Bureau.

The **Construction Safety Act** received its first reading on June 22, 1972. Its purpose is to bring all existing legislation on construction safety into one act. It also transfers the responsibility for inspection

of construction sites from the municipalities to the Province. While most municipalities handled this responsibility wisely, there have been too many disparities in the quality of inspection in the past. However, with set standards for the whole Province and with the co-operation of contractors, supervisors, and workmen, the safety of those working in the construction industry will be the first priority for everyone.

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture policies have been directed toward the preservation and continuation of well-managed family farms in Ontario. Toward this end the Ontario Government is improving research facilities to provide Ontario's farmer with the best technical information; providing and sharing the expense of a comprehensive crop insurance program which is now being amended to define hail insurance as covering crops in the field after they are cut; ensuring that marketing decisions and policies in Ontario are made by the producers themselves through their marketing boards; and accepting the responsibility for licensing installers of agricultural tile drainage and setting minimum standards under the **Drainage Operations Act**. The Ontario Government also guarantees bank loans to farmers enabling them to purchase or keep female breeding stock for beef production and to milk and cream producers to enable them to acquire market sharing quotas, dairy cows or bred dairy heifers.

As well, an agricultural land use study is underway in Southern Ontario to provide guidance for public planning with respect to the preservation of farm land for food production. Efforts by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food are continuing to expand the sales of Ontario-grown agriculture and food products. These efforts have been assisted by Ontario trade missions and offices abroad.

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

The Davis Government has established priorities for better co-ordination of all community and social services, emphasizing financial help and rehabilitation programs, services to the aged, the young, families, municipal recreation, more accessible day care, residential services, and community programs with self-help groups, immigrants and native people.

One major program undertaken is **Project Day Care**. This is a \$10 million project to build and equip new day care centres all across the province to handle approximately 3,000 children. At the same time employment opportunities will be created through the operation of these centres. There are to be 44 municipal day care centres, 10 for Indian bands and 9 for retarded children, bringing the total to 63.

CIVIL RIGHTS

The Ontario Government recognizes the value of protecting the rights of the individual from abuse by either public or private sources. It therefore continues to improve the safe-guards of those rights.

The Government has proceeded with the implementation of recommendations from J.C. McRuer's Report on Civil Rights by enacting the Civil Rights Statute Law Amendment Act, the Statutory Powers Procedure Act and the Judicial Review Procedure Act.

These reforms are designed to protect the individual citizen or company from the arbitrary powers of government agencies in Ontario. For example, tribunals must now hold hearings before refusing a citizen a licence for a business. The person must be told well in advance about the time and location of the hearing and the case against him, in order to prepare a reply. The citizen also has the right to have a lawyer present. There is a right of appeal if a citizen is dissatisfied with the decision of a tribunal.

Reform in the Ontario school record system makes student records privileged information. New Ontario school record cards and instruction manuals are to be distributed to all schools.

The Human Rights Code has been amended to prevent discrimination on the basis of sex, age or marital status, in addition to the already existing laws against discrimination on the basis of race, creed, colour, nationality, or place of origin in public notices, public places, housing and employment.

There are important changes in the protection against discrimination in housing. The code is being extended to cover flats with their own kitchen and bathroom facilities in homes. The change does not apply if the owner or his family occupy the same house and share these kitchen and bathroom facilities.

An important amendment to the Coroner's Act prevents a Coroner's jury from placing the blame for a person's death on anyone when they are deciding when and how a person died. This will protect an individual from testifying against himself before a proper trial is held in a criminal court.

An amendment to the Jurors' Act has put women on an equal basis with men in their responsibility to do jury duty.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Phase III of the Design for Development program was recently introduced to the Legislature by the Davis Government. This plan continues the objective of careful planning and management of the economic and social resources of the people of Ontario for the benefit of all citizens. Phase III is concerned primarily with regional development, local government reform and provincial-fiscal reform. But, perhaps most important, it announces a shift in the emphasis of initiative to the Provincial Government. Previously Government consideration of reform measures came only after a request from the municipality or region concerned. Now an initial study will be made by the province and then local response will be considered before policy decisions on the future of the local government in an area are made.

In line with this Design for Development program, bills to establish regional governments in Sudbury, Timmins and Waterloo were enacted during the 1972 Session.

CONFEDERATION

While the Ontario Government will continue to co-operate with the Federal Government in strengthening Confederation, it believes that the historic role of Ontario can be maintained in the best interests of the nation as a whole, only if Ontario remains strong and vital. The Davis Government has made it clear to the Federal Government that it will not accept any reduced role in the building of the nation, and has, therefore, opposed the recent efforts by Ottawa to reduce Ontario's economic strength.

Premier Davis has developed and continues to maintain a close relationship with the other Provinces and particularly with Quebec. Mr. Davis has also reaffirmed his Government's policy of meeting the

