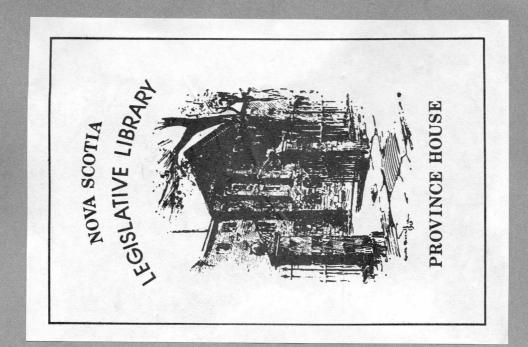


"My top priority is to get Ontario working again. The Ontario Liberal Plan tells you what we'll do, how we'll do it, when we'll do it, and how much it will cost. It's our commitment to the people of Ontario." LYN MGLEOD



324. 271306 059 St



324. 271306 059

our VISION

Our vision of Ontario is a province where individuals have real opportunity and where people and communities work together to achieve common goals; an Ontario in which people are secure – through a strong economy, universal health care, high-quality education, safety from crime, and a healthy environment.

our COMMITMENT

Government must be accountable and affordable and must preserve vital services. Ontario Liberals will:

- · work with the private sector to create jobs
- balance the budget
- reduce government spending by more than \$4 billion
- protect universal health care and high-quality educati
- reduce taxes by 5 percent

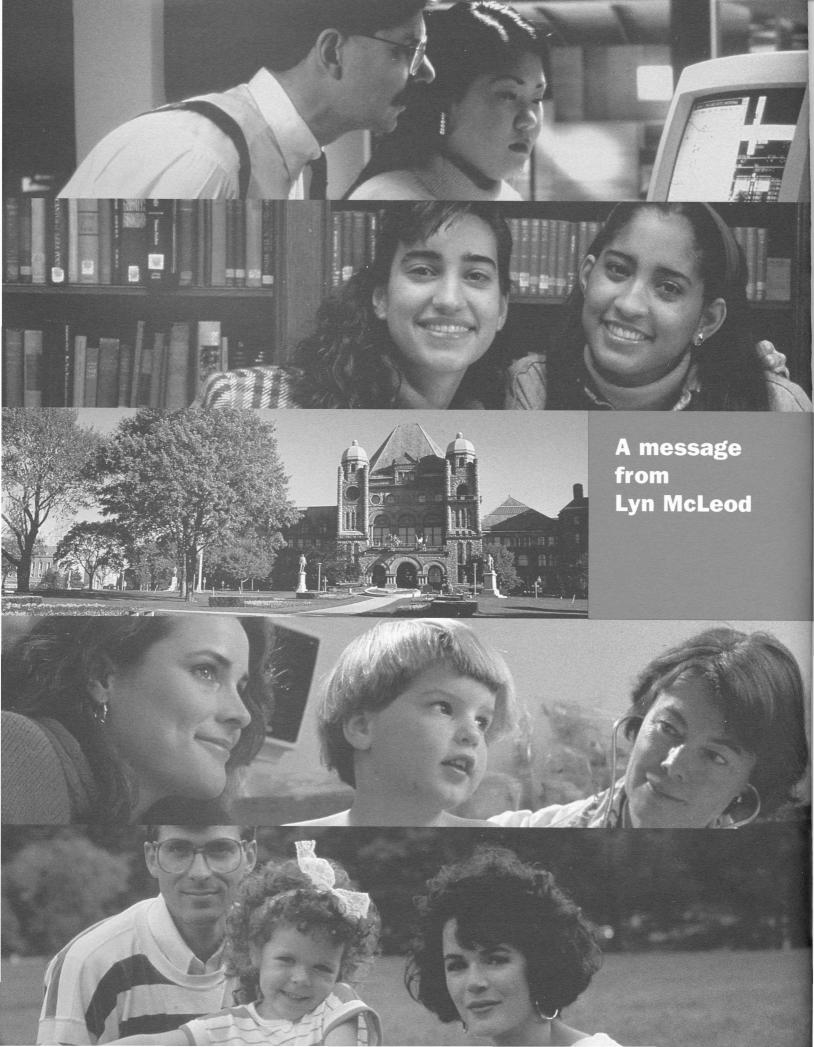
Jobs and Growth... Balancing the Budget... Cutting Spending... Five Percent Tax Cut... Time to Get Rid of Red Tape... Cleaning Up Workers' Compensation... Making It Easier for Small Business to Grow... Making Training More Relevant... Helping People Move from Welfare to Jobs... Restoring Balance in Labour Relations... Putting the Brakes on Soaring Car Insurance Premiums... Focused Economic Support... Youth Opportunities... Helping Communities to Help Themselves... More Innovation Means More Jobs... Job Creation in the Health Care Sector... Opening Markets Abroad Creates Jobs... Infrastructure Creates Jobs Three Ways... Helping Farmers to Be More Competitive... Strong Cultural Industries... Attracting Tourists to Ontario... Helping the Forestry and Mining Sectors... Equal Opportunity Based on Merit... Housing Must Be Affordable and Safe... Quality Health Care... Saying No to User Fees... Better Emergency Services... Meeting the Cancer Challenge... Correcting Long-Term Care Reform... Protecting Vulnerable People... Time for Action on Mental Health... Therapeutic Drugs Must Be Affordable... The Need in Northern Ontario... Spending Smarter... Taking

our PLAN

The book you are now reading sets out the Ontario Liberal Plan in detail. It tells you what we'll do, how we'll do it, when we'll do it, and how much it will cost. The Ontario Liberal Plan details commitments in all of these areas.

Charge of Our Own Health..... Working Together for Quality Care... Excellence in Learning... Setting High Standards... Getting Ready for Tomorrow's Jobs... Supporting Local School Councils... Spending Less on Administration... Zero Tolerance for School Violence... Affordable College and University... Putting Students First... An Open, Accountable System... Studying

Overscas... Fighting Crime... Cracking Down on Gun-Related Crime... Tougher Sentencing and Parole Provisions... Reforming the Young Offenders Act... Protecting Women and Children... Speaking Up for Victims... Fighting Against Hate... Preventing Crime... Special Needs of Rural Communities... Children and Family Services... Providing Leadership... Investing in Prevention... Coordinating and Streamlining Services... Accessible, Quality Child Care... Supporting Local Communities... A Healthy Environment... Clean Air Makes Us Healthier... Making Our Drinking Water Safer... Reducing Soil Contamination... Local Responsibility for Waste Management... Regulation and Enforcement... Protecting the Environment Creates Jobs... Accountable Government... We Start with Honest Leadership... Smaller Government Starts at the Top... Parliament Must Be More Representative... No More Games... Public-Sector Pay Should Be Made Public... The Public Service Must Be Non-Partisan... Modern Government... Better Service for Consumers... Focusing on Results... Undoing the Damage



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Anyone who asks for your vote on election day has an obligation to tell you how they'll govern after the ballots have been cast. The Ontario Liberal Plan tells you what we'll do, how we'll do it, when we'll do it, and how much it will cost. It's our commitment to the people of Ontario.

The Ontario Liberals want to restore prosperity, hope, and opportunity to this province. That means jobs. This election is about which party has the competence to get Ontario working again, through a lasting economic recovery that will continue to create jobs.

But getting Ontario working again means more than jobs. It means a balanced budget. It means tax reductions, not tax hikes. It means a health care system that works. It means an education system that works. It means safe communities and vital services that work. We can have these things – but only if we have a government that works, a government that knows how to manage.

Ontario deserves a government that is competent. We need a government that offers honesty and integrity, a government that understands that by modernizing, getting rid of waste and duplication, and listening to what people want, it can spend less money and offer better programs and services. A Liberal government will do that.

The Ontario Liberal Plan is built on five themes:

OPPORTUNITY

Ontarians want the opportunity to work, to get a good education, and to build a secure future. I believe that the role of government is to increase the amount of opportunity in people's lives. In some cases, that will mean government acting to create opportunity. In other cases, it will mean getting out of the way and letting opportunity grow on its own. In all cases, it will mean helping people to make things happen, instead of putting roadblocks in their way.

SECURITY

Ontarians must be able to feel safe in their homes, on their streets, and in their schools. The formula for this is tough laws, tough enforcement, and sensible prevention measures. Violence, whether from family members or from strangers, cannot be tolerated.

COMMUNITY

Government must realize that not every problem can be resolved by a "one-size-fits-all" policy handed down from Queen's Park. Big, bureaucratic programs and agencies are expensive and inefficient, and they aren't flexible enough or responsive enough to meet local needs. I believe in an approach that is driven from the community level up. Northern Ontario has different needs from southern Ontario, urban areas have different needs from rural areas, big communities are different from small communities. Whether it's economic development or services like long-term care, the focus of activity must be at the community level.

AFFORDABILITY

Government has to do what Ontarians do every day of their lives – plan smartly, spend wisely, and live within their means. Everything in this action plan can be achieved while reaching our goal of balancing the budget – without raising taxes. In fact, we will reduce taxes by 5 percent.

ACCOUNTABILITY

People, businesses, and institutions must be accountable for their actions. There should be a link between the way we act and the consequences of how we act, good or bad. People who commit crimes should be punished. Schools should be accountable for their performance. Above all else, government must be accountable. Politicians should represent their constituents – without special perks like early pensions.

The Ontario Liberal Plan is about priorities. It's about government improving the things it does well, stopping the things it does poorly, and getting out of areas where it just shouldn't be involved.

I'm not going to promise the moon – and then begin backing away from my commitments the day after the election. Nor am I going to put forward a program of slash-and-burn cuts. Everything in the Ontario Liberal Plan is practical, affordable, and do-able. The plan sets out clearly what we will do in the first 30 days in office, in the first 90 days, and in the first year. The balance of the initiatives in the Ontario Liberal Plan will be completed during the full term of government.

Together, we can get Ontario working again.

LYN McLEOD

Leader, Ontario Liberal Party

Lyn M Good



TIMETABLE FOR ACTION

30 DAYS

- Introduce balanced-budget legislation
- Scrap the 5% tax on auto insurance premiums
- Abolish the NDP's \$50 annual corporate filing fee, which is a \$14-million tax grab

90 DAYS

- Reduce the corporate tax rate for small business
- Scrap the bureaucratic Ontario Training and Adjustment Board, and get on with training that really works
- Introduce Operation Job Check to make sure new regulations don't strangle new jobs

1 EAR

- Clean up the Workers' Compensation
 Board by hiring a qualified CEO to run
 it and disbanding the Workplace
 Health and Safety Agency and placing it
 under the WCB
- Reduce the number of small businesses required to file for the corporate minimum tax
- Boost the funding to the New Ventures loan program for small business

owth

Creating jobs and building a strong economy must be Ontario's top priority. Only the private sector can generate the hundreds of thousands of jobs Ontario needs. But government can create a climate that will encourage people to go into business, help businesses grow, and attract new investment and jobs.

Getting Ontario back to work must be government's top priority.

During the recession, Ontario lost jobs at a faster rate than any province in Canada. Even with the recession over, Ontario had an average of 531,000 people unemployed in 1994 – 200,000 more than when the NDP took power in 1990. For every week that Bob Rae has been premier, Ontario has lost nearly 1,000 jobs.

A Liberal government will set a goal of reducing Ontario's unemployment rate to 6 percent by the end of our first term. Only the private sector can create the hundreds of thousands of jobs that are needed to reach this goal. But government can help by creating a climate that will encourage people to go into business, help businesses grow, and attract new investment and jobs.

A Liberal government will create a strong and competitive environment that encourages the private sector to grow and create jobs. We will:

- balance Ontario's budget within four years;
- cut spending by more than \$4 billion;
- cut taxes by 5 percent;
- cut the cost of dealing with government regulations by at least 50 percent;
- reform the workers' compensation system, including freezing premiums;
- help small business to grow;
- create new training programs that are driven by the private sector and meet real needs;
- help people move from welfare to jobs;
- restore the balance in labour relations; and
- reform auto insurance, including getting rid of the 5 percent tax on insurance premiums.

Getting Ontario working again will take all the talent and ingenuity of business, industry, labour, government, and people in communities across Ontario. Within 30 days of taking office, a Liberal government will create a Getting Ontario Working Again Team made up of leaders from each of these areas.

This non-partisan, volunteer team will lead the campaign to get Ontarians involved in meeting the 6 percent goal. As part of its task, the team will help local communities identify ways to become more competitive, tap into new technologies, and create jobs. It will find success stories in local job creation and share the information across the province. The Ontario government will monitor the team's progress closely, and we will not stop until we reach or surpass our jobs goal.

Balancing the Budget

High deficits and a big public debt are job-killers. Rising deficits mean that instead of having more money in their pockets, Ontarians are paying more interest on the debt. And business considers a province that can't control its spending a poor place to invest.

Ontario has now had four deficits in a row of more than \$10 billion. Ontario and Quebec are the only provinces in Canada that did not reduce their deficits in 1994-95. The total Ontario debt has more than doubled to a staggering \$90 billion. Not surprisingly, Ontario's credit rating, which started out at triple-A when the NDP took power in 1990, has been downgraded three times.

A Liberal government will both preach financial restraint and practise it. Through the Ontario Liberal Balanced Budget Plan, we will:

balance the provincial budget within four years.

A balanced budget will attract investment. It will send out a clear signal that Ontario is a fiscally responsible place to do business. And it will allow us to stop paying more money each year in interest, so we can continue investing in knowledge industries, training, and healthy communities — the things that attracted investors here in the first place. To further show our commitment to balance the budget, a Liberal government will:

A Liberal government
will balance the provincial
budget within four years

and introduce balanced-

budget legislation.

POLICY COMMITMENT
The Ontario Liberal
Balanced Budget Plan
includes more than
\$4 billion in spending
cuts and savings.

• introduce a balanced-budget bill.

This legislation, similar to the balanced-budget law introduced by New Brunswick Premier Frank McKenna, will commit the government to balancing its budget over a specific financial cycle. It will require a yearly progress report to be given by the government, including a signoff by the Provincial Auditor.

Under the Ontario Liberal Balanced Budget Plan, we will provide stable funding (at 1994-95 levels) for four years to the province's schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, and municipalities. We will allow these institutions to keep the money saved from streamlining their own operations rather than sending that money back to Queen's Park.

Cutting Spending

Government must not balance the budget by raising taxes. It must do so by encouraging economic growth and cutting spending. A Liberal government will cut government spending by more than \$4 billion while preserving health care and education.

Our spending cuts and savings fall into five categories: program reductions, leaner government, public/private-sector partnerships, job growth and welfare reform, and cutting political spending.

As part of our program reductions, we will save more than \$700 million through several cuts, including:

- scrapping the Interim Waste Authority;
- ending the failed jobsOntario programs;
- cutting grants to big business by 60 percent;
- scrapping the Royal Commission on Workers'

Compensation;

- scrapping the NDP Advocacy Commission;
- combining the Ontario Council on University Affairs and the Council of Regents; and
- scrapping the Ontario Training and Adjustment Board bureaucracy.

As part of our leaner government package, we will save \$800 million by:

- · cutting government administration; and
- reinventing-government initiatives.

Through public/private-sector partnerships, we will save \$1.6 billion by:

- increasing private-sector involvement in capital projects; and
- increasing private-sector involvement in current government operations.

Through job growth and welfare reform, we will save \$1 billion by:

- getting people off social assistance and back into the workforce;
- reforms to the current social assistance system;
- eliminating welfare fraud.

As part of our package to cut political spending, we will save \$30 million by:

- cutting political staff;
- cutting political appointments;
- · reducing government advertising; and
- cutting services to MPPs.

Over the same period, the number of positions in the Ontario public service will fall by 12,000, mostly by attrition.

Five Percent Tax Cut

Rising taxes also kill jobs. Paying higher taxes than their competitors is the last thing Ontario businesses can afford. As for Ontario families, many can't afford the taxes they're paying right now.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government will reduce the corporate tax rate for small businesses and reduce the number of small businesses required to file for the corporate minimum tax.

A Liberal government
will repeal the 5 percent
tax on auto insurance
premiums and work
to make auto insurance
more affordable.

A Liberal government will:

• cut taxes by 5 percent during our first term.

We will implement a fair, realistic, and balanced tax package that will help the people and businesses who need it the most. In particular, we will help those who were hardest hit by the recession, such as low-income-earners and young people who lack the skills to get their first jobs. Over five years, our plan will put \$1.7 billion back in the pockets of Ontario individuals and businesses. For individuals, our tax reduction plan will:

- repeal the 5 percent tax on auto insurance premiums, a reduction of \$240 million;
- offer a child care tax credit, a \$350-million reduction:
- help people buy their first homes by bringing back the land-transfer tax rebate, a \$25-million reduction; and
- reinstate tax rebates for money spent by property owners on forest management, a \$2-million reduction.

To create jobs, our tax reduction plan will:

- reduce the small-business corporate tax rate, a \$50-million reduction;
- reduce the number of small businesses required to file for the corporate minimum tax, a \$7-million reduction;
- give business a 10 percent tax credit for investing in new equipment, a \$265-million reduction;

- reduce the 5 percent provincial tax on hotel rooms to 3 percent, a \$40-million reduction;
- reinstate the Ontario Incredible program, which gives out-of-province visitors a rebate on retail sales tax paid on accommodation and goods purchased in Ontario, a \$15-million reduction;
- offer favourable tax treatment to mining companies for funds they set aside for mine reclamation, a \$15-million reduction;
- provide a tax credit for investment in innovation-driven businesses, an \$11-million reduction;
- let small companies file their taxes on the same form, lowering their accounting costs; and
- change the existing research and development tax deduction program to a tax credit program.

These tax changes total more than \$1 billion. The approximately \$700 million remaining in our commitment will be placed in a "tax contingency" fund, and will be spent on tax breaks to be determined during the latter years of our term in office. This assistance will be targeted to individuals and businesses needing it most at that particular time because of changes in Ontario's economic conditions.

We will also freeze Workers' Compensation premiums paid by employers and work with Ontario Hydro to freeze or reduce electricity rates. Through these measures and through our tax reduction initiatives, we will send a clear message that Ontario is a place of opportunity where working hard and taking a risk pay off.

Time to Get Rid of Red Tape

One of the most common complaints of people in business in Ontario is that they're constantly spending more time dealing with government red tape, and more money on regulatory fees. That leaves less time and money to do what they do best – build their businesses and create jobs. A Liberal government will:

• slash the cost of doing business with government by at least 50 percent.

Our Getting Ontario Working Again Team will play a big part by launching Operation Job Check.

BACKGROUNDER

A History of Waste

When times are tough and money is tight, government must be more careful than ever not to waste public funds. Yet Ontario's NDP government:

- spent \$168 million on a Workers'
 Compensation Board tower that wasn't needed;
- gave \$4 million to consultants to count the number of government computers;
- spent over \$80 million on the big, bureaucratic Interim Waste Authority, instead of letting the Greater Toronto Area deal with its own waste problems;
- committed \$1.1 billion to the jobsOntario
 Training program, which found jobs for only a small percentage of people who applied; and
- wasted \$360,000 advertising a welfare reform that never took place.

Operation Job Check will evaluate every proposed new regulation and make sure it doesn't strangle new jobs with red tape. It will look at existing regulations, sector by sector, to see which job-killing regulations can be eliminated. We'll begin by:

• scrapping the corporate filing fee. This annual \$50 fee is nothing more than a \$14-million tax grab.

Cleaning Up Workers' Compensation

Ontario's workers' compensation system is a mess. High premiums are chasing away investment and jobs. The unfunded liability is out of control, soaring by \$2 million a day. Workers receive a deplorable level of service from a system that doesn't focus enough attention on getting them back to work. The WCB is failing both the employers who pay for it and the injured workers it is supposed to serve.

The Ontario government has appointed a royal commission to look at workers' compensation. This will delay reform for at least a year, while using up \$2 million in taxpayers' money. It's time for action, not another study. A Liberal government will scrap the Royal Commission on Workers' Compensation and get on with real reform.

In 1994, a Liberal Party outreach tour travelled

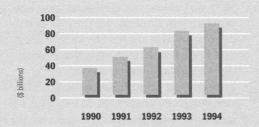


STATE OF AFFAIRS

Canapress Photo Service

ONTARIO'S DEBT

Ontario's debt has more than doubled over the past four years.



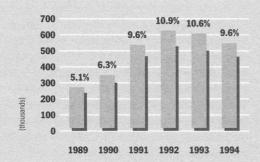
Source: 1994 Ontario Budget

UNEMPLOYMENT

The number of people unemployed in Ontario remains very high at more than 500,000 – that's 200,000 higher than when the NDP came to power.

Percentages represent unemployment rate.

Source: Statistics Canada

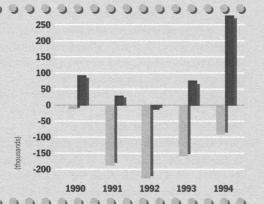


JOB CREATION

Job creation in Ontario lags behind the rest of Canada. Ontario in 1994 had 81,000 fewer jobs than it had at the start of 1990. The rest of Canada saw job growth of 287,000 jobs over the same period.

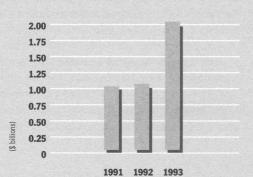
Ontario
The rest of Canada

Source: Statistics Canada



TAX INCREASES

The NDP implemented more than \$4 billion in tax increases in its first three years in office.



Source: 1991-94 Ontario Budgets

around the province and spoke with employers, injured workers, and many other people concerned about the WCB. As a result of this work, we put together a plan to create a workers' compensation system that is affordable, more accountable to the public, and better suited to getting workers back on the job. A Liberal government will:

- freeze WCB rates paid by employers;
- change the makeup of the WCB Board of Directors to make it less partisan and more accountable to a wider range of stakeholders and the people of Ontario;
- improve the administration of the WCB by hiring a chief executive officer with a strong background in accounting and the administration of insurance;
- speed up the time it takes to process claims by better training adjudicators (which will reduce the number of appeals) and streamlining the appeals process;
- create a WCB Return-to-Work Department that will help clients develop individual return-towork programs;
- cut down on fraud by creating an Investigative and Internal Audit Department that will signal zero tolerance for fraud and investigate all allegations;
- put the WCB on a sound financial footing by eliminating overpayments to injured workers, cutting administrative costs, and improving the rate of return on the investment portfolio by hiring private-sector money managers; and
- disband the Workplace Health and Safety Agency and put it under the WCB.

Through these and other steps, we can make the WCB more helpful to injured workers, more affordable for employers, and more accountable to the people of Ontario.

Making It Easier for Small Business to Grow

Small and medium-sized businesses make an enormous contribution to our economy. They create 80 percent of all new jobs. By getting government's fiscal house in order, cutting taxes, and getting rid of red tape, we will make it easier for

BACKGROUNDER

It Doesn't Have to Be This Way

- In the summer of 1994, the Ontario Wine Council ran an afternoon wine-tasting tour.
 To do this, they had to spend \$4,000 to get 44 separate permits.
- The president of a property management company, Robin-Wood Management, told Liberal Leader Lyn McLeod that his government paperwork has tripled in four years.
- The Greater Toronto Homebuilders
 Association found it necessary to publish a
 guide to help homebuilders wade through
 the maze of environmental regulations gov erning residential development. The guide
 was 27 pages long.
- The builders of Terminal 3 at Toronto's Pearson International Airport had to get 1,800 different permits from three separate levels of government.
- A large Ontario company pays 19 different taxes and employs five people to deal with the workload caused by too much government red tape.

Ontarians to set up small businesses and for small businesses to grow and create jobs.

Small business will benefit from a number of tax cuts under our plan, including the reduction in the corporate income tax for small business and the reduction in the number of small businesses required to pay the corporate minimum tax.

Many entrepreneurs have plans for the future – detailed, innovative plans that will create jobs. They're prepared to take a risk but they can't find a financial institution that will share the risk. A Liberal government will help them get capital by:

 increasing funding for the New Ventures program, which provides loans to people starting up their own small business.

For some entrepreneurs, getting money isn't a problem, but they need help in marketing and management. A Liberal government will:

· create Innovation Houses, which will be linked

"For every week that Bob Rae has been premier, Ontario has lost nearly 1,000 jobs." with colleges and universities and will help new businesses get the advice they need in the communities where they live.

The Innovation Houses will provide advice to business in such areas as marketing and accounting. They will also help business turn new ideas and technologies into products.

We will encourage more Ontarians to take advantage of their talents and become entrepreneurs. We will:

- strengthen entrepreneurial education programs in secondary schools and other learning institutions; and
- develop programs to help workers who are exploring the option of self-employment but are facing business problems in their first two years.

Making Training More Relevant

A big reason why Ontario has traditionally attracted new investment and jobs is that we have well-educated and highly skilled workers. Such workers can make companies more productive and innovative. The increase in productivity and innovation can, in turn, create even more jobs.

But as Ontario's economy continues to reshape itself, we must learn to do a better job of matching the skill levels of Ontarians with the demands of the marketplace. As we become more of a high-technology society, many employers – both in traditional industries such as forestry and mining, and in relatively new industries like computer software – are having trouble finding workers with the right skills. Many people without skills are being shut out of the workforce completely. And some highly trained workers are finding that their skills are no longer needed in our changing economy, yet they can't find the right opportunity to upgrade and re-skill.

Ontario's NDP government has concentrated its training effort on creating big, bureaucratic bodies like the Ontario Training and Adjustment Board (OTAB) and jobsOntario Training. OTAB puts training decisions in the hands of a centralized structure far removed from the needs of local workers, employers, and communities. It diverts

\$14 million a year away from training towards its own bureaucracy. It is far behind schedule, creating confusion as to how companies will get training programs for their workers. Most important, it has become so bogged down in discussions over process that it has failed to come up with any new or creative programs for the unemployed.

Meanwhile, jobsOntario Training has found jobs for only a small percentage of people applying for the program. Many of the jobs it has paid for would have been created by the private sector even without government money. In many cases, it provided wage subsidies instead of real training. A Liberal government will:

• end jobsOntario Training and introduce a training program that really works.

Government can play a positive role in helping workers get the training they need. But it can't do it alone. If we are going to do a better job of matching the skills of workers with the needs of the workplace, government must work more closely with local communities, workers, and employers.

The Ontario government spends hundreds of millions of dollars each year on training. It's time that money was spent in a way that produces results. A Liberal government will address Ontario's real training needs by creating the Ontario Training Network. Our first step will be to:

 scrap the highly centralized OTAB and replace it with a strengthened system of the existing local training networks that deliver the training local communities want and need.

The local training networks will give unemployed Ontarians a one-stop centre in their own communities. It will give them access to both training opportunities and job opportunities, instead of forcing them to go to two or three different offices. The local training networks will act as the entry point to the Ontario Training Network. They will give unemployed Ontarians access to services for résumé preparation and provide other facilities such as offices and workspaces. Better and more effective management, through the local training networks, will provide Ontario's various

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government will scrap the highly centralized OTAB and replace it with a stronger system of local training networks.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will end jobsOntario
Training and introduce
a training program
that really works.

communities, such as the francophone community, with training appropriate to their needs.

Each local training network will have a computer terminal connected to the new Ontario Training Network data base. The Ontario Training Network data base will be a computer system providing clients with all the relevant job and training data in their community. Clients will be able to find out what training programs exist, which job growth industries are in their communities, and where they can get more information.

This new approach will create a "training ladder" that will let trainees pick the training they need, and then move in a logical step-by-step fashion up the ladder. The ladder would include:

- Skills Development Planning. Far too often, individuals are told that they need to upgrade their skills without any clear idea of what that means or where it will lead. Under the Ontario Training Network, a potential trainee will be offered a chance to work with a skills development planner, to develop a personal strategy for developing their skills to match available jobs.
- Basic Skills Programs. These will include training
 in the traditional basic skills of literacy in reading, writing, and math as well as the new basic
 skills such as computer literacy. Such programs
 will be delivered in community sites such as
 schools and colleges.
- Occupations Programs. Today's occupational training system is a hodgepodge of unplanned, unorganized courses. In many cases, our apprenticeship system is undermined by a lack of standards in a number of industries. The Ontario

"Government can play a positive role in helping workers get the training they need. But it can't do it alone. It must work more closely with local communities, workers, and employers."

A Liberal government will focus welfare reform on getting people back to work.

Training Network will work with the business community to organize these courses to make sure that trainees have marketable skills at the end of them. We will begin by identifying the standards and requirements that trainees must meet in the highest-growth occupations for which standards have not yet been set. If we can clearly identify the skill sets that are needed in the future, we can make sure that training leads to real jobs and not dead-end jobs.

The Ontario Training Network will work in partnership with business to increase training within each sector. We will:

create new private/public-sector training initiatives, based on business and industrial sectors.

Under these partnerships, companies in individual sectors would work together and create industry-wide plans outlining their current and future training needs. Government will offer some funding to help develop and implement these plans, but private-sector managers will decide the kind of training needed by their industries.

The Ontario Training Network will increase the number of training opportunities and attract new businesses and jobs to Ontario by:

- sharing in the cost of training workers in new businesses that agree to set up in Ontario; and
- expanding the number of opportunities for apprenticeship training and the number of trades where such training is offered.

We will get rid of age restrictions in our apprenticeship programs and use government procurement policy to encourage the private sector to take on apprentices.

Helping People Move from Welfare to Jobs

Nothing symbolizes lost opportunity more poignantly than the 1.3 million Ontarians – over 500,000 of whom are children – who depend on welfare.

In good times and in bad, the number of people on welfare has continued to grow. The biggest

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government will share in the cost of training workers in new businesses that agree to set up in Ontario.

increase took place over the past five years, when the number of people on welfare doubled.

It has now been two years since the NDP government promised to "scrap the welfare system as we know it" and replace it with programs that both encourage people to leave social assistance and give them an opportunity to be independent. Yet the welfare system as we know it is still in place. The only thing that has been "scrapped" is the government's commitment to reform.

It's time to stop talking about reform and start doing it. A Liberal government will create a new system that will give people the opportunity to take care of themselves. It will give people choices that will lead to a range of opportunities to upgrade their skills and find work. It will recognize that different communities have different needs, and therefore the system must be flexible enough to let communities meet their needs in different ways. It will give the business community a chance to become actively involved through training and apprenticeship opportunities. And it will respect the dignity of individuals in the system.

The new system will not create the jobs that people on welfare need to become independent. Only a growing economy can do that. That is why we are committed to an action plan that will help the private sector create jobs. But the new system will help people get the skills and experience they need to move into the jobs that are created by an expanding economy.

Our focus will be on helping people get back to work. At the same time, we recognize that there are many people now on welfare who – because of disability, permanent health problems, or age –

"We believe that people who are unemployed will almost always choose to upgrade their skills and to work, if given a chance and the proper support."

will probably never be able to work. We will begin our reforms by taking them out of the welfare system and giving them income support.

All others now in the welfare system will go into the new Ontario Transitional Incentive Program (OTIP). We believe that people who are unemployed will almost always choose to upgrade their skills and to work, if given a chance and the proper support. However, when people who are able to work refuse to participate in any of these programs, they will receive only a basic allowance that reflects the national average and is less than the current allowance.

OTIP participants will be able to choose from a range of options that will develop their skills and job readiness. A trained opportunity planning worker will help people in the program to decide which of the following steps to independence is best suited to meet their needs:

- *Training*. Training opportunities will be specifically geared to job opportunities that exist now or will exist in the near future. Those who choose this option will be given the basic allowance and a special training allowance.
- *Education*. Access will be given to programs in the existing education system. Participants will receive the basic allowance and a special education allowance.
- Volunteer Activity. Volunteer activities can give people a chance to develop their own skills while helping their communities. Participants will get the basic allowance and a special allowance for volunteering.
- Work Experience Activity. Among the worst parts of being on welfare can be the isolation and loss of self-esteem that go with it. Work experience activities can give people a chance to upgrade their skills, gain experience that will help in a job search, and interact with a wide variety of people. Participants will get the basic allowance and a special work allowance.
- Supports to Employment Program (STEP). This program, which was introduced in 1989, is effective and will be continued. It encourages people to work by letting them keep a portion of their basic allowance while working.

We will also tighten welfare eligibility requirements for 16-to-18-year-olds. Before becoming eligible, a 16-to-18-year-old and his or her family will be required to receive family counselling. Welfare benefits will not be paid unless the family counsellor determines that the youth is in an abusive situation.

Restoring Balance in Labour Relations

A modern economy should have a fair balance between the rights of employers and the rights of workers. Over the past four years, changes to the Labour Relations Act have sent out a strong message that Ontario is anti-business. This must change.

A Liberal government will restore the labour relations balance through a package of fair and reasonable reforms. As part of our amendments to correct the impact on the Labour Relations Act of the NDP's Bill 40, we will:

- allow non-bargaining-unit employees and managerial personnel from any company location to perform the work of striking employees;
- exempt companies with fewer than 20 employees from the ban on replacement workers;
- disallow the use of any replacement workers in cases of bad-faith bargaining;
- expand the exemptions for emergency and necessary work to include important municipal services;
- allow for contracting-out of the work of the striking bargaining unit, with the work to be performed off-site;
- exempt short railway lines from "successor rights" provisions;
- repeal the Agricultural Labour Relations Act and reinstate the exemption for agricultural workers in the Labour Relations Act;
- establish a 1-800-CERTIFY line to supply information on the certification and decertification process;
- continue to allow automatic certification at 55 percent support;
- allow employees to oppose a certification drive if they choose;
- allow the Ontario Labour Relations Board to order a secret vote in a certification drive if the

- employees' wishes are unclear;
- in cases involving the consolidation and combination of bargaining units, require the OLRB to call a vote within each unit separately, with at least a 51 percent vote in each unit required for consolidation; and
- limit picketing in shopping malls to the entrances and exits of the struck location.

Our fair and balanced package of reforms will send a clear message that Ontario is "open for business."

Putting the Brakes on Soaring Car Insurance Premiums

During the 1990 provincial election campaign, the NDP made public car insurance one of the centrepieces of its election platform. After the election, the government quickly abandoned its commitment but said it had an even better way of keeping a lid on car insurance premiums. In 1994, that "better way" cost Ontario car owners an average of 11.5 percent in premium hikes. Prices are expected to soar even higher this year.

Auto insurance is the NDP's number-one broken promise. A Liberal government will take quick action to undo the damage caused by the NDP's car insurance legislation. We will:

- eliminate the 5 percent tax on car insurance premiums;
- limit the right to sue for non-economic loss;
- restore the right to sue for economic loss;
- reduce statutory benefits to a realistic level that is closer to the average industrial wage;
- cap health and rehabilitation benefits except in serious cases;
- ensure the provision of additional optional coverage; and
- streamline the Ontario Insurance Commission.

Our package of reforms will make auto insurance more affordable.



TIMETABLE FOR ACTION

30 DAYS

- Reinstate the land-transfer tax rebate for first-time home-buyers
- Permanently exempt live theatres with fewer than 3,200 seats from the entertainment tax

90 DAYS

- Introduce the Youth Opportunities strategy
- Improve farm safety-net programs and protect the farm-tax rebate
- Reinstate the Ontario Incredible tax rebate program for tourists

1 YEAR

- Boost exports by opening a small number of low-cost economic offices in foreign countries
- Market the quality of Ontario produce by introducing the "Ontario Choice" designation.
- Support innovative industries, including the biotechnology industry

onomic support

Government can't be all things to all people. But by supporting communities and industries at critical stages in their development, it can help them take advantage of existing opportunities and create new ones. Government can also stimulate economic growth by supporting key infrastructure projects, making it easier for companies to export, promoting new job-creating knowledge industries, and helping young people to train and find work.

In times of fiscal restraint, government can't be all things to all people. Even at the best of times there are many areas where government is ineffective or just shouldn't be involved. But there are critical times in the life of a person, community, or industry when carefully targeted support can mean the difference between seizing opportunity and missing the boat.

All across this province, individuals and groups, communities and industries are mobilizing to improve their economic situation and tackle the future. By carefully focusing its assistance in ways that will produce results, government can help them take advantage of existing opportunities and create new ones.

The previous chapter highlighted steps that a Liberal government will take to create an overall economic climate that will benefit all businesses and attract new investment, including balancing the budget, cutting spending, cutting taxes, getting rid of red tape, making training a more important part of economic activity, creating a fair and fiscally responsible workers' compensation system, and restoring the labour relations balance. This chapter outlines further steps that a Liberal government will take to more directly stimulate key economic activities and critical sectors of the economy. Specifically, we will:

- introduce a Youth Opportunities strategy that will help 15-to-24-year-olds get education, training, and jobs;
- help communities to diversify their economies;
- stimulate growth in innovative sectors such as biotechnology and telecommunications;

- encourage and make it easier for companies to export their goods and services;
- · help farmers to be more competitive;
- promote strong cultural industries;
- help Ontario's tourism industry get a larger share of the global market;
- create a more secure future for people who work in forestry and mining;
- promote equal opportunity based on merit; and
- make housing more affordable, including preserving rent controls.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will create a Young
Ontario Works program
for 17-to-25-year-olds.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will encourage
business to hire young
people and develop
a scholarship program
using tax credits.

Youth Opportunities

Statistics tell us that Ontario is supposed to be enjoying an economic recovery. But the reality is that if there is an economic recovery, young Ontarians have been left out. The current jobless rate for 15-to-24-year-olds officially stands at around 14 percent. The real unemployment rate is closer to 25 percent – a level not seen since the Great Depression.

More than 119,000 of Ontario's best and brightest young people cannot find work. Without summer jobs, students are unable to pay for college and university. Without a post-secondary education, they will find it even harder to get a job in the future. To make matters worse, in tough economic times young people have to compete for entry-level jobs not just against one another but against experienced older workers. This makes it even more difficult to gain the initial work experience on which to build a career. Perhaps the hardest hit are those who have left the formal education and training system without the skills to succeed in today's workplace.

A Liberal government will give special attention to helping jobless young Ontarians. We will introduce a Youth Opportunities strategy that will help them get education, training, and jobs. In cooperation with the private sector and communities, our plan will give young people new opportunities to build a secure future. The Youth Opportunities strategy will include:

- a Young Ontario Works program for 17-to-25year-olds; and
- a new Youth Opportunities Training Network.

Young Ontario Works will provide a full year of work experience in either a business or a community service setting for 5,000 young people annually. Participants who finish the program will earn both an \$8,000 salary and a \$2,000 voucher for further education or training. The Youth Opportunities Training Network will be developed with the business community and will give young people who have left high school intensive skills training so they can find jobs or finish their education. The network will also operate a data base accessible by computers at Youth Employment Centres or through cable-TV – offering information on college and university programs, job openings, apprenticeship programs, and all other employment programs for youth.

Other features of our Youth Opportunities strategy will include:

- more funding for summer jobs and for the Futures program, in order to assist 15,000 more young people;
- expanded cooperative education and apprenticeship programs;
- encouraging business to hire young people and developing a scholarship program using tax credits; and
- ensuring that the Ontario Training Network data base includes specialized listings of education, training, and job opportunities for youth.

Every effort must be made to encourage young Ontarians to finish their education. We will tighten the existing welfare program so that 16-to-18-

"If Ontario is to have a strong global economy, it must be more successful at new high-growth industries, such as multimedia and computer software."

year-olds can collect benefits only if they are regularly attending education or training programs.

Helping Communities to Help Themselves

Most communities in Ontario continue to suffer from high unemployment. But some have been harder hit than others. As of January 1995, the St. Catharines–Niagara region and Thunder Bay had particularly high jobless rates. Even Toronto had an unemployment rate of 8.8 percent.

Many Ontario regions rely upon resource sectors for job creation and economic development. But with the price and demand for natural resources often fluctuating, they need to diversify their industrial base to create new jobs and secure their economic future. In many other communities, the public sector has been a principal employer. Yet with government badly needing to become more streamlined and efficient, these communities must find new ways of creating jobs in the private sector.

Local communities hold the key to their economic success. They have the ideas, the commitment, and the energy to find new opportunities and turn them into successful businesses. Local community economic development can offer new opportunities for communities such as Ontario's francophones to work together to create jobs and economic growth. Government's role is to make it easier for communities to turn their ideas into actions. A Liberal government will:

- create community-based financial self-help networks to make it easier for companies to get financing;
- make sure that short-term financing is available on a commercial loan basis to principal employers in Ontario communities that find themselves in financial trouble because of cyclical economic circumstances; and
- help communities and companies get the economic assistance they need by installing onestop information facilities offering data on federal, provincial, and municipal programs.

More Innovation Means More Jobs

In the past, Ontario's economic success was largely built on a base of physical labour, natural resources, and capital. In the future it will come as much or more from the generation of new ideas. The global economy is being pushed forward by innovation-driven economies. An innovation-driven economy is one in which the economy grows through the application of ideas that add value to goods and services.

The process of innovation isn't limited to new industries. It is playing an important part in all sectors and in all regions of Ontario's economy. For example, nickel producers, who are based largely in northern Ontario, have pioneered new mining technologies. Canadian banks, most of which are headquartered in Toronto, have been leaders in developing and implementing automated banking technology.

Traditional industries will continue to play an important part in a diverse Ontario economy, but if this province is to have a strong global economy, it must be more successful at new high-growth industries such as multimedia, entertainment, and computer software. Growth in these sectors will mean high-skilled jobs for Ontarians. A Liberal government will:

 expand the Sectoral Partnership Program of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade to include new industries, such as computer software.

An example of how well Ontario is positioned to take advantage of innovation is the area of biotechnology, which is the use of biological processes and living cells in the manufacture of products, or as part of industrial processes. The province is already a leader in industrial biotechnology. Approximately 40 percent of all Canadian biotechnology companies are in Ontario, and they employ more than 2,000 scientists, technologists, and production workers. Competition in this sector is fierce, and the provincial government can play a strategic role by making sure Ontario stays competitive. A key way to do this is to make Ontario a centre for research and for production of the biopharmaceutical and industrial products

A Liberal government
will expand the
Sectoral Partnership
Program to include
new industries such as
computer software.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will help communities and
companies by installing
one-stop information
facilities offering data
on federal, provincial, and
municipal programs.

that are the source of significant jobs.

A Liberal government will support this sector by establishing a Biotechnology Sectoral Partnership. This venture, funded jointly by government and the private sector, will:

- determine who is currently conducting biotechnology research and support the appropriate research;
- help researchers become aware of what biotechnology research is going on in the world and determine, through peer review, what research should be advanced;
- help companies obtain regulatory approvals; and
- support the successful production of biotechnology products for global export.

This sectoral partnership will also help researchers protect intellectual property and will bring together experts from around the world to assess the current state of knowledge in the area. Through the existing Ontario Network Infrastructure Program, it will help create the kind of telecommunications that can transmit video and images globally, providing world-class telecommunications for researchers.

Biotechnology is just one example of how Ontario can make better use of innovation to create high-skilled, well-paying jobs.

Job Creation in the Health Care Sector

The private sector has an important role to play in delivering health care. Driving out private providers – as the NDP government has been doing for the last four years – will not result in

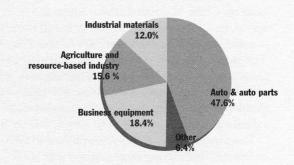


economic support

STATE OF AFFAIRS

EXPORTS

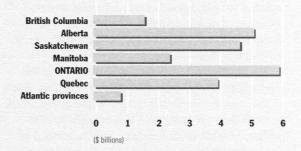
Although Ontario has a wide range of exports, our balance of trade has traditionally relied on the auto sector. We need to do more to enhance foreign sales of other products in order to improve our overall exports.



Source: Ontario Economic Outlook, Ontario Ministry of Finance, 1994

AGRICULTURE

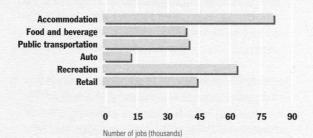
Ontario continues to be the country's largest agricultural province, measured by 1993 farm receipts.



Source: 1994 Ontario Agriculture Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

JOBS IN TOURISM

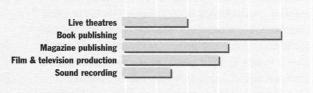
The \$16.9-billion Ontario tourism industry is responsible for 272,320 jobs.



Source: Report of the Advisory Committee on a Tourism Strategy for the Province of Ontario, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation, 1994

CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

During the worst of the recession, while total employment in Ontario fell by 3 percent, employment in the cultural industries grew by 1 percent.



0 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000 5,000 6,000

Number of jobs

better or cheaper services. In fact, giving either the profit or the not-for-profit sector a monopoly will lead to care that is more expensive and less efficient as competition is removed.

The home care market shows the benefits of having private providers. Private providers expanded into that market during the 1980s because people were demanding care that could be provided 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Today, private home care providers make up 45 percent of the market. Consumers are well served, costs are controlled, and the not-for-profit sector has admitted that the introduction of the commercial sector has made its operations more effective and efficient.

The private sector in health care services creates jobs, brings in tax revenue, introduces new technologies and efficiencies, and helps promote higher-quality care. There is great potential for this sector to help us achieve our goal of exporting more new technologies to foreign markets. A Liberal government will:

• take a balanced approach to health care delivery that includes a role for the private sector.

Opening Markets Abroad Creates Jobs

Ontario's private sector is more than capable of creating the hundreds of thousands of jobs needed to reach our goal of 6 percent unemployment. But if the province is going to achieve this much growth, it must export more goods and services.

Right now, although trade makes up 30 percent of Canada's economy, fewer than 10 percent of Canadian firms, including Ontario firms, sell their goods and services in other countries. A Liberal government will encourage Ontario companies to break into international markets and make it easier for them to do so, by taking better advantage of the wealth of international business expertise and experience in Ontario's ethnocultural communities, and by more aggressively making Ontario's presence felt in key markets. As part of our plan to boost exports, we will:

 create Export Ontario, an on-line information clearinghouse and network for the business community, which will allow companies that POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will create Export Ontario,
an on-line information
clearinghouse and
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community.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will open a small number
of low-cost economic
offices in foreign countries to help Ontario's
private sector to export.

- want to export to tap into the business resources of the ethnocultural community in Ontario that corresponds to their target market;
- ensure that Ontario companies have access to major foreign trade shows, and increase trade missions to expanding markets;
- expand the existing New Exporters to Border States program, which helps Ontario companies sell into the United States; and
- open a small number of low-cost economic offices in foreign countries to help Ontario's private sector to export. We will consult with the business community about where the offices are most needed and establish them as a government-business partnership. The offices will act as an ongoing source of information and foreign contacts for Ontario exporters.

Large markets also exist closer to home but are protected by regulations and quotas. A Liberal government will negotiate with other provinces and the federal government to continue to remove remaining interprovincial trade barriers.

Infrastructure Creates Jobs Three Ways

Building infrastructure creates jobs in three different ways. It directly creates jobs for those involved in building the infrastructure. It gives Ontario industries a competitive edge. For example, trucks carry 80 percent of our trade with the United States. A good network of roads makes it easy to get these goods to their markets quickly and inexpensively. And modern infrastructure attracts new investment to our province, which in turn creates new jobs.

"Our strategy will treat agriculture as an economic industry, not a cottage industry."

We are committed to immediate action on two major infrastructure projects. We will move forward with:

- the Red Hill Creek Expressway in Hamilton; and
- Highway 416 in Ottawa.

We support the construction of four subways in Metropolitan Toronto. We believe they must be built in a fiscally responsible manner, and we would work with the Metro government, the municipalities, and the private sector to achieve this. We will also:

- restore GO Rail service to Guelph and extend that line to Kitchener-Waterloo;
- · extend GO Rail service to Barrie; and
- · extend GO Rail service to Peterborough.

New kinds of infrastructure are quickly becoming as important as highways and water systems. For instance, a province-wide information highway, giving people and companies up-to-the-minute data and modern telecommunications services as quickly in Sioux Lookout as in Toronto, will be critical in the 21st century.

Ontario currently has the Ontario Network Infrastructure Program (ONIP), which is designed to expand the use of computer networks. Such projects have enormous potential. For example, OCRInet, a high-speed fibre-optic network that links high-tech companies, academic institutions, and government agencies in Ottawa-Carleton, is being used to develop software for distance education and for collaborative research. The LARGnet project in London, Ontario, connects the University of Western Ontario to its three teaching hospitals and other institutions, so that medical personnel at one site can receive images from another.

A Liberal government will encourage innovative telecommunications infrastructure projects, particularly in the business, educational, and health care settings.

Helping Farmers to Be More Competitive

Agriculture is Ontario's second-largest industry, after the auto industry. This is Canada's biggest

agricultural province in terms of products sold.

Ontario farmers face a number of challenges as they try to maintain both a way of life and a globally competitive industry. Ontario's climate is often unpredictable, and the growing season is short. New international trade agreements and low commodity prices have made the global market-place more competitive. Meanwhile, countries such as the United States and some European states continue to subsidize their farmers heavily, putting strong financial pressure on Ontario farmers.

In challenging times, the Ontario government has failed to give farmers their fair share of support. While overall government spending has gone up by more than 15 percent over the last four years, spending on agriculture has been cut by 14 percent. The province has walked away from federal dollars by abandoning its commitment to fully fund shared-cost programs. These programs are the best protection that farmers have against sudden and severe changes in commodity prices. And although the NDP government announced a \$120-million, five-year agriculture strategy more than three years ago, just 5 percent of the money budgeted has been spent.

Ontario's agriculture industry can play a key role in the province's long-term economic recovery – if farmers are given the tools they need to survive and prosper. Ontario Liberals have worked with farmers, farming organizations, and rural communities to put together a strategy that will bring improved stability, competitiveness, and value to Ontario's agriculture industry. Our strategy will treat agriculture as an economic industry, not a cottage industry. We will:

- support improvements to safety-net programs and maintain existing levels of financial support, including the extension of the Net Income Stabilization Account (NISA) into a "whole farm" program to cover all farm commodities, providing 85 percent coverage under the Gross Revenue Insurance Plan (GRIP), and improving crop insurance;
- protect the farm property-tax rebate program until the taxation of farm lands is properly reformed;
- · create marketing programs that highlight the

BACKGROUNDER

- More than 220,000 Ontario jobs depend on the agriculture industry.
- Agriculture in Ontario is a \$26-billion-a-year industry, including \$6 billion worth of farm-gate production and \$20 billion in value-added processing.
- From 1983 to 1992, sales of Ontario farm products increased by 20 percent, but net farm incomes went up by less than 3 percent.

quality of Ontario produce, including introducing an "Ontario Choice" designation that is given only to products that meet the highest quality standards;

- develop a new soil and water stewardship program and other measures that help farmers in their efforts to be good environmental stewards;
- make sure that farmers have quick and convenient access to the latest technology and research tools;
- continue the current 10-year tax exemption on ethanol; and
- provide real rural development assistance including a rural investment fund – that will help farming communities develop new ways to survive and prosper.

We will also repeal the Agriculture Labour Relations Act, which hurts farmers by adding more costs and red tape, and makes labour conflicts more likely. And we will bring back an exemption for family farms under the Ontario Labour Relations Act.

Strong Cultural Industries

Ontarians take pride in the fact that our cultural activities and attractions are among the best in the world. These industries entertain, inform, and challenge their audiences. They reflect Canadian values and traditions and strengthen our sense of identity.

Cultural industries generate much economic activity and a great number of jobs. Ontario's cultural industries – which produce books, maga-

zines, periodicals, film and television programs, audio and video music recordings, and commercial theatre – employ 56 percent of the national cultural workforce. In 1992 alone, Ontario's cultural industries generated revenues of \$3.2 billion. Even during the worst of the recession, these industries continued to grow.

Cultural industries have enormous potential for future growth – potential they will realize if they succeed in meeting a number of challenges. Like many industries, the cultural industries have shown great leadership in identifying the challenges facing them and in developing a strategic vision for meeting those challenges. Government can help them to seize their opportunities for growth by supporting a number of critical activities. The Liberal plan for cultural industries will:

- create a Centre for Cultural Industries and Technology, jointly funded by government and industry, to promote strategic alliances and help Ontario become a world leader in multimedia;
- more aggressively market Ontario as a cultural tourism destination, by including cultural attractions in the new 1-800 tourism information and reservation system (see next section);
- support Canada's publishing industry by requiring that all new textbooks and education materials used in Ontario schools in five years be produced by Canadian publishers;
- support Ontario's theatre industry by, within 30 days of taking office, permanently exempting commercial live theatres with fewer than 3,200 seats from the entertainment tax (instead of reviewing the exemption every year); and
- support Ontario's film industry by, within 90 days of taking office, making the Ontario Film Investment Program permanent, with its budget based on demand (approximately \$25 million per year) instead of a fixed allocation (currently \$14.7 million).

Attracting Tourists to Ontario

Tourism is a fast-growing industry. In a world going global, tourism has almost limitless potential as a source of revenue and jobs.

Tourism is already important to Ontario. More than 270,000 Ontarians work in parts of the industry such as accommodation, food and beverages, public transportation, and recreation. Tourism in Ontario generates nearly \$17 billion a year. This province is the top gateway to Canada, receiving 66 percent of all U.S. visitors and 53 percent of overseas visitors.

Yet Ontario is barely scratching the surface of the potential tourist market. This province does not do a good enough job of selling itself around the world. Ontario's diversity of languages and cultures, such as the francophone culture, holds tremendous tourism potential. In particular, Ontario needs to be more aggressively promoted as a winter tourism destination. Another problem is the difficulty that potential tourists have in finding out about events in Ontario and making reservations for those events. And by charging retail sales tax to visitors, Ontario contributes to its image as an expensive destination that does not welcome tourists.

A Liberal government will help Ontario tap into a larger share of the booming global tourist trade. As noted earlier, we will:

- bring back the Ontario Incredible program, which gives visitors a rebate on retail sales tax paid on accommodations and goods purchased in Ontario, in order to send a clear message that Ontario is open and welcoming to visitors;
- reduce the 5 percent tax on hotel rooms to 3 percent; and
- expand the current 1-800 central information and reservation system pilot project to provide full-service, one-stop access to all of Ontario's attractions.

We will also:

- support the development of a resource-based tourism strategy that promotes outdoor activities such as fishing, camping, and skiing;
- take into account the economic importance of tourism when making decisions about natural resources;
- aggressively market tourism through our proposed network of low-cost foreign offices; and

• work with regional businesses and organizations to market Ontario's various regions effectively.

Helping the Forestry and Mining Sectors

Natural resource industries are an important part of Ontario's economy. They are a major source of jobs and provincial revenue. The forestry sector, for example, employs more than 60,000 Ontarians directly and 127,000 indirectly. It provides over 75 percent of all manufacturing jobs in northwestern Ontario and 35 percent of all manufacturing jobs in northeastern Ontario. The mining sector employs 20,000 people directly and 50,000 indirectly. It creates jobs in over 50 communities and contributes \$153 million to provincial revenues.

These sectors have been severely affected by the global recession, increased competition, and fluctuating commodity prices. They have also seen their ability to compete and create jobs undermined by a number of harmful provincial policies. Some of these policies have been specifically targeted at resource industries. The forestry industry has been hurt by dramatic hikes in stumpage fees and Crown dues, commercial land withdrawals, and a decrease in the government's commitment to forest renewal. The government's decision to end the managed-forest tax rebate program has taken \$1.7 million out of the pockets of private forest-owners. And the Crown Forest Sustainability Act creates an uncertain climate for the industry.

Forestry and mining have also been hurt by provincial policies that have substantially increased costs for all businesses in Ontario. Soaring WCB premiums, increased Hydro rates, environmental regulations based on questionable science, and rising corporate income and capital taxes have made it far more difficult for these industries to compete internationally and create jobs at home. The Ontario Liberal plan to balance the budget, cut taxes, freeze WCB premiums, get rid of red tape, and restore the balance in labour relations will create a better economic climate for all businesses in Ontario. A Liberal government will also help the natural resources sector by:

· reinstating the managed-forest tax rebate pro-

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government will
reinstate the Ontario
Incredible retail sales tax
rebate for tourists.

A Liberal government
will offer favourable
tax treatment to mining
companies for funds
they set aside for mine
reclamation.

- gram on an interim basis, while reviewing the long-term assessment of managed forest land;
- offering favourable tax treatment to mining companies for funds they set aside for mine reclamation;
- working with the forestry sector to improve the Crown Forest Sustainability Act and create a more certain environment for the sector; and
- improving the effectiveness of environmental regulations as they apply to the natural resources sector.

Equal Opportunity Based on Merit

A multicultural society like Ontario must work to ensure that everyone who lives here enjoys an equal opportunity, especially when it comes to jobs. Government can play a positive role in promoting equal opportunity. It can lead by example through its hiring and promotion practices in the public service. It can educate. And it can legislate and enforce tough laws that prohibit discrimination.

Legislation is an important and powerful tool. But like most tools it must be used properly to be effective. The Employment Equity Act, which took effect in September 1994, is widely regarded as adversarial, bureaucratic, and expensive to administer.

Ontario Liberals support the principle of employment equity. We are committed to working with employers and others to ensure that everyone is treated fairly in the workplace and that everyone has equal access to employment opportunities. We believe that the guiding spirit in workplace decisions should be merit, not quotas.

"We are unequivocal in our commitment to remove the barriers to full participation in Ontario society." Our approach to promoting employment equity will include:

- amending the Employment Equity Act to make it clear that quotas cannot be imposed; and
- working with employers and others to streamline regulations under the act, in order to reduce implementation costs.

A particularly persistent equity problem is the lack of access to trades and professions for foreigntrained persons. A Liberal government will:

 work with educational institutions, licensing and regulatory bodies, the professions and trades, community-based organizations, and employers to improve access for foreign-trained persons to trades and professions.

We are unequivocal in our commitment to remove the barriers to full participation in Ontario society. Many communities have told us, however, that government and government processes are among these barriers. Therefore, a Liberal government will perform a complete review of the public consultation and outreach practices of all government departments. On the basis of this review, we will make changes necessary to ensure full participation.

Housing Must Be Affordable and Safe

Affordable housing must be part of Ontario's economic strategy. If Ontarians are forced to use more and more of their earnings and savings to pay for quickly rising housing costs, then the benefits of tax cuts will disappear for families and for the overall economy.

We strongly support rent controls. Tenants must be protected from high rent increases. A Liberal government will not abandon rent controls, as the Conservative Party has promised to do. We will:

- preserve rent controls; and
- within our first year in office, simplify the existing system and streamline it to provide better service to tenants and landlords.

We will also act to help Ontarians purchase their first home. A Liberal government will:

• bring back the land-transfer tax rebate for firsttime home-buyers.

The private sector estimates that 25 percent of housing costs are related to the lengthy government approvals process now in place. The so-called planning reforms implemented by the NDP will only make planning decisions more cumbersome and costly. We believe the approvals process must be streamlined, by placing more authority to make decisions with municipalities. A Liberal government will:

• reform the implementation and enforcement of the province's new planning legislation.

Building code changes also add to the cost of building a home. The homebuilding industry estimates that recent changes to the code have added as much as \$8,000 to the cost of a new home. We will:

 place a moratorium on all but emergency changes to the Ontario Building Code for two years.

After two years, we will require any proposed changes to the building code to undergo a formal cost-benefit analysis.

We are concerned about the state of Ontario's non-profit housing system. As early as 1992 the Provincial Auditor reported a lack of cost controls and accountability in the system. A Liberal government will:

- place an immediate moratorium on non-profit housing allocations; and
- within our first year in office, review the effectiveness and management of the program and implement measures to bring costs under control, make the program more accountable, and increase the involvement of the private sector in providing affordable housing.

The passage of Bill 120 has had a negative effect

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government will support strong rent controls in order to protect Ontario's tenants from high rent increases.

A Liberal government
will introduce fire safety
training for tenants in
high-rise apartments.

on retirement homes in Ontario. By including retirement homes in landlord-and-tenant legislation, instead of tailoring special legislation, the government has jeopardized the health and safety of seniors in these homes. For example, requiring 24 hours' notice before entering a resident's room makes it impossible to provide necessary services to residents, such as night-time bed checks. In addition, the legislation has made it very difficult to remove a resident who is endangering another or who needs to be moved to a more intensive level of care. Bill 120 also took away the right of municipalities to decide when and where basement apartments are appropriate, and it will not ensure that existing basement apartments are inspected for fire and building code safety. A Liberal government will:

- undo the impact of Bill 120 in order to meet the special needs of those who live and work in retirement homes:
- return authority to municipalities to approve where new basement apartments can be constructed; and
- implement mandatory registration of all basement apartments, and allow municipalities to require that they be inspected for building and fire code compliance prior to registration.

We are also concerned about fire safety readiness in high-rise apartment buildings. We will conduct a complete inventory of all fire safety features in high-rise apartment buildings, including specific emergency plans. We will also move to introduce fire safety training for tenants in high-rise apartments.



TIMETABLE FOR ACTION

30 DAYS

- Stop the implementation of the NDP's flawed long-term care legislation and introduce a bill that will preserve the role of volunteer organizations in long-term care
- Stop the implementation of the NDP Advocacy Act, scrap the Advocacy Commission, and move to bring in legislation to meet the needs of vulnerable people

90 DAYS

- Establish two Call-In Care projects in southwestern and northern Ontario 24-hour, toll-free numbers giving access to medical advice, to avoid costly and unnecessary trips to hospital emergency rooms
- Restore health coverage for out-of-country emergency services to previous levels

1 YEAR

- Set up a Cancer Control Agency to carry out province-wide planning and management of cancer care
- Expand 911 emergency services to more communities
- Establish the Ontario Health Research and Development Council to coordinate health care research

High-quality, universal, accessible care — without user fees — is the hallmark of our health care system. In order to preserve quality health care, we must set priorities, attack fraud and waste, and put the care of patients and their families first.

Even in tough economic times, high-quality, universal, accessible health care must be one of government's top priorities. Ontarians want to be sure that they and their families can get top-notch health care when they need it, regardless of where they live or how much money they make.

Ontarians have many legitimate concerns about our health care system. Is medicare in jeopardy? Will emergency care be there when it's needed? Will the system be able to cope with the rising incidence of cancer and the growing need for long-term care? Are taxpayers getting good value for the \$17 billion spent each year on health care, or is there too much waste, fraud, and duplication?

Ontario Liberals are committed to renewing the health care system to make sure it is effective and affordable, provides value for the dollar, and involves all of us in key decisions. We support a strong role for communities in health care, including giving patients and local communities a greater say in decisions affecting their health care.

A Liberal government will make patients and their families the focus of the health care system. We will:

- say no to user fees;
- improve emergency services, including expanding 911 services;
- aggressively step up the fight against cancer, including spending more money for needed radiation equipment;
- fix the NDP's flawed long-term care legislation by stopping its implementation and moving quickly to introduce changes;

A Liberal government
will restore coverage for
out-of-country emergency
services to previous levels.

- scrap the NDP Advocacy Commission and move to meet the needs of vulnerable people;
- · support a drug insurance plan;
- · get mental health care reform on track;
- spend our health care dollars wisely by eliminating fraud, abuse, duplication, and waste in the system; and
- help consumers become more involved in maintaining their health and making health care decisions.

A Liberal government
will reject user fees,
because they are a
tax on the sick and will
not stop abuse.

Saying No to User Fees

Some people believe that more money can be brought into the health care system by charging user fees for medical services. They say that such fees would stop abuse because people would not use the system unnecessarily if they had to pay for each call or visit.

But studies show clearly that user fees do not cut costs and do not stop abuse. Any fee that is too small to have an impact on a patient's ability to pay is too small to serve as a deterrent. Any fee large enough to discourage use will deter patients from seeking necessary care. And by keeping people from getting care in the early stages of an illness, user fees may actually increase the cost of health care, since treatment in later stages requires more intensive and expensive care.

People should not be penalized because they are sick. No Ontarian should have to choose between health care and other needs. A Liberal government will:

 reject user fees, because they are a tax on the sick and will not stop abuse.

Affordable health care must be available to Ontarians whether they are at home or abroad. When the NDP government slashed the daily rate that OHIP pays for out-of-country emergency services, it created a new hardship for many Ontarians, especially seniors. Seniors must now pay higher insurance premiums or risk travelling without insurance. Many who are in delicate health are now forced to stay in Ontario even in the midst of harsh winters, which may worsen their health and force them to get treatment that

would otherwise be unnecessary.

We believe this policy is not only short-sighted, it may be against the law. The Canada Health Act guarantees Ontarians accessibility and portability. A Liberal government will:

 restore coverage for out-of-country emergency services to previous levels, allowing foreign institutions and practitioners to be reimbursed up to OHIP levels for eligible services.

Better Emergency Services

Most people, if given the information and support they need, will do everything they can to prevent illness and injury. But there are still times when people need emergency help. At such times, proper services must be available, and they must be delivered by fully trained teams using the most up-to-date techniques and equipment.

In many parts of the province, services fall short of these reasonable expectations. There may not be enough physicians on call in emergency wards. Emergency 911 numbers and fully trained paramedic teams are not yet available in all communities. There may be poor connections or confusing protocols between ground and air services and trauma centres, or between fire departments and ambulances.

The current government deals with emergency services in a fragmented way. Air ambulances, doctors on call, and paramedics are treated as separate matters. A Liberal government will create an integrated system where the various players are

"Any fee large enough to discourage use will deter patients from seeking necessary care. By keeping people from getting care in the early stages of an illness, user fees may actually increase the cost of health care."

connected in a coordinated way. We will:

- develop timelines for upgrading, streamlining, or changing existing practices;
- expand 911 services to include more communities; and
- work with stakeholders to decide what elements are needed in an emergency system, including the types and levels of service.

Emergency services must be available to all who need them. But some Ontarians misuse emergency rooms and urgent care facilities for conditions that can safely be treated in other settings. Generally, they don't have enough information to understand how our health care system works or which part of it they should be using. A Liberal government will, in partnership with the private sector:

 set up two Call-In Care pilot projects, one in southwestern Ontario and one in northern Ontario.

When people in these pilot areas believe they need urgent medical care, they will be able to call a toll-free phone number and speak to a nurse-practitioner, who will direct them to the most appropriate treatment – be it an emergency room, a doctor's office during regular hours, or the local pharmacy for over-the-counter medication.

Currently, ambulance services are provided in a fragmented way. We will work to improve the coordination between ground and air services and trauma centres, and to reduce the confusing arrangements that exist between fire departments and ambulances. We will bring together municipalities, hospitals, health care providers, ambulance operators, and others to improve the provision of ambulance services as part of a coherent and cohesive emergency system throughout the province.

Small and rural areas face particular problems in providing emergency care. In small and rural hospitals, doctors providing emergency services at night or on weekends usually receive a low volume of calls, meaning they get little compensation through the fee-for-service payment system. As a result, many doctors have asked that they be guar-

anteed a certain salary for these shifts, or that hospitals top up their fee-for-service billings. Hospitals face a difficult choice – losing their emergency services, or placing further strain on already stretched budgets.

Ontario Liberals believe hospitals should not be responsible for topping up physicians' incomes out of their global budgets; rather, fair compensation methods should be spelled out in agreements between the Ministry of Health and the Ontario Medical Association, and included in government transfer payments for physicians. The question of compensation for emergency on-call services must also be considered in the wider context of the planning and delivery of health care services in isolated and rural communities and in underserviced areas. A Liberal government will:

 enter negotiations with the Ontario Medical Association and doctors to develop new payment plans in order to compensate physicians who provide services in low-volume emergency wards and do not receive adequate compensation through the fee-for-service model.

Meeting the Cancer Challenge

One of the greatest challenges we face as a society is preparing the health care system to help the growing number of people with cancer. Because the population is aging, the number of new cancer cases in Ontario is expected to grow from 43,000 a year to 60,000 by the year 2000.

Most people with cancer who are treated in Ontario receive excellent care from supportive professionals. But the system is strained: waiting lists are often too long; too few people are available to diagnose, treat, or care for patients; and there are not enough radiation machines. If more radiation machines are not brought on line, it is estimated that by the year 2000 one out of every five patients needing radiation treatment will not be able to get it.

As in many other areas of health care, decisions about cancer treatment are often made without the patient's input or without all options being explained. Patients and their families have little access to needed support. And no province-wide

A Liberal government
will set up two Call-In
Care pilot projects,
one in southwestern
Ontario and one
in northern Ontario.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will create a Provincial
Cancer Control Agency
to carry out the provincewide planning and
management that is not
taking place now.

planning process is in place – no one even knows much money is now being spent on cancer care.

A Liberal government will put a high priority on improving cancer care in Ontario. As a first step, we will create a Provincial Cancer Control Agency to carry out the province-wide planning and management that is not taking place now. The agency will be responsible for:

- strategic planning and funding;
- maintaining a registry of cancer patients, coordinating research, and evaluating care to make sure it is effective and efficient;
- developing a strategy to meet significant shortand long-term personnel needs, including designing educational programs and setting enrolment quotas to fill expected staff vacancies and serve the projected numbers of patients;
- doing multi-year planning for radiology and laboratory equipment.

In the short term, we will make sure that the urgent need for radiology equipment is met.

Correcting Long-Term Care Reform

Like all parts of the health care system, long-term care for seniors, people with disabilities, and those with debilitating illnesses such as AIDS must be delivered in a coordinated and compassionate

In the late 1980s, many advocacy groups voiced the concern that the long-term care system was too large, too bureaucratic, and too difficult to

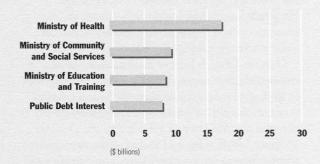


ealth care

STATE OF AFFAIRS

HEALTH CARE SPENDING

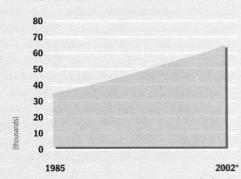
Health care continues to consume the single largest share of the provincial budget.



Source: 1994 Ontario Budget

CANCER CASES IN ONTARIO

The number of cases of cancer in Ontario has been rising steadily and is projected to increase by 27 percent between 1995 and 2002.

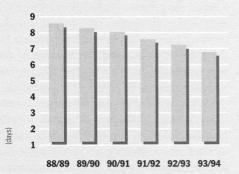


Source: Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation, 1994

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HOSPITAL STAYS

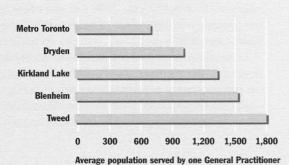
New technologies and treatment procedures have helped hospitals reduce the average length of stay for acute care.



Source: Ministry of Health; Ontario Hospital Association - Health Resources Unit

PHYSICIAN SERVICES

There are serious variations in the level of physician services available in communities across the province.



use. The Liberal government of the day responded by proposing a "one-stop" network that would coordinate and provide information on all available services.

When the NDP took office, they steered long-term care reform in a different direction. Legislation introduced in June 1994 (Bill 173) proposed the creation of multi-service agencies (MSAs) that would not only coordinate and manage services but also deliver them. Existing community agencies, many of which have a long tradition of compassionate, quality care, would all be rolled into government-run MSAs. And private agencies would be allowed to deliver only 20 percent of the services provided by the MSAs.

In hearings conducted on Bill 173, dozens of care providers and consumer groups raised serious concerns. They pointed out that agencies such as Meals on Wheels, the Victorian Order of Nurses, Red Cross Homemaking, and the United Way would lose the autonomy they had built up over many years. They noted that people would be less willing to volunteer their time and money when the individual agencies they were devoted to lost their identities in a large government bureaucracy. They expressed concerns that the special needs of people requiring long-term care in multicultural communities would no longer be met. Thousands of jobs could be lost, they argued, when existing agencies are swallowed up by the MSAs. And they said that consumers would not be better served by a monopoly-run, higher-cost government organization. Despite these many valid concerns, the NDP government invoked closure and forced through the passage of Bill 173.

The Liberal Party remains committed to making the long-term care system easier to use and more coordinated. But we do not believe that the answer is to take responsibility out of the hands of individual communities and agencies and give it to a centralized government bureaucracy. A Liberal government will immediately stop the implementation of Bill 173 and bring in legislation to:

 allow agencies such as the Red Cross, VON, Meals on Wheels, and the United Way to continue providing services; POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government will
change the law so that
seniors who live in rest
and retirement homes can
once again get services
such as light nursing and
security checks.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government will stop the implementation of Bill 173 and bring in legislation to allow agencies such as the Red Cross and the VON to continue providing services.

- give local communities the power to decide how services will be delivered and which agencies will provide the services, including the flexibility to meet the needs of those in multicultural communities; and
- make sure that services are regularly evaluated so that consumers get the best care and services possible.

By making communities the focal point for longterm care, we can make sure that services are flexible and sensitive enough to meet local needs.

Although the goal of long-term care is to help people be as independent as possible, the need for facilities such as nursing homes and homes for the aged is still growing. A Liberal government will:

- create a long-term care coordinating committee
 to measure short- and long-term requirements
 for facility-based care and to recommend a
 multi-year capital and operating plan, promoting links among facilities, hospitals, and community-based services;
- undo the impact of Bill 120 so that seniors who live in rest and retirement homes can once again get services such as light nursing and security checks; and
- consult with industry and consumers on how best to ensure that rest and retirement homes are part of an integrated long-term care network that guarantees consistently high standards.

"If Ontario is to continue offering top-notch services without user fees and without adding to our tax burden, we must make sure the health care system is cost-effective."

Protecting Vulnerable People

The Ontario Liberals support the need to protect vulnerable people who cannot make medical decisions for themselves. However, we believe the NDP advocacy legislation deals more with enhancing the power of advocates than with protecting the rights of vulnerable people. The NDP advocacy law and its expensive, bureaucratic Advocacy Commission have the potential to undermine the role of families in making decisions and reduce the independence of vulnerable people. Their scope is too broad, they are costly, and how the advocacy services will be provided is unclear. As well, the new law contains no provisions for the training and screening of advocates. A Liberal government will make sure medical care for vulnerable people is not jeopardized or delayed, by:

 stopping the implementation of the NDP Advocacy Act, scrapping the Advocacy Commission, and moving to bring in legislation that will actually meet the needs of vulnerable people.

Time for Action on Mental Health

Mental illness affects 15 percent of Ontarians, and the percentage is expected to grow as the population ages.

People who need help from the mental health system face the same problems as those using other forms of health care: services are not coordinated; planning is short-term and often based on insufficient data; and services are more widely available and better delivered in some parts of the province than in others.

The problems in Ontario's mental health care system have been studied over and over again. Everyone agrees that the system should provide a full range of services, as close to people's homes as possible, and with first priority given to those with serious mental illness or impairment.

Despite this clear consensus, the NDP government has failed to act on mental health care reform. The 1994-95 budget stripped \$30 million from psychiatric services and a further \$6.8 million from community-based mental health com-

mitments. Timelines have been set for closing psychiatric beds in hospitals, but no timelines have been set for replacing them with community supports. And there has been no analysis of how much a reformed system will cost.

It's time to get the reform of our mental health care system back on track. The time for study has passed; clear direction and firm timelines must be put in place. A Liberal government will work to improve the availability and delivery of mental health services by:

 mandating District Health Councils to develop long-range plans for a coordinated, integrated mental health care system.

In these plans, funding for any new and enhanced services should be directed to crisis and residential support, self-help and community support, social and vocational support, case management, and the coordination of local services.

Therapeutic Drugs Must Be Affordable

Given the increasing importance of drugs in health care and the growing portion of the health care budget spent on medication, Ontario must have a logical and thoughtful plan to ensure that everyone can afford therapeutically valuable drugs.

Today, one in five Ontarians has no drug insurance plan. Some of these people are self-employed. Some work in sectors such as farming or retail sales, where employer health plans are not the norm. Some aren't covered because they are seasonal, part-time, or temporary workers. For the working poor, the financial consequences of a serious illness can be devastating. For a person with a chronic condition such as AIDS, they can be catastrophic.

The NDP has introduced the Trillium Drug Program, which is designed to help those not covered by a drug plan to pay their drug costs. We understand the need for a workable, affordable, comprehensive drug plan. A Liberal government will:

 proceed with the implementation of the Trillium Drug Program and work to ensure that everyone can afford therapeutically valuable drugs.

The Need in Northern Ontario

Northern residents face many barriers to receiving health care in or near their communities. There is an inadequate supply of almost all health professionals, so patients face long waiting lists and must often travel to see specialists. Facilities in the North have difficulty recruiting and retaining doctors and, as mentioned earlier, problems ensuring emergency coverage.

Part of the solution lies in the training and education of doctors. Medical schools should emphasize particular training for work in isolated and rural areas, where primary care and clinical practice have different demands than urban environments. In addition, the schools should emphasize training that will prepare more doctors for "sole responsibility" practices. Training programs must also be more accommodating to lifelong training. A Liberal government will:

- support increased educational opportunities for the practice of rural medicine, including expansion of in-community training programs and upgrading opportunities for doctors now practising in northern Ontario;
- locate one of the two new Call-In Care pilot projects described earlier in northern Ontario;
 and
- recruit and retain doctors in northern Ontario
 by ensuring that their income is competitive
 with those in other areas of the province, by
 negotiating with the Ontario Medical
 Association and doctors to develop new payment plans.

Spending Smarter

Each Ontarian pays for the health care system through taxes or through an employer health levy. Quality care is expensive. Ontario now spends \$17 billion a year on health care – 32 cents of every dollar the province spends.

Everyone has heard of cases where money is being wasted: seniors being over-medicated, people using the system even though they are not eligible to receive care in Ontario, or services that are unnecessary or ineffective. There are examples of duplication in the way the Ministry of Health spends its budget. It seems clear that the way doctors have traditionally been paid – on a fee-for-service basis – tends to drive up the cost of the system.

If Ontario is to continue offering top-notch services without user fees and without adding to the tax burden, we must make sure the health care system is cost-effective. A Liberal government will make sure the system provides the best value for our heavy investment of dollars. As part of our plan we will:

- ensure that we have a health card system that eliminates fraud and abuse;
- cut out duplication and waste in the \$17-billion Ministry of Health budget;
- find ways of informing individuals of the cost of health care services that they have used, such as sending an itemized account, in order to give patients a real idea of costs and discourage unnecessary use;
- support the medical profession in its efforts to develop new ways of paying doctors and better managing costs; and
- support research projects that evaluate the most effective methods of treatment, so that both patients and caregivers can be confident of using the best and most appropriate treatment. We will work with health professionals to ensure that funds are available for only those treatments that have been proven to be the most effective in improving patients' health.

The Ministry of Health currently spends millions of dollars a year on a hodgepodge of research programs, with little strategic direction or coordination with the private sector. A Liberal government will:

 create an Ontario Health Research and Development Council that will develop a strategic approach, set priorities, and guide, coordinate, and develop research in Ontario.

The council will encourage cooperation between

public and private sectors in health research, stimulate technology transfer and development, and allocate public funds to health research projects. It will also perform evaluative, disease-related, and health systems research.

Three-quarters of the money Ontario spends on health care pays for those who provide services. We want to be sure that the right people are providing care in the right place and at the right cost, and that patients receive no more care – but no less either – than they need. To do that, we will reward good management and make it easier for institutions to do long-term planning. A Liberal government will:

- relate hospital funding to performance, giving hospitals an added incentive to reduce costs; and
- provide stable multi-year funding so that hospitals, nursing homes, and other facilities can plan with certainty.

Taking Charge of Our Own Health

Most Ontarians are eager to take responsibility for their own health. But the current health care system often fails to provide the information people need to prevent disease or to cope with illness or injury.

Many people feel left out of the health care process. They may be intimidated by doctors or other health professionals, or they may feel they are wasting a caregiver's time by asking questions. When patients do ask, the answers are often in medical terms most people don't understand. Alternative treatments are not always explained, and that means people don't always make an informed choice – or any choice at all.

The Liberal Party believes that patients must be viewed as consumers who have a vested interest in the outcome of their health care. That means health care professionals must be willing and able to provide the time and information that consumers need to become more educated and involved. A Liberal government will:

 demystify the health care system through public education campaigns that give consumers more information about good health and about health care services. Better education will lead to better health, more effective use of the health care system, and lower costs.

Working Together for Quality Care

Users of the health care system often find a wide variety of health professionals available, but poor communication among them. The system does not make good use of available technologies — such as computer information networks — to track patients as they move through the maze of services. The result is that tests are often repeated, seniors are over-medicated, and health professionals are unable to determine accurately what treatment has taken place, where, and by whom. Meanwhile patients are unable to get a full record of their health status, something that is vital if they are to take responsibility for their own health.

A recently created pharmacy computer network allows participating pharmacists to monitor prescriptions that are presented in their stores. Although the system is still limited, it shows the potential that a fully integrated health information system could have. A Liberal government will use computer technology to increase cooperation and information-sharing within the health care system.

Continuous improvement must be an ongoing characteristic of Ontario's health care system. We will involve the best minds in our province in a process of ongoing innovation. A Liberal government will create a Health Care Reform Commission made up of health care professionals, providers, and members of the public. The commission will:

- recommend reforms in law and in the administration of Ontario's health care system;
- point out gaps in policy or service, investigate inadequacies in the system, and comment on proposed new initiatives; and
- identify pressures among professions that get in the way of change, and point out areas where more collaboration would be helpful.

In the past few years, health care budgets have often been cut. Bringing costs under control is vital, but health care providers should not have to

BACKGROUNDER

NDP Penalizes Snowbirds

On July 1, 1994, the Ontario government cut the rate that OHIP pays for out-of-country emergency services. The rates are now significantly lower than what OHIP pays for the same treatment in Ontario:

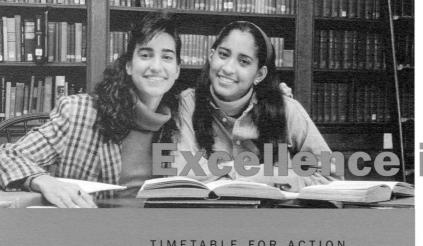
- Payments for emergency in-patient hospital services were cut from a maximum of \$400 a day to \$100 a day.
- Payments for emergency out-patient services were cut from \$55-\$400 a day to \$50 a day.
- Payments for dialysis services were cut from \$293 to \$210.

We believe this new policy is against the law. The Canada Health Act clearly states: "Where the insured health services are provided out of Canada, payment is made on the basis of the amount that would have been paid by the province for similar services rendered in the province."

cope by themselves with the enormous task of trying to provide the same quality of care with less money. When government won't take on a share of the responsibility, the result is not only a failure to communicate but a failure to cooperate, and a failure to develop a strategy so that the needs of patients can be met.

Health care providers should not have to lurch from one financial crunch to the next while government pits one sector against the next, leaving the patients out in the cold. A Liberal government will:

- ensure real cooperation between government and all participants in the health care system, in order to produce better decisions about the planning and delivery of care; and
- strengthen existing organizations and examine other ways to expand comprehensive delivery of care, such as community health centres and comprehensive health organizations.



TIMETABLE FOR ACTION

- Expand apprenticeship and cooperative education programs, which com-bine in-school learning with on-thejob training and experience
- End the NDP's failed, multimilliondollar jobsOntario Training program, and get to work on training programs that really work
- Proceed with the establishment of local school councils, made up of volunteer parents, students, community representatives, and teachers
- Establish a volunteer Council for International and Global Studies, which will increase opportunities for Ontario students to study overseas and link those students with businesses needing workers with skills in other languages and cultures
- Develop a core education program for Ontario students, with clearly defined goals and standards
- Cap trustee salaries and introduce guidelines for spending on administration
- Develop a new system for teacher education and ways for teachers to upgrade their certification

in learning

Ontario's education system must challenge students to reach high standards of achievement. A Liberal government will bring in a core program and test students in vital areas such as reading, writing, and math. We will give community groups, especially parents, a chance to become more involved in schooling. And we will spend more of our precious education dollars on classroom learning and less on administration.

Education can be a powerful tool for helping people achieve personal goals, secure rewarding jobs, and prepare to meet the challenges of the 21st century. A quality education system is also the key to letting Ontario live up to its economic potential. As many have observed, the future will belong to societies that organize themselves for learning.

Given the importance of education, it is disturbing that Ontario's system falls far short of the expectations of students, parents, employers, and many of those who work within the system. We are all concerned that students are not challenged to reach high standards or tested to make sure they get there; that parents are not involved enough in the schooling process; that too many education dollars are spent on administration instead of in the classroom; and that our schools are not able to provide the safe environment that is essential for learning.

In recent years, our schools have been deluged with a number of changes. Many of those changes have been poorly planned and poorly implemented. Teachers have often had new directions thrust upon them without consultation and without the training they need to adjust. Changes will always be made in our schools, but we must assess the value of each change against one simple test: does it improve learning?

The Royal Commission on Learning spent a year and a half consulting with thousands of Ontarians and building a broad consensus on how to renew our education system. We strongly support the majority of the commission's

recommendations. Many of those recommendations mirror or build upon commitments made in *The Lyn McLeod Commitment to Better Schools*, which was released in March 1994. A Liberal government will move to implement a number of the commission's key recommendations quickly.

As part of our plan for reforming elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education, we will:

- create a core program that all students will be expected to study, set clear standards that all students will be expected to meet, and conduct province-wide testing to make sure that those standards are being met;
- strengthen teacher education by doubling the length of the preparation program to two years and requiring teachers to upgrade their certification during their careers;
- make sure our schools prepare students for the jobs of tomorrow by stressing math, science, and technologies relating to computers, telecommunications, lasers, robotics, and micro-electronics;
- create new opportunities for communities, especially parents, to become involved in schools through local school councils;
- cut the cost of administering our education system, including publishing administrative spending guidelines for school boards and capping trustees' salaries;
- make colleges and universities more accessible by limiting increases in tuition and improving student financial assistance; and
- increase accountability of universities by ensuring that the salaries and benefits of senior officials are made public.

The Ontario Liberals have always recognized the importance of the francophone community in Ontario, especially within the Ontario education system. We strongly support the constitutional right of the francophone community to govern their education system. Furthermore, in such areas as curriculum reform and teacher training, the needs of the francophone community must be reflected.

BACKGROUNDER

- Ontario spends \$14 billion a year on education.
- There are 2,952 public elementary schools and 595 public secondary schools in Ontario.
- Ontario has 1,408 Roman Catholic elementary schools and 201 Roman Catholic secondary schools.
- In 1992, there were 1,313,668 children enrolled in elementary schools and 701,800 in secondary schools.
- There are 168 school boards and 1,986 trustees.

Setting High Standards

Just about everyone is worried that our schools are not challenging students to reach high standards of achievement. The lack of consistent standards across the province has left the public concerned, parents upset, students confused, and teachers frustrated. There is a growing anxiety that our children are not learning the basics in reading, writing, and math. And we often hear reports that Ontario students don't do as well on international tests as students from other provinces and countries.

Right now, Ontario's school system does not have a core program that is studied in all schools. There is no single body of knowledge that all Ontario students are expected to learn. We must develop one so that students, parents, teachers, and employers can know what is expected at every stage in schooling. Standards must be set, students must be tested to see if they are meeting them, and the results must be clearly reported and easy to understand. At the same time, every effort must be made to help all students and teachers achieve the standards through additional support.

To ensure that students are challenged to reach high levels of achievement in primary and secondary schools, a Liberal government will:

- create a core program for all students in Ontario schools;
- create a testing system at both the provincial and local levels to measure whether students are meeting provincial standards;

"The Ontario school system has no core program that is studied in all schools. There is no single body of knowledge that all Ontario students are expected to learn. We must develop one so that students, parents, teachers, and employers can know what is expected at every stage of schooling."

A Liberal government
will expand cooperative
education programs,
which combine in-school
experience with
on-the-job training.

A Liberal government
will strengthen teacher
education through new
initiatives such as
internship, two-year
training programs,
graduate programs, and
cooperative programs
with school boards.

- support the existing national testing program and work with other provinces to enhance it;
 and
- design a common report card for each grade.

The core program will be set by the provincial government, not by local school boards, and will include clearly defined goals and standards, particularly in the basic skills of reading, writing, math, and technology. Developing the program provincially will eliminate the need for local school systems to spend money to create their own. In developing the program, we will build on existing curriculum work done by many school boards.

The provincial and local testing system will include reporting results to students and parents at various stages of a student's education. The tests will be designed by an agency that is independent from the Ministry of Education and Training. This agency will also be responsible for reporting province-wide results to the public.

Ontario's students will achieve the highest standards only if their teachers meet standards that are equally high. Teachers must be well qualified and stay up to date throughout their careers. Today in Ontario, the minimum educational requirement to become a teacher is a university degree followed by one year of specialized teacher education. This is not adequate preparation for the challenging task of teaching in today's schools. A Liberal government will:

 proceed with the creation of a College of Teachers;

- give the College of Teachers the mandate to strengthen teacher education through new initiatives such as internship, two-year training programs, graduate programs, and cooperative programs with school boards;
- give the College the mandate to expand ongoing teacher education and to require teachers to upgrade their certification on a regular basis;
- ask the College to develop a variety of ways that teachers can upgrade their certification, such as peer review and evidence of ongoing professional development; and
- identify "best practices" in teaching methods, learning materials and resources, testing techniques, teacher education, and the use of technology, and promote their use through such means as computer networks.

Getting Ready for Tomorrow's Jobs

One of the biggest challenges facing our schools is preparing students for jobs that, in many cases, do not yet even exist. These jobs will require more education and higher skill levels than today's jobs. They will require a greater knowledge of, and ability to use, the latest technology. Employers want workers who can reason well, analyze information, and draw sound conclusions. They want workers who are constantly able to learn new skills and deal with new information.

A Liberal government will help our schools prepare students for tomorrow's jobs. We will reform our education system to:

- stress math, science, and technologies relating to computers, telecommunications, lasers, robotics, and micro-electronics;
- expand cooperative education programs, which combine in-school experience with on-the-job training; and
- emphasize the important and growing role of hands-on trades and technology by expanding our apprenticeship system and building on successful programs such as the Secondary School Workplace Apprenticeship Program.

Tomorrow's jobs will no longer focus on our own province or even our own country – they will have

BACKGROUNDER

Even traditional industries will demand higher skills. A 1985 study of the Canadian auto parts sector found that 38 percent of its jobs were classified as skilled or highly skilled. When the study was repeated in 1989, the figure had increased to 57 percent.

a global perspective. A Liberal government will ensure that our schools promote an understanding of the diversity of cultures and ideas that operate in the global marketplace. We will also focus on the "new basic skills" of critical thinking and working in groups.

Supporting Local School Councils

Parents, business, labour, and community members rightfully want to become more involved in their local schools. Their advice and support is much needed to restore essential links among home, school, and community.

Parents feel especially shut out by the current system's maze of bureaucracy and by regulations that are difficult to understand. They are frustrated by a system that seems overloaded with red tape and administration but strapped for classroom resources. Business, labour, and community members have a particular responsibility to see that the schools are teaching the right skills for the real world. Their participation in programs relating to skills training is vital.

Ontario Liberals believe that successful schools are a shared responsibility. We will create new opportunities for community involvement in our schools by:

 setting up local school councils – made up of volunteer parents, students, community representatives, and teachers – to participate in decisionmaking related to their schools, to reflect community values, and to encourage the involvement of the community at large in education;



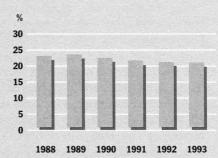
ence in learning

STATE Of AFFAIRS

STANDARDIZED TESTING

Only a minority of Ontario's secondary school students are part of any province-wide standardized testing program.

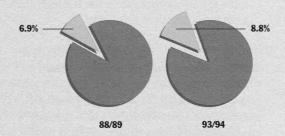
Source: Ministry of Education and Training - Statistical Services Group



Percentage of secondary students covered by standardized testing

CO-OP EDUCATION

A growing percentage of Ontario's secondary school students are enrolled in co-op education programs.



Source: Ministry of Education and Training – Statistical Services Group and Lifelong Learning Unit

VIOLENCE IN SCHOOL

Both minor and major incidents of violence in schools have been increasing.

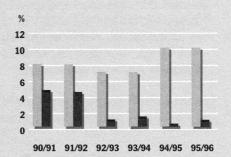
1.6
1.4
1.2
1.0
0.8
0.6
0.4
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0
1988 1989 1988 1989
minor incidents of violence of violence

Source: Federation of Women Teachers Association survey, 1990

TUITION FEES

Since taking office the NDP has increased tuition fees by 42 percent even though inflation has dropped.

Post-secondary tuition increases Inflation (projected for 95/96)



- providing more opportunities for schoolbusiness partnerships – such as mentoring, job shadowing, apprenticeships, co-op programs, and science and industry fairs – that can reduce dropout rates and help students make a more successful transition to the workplace when they do leave school; and
- setting up regional school-business-labour advisory committees to strengthen relationships between business, industry, labour, and the school system. These committees will help develop programs relating to skills training, apprenticeship, and cooperative education, while providing valuable advice on the education and training of our children.

Spending Less on Administration

Sixteen cents out of every provincial dollar and an average of 55 percent of property taxes are spent on education and training. We must make sure that we are getting value for our dollar. As much as possible, our education dollars must be spent on classroom learning rather than administration.

The creation of a provincial core curriculum will help save money by eliminating the need for individual boards of education to develop their own core curriculums. So too will the establishment of local school councils, which will help shift decision-making out of the hands of bureaucracies and into the hands of parents. A Liberal government will further cut spending on administration and get rid of waste and duplication by:

- reducing the number of trustees, placing a cap on the salaries of trustees, and recognizing the part-time nature of the job;
- clearly defining the role of school boards, publishing guidelines for spending on administration, and asking boards to publish an annual "report card" comparing their administrative spending with provincial guidelines; and
- encouraging school boards to increase efficiency and reduce costs by sharing expenses and looking for opportunities to share services with other public-sector institutions.

Over the past few years, the NDP government has

A Liberal government
will take a zero-tolerance
approach to violence and
abusive acts in schools.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will reduce the number
of trustees, cap their
salaries, and publish
administrative spending
guidelines for school
boards.

repeatedly broken its funding promises to school boards. When school boards cannot reliably plan their spending, it is more difficult for them to spend efficiently. Education funding should be fair and equitable. A Liberal government will:

 provide stable, multi-year funding to allow school boards to plan with certainty.

Zero Tolerance for School Violence

Parents, teachers, and students are all worried about safety in school. More students are carrying knives, chains, and other weapons. Teachers are becoming more vulnerable to attacks, both physical and verbal, from their students. When safety is threatened, it is almost impossible for good-quality teaching or learning to take place.

Our challenge is twofold. We have to protect the physical safety of our students and teachers. And we have to make sure that learning is not jeopardized. Teachers and school boards cannot meet this challenge alone. It requires a concerted and cooperative effort from everyone involved, including parents, students, community representatives, police, and teachers. As part of the Liberal government plan to make our schools safe, we will:

- take a zero-tolerance approach to violence and abusive acts in schools, with consequences for all such behaviour, including removal of some students from school (although the punishment will not automatically be a lifetime expulsion);
- work with school boards, students, parents, and communities to establish clear standards for

- conduct in all schools;
- use the local school councils to involve parents, students, community representatives, and teachers in developing programs to make sure the standards are met; and
- provide support and counselling programs for individual students who have difficulty meeting the standards of conduct.

Affordable College and University

Our colleges and universities must be accountable institutions offering the highest-quality education. They must also be accessible and affordable.

Since taking office, the NDP has increased tuition fees by an astounding 42 percent. The drop in university applications this year highlights the fact that, for many students, the costs of acquiring an education are already prohibitive. Meanwhile, grants under the Ontario Student Assistance Plan (OSAP) have all but disappeared and student debt has gone up significantly. In 1993-94, the average student loan jumped more than \$2,100, from \$3,200 to \$5,319.

The Ontario Liberals are committed to ensuring that our colleges and universities are accessible and affordable. Although changes in funding structures will be seen during the next year, a Liberal government will ensure that students are not subjected to continuing skyrocketing tuition increases.

We will not support any measures that would force students to shoulder a disproportionately greater financial burden for their college or university education. An Ontario Liberal government will not, as the NDP has threatened, close colleges and universities or impose 105-percent tuition increases.

We will review tuition fees, including consideration of differential fees, which take into account the economic benefits of professional and graduate programs. However, our overriding principle will continue to be:

 that tuition should reflect inflation and other relevant factors. We will not allow tuition increases to be used as a way of making up for cutbacks in university and college operating grants. Students should pay a fair and appropriate share of the costs of their post-secondary education, but the current system of student assistance is not meeting student needs. We must look seriously at new ways of supporting students and making a post-secondary education more accessible. We will:

• develop a new student assistance program.

We will examine the feasibility of a number of options for student assistance, including an income-contingent loan repayment program.

Putting Students First

Accessibility to colleges and universities in the 1990s is not just an issue of funding or costs. It also means that college and university programs must accommodate students, becoming available when, where, and how students need them.

Ontario students face a number of barriers to post-secondary education. Many students today are juggling work and family responsibilities and can't attend college or university programs offered on a traditional two-semester, Monday-to-Friday timetable. Others face barriers of distance and location. Many students are frustrated by the difficulty in moving from college programs to university courses, or in having prior learning taken into account.

A Liberal government will make student needs – not administrative requirements or institutional convenience – our first priority. A Liberal government will knock down institutional and administrative barriers and provide better service to students by:

- increasing the number of college and university courses offered on weekends, in the evenings, in the summers, on a part-time basis, and in shorter timeframes;
- removing, within two years, the needless administrative barriers to mobility of students between colleges and universities;
- enhancing students' learning opportunities by creating links between colleges and universities such as applied and associate degree programs; and
- using new technologies, such as interactive

video, computer software, and video-conferencing, to deliver teaching and learning materials to Ontario students. These technologies are flexible, cost-effective, and can make use of existing programs, such as Contact North and Village électronique. Cable companies will also be encouraged to work with community colleges and universities to deliver distance education.

An Open, Accountable System

Students, their families, and Ontario taxpayers expect their colleges and universities to be open, accountable, service-oriented, and responsive to community needs.

Under the current system, the public doesn't have access to such crucial information as how much time and money is being spent on teaching and research, as opposed to administration. As well, the salary and benefit ranges for senior university officials are not public. This must change.

A Liberal government will demand more accountability from our post-secondary institutions. We will:

- publish guidelines for spending on college and university administration and ask institutions to publish an annual "report card" comparing their administrative spending with provincial guidelines;
- require that information on the salaries and benefits paid to senior university officials be made public;
- eliminate the two bodies that now govern and monitor colleges and universities – the Ontario Council of Regents and the Ontario Council on University Affairs – and replace them with a single new agency, the Ontario Council on Higher Education, which will carry out the functions of the two previous bodies and have a special mandate to improve college-university links; and
- implement, within two years, specific and system-wide indicators for colleges and universities that will tell the public how post-secondary institutions are performing.

A Liberal government will not support any measures that would force students to shoulder a disproportionately greater financial burden for their college or university education.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government will require that information on the salaries and benefits paid to senior university officials be made public.

Studying Overseas

International activities at our colleges and universities benefit students and provide teachers with opportunities to participate in and contribute to world-class research. They also help Ontario's economy; as the economy becomes more global, workers require training and experience in the language and culture of other countries.

Ontario is particularly well placed to benefit from the presence of our strong multicultural communities, which can provide links to different educational programs, cultures, and economies around the world. We can build on these strengths, by supporting expanded international activities at our colleges and universities. A Liberal government will:

- establish a Council for International and Global Studies. This council, made up of volunteers from the public and private sectors, will increase opportunities for Ontario students to study overseas and link those students with businesses needing workers with skills in other languages and cultures; and
- expand exchange programs that allow Ontario students to study abroad. These programs would be designed to help Ontario students, particularly those who already have some knowledge of other languages, such as Italian, Chinese, and Portuguese, to build on these skills by studying in other countries.



TIMETABLE FOR ACTION

30 DAYS

- Toughen prosecution for gun-related crime, by issuing a directive to Crown attorneys
- Restrict the distribution of slasher films and video games and of serial killer cards that encourage violence against women

90 DAYS

- Introduce legislation to keep dangerous sexual predators off the streets
- Establish a rigorous review and selection process for appointments to provincial parole boards
- Make it mandatory for Crown attorneys to oppose bail when a man has previously broken a peace bond or ignored court orders to stay away from a woman

1YEAR

- Adopt a Victims' Bill of Rights
- Require provincial non-profit housing providers to carry out safety audits
- Develop new, clear sentencing guidelines for prosecutors making recommendations to judges

Ontario is still a relatively safe place to live. But as time goes on, Ontarians are feeling less secure in their homes, on their streets, and in their schools. Violent crime is a particular concern. A Liberal government will take a three-pronged approach to fighting crime: tough laws, tough enforcement, and sensible prevention measures.

Ontario is still a relatively safe and secure place to live. But ask Ontarians if they feel safer in their homes and schools or on their streets than they did five or ten years ago, and the answer is a resounding no. We have seen too many incidents of violent crime that involve guns, that victimize women and children, that are committed by young offenders, and that are increasingly random.

Ontarians have made it clear that they want government action to prevent crime, to fight violence in our communities, and to make sure that violent criminals are caught and punished.

Crime has its roots in many places: poverty, joblessness, discrimination, lack of education, child abuse, and the hopelessness that these ills can breed. If we are to control crime effectively and prevent escalating violence, we must deal with these causes.

But lawlessness, whatever its causes, cannot be tolerated. A Liberal government will use a three-pronged approach to reducing violence and stopping crime: tough laws, tough enforcement, and sensible prevention measures. We will work closely with the federal government and local communities. And we will take a realistic and balanced approach to remedies that are within the province's jurisdiction. As part of the Liberal plan for fighting crime and making our communities safe, we will:

- crack down on gun-related crimes;
- toughen sentencing, parole, and bail provisions;
- support reforms to the Young Offenders Act;
- strengthen measures to protect women and children from abuse and crime;

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will pass legislation to
keep dangerous sexual
predators off the streets.

- defend the rights of victims;
- step up the fight against hate crimes;
- create safer neighbourhoods through crime prevention methods such as safety audits and community policing; and
- develop special programs to meet the crime and safety needs of small communities.

Cracking Down on Gun-Related Crime

As guns become more common on our streets, criminals are becoming more willing to use them. According to Statistics Canada, guns were used in 31 percent of Canada's 630 murders in 1993. More than half of those murders involved handguns – up from an average of 30 percent over the previous decade. Guns were used in 42 percent of murders of women by their spouses. Thousands of guns are lost or stolen each year, and many are later used to commit violent crimes, such as the Ottawa drive-by killing of 27-year-old Nicholas Battersby.

To end the phenomenon of "illegal guns – store-bought bullets," the Ontario Liberal Party introduced legislation to restrict the sale of ammunition. A modified version of that bill is now law. A Liberal government will further control the spread and criminal use of guns and ammunition by:

- immediately toughening prosecution for gunrelated offences by issuing a directive to Crown attorneys;
- strengthening regulations governing the licensing and inspection of gun dealers; and
- supporting federal proposals to crack down on the criminal use of guns.

Tougher Sentencing and Parole Provisions

The public has lost faith in the criminal justice system.

Most people believe that courts and prisons are too lenient. They believe that sentences are not severe enough, that criminals are being allowed out of prison too soon, and that the safety and lives of innocent people are being put at risk by a callous or careless system. People are especially concerned

A Liberal government
will immediately
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gun-related offences
by issuing a directive to
Crown attorneys.

about violent offenders who are allowed out on bail or who are released early on parole, and who commit new crimes while outside prison.

A further problem is that the average person is given far too little information about a legal system that seems baffling and unpredictable. Ironically, parole and probation officers also feel that they do not have enough information on which to base appropriate recommendations.

A Liberal government will make sure that when a crime has been committed, the punishment fits the crime. We will seek tough sentences and make sure there is broader awareness of sentencing procedures by:

- making changes to the Mental Health Act that will keep dangerous sexual predators off the streets;
- developing clear, predictable, and widely published sentencing guidelines for prosecutors making recommendations to judges;
- creating, in consultation with judges, a
 province-wide data base with up-to-date information about sentencing decisions in Ontario,
 to help judges make sentencing decisions that
 are consistent, predictable, and fair; and
- focusing our limited resources on serious and violent offenders by diverting minor, nonviolent offenders out of the prison system and into community-based alternatives.

We support recent moves by the federal government to toughen sentencing, parole, and bail provisions. We will further press the federal government to:

"A Liberal government will make sure that when a crime has been committed, the punishment fits the crime."

- change federal law to allow the immediate rearrest without a warrant of offenders who are in violation of parole; and
- develop federal legislation that will work in tandem with provincial legislation to protect society from dangerous offenders.

Within our own jurisdiction in Ontario we will:

- make sure that those responsible for decisions about the rehabilitation, custody, or release of an offender have all relevant information before the decisions are made, including any past record of violent behaviour;
- ensure that appointments to provincial boards of parole are based on competence and merit by implementing a rigorous review and selection process; and
- pass legislation that will hold parole board members accountable for their decisions.

Reforming the Young Offenders Act

Over the past few years, one of the most persistent areas of public concern has been young offenders and crime. Many feel that young offenders are literally getting away with murder, because the sentence for that offence is not tough enough to be either an appropriate punishment or an effective deterrent. Nor do short sentences allow enough time for the successful treatment and rehabilitation of the offender.

Persons who commit serious crimes must pay the consequences, no matter what their age. Ontario Liberals support reform of the Young Offenders Act, including recently passed federal legislation to:

- increase the current maximum sentence for first-degree murder; and
- release the names of violent offenders in some instances.

At the same time, we have to recognize that about two-thirds of youth crimes are relatively minor property offences. Jailing young people convicted of these crimes is expensive and may actually lower the chances of rehabilitation. We believe that it makes sense to try to deal with this type of young offender outside the criminal justice system. We will therefore:

 divert non-violent and less serious offenders from criminal proceedings and ensure that rehabilitation and treatment are available to all young offenders.

We will crack down on criminal activity in schools, including possession of weapons such as guns and knives. We will expand in-school programs such as School Watch to report guns and other illegal activity in schools and improve relationships between students and police.

Protecting Women and Children

Women and children are too often the victims of crime and abuse. Many argue that they are victimized precisely because our justice system fails to take their needs seriously. For example, according to a federal report, the justice system has repeatedly failed to provide adequate protection for women who are threatened or abused by current or former spouses or boyfriends.

A Liberal government will strengthen measures to protect women from abusive men by:

- making it mandatory for Crown attorneys to oppose bail in cases where a man has previously broken peace bonds or ignored court orders to stay away;
- mandating and enforcing the removal of violent and abusive men from their homes, instead of forcing their spouses and children to seek refuge elsewhere; and
- prohibiting or restricting the distribution of slasher films and video games and serial killer cards that encourage violence against women.

Speaking Up for Victims

Many people feel that criminals have more rights than their victims. For the most part, victims are given little or no say in the criminal or judicial processes that affect their lives so profoundly. Frequently, victims of crime or their families are not told when a person who is accused or convicted of a violent crime is released on bail, on probation or parole, or at the completion of a sentence.

A Liberal government will adopt a Victims' Bill of Rights and will back it up by:

- providing streamlined, accessible, comprehensive services for victims in communities in Ontario services that are available from the moment a person becomes a victim of crime;
- making sure victims are advised by police officers about the victims' services available in their community, informing victims of the status of investigations, hearings, and trials relating to their cases, and ensuring that they have the chance to express their views at hearings and trials;
- improving the effectiveness of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board by reducing its backlog and reviewing its compensation levels; and
- claiming the proceeds of crime so they can be shared among federal, provincial, and local jurisdictions, stipulating that the money be used for law enforcement, victims' assistance, and crime prevention.

Another important right of victims is swift and secure access to the justice system. Cases may now take years to be heard. Fiscal constraints have led to increased pressure on legal aid. It is increasingly difficult for the average person to gain access to affordable justice in a reasonable period of time. A Liberal government will:

- explore innovative ways of easing the burden on our courts through crime prevention initiatives, by implementing alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, and by looking at new funding models; and
- examine the creation of a specialized Family
 Violence Court within the criminal court system to improve and speed up the handling of
 domestic violence cases, including spouse, child,
 and elder abuse.

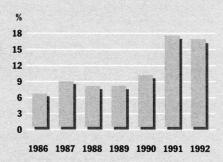
Child victims of crime have special needs when



STATE OF AFFAIRS

HANDGUNS AND HOMICIDE

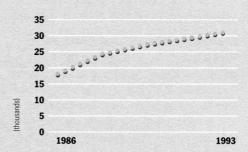
The increasing proportion of homicides that are committed with handguns shows the need for a crackdown on the criminal misuse of guns.



Source: Statistics Canada

INCREASE IN ASSAULTS

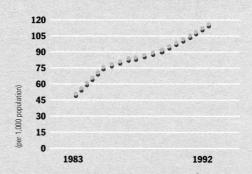
The number of assaults in Metro Toronto increased by 70 percent in eight years.



Source: Metropolitan Toronto Police, 1993 Annual Report

SEXUAL ASSAULTS

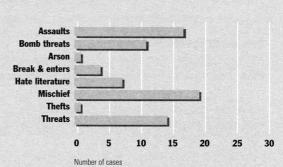
In Ontario the rate of sexual assaults reported to the police more than doubled in ten years.



Source: Statistics Canada

HATE CRIMES

Dozens of hate-related criminal offences were committed in Metro Toronto in the first six months of 1993.



they are involved in the justice system, yet these needs are rarely taken into account. Children who have already been traumatized must be protected as much as possible from further stress.

Research by the Child Witness Project in London, Ontario, has shown that certain specific conditions produce the best and least traumatizing testimony from children. Children should testify soon after the laying of charges; they should be prepared for testifying by trained professionals and be required to testify only once. Child witnesses should not be required to view the accused. It is important for support people to be present, but few other people should be in the courtroom. Children should be questioned in language they can understand. Yet abused children, especially those who have been sexually abused, often must testify after lengthy delays, without adequate preparation, and in a packed courtroom. A Liberal government will expedite abuse cases involving children by:

- eliminating lengthy adjournments and delays;
- making sure those in the justice system work together to protect the best interests of the child victim, as well as the accused; and
- incorporating into the justice system features that reduce stress to child victims and help them be good witnesses, such as safe waiting areas and court preparation.

Fighting Against Hate

In recent years Ontario has seen a growth in raceand hate-related crime, including incidents such as attacks on minorities, defacement of synagogues and Toronto's Native Canadian Centre, and attacks on gays and lesbians.

Although several bodies exist within the provincial government to deal with various human rights and race issues, they have not been successful in combatting hatred. The extremely low number of prosecutions against hate crimes has been frustrating to all concerned. It has eroded the credibility of our justice system and contributed to the growth of hate groups in Ontario.

In late 1993 and early 1994, a Liberal Task Force on Hate Crimes held a number of round

BACKGROUNDER

Crimes Against Women

- Nearly one-third of women currently or previously married in Canada have been assaulted physically or sexually by their partner at least once.
- One-third of women who have been assaulted by a partner feared for their lives at some point during the relationship.
- Between 1974 and 1992, 1,435 Canadian women were killed by their husbands – 38 percent of all female homicide victims.
- Women are nine times more likely to be killed by their spouse than by a stranger.
- Almost 40 percent of all Canadian women have experienced at least one incident of sexual assault since the age of 16.
- Women are much more likely to be sexually assaulted by someone they know than by a stranger. Half of all sexual attacks occur not in a dark alley but in the home of the victim, the attacker, or someone else.

tables and received submissions from members of the public, interested organizations, and law enforcement authorities. The task force put together a plan for stepping up the fight against hate crimes through legislative and legal action, public education, and community action. A Liberal government will put that plan into action. We will:

- designate special Crown attorneys from within the existing staff to prosecute or oversee the prosecution of all crimes in which hate is a motivating factor;
- issue a directive prohibiting Crown attorneys from plea-bargaining hate crimes and instructing them to seek the maximum possible sentence;
- designate special OPP officers to assist the public and police forces in small communities in reporting and investigating hate crimes and hate literature:
- bring together representatives of all of the

"The cheapest and most effective approach to fighting crime is to prevent it from happening in the first place. Much can be done at the community level to prevent crime and make our communities safer."

province's interested stakeholders to develop a province-wide strategy for the planning, coordination, and delivery of anti-racism programs; and

 review government spending to ensure that public education initiatives become the priority in anti-racism and race-relations grants and programs.

Preventing Crime

The cheapest and most effective approach to fighting crime is to prevent it from happening in the first place. We are not helpless in the face of rising crime. Much can be done at the community level to prevent crime and make our communities safer. A Liberal government will:

- show leadership by requiring the Ontario
 Housing Corporation and all other provincial
 non-profit housing providers to carry out safety
 audits, which help identify potentially danger ous situations, such as poor lighting; and
- encourage municipalities and communities to carry out safety audits. This could be done by encouraging municipalities to solicit input from local police services boards about how to make local neighbourhoods and new developments safer, or by offering low-cost loans to municipalities to conduct safety audits.

Community-based policing is another effective approach to crime prevention. Community-based policing means shifting from a reactive, arrest-oriented approach to crime, to one in which police focus on early intervention and crime prevention. It involves creating a partnership between police and the community, and increasing community participation in crime control. For example, officers who walk a beat get to know everyone in the neighbourhood and can work with them to prevent crime. A Liberal government will:

• support community-based policing programs and increase police training in these programs.

Our police officers work hard under difficult conditions such as increasing fiscal constraints.

Community involvement, through successful crime prevention initiatives such as Neighbourhood Watch, Block Parent, Business Watch, Crimestoppers, and School Watch, can help the police make our communities safer. A Liberal government will:

 work with communities to establish new crime prevention programs and support the many successful programs already operating across the province.

It is important for crime prevention programs to be developed within the community. However, organizations and communities can benefit from learning about ideas that have worked in other areas and that can be adapted for their own requirements. Right now, little is done to collect and distribute such information, or to coordinate crime prevention services to reduce costly overlap.

A Liberal government will, in partnership with communities, support the development of a Crime Prevention Advisory Council. This council will include representatives from the fields of crime prevention, social services, health, and law enforcement, and from the general public. It will provide the provincial government with advice on crime prevention and act as a resource centre for municipalities, educators, social agencies, and other local organizations looking for information or expertise on crime prevention.

Special Needs of Rural Communities

Nearly two million Ontarians – almost 20 percent of our population – live outside of urban areas. Those who live in smaller communities have different needs from those living in large urban areas.

The closing or amalgamation of Ontario Provincial Police detachments and staffing and budgetary restraints at the OPP have lengthened waiting times for response and reduced crime prevention and patrols. Many people in rural areas feel they have nowhere to turn in an emergency.

A Liberal government will address the crime and safety concerns of those who live in smaller and rural communities. We will: A Liberal government
will issue a directive
prohibiting Crown attorneys from plea-bargaining
hate crimes and instructing them to seek the maximum possible sentence.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will mandate and enforce
the removal of violent and
abusive men from their
homes, instead of forcing
their spouses and children
to seek refuge elsewhere.

- ensure that no further closings or amalgamations of OPP detachments or OPP service reductions take place without full consultation with the affected communities;
- develop in conjunction with our partners in local government – law enforcement, crime prevention, and community-based policing models that meet the special needs of rural communities such as specially adapted Neighbourhood Watch programs for rural areas; and
- take the needs of Ontario hunters and trappers into account when improving our gun control measures.



TIMETABLE FOR ACTION

30 DAYS

- Name a key Cabinet minister to be responsible for children's services, including the improved coordination and delivery of children's services
- Establish a fund to support innovative projects in children's services that emphasize prevention, local collaboration, integration of services, and ways to build on existing services

90 DAYS

Introduce legislation that allows early childhood educators to form their own self-regulating body, which will have the authority to establish entry standards, standards of practice, and ongoing competency standards

1 YEAR

- Establish a child care tax credit
- Help communities provide prenatal and postnatal programs and establish community-driven home visiting programs

and family services

The number of children living in poverty and the number of those at risk or in crisis continue to rise in Ontario. More than 500,000 children in Ontario are dependent on the welfare system. Thousands more are on waiting lists for child care and mental health treatment. A Liberal government will help children get off to a healthy start by investing in services that will help them and their families.

There is no doubt that parents accept and want the primary responsibility for raising their children. But as today's families try to cope with high unemployment, job insecurity, and technological changes that are literally transforming society, many parents find themselves struggling to meet their children's needs.

Although services are available now, the present system often reacts too late. This means that by the time something is done, a family's problem has reached a crisis level, and assistance is lengthy and costly for the child, the family, and society.

The involvement of local communities in decisions about children's services is key. Some communities across Ontario are working effectively to develop a comprehensive safety net of services for children, but the province still does not have a system that ensures that every child across Ontario will have the best possible start in life.

For many families, the lack of support often results in domestic tension, conflict, and abuse. If government can work with communities to provide these families with support such as counselling, parent relief, parent education, and better child care, it can effectively reduce the number of families needing help from children's aid agencies, as well as the number of children going into foster care.

Ontario can no longer ignore the problems of children and families and their short- and long-term effects and costs. Government must show leadership in working with local communities and agencies to design an effective system that makes the best use of existing resources to meet the needs of families and children. A Liberal government will do this by:

- providing leadership in the neglected area of children's services, by making one Cabinet minister responsible for children's services and by collecting specific data on the effectiveness of new and existing programs;
- focusing on prevention, through prenatal and postnatal programs and home visits;
- coordinating and streamlining the current confusing and bureaucratic system;
- · improving access to child care; and
- supporting local initiatives and meeting the needs of different communities, by making sure communities have a say in how children's services are delivered.

Providing Leadership

Children have not been on the provincial government's agenda for the past four years. The NDP government has not introduced a single piece of legislation that will improve services and support to children and families. In 1990, 270,000 children were dependent on social assistance. By the end of 1994, over 500,000 children were dependent on social assistance. Despite the government's promise to take action on child poverty, no progress has been made. A Liberal government will put children first by:

- naming, for the first time, a key Cabinet minister to be responsible for children's services not to create a new bureaucracy but to put a single individual in charge of the improved coordination and delivery of children's services;
- establishing a fund to support innovative projects in children's services that emphasize prevention, local collaboration, integration of services, and ways to build on existing services, and sharing information learned through these and existing projects in developing a network for children and families; and
- collecting specific data on the effectiveness of new and existing programs for children and families that will contribute to ensuring consistency in services across the province. For example, the province will collect statistics centrally on the incidence of child abuse. These data are not collected centrally now. Having them will

BACKGROUNDER

The Need Is Great

- Between 1987 and 1993, referrals to the Children's Aid Society increased in some regions by over 250 percent. At the same time, government cutbacks forced the society to lay off 20 percent of its staff and end prevention programs.
- Our schools spend nearly \$400 million a year to deal with students who arrive with emotional and developmental problems.
- Between 1991 and 1994, referrals to some local children's mental health programs increased by 90 percent, resulting in long waiting lists for treatment.

give us a clear picture of the health of Ontario children and of whether programs for them are working.

Investing in Prevention

The current system of children's services in Ontario reacts to problems rather than preventing them. This situation has to be turned around. Research shows that preventive strategies to avert family crises help to reduce child abuse, limit the number of children who enter the welfare system and the criminal system, and lower the drop-out rate. The Coalition for Children, Families and Communities estimates that every dollar spent on high-quality, preventive children's services saves society \$7.16 in spending on remedial education, health, policing, and court and custody costs.

Prevention programs that start even before a child is born can help parents understand how to provide proper nutrition for their baby, both before and after birth. These prenatal nutrition programs can help reduce the risk of low birth weight, which has been shown to have a serious impact on a child's health in the first five years of life. As well, prenatal programs can teach parents how to support their baby's healthy development.

Home visiting programs are another way to improve preventive services for families. Some communities have established these services under the Better Beginnings, Better Futures program started in 1989. In the Guelph area, for example, community residents, supervised by a professional, act as home visitors. The home visitors ensure that



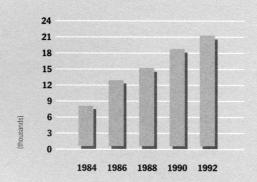
and family services

STATE OF AFFAIRS

0000000000000000

CHILD ABUSE

The number of investigations of child abuse by Children's Aid Societies in Ontario grew by 167 percent in eight years.

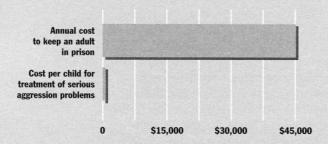


Source: Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies

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AGGRESSIVE CHILDREN

Seventy-one percent of seriously aggressive six-year-olds grow up to be violent, anti-social adults. It costs 100 times more to keep an adult in prison than to deal with aggressive behaviour problems during childhood.



new mothers receive regular visits, which support both the child and the family and can help a family deal effectively with a problem before it becomes a crisis.

A Liberal government will invest in prevention by:

- helping communities provide prenatal and postnatal programs that help parents understand the needs of their baby before and after birth;
- establishing community-driven home visiting programs that provide support to parents through community networks;
- ensuring that all social service agencies establish preventive elements in their ongoing programs; and
- making sure the groups, agencies, and different levels of government that deliver services in a community – such as community hospitals, child care agencies, schools, children's aid societies, and other child welfare program providers

 work together to deliver preventive programs consistently within the community.

Coordinating and Streamlining Services

The current system of children's services across the province is fragmented and confusing to deal with. Some communities seem to have an abundance of services, but others don't have enough. Sometimes services overlap and duplicate one another. When parents try to find out what is available at the provincial level, they often get bounced around so much that they see government agencies as adversaries instead of as a supportive network. At other times they get lost in the gaps between levels of government.

A Liberal government will coordinate and streamline children's services by:

- identifying the services for children in communities, as well as any duplication or gaps in those services, and implementing programs to eliminate duplication and fill those gaps;
- establishing a network among providers such as schools, hospitals, child care programs, and the community to ensure that local needs are being met; and
- · establishing information centres in communities

Source: The Hincks Centre for Children's Mental Health, 1995

where families can find out about services and programs in their neighbourhood. In many cases the centre may be in a school, allowing educators to work with other professionals in meeting the special needs of families and children.

Accessible, Quality Child Care

Child care is not affordable for many families in Ontario. Waiting lists for subsidized child care have continued to grow, so that today more than 20,000 families across the province are on waiting lists for subsidized spaces.

The province, in partnership with the federal and municipal governments, supports 68,276 subsidized spaces and invests over \$500 million in child care. Despite this expenditure the majority of families find the system unaffordable and consequently inaccessible.

Child care is still seen as a welfare service rather than a service needed by many middle-income families. But the present eligibility criteria often exclude middle-income families. Child care must be more accessible, not only for those trying to enter the workforce but for those trying to stay in the workforce. In addition, early childhood educators must be equipped with the education and skills they need.

A Liberal government will increase access to quality child care by:

- redefining the provincial and municipal roles in the child care system, streamlining administration and freeing up program dollars;
- increasing the availability of child care spaces and stabilizing the funding and management of the child care system;
- introducing a child care tax credit;
- linking child care services with existing children's services within local communities to ensure a more coordinated approach to all children and family services; and
- passing legislation that allows early childhood educators to form their own self-regulating body, which will have the authority to establish entry standards, standards of practice, and ongoing competency standards.

A Liberal government
will introduce a child
care tax credit and
increase the availability
of child care spaces.

A Liberal government will help communities to provide prenatal, postnatal, and home visiting programs.

Supporting Local Communities

The present system of children's services is not flexible enough to meet the diverse needs of Ontario families in different communities.

Different communities – urban, rural, small, large – have different needs that cannot be met by a "one-size-fits-all" approach. Services that may be effective for families in Toronto may not work at all for families in Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Pembroke, or Peterborough.

Government must stop trying to impose uniform solutions from Queen's Park. Instead, more decision-making should be moved into the community, so that those who need the services can work with those who provide the services to determine local needs and solutions. A Liberal government will do this by:

- involving communities in developing services that are accessible and responsive to their own needs and that address the cultural, religious, linguistic, and regional diversity of Ontario's population; and
- making sure provincial policies both encourage local initiative and allow new ways of delivering effective, integrated local services to develop.



TIMETABLE FOR ACTION

30 DAYS

- Scrap the Interim Waste Authority and bring Greater Toronto Area municipalities back into the waste management planning process
- Continue the current 10-year tax exemption on ethanol

90 DAYS

- Scrap the Ontario Waste Management Corporation and begin promoting technologies in the private sector that provide alternatives for the treatment of hazardous waste
- Adopt a strong role in monitoring and ensuring compliance with all environmental regulations throughout the province

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- Establish an open, accountable, and enforceable system for ensuring water quality
- Establish a province-wide registry of the sites of contaminated soil in Ontario
- Market our domestic environmental industry through the reopened overseas trade offices

environment

A healthy environment is essential to the well-being of individuals and communities and crucial for sound economic growth. Over the past four and a half years the NDP government has built up a large environmental deficit. A Liberal government will take solid steps to improve our air and water quality, clean up contaminated soil, give local communities responsibility for waste management, streamline regulations, and boost the environmental industry.

Ontario has been blessed with a natural environment as rich and diverse as any in the world. From the vast forests in northern Ontario to the rich farmlands in southwestern Ontario, from the Great Lakes and thousands of smaller lakes in cottage country to the unique qualities of our urban areas, our environment has shaped our economy, our quality of life, and even our history.

Over the past 30 years, we have become more aware of how environmental neglect can directly affect the health of individuals and communities. More recently we have come to appreciate the relationship between a healthy environment and a sound economy. We recognize that we must follow the practice of sustainable development – pursuing economic growth in a way that respects and restores our natural environment.

The NDP government has built up a growing environmental deficit. Our natural capital is depreciating while our environmental liabilities have been increasing. These liabilities include more air pollution in urban areas, contaminated drinking water, and poor methods of waste management.

Ontario Liberals believe that government has a vital role to play in developing policies and in setting and enforcing standards for the protection of human health and the natural environment. But we also recognize that the provincial government doesn't have the answer to every problem, nor should it be involved in delivering every solution. We will work with communities, industry, workers, academics, and citizens' groups to protect the environment and human health in the most cost-efficient way. Our plan for the environment will:

- improve Ontario's air quality through measures such as mandatory emissions testing for vehicles and the use of alternative fuels and fuel additives, including ethanol;
- improve the quality of our drinking water by establishing an open, accountable, and enforceable system of providing water;
- develop clear and enforceable standards for cleaning up contaminated soil;
- return responsibility for waste management planning to municipalities, including scrapping the Interim Waste Authority;
- streamline processes and regulations such as environmental assessment and beef up enforcement of reasonable regulations; and
- promote the development of the environmental technologies industry.

Clean Air Makes Us Healthier

Southern Ontario has the worst chronic smog problem in Canada. The Greater Toronto Area has registered smog readings higher than some American cities, including Chicago, Atlanta, and Boston. Not only does smog cause respiratory problems in humans, their pets, and livestock, it causes \$70 million a year in crop damage.

The biggest contributor to smog is fuel emissions from cars, trucks, and fuel pumps. Yet Ontario operates only one vehicle emission testing centre. Ontario's vehicle emission and maintenance program is only voluntary, and even those who fail the test are not required to fix their vehicles.

The NDP has promised to overhaul "the air pollution laws of the province." Yet the government has cut funding for air pollution measures by 50 percent, ignored air pollution generated by stationary sources, and failed to deal effectively with greenhouse gases. A Liberal government will:

- introduce a mandatory vehicle emission testing program;
- support the development of alternative fuels and fuel additives to gasoline, including continuing the 10-year tax exemption on ethanol;
- update air pollution regulations for industrial sources;

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will support the development of alternative fuels
and fuel additives to
gasoline, including continuing the 10-year tax
exemption on ethanol.

A Liberal government
will improve Ontario's air
quality through mandatory emissions testing for
vehicles and the use of
alternative fuels and fuel
additives.

- work with the federal government to create a bilateral smog control agreement with the United States;
- strengthen programs to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases; and
- support renewable energy technologies research and development.

Making Our Drinking Water Safer

There is growing public and scientific concern over water pollution in Ontario and its effects on human health and the environment. As the 1994 Report of the Provincial Auditor showed, drinking water and sewage effluents in some communities are not meeting Ministry of the Environment and Energy (MOEE) guidelines. And there is growing concern that aging septic systems and leaking landfills are a threat to the groundwater that provides drinking water to 30 percent of Ontarians.

Meanwhile, the NDP government has cut funding for water and sewage services by 41 percent since 1990 and slashed \$11 million from monies targeted for beach restoration. Although a Crown corporation, the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA), has been created, it has been slow to consider interregional and private-sector projects. A Liberal government will:

- establish an open, accountable, and enforceable system for ensuring water quality, including the expansion of testing and monitoring programs;
- put into action a Groundwater Protection Strategy to prevent abuse and depletion of existing supplies;

"The NDP government has built up a growing environmental deficit.

Our natural capital is depreciating while our environmental liabilities have been increasing."

- support ongoing programs such as MISA to eliminate pollution at the source and clean up Ontario's waterways;
- redefine the role of the Ontario Clean Water Agency, including developing partnerships with the private sector to deliver cost-effective water and sewage services; and
- support alternative sewage treatment technologies.

Reducing Soil Contamination

On many urban and industrial properties, past or current activities have left soil contamination that could affect human health and the environment. In most cases, the nature and extent of the contamination and the risk posed by it are not apparent until site assessments are conducted. Although provincial guidelines do exist for assessing and cleaning up contaminated sites, businesses, the environmental industry, and local governments face excessive red tape and costs in determining the amount of clean-up that must take place.

The provincial guidelines must be improved to be consistent and practical. They can also become an effective way to help the development of new and emerging environmental technologies. A Liberal government will:

- add more certainty and practicality to soil remediation approvals;
- make it mandatory for emerging remediation technologies to be used, wherever practical; and
- establish a province-wide registry of contaminated sites in Ontario.

This registry will ensure that potential buyers are fully aware of the outstanding soil remediation requirements, and will encourage owners to clean up the problems, instead of passing them along to the next owner.

Local Responsibility for Waste Management

Over the past four years, the issue of waste management has been at the top of the environmental agenda, particularly in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). But despite all the attention, the current

government has failed to work in partnership with Ontarians to seriously take charge of this problem.

The Waste Management Act created the large, bureaucratic Interim Waste Authority, which, despite having spent over \$80 million, has failed to solve the GTA's garbage problem. While causing huge problems for residents in the regions of Peel, York, and Durham, the Ontario government has unwisely ruled out the development of new technologies and other imaginative proposals to deal with waste problems. A Liberal government will:

- · scrap the Interim Waste Authority;
- bring GTA municipalities back into the waste management planning process;
- set and enforce standards for acceptable disposal methods; and
- restore an environmental assessment process that allows all waste disposal options, including energy from waste and transportation to willing hosts, to be judged on their environmental merits.

Another growing concern is the Blue Box program. Municipalities are responsible for 40 percent of the costs of this \$86-million-a-year program. As government revenues drop and the markets for secondary materials fluctuate, municipalities are finding it harder to pay for the program. The Blue Box program is a vital part of the effort that Ontarians are making to reduce household waste. The provincial government must make sure this program continues. A Liberal government will:

work with industry stakeholders and municipalities to ensure that Blue Box recycling programs are fairly and adequately funded.

The recent ruling against the Ontario Waste Management Corporation (OWMC) proposal to build a hazardous waste treatment facility has increased the need to develop a provincial strategy for the management of hazardous waste. We believe the responsibility for hazardous waste management must be that of the Ministry of the Environment, which should work with the private sector on disposal options. A Liberal government will develop a strategy that includes:

BACKGROUNDER

Regulations Are Too Bureaucratic and Expensive

The goals of the Environmental
Assessment Act are sound. But two
reports in 1994 alone – the Class
Environmental Assessment for Timber
Management on Crown Lands in Ontario,
and the Ontario Waste Management
Corporation's proposal for a provincial
hazardous waste system – cost
taxpayers over \$20 million and \$140
million respectively.

- working with industry to reduce the amount of hazardous waste generated; and
- scrapping the OWMC and promoting the development of technologies in the private sector that provide alternatives for the treatment of hazardous waste.

Regulation and Enforcement

Government has a significant role to play in making sure that our environment is protected and enhanced. But over the years, government has become too bureaucratic and inefficient. For example, the goals of the Environmental Assessment Act are sound, but the process has become too lengthy and expensive. We must develop more efficient ways of protecting our environment.

Many businesses have complained about the excessive red tape and cost they encounter when dealing with some environmental regulations. Many organizations, in the public and private sectors, have voluntarily introduced environmental management systems to help them respond to the myriad of laws and regulations and various social, economic, and competitive pressures. As well, various industry sectors have introduced voluntary pollution prevention and emission reduction programs.

Ontario Liberals support these voluntary programs, which should supplement the regulatory framework administered by government. We also believe that the regulatory framework must be improved in two significant ways. First, we must ensure that regulations and standards are based on

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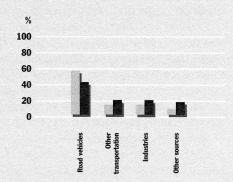


AIR POLLUTION

According to 1993 air quality statistics, road vehicles continue to be the leading cause of carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxide pollutants, which cause smog.

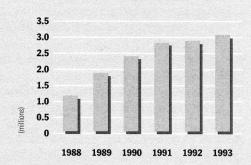
Percentage of carbon monoxide emissions
Percentage of nitrogen oxide emissions

Source: Ministry of Environment and Energy: Ontario Air Quality; 1993: An Overview



BLUE BOX RECYCLING

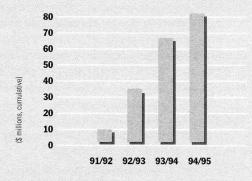
The number of Ontario homes served by Blue Box programs continues to rise.



Source: Ontario Multi-Material Recycling Inc.

INTERIM WASTE AUTHORITY

The Interim Waste Authority (IWA) has spent more than \$80 million identifying waste sites for municipal garbage.



Source: 1993-94 Public Accounts of Ontario; 1994-95 Estimates of Environment and Energy

ENVIRONMENTAL INDUSTRIES

The sale of environmental technologies and services in Ontario has grown into a multibillion-dollar industry.

Employment	30,000 people
Number of companies	2,500
Revenues	over \$4 billion

scientific data, not political ideology; it is important to develop new regulations in consultation with industry, non-governmental organizations, workers, and the public. Second, we must review existing regulations to eliminate red tape and excessive cost, especially costs and fees that discourage industry from improving its environmental performance.

We also believe in a strong role for government in enforcing environmental standards and regulations. A Liberal government will:

- review the environmental assessment process with various stakeholders and develop a plan to streamline it, with emphasis on speeding up the process; outlining clear requirements, standards, and procedures before public hearings begin; restructuring the MOEE environmental assessment branch; and reforming the public hearing phase of the process;
- work with the federal government to develop a coordinated environmental assessment process on projects falling within both jurisdictions;
- encourage and support voluntary pollution prevention initiatives by industry, such as Responsible Care, that stress product stewardship and identify priorities for action on toxic discharges; and
- maintain a strong role in monitoring and ensuring compliance with all environmental regulations throughout the province.

Protecting the Environment Creates Jobs

Promoting environmental technologies is the best example of how job creation and environmental protection can go hand in hand. Ontario has a vibrant and fast-growing environmental industry. It provides jobs to more than 30,000 people in 2,500 companies, many of which sell high-technology products and services both at home and abroad. The industry's revenues are already greater than \$4 billion a year and are expected to grow at 15 percent for the next few years.

Despite the buoyancy of this sector, Ontario is still a net importer of environmental technology. Strong international competition and government constraints are keeping the industry from reaching its full potential.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government will scrap the Interim Waste

Authority and bring GTA municipalities back into the waste management planning process.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will establish an open,
accountable, and enforceable system for ensuring
water quality, including
the expansion of testing
and monitoring programs.

The environmental industry can play an important role in helping Ontario create a long and dynamic economic recovery. It can create jobs, generate new wealth, and increase provincial revenues while simultaneously improving our quality of life. A Liberal government will help create an economic climate that promotes the ongoing development of the environmental industry by:

- marketing our domestic environmental industry through the reopened overseas trade and tourism offices;
- stimulating the domestic market by enhancing the government's environmental purchasing policy; and
- eliminating unfair government competition with private-sector environmental companies.



TIMETABLE FOR ACTION

30 DAYS

- Cut the number of political staff
- Bring in a "Good Government" package to undo the damage of the past five years under the NDP
- Scrap the supplementary assessment fee for municipalities

90

- Appoint an Ethics Commissioner, who will ensure that government operates in an open, honest way
- Allow more free votes and increase the importance of legislative committees
- Permit only one set of books in Ontario; the NDP practice of keeping two sets of books will end

1 YEAR

- Scrap the current MPP pension plan in favour of an RRSP plan and put an end to double-dipping
- Pass legislation requiring all paid lobbyists in Ontario to register with the provincial government
- Extend the hours of the most frequently used government offices, such as driver and vehicle licensing offices

government

The public has sent a clear message that it wants government to change. Government must act in a way that restores public trust and confidence while improving customer service. Under the Ontario Liberal Plan, government accountability starts at the top, with politicians' own pensions and perks. We will also respond to the growing public demand for services that are modern, streamlined, and easy to use. Finally, a Liberal government is committed to undoing the damage of the past five years.

Good Government

Like many people around the world, Ontarians have lost a good deal of faith in the political process. Many wonder whether government can play a positive role in leading an economic recovery, providing opportunity, or offering good-quality programs and services. Many wonder if government can ever be a facilitator instead of an obstacle.

Public cynicism is not without foundation. When many promises are made and few are kept, the public becomes sceptical. Ordinary citizens see politicians enjoying special perks and privileges and wonder who's working for whom. It is hardly surprising that the secrecy and lack of accountability surrounding government decision-making breeds mistrust. And when government talks about restraint but does so little in its own back yard to demonstrate it, the public has a right to charge hypocrisy.

In this climate of mistrust, the onus is on government to show that honesty, integrity, accountability, and openness can be part of the political process. It is up to government to show that it can act in a modern, efficient, and decisive way — that it can help people, instead of putting roadblocks or a maze of bureaucracy in their way. The public

has sent a clear message that it wants government to change. It is now up to government to prove that it *can* change. A Liberal government will tackle this challenge head-on. We will:

- scrap MPPs' pensions, end double-dipping, and appoint an Ethics Commissioner who will regulate lobbyists and ensure that government operates in an open, honest way, according to the highest ethical standards;
- show leadership in reducing government spending by cutting political staff, cutting political appointments, cutting political advertising, and cutting services to MPPs;
- enable MPPs to represent their constituents' views better by allowing more free votes in the Legislature and giving legislative committees more power;
- introduce a more open budget process and strictly adhere to generally accepted accounting principles;
- require that information on the salaries and benefits paid to senior officials in the public sector be made public; and
- depoliticize the public service and ensure that civil servants are recruited and promoted on the basis of merit, competence, and experience alone.

We Start with Honest Leadership

Restoring faith in government begins with restoring faith in those who govern. Ontarians must be able to feel confident that their elected officials are serving the public, not serving themselves; that they represent the broad public interest, not special interest groups; and that checks and balances exist to make sure they act with honesty and integrity.

One issue that concerns many Ontarians is MPPs' pensions. Many people believe that those pensions are too generous and that they can be collected too early. Ontarians are angry that MPPs are allowed to "double-dip" – drawing a pension after voluntarily retiring or being voted out of office, while collecting a salary for working elsewhere in government. A Liberal government will:

 scrap the current MPP pension plan in favour of an RRSP plan; and end double-dipping, so that no former MPP will be allowed to leave political life, collect a pension, and also collect a full salary from the Ontario government.

We will also act to ensure that elected officials live up to the highest ethical standards. We will:

- appoint an Ethics Commissioner who will regulate the activities of lobbyists; ensure that government operates in an open, honest way; and develop a code of conduct for political staff;
- require all paid lobbyists in Ontario to register with the provincial government so that people know who is lobbying government and to ensure that no one has special access or privileges; and
- strictly enforce the cooling-off requirement that prohibits former Cabinet ministers from working for the government for a period of 12 months.

Smaller Government Starts at the Top

Everyone agrees that government must become smaller and more efficient. But under the current NDP government, the number of political staff and spending on questionable advertising campaigns have both increased dramatically. A Liberal government will show leadership in getting government spending under control by:

- cutting the number of political staff, reducing spending by approximately \$2 million;
- reducing government advertising by \$10 million;
- cutting services to MPPs, including reducing the number of newsletters they can send;
- cutting political appointments, saving \$2 million; and
- where possible, making positions on government agencies, boards, and commissions volunteer-based, instead of paid.

Parliament Must Be More Representative

Although voters are free to choose who they want to send to Queen's Park, many rules and practices keep MPPs from truly representing their con"The public has sent a clear message that it wants government to change. It is up to government to prove that it can change."

stituents' views. On almost every issue in the Legislature, government MPPs are expected to vote the party line. Legislative committees have very little real power; most decisions are made by a small group of people in the Premier's office.

The Ontario Liberal Party has already empowered its caucus members to represent their constituents better by allowing them to vote more freely in the Legislature. A Liberal government will make sure that MPPs can speak for their ridings at Queen's Park and not just speak for Queen's Park in their ridings. Our plan for parliamentary reform includes:

- allowing more free votes by government MPPs and restricting the number of votes that are designated "votes of confidence," so that MPPs can vote against government bills without risking the defeat of the government;
- increasing the importance and usefulness of legislative committees by allowing them to initiate legislation for introduction into the Legislature, giving them more power to summon witnesses and necessary documents, and reducing party discipline within committees;
- requiring that a by-election be called promptly, within 70 to 100 days of a vacancy occurring in a provincial riding, instead of allowing constituents to remain unrepresented for more than six months; and
- looking at the feasibility of creating a permanent voters' list that could be updated constantly, removing the need for enumeration at election time.

No More Games

There is something terribly wrong with a province's finances when its auditor has to go before a legislative committee and plead with the government of the day to tell the truth about the deficit and stop keeping two sets of books. Yet that is exactly what happened in Ontario earlier this year.

The current budget process is also shrouded in secrecy. The public has little input or opportunity to discuss possible alternatives. By the time people know how the budget affects them, it's too late to have any input. A Liberal government will insist on open, honest budgeting and accounting by:

- making sure that all documents give an honest and accurate picture of Ontario's finances;
- · keeping one set of books, not two;
- asking the Provincial Auditor to look at Ontario's financial and budget statements and to make sure they adhere strictly to generally accepted accounting principles; and
- bringing in a more open budget process, including allowing budget proposals to be debated and considered by a legislative committee before the government finalizes the budget.

Public-Sector Pay Should Be Made Public

Salary and benefit ranges for a number of senior officials who work in the broader public sector are not now available to the public, including the salary and benefit ranges for university presidents and hospital CEOs. We believe that this information about officials who are paid with public funds should be known to the taxpayers who foot the bill. A Liberal government will:

 require that information on the salary and benefit ranges of senior public-sector officials be made public.

The Public Service Must Be Non-Partisan

During the past four and a half years, the NDP government has made numerous partisan appointments within the civil service. For example, Premier Rae appointed his former campaign manager as head of the Ontario public service. This sent a very clear signal that Ontario's traditionally non-partisan public service would be expected to act in a more partisan way. This very inappropriate practice is wrong and must be stopped. A Liberal government will:

make sure civil servants are recruited and promoted on the basis of merit, competence, and experience alone.

A Liberal government will keep one set of books, not two, and will bring in a more open budget process.

A Liberal government
will require that information on the salary and
benefit ranges of senior
public-sector officials be
made public.

Modern Government

Bringing honesty, integrity, and accountability to government is just the starting point for government reform. Government must also respond to the growing public demand for services that are more convenient and simpler to use. It must revamp the way it operates to make service to the public the number-one priority of the public service. A Liberal government will reform the way government operates on a day-to-day basis. We will:

- make government services more streamlined, efficient, and easy to use; and
- improve the quality of front-line consumer service.

Better Service for Consumers

The government of Ontario is a \$50-billion-a-year corporation that exists to serve its shareholders and customers – the people of Ontario. Yet most people do not feel that they are getting good service and good value for their tax dollars. Government has failed to respond to the demand for faster, more flexible service.

Not surprisingly, many Ontarians feel frustrated by an increasingly complicated array of programs, rules, and regulations. It's often difficult to know where to look for services. Sometimes people get bounced around from one civil servant to the next or end up standing in a long line-up, only to find out that they're in the wrong line-up or don't have the right form.

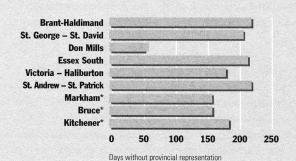


ble government

STATE OF AFFAIRS

DELAYED BY-ELECTIONS

The NDP government has consistently delayed byelections, leaving ridings without representation at Queen's Park.



* as of April 1/95

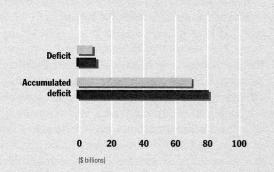
Source: Ontario Election Office, Office of the Clerk of the Ontario Legislature

PROVINCIAL FINANCES

By "cooking the books" the NDP has distorted the province's real finances. The Provincial Auditor's accounting of Ontario's 1993-94 budget would produce much different numbers.

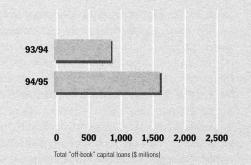
NDP's budget projections
Revisions under Provincial Auditor's accounting

Source: 1993-94 Public Accounts



HIDDEN DEBT

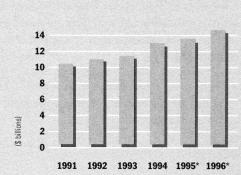
By moving loans "off-book" under new Crown corporations the NDP has hidden the real size of the province's debt.



Source: 1994 Ontario Budget

WCB UNFUNDED LIABILITY

The Ontario Workers' Compensation Board's unfunded liability is now growing by more than \$2 million a day.



Maybe the most annoying thing is that government is locked into an outdated style of doing business. It still operates mainly on a 9-to-5, Monday-to-Friday basis, requiring people to line up during their lunch hours to get certain services. It still acts as if "one size fits all" instead of providing more customized service. And when consumers are upset about the quality of service, there just doesn't seem to be a way for them to make their voices heard.

It's time that government, like any good business, re-engineered the way it operates. Government must make its services easier to understand and simpler to use. It must take better advantage of modern technologies and must listen more closely to the people who use its services. By doing these things, government can both offer better service and reduce costs.

A Liberal government will make government more service-oriented and transform the way it deals with consumers. We'll begin by making sure that Ontarians can easily and quickly find out about and use government services. We will:

- create a computerized index of the most frequently used government programs and services;
- require every government ministry and agency to produce a summary of the services, programs, and regulations it offers, using customer-friendly language;
- make better use of technology such as the automated teller systems available to renew driver's licences – to perform a wider selection of government transactions quickly, conveniently, and at less cost; and
- introduce one simplified application form for all government documents, such as driver's licences, fishing and hunting licences, birth certificates, and health cards.

We will also improve the level of service delivery by:

- extending the hours of the most frequently used government offices, such as driver and vehicle licensing offices;
- establishing and publishing performance standards for services so that the public knows what

A Liberal government
will extend the hours
of the most frequently
used government
offices, such as driver
and vehicle licensing
offices.

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government
will get rid of doubledipping, so that no former
MPP will be allowed to
leave political life, collect
a pension, and also collect a full salary from the
Ontario government.

- it can expect in terms of cost, time, and access to important public services;
- conducting and publishing regular customer satisfaction surveys to monitor performance and make sure the public has a say in the services that government delivers; and
- developing simple complaint procedures that give the public a say in improving government services.

Focusing on Results

Government must use a new yardstick to measure the success of programs and services. Too often success is measured by dollars spent or number of staff involved. The emphasis must be on results.

Government today is too rigid and processoriented. It grinds along, weighed down by layers of management. A system that requires a dozen signatures on a routine policy change isn't likely to be able to provide efficient, high-quality customer service. Although elected officials must be accountable for government policies and programs, front-line workers should have more freedom to draw on their experiences and problemsolving abilities when implementing policies. Public servants should be freed from rigid procedures that keep them from responding more flexibly to individual consumer needs.

In short, we need a system that encourages initiative and resourcefulness instead of penalizing it. Customer satisfaction must be the focus. A Liberal government will improve the quality of front-line service. We will:

"Government has failed to respond to the demand for faster, more flexible service. It's time government changed the way it operates, by making its services easier to understand and simpler to use."

- create a customer service ethic that makes customer service a priority;
- streamline the cumbersome approval process within government;
- free front-line employees from rigid procedures that get in the way of quality customer service;
- provide better on-the-job training for public servants;
- improve public-sector management through recruitment and employee exchanges with the private sector; and
- introduce continuous improvement tools, such as surveys that let employees make suggestions on how to improve service to the public.

Undoing the Damage

Over the past four and a half years, the NDP has introduced a number of flawed policies and bills that have had harmful effects on the people of Ontario. Many of these programs have been in the economic sector, such as the NDP labour law and new fees and taxes, but other areas such as the environment and health care have also been affected.

A new Ontario government must do more than just introduce new programs and policies. It must also, wherever possible, undo the damage of the past four and a half years.

A Liberal government will move quickly to bring in a "Good Government" package of reforms to repair the NDP's damage. We will:

- fix the NDP's flawed long-term care legislation;
- scrap the Interim Waste Authority;
- end the failed jobsOntario programs;
- shut down the Royal Commission on Workers' Compensation;
- scrap the NDP Advocacy Commission;
- scrap the \$50 corporate filing fee;
- scrap the Ontario Training and Adjustment Board bureaucracy;

POLICY COMMITMENT

A Liberal government

will bring in a "Good

Government" package

of reforms to repair

the NDP's damage.

A Liberal government will develop simple complaint procedures that give the public a say in improving government services.

- reinstate out-of-country emergency health care coverage;
- repeal the job-killing sections of the NDP labour law (Bill 40);
- repeal the Agricultural Labour Relations Act;
- fix the NDP's flawed planning legislation;
- bring back the managed-forest tax rebate program;
- bring back the land-transfer tax rebate for firsttime home-buyers; and
- scrap the supplementary assessment fee for municipalities.

Costing of the Ontario Liberal Plan

New Initiatives (\$ millions)

		YEAR1	YEAR2	YEAR3	YEAR4	YEAR5
			000000			
Jobs and	Getting Ontario Working Again Team	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
growth	Corporate filing fee	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
	New Ventures funding	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
	Innovation Houses		4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
	Entrepreneurship programs	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
	Self-employment programs	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
	Sectoral training		150.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
	Training cost-sharing	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
	Ontario Training Network data base		5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
	Expanded co-op education and apprenticeship	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
•	SUBTOTAL	67.25	226.25	376.25	376.25	376.25
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Focused	Youth Opportunities initiatives	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00
economic	Financial self-help networks		5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
support	Short-term financing for companies	25.00				
Support	Data base of fed./prov./mun. business programs		5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
	Sectoral partnerships (includes biotechnology)	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
	Export Ontario on-line network		2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
	Overseas offices	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
	Trade shows	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
	New Exporters to Border States expansion		3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
	GO Rail expansion	17.70	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20
	Ontario Choice marketing designation		0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
	Rural investment fund	5.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
	Centre for Cultural Industries and Technology		1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
	Tourism initiatives	5.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
>	SUBTOTAL	175.70	164.45	164.45	164.45	164.45
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Quality	Restore out-of-country coverage	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
health care	Expand 911 services	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
	Call-In Care pilot projects	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30
	Cancer Control Agency	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40
	Hospital radiation equipment	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
	Health cost information	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
	Health Research and Development Council	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40
	Health prevention information		0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
	Health Care Reform Commission	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40
•	SUBTOTAL	38.60	38.85	38.85	38.85	38.85

		YEAR1	YEAR2	YEAR3	YEAR4	YEAR5
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	00000000	000000			00000
Excellence in	Core program development	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
learning	Teacher education initiatives	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
0	Information sharing on best practices		0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
	School councils, business advisory councils	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
	Spending guidelines for boards	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
•	SUBTOTAL	5.75	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.25
						0000
Fighting	Sentencing guidelines and data base	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60
crime	Improved information on paroles		0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
	Reform parole board appointments	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
	Oppose bail when men ignore orders	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
	Victims' rights measures	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
	Child witness measures	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
	Crime prevention measures	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
•	SUBTOTAL	13.65	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75
				0 0 0 0 0		
Children	Prenatal programs	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
and family	Child care stabilization	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
services	Children's services	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
•	SUBTOTAL	42.00	42.00	42.00	42.00	42.00
Accountable		10.00	40.00	40.00	10.00	40.00
Accountable	Scrap supplementary assessment fee	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
government	Ethics Commissioner Lobbyist legislation	0.20 0.50	0.20 0.50	0.20 0.50	0.20 0.50	0.20 0.50
	LUDDYIST REGISTATION	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
>	SUBTOTAL	18.70	18.70	18.70	18.70	18.70

► TOTAL OF NEW INITIATIVES 361.65 510.25 660.25 660.25

Savings (\$ millions)

		YEAR1	YEAR2	YEAR3	YEAR4	YEAR5
Program	Scrap Interim Waste Authority	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00
reductions	Scrap jobsOntario Training	339.00	339.00	339.00	339.00	339.00
	Scrap WCB Royal Commission	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00 30.00
	Cut NDP Advocacy Commission Cut big business grants	30.00 114.00	30.00 114.00	30.00 114.00	30.00 114.00	114.00
	Scrap Ontario Waste Management Corp.	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
	Phase out jobsOntario Homes	2.00	2.00	50.00	100.00	100.00
	Combine Council of Regents and			30.00	100.00	100.00
	Ontario Council on University Affairs		2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
	Scrap jobsOntario Community Action	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00
	Scrap Ontario Training & Adjustment Board	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
	Convert private child care to public	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00
, •	SUBTOTAL	633.00	635.50	685.50	735.50	735.50
Loopor	Cut control government administration by 20%	67.50	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00
Leaner	Cut central government administration by 20% Reinventing-government initiatives	100.00	200.00	300.00	450.00	450.00
government	Other cuts to government administration	16.00	146.00	211.00	215.00	215.00
	other cuts to government duministration	10.00	140.00	211.00	210.00	210.00
•	SUBTOTAL	183.50	481.00	646.00	800.00	800.00
				0 0 0 0 0 0		000000
Public/	Partnerships: capital budget		100.00		1,200.00	1,200.00
private-sector	Partnerships: operating budget		40.00	150.00	400.00	400.00
partnerships			1.10.00	==0.00	1 000 00	1 000 00
•	SUBTOTAL *		140.00	550.00	1,600.00	1,600.00
Job growth	Eliminating social assistance fraud	150.00	200.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
and welfare	Savings due to Transitional Incentive Program	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00
reform	Getting 35,000 recipients back to work	100100	250.00	550.00	550.00	550.00
TGTOTIII		200.00	000.00	4 000 00	1 000 00	1 000 00
	SUBTOTAL	300.00	600.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
		0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	00000		00000
Cutting	Cut political staff	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
political	Cut political appointments	0.50	1.00	1.50	2.00	2.00
spending	Cut services to MPPs	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00
	Reduce government advertising	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
>	SUBTOTAL	28.50	29.00	29.50	30.00	30.00
>	TOTAL SAVINGS AND CUTS	1,145.00	1,885.50	2,911.00	4,165.50	4,165.50

Multi-year costing (\$ millions)

			YEAR1		YEAR3		YEAR5
New initiatives		Jobs and Growth	67.25	226.25	376.25	376.25	376.25
	Focused Economic Support	175.70	164.45	164.45	164.45	164.45	
		Quality Health Care	38.60	38.85	38.85	38.85	38.85
		Excellence in Learning	5.75	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.25
		Fighting Crime	13.65	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75
		Children and Family Services	42.00	42.00	42.00	42.00	42.00
		Accountable Government	18.70	18.70	18.70	18.70	18.70
	•	TOTAL OF NEW INITIATIVES	361.65	510.25	660.25	660.25	660.25
Savings	000	Program Reductions	633.00	635.50	685.50	735.50	735.50
		Leaner Government	183.50	481.00	646.00	800.00	800.00
		Public/Private-Sector Partnerships		140.00	550.00	1,600.00	1,600.00
		Job Growth and Welfare Reform	300.00	600.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
		Cut Political Spending	28.50	29.00	29.50	30.00	30.00
	•	TOTAL OF SAVINGS AND CUTS	1,145.00	1,885.00	2,911.00	4,165.50	4,165.50
		Total of New Initiatives	361.65	510.25	660.25	660.25	660.25
totals		Total of Savings and Spending Cuts	1,145.00	1,885.00	2,911.00	4,165.50	4,165.50
	•	NET SAVINGS	783.35	1,374.75	2,250.75	3,505.25	3,505.25

Timetable for action

Within 30 days of taking office

Jobs and growth	Establish the Getting Ontario Working Again Team Introduce a balanced-budget bill Repeal the 5 percent tax on auto insurance premiums and move on reforms to make auto insurance more affordable Freeze Workers' Compensation Board premiums for employers	 Scrap the corporate filing fee Scrap the Royal Commission on Workers' Compensation Expand cooperative education and apprenticeship training Introduce a package of labour relations reforms
Focused economic support	 Move forward with the Red Hill Creek Expressway Move forward with completion of Highway 416 Continue the current 10-year tax exemption for ethanol Move to repeal the Agricultural Labour Relations Act 	 Permanently exempt live theatres with fewer than 3,200 seats from the entertainment tax Reinstate the land-transfer tax rebate for first-time home-buyers Place a moratorium on non-profit housing allocations
Quality health care	 Stop the implementation of long-term care reform (Bill 173), and bring in legislation to fix the problems with the flawed NDP law 	 Stop the implementation of the NDP Advocacy Act, scrap the Advocacy Commission, and move to bring in legislation to meet the needs of vulnerable people
Excellence in learning	Expand apprenticeship and cooperative education programs, which combine in-school learning with on-the-job experience	Take a zero-tolerance approach to violence in schools End the failed jobsOntario Training program
Fighting crime	 Toughen prosecution for gun-related crime, by issuing a directive to Crown attorneys Support federal proposals to crack down on the criminal use of guns 	Restrict the distribution of slasher films and video games and of serial killer cards that encourage violence against women
Children and family services	Name a key Cabinet minister to be responsible for children's services	Establish a fund to support innovative projects in children's services
A healthy environment	 Continue the current 10-year tax exemption on ethanol Scrap the Interim Waste Authority, bring GTA municipalities back into the waste management 	planning process, and restore an environmenta assessment process that allows all waste disposal options to be judged on their environ- mental merits

Accountable government

- · Cut political staff
- Introduce a "Good Government" package
- Make sure civil servants are recruited and promoted on the basis of merit, competence, and experience
- Scrap the supplementary assessment fee for municipalities

Within 90 days of taking office

Jobs and growth

- End jobsOntario Community Action
- Cut grants to big business
- Phase out jobsOntario Homes
- Establish Operation Job Check to evaluate new regulations
- Scrap the Ontario Training and Adjustment Board bureaucracy
- Reduce corporate tax rate for small business

Focused economic support

- Introduce a Youth Opportunities strategy
- Increase access to trade shows and missions
- Improve farm safety-net programs, protect the farm property-tax rebate, and appoint a Rural Development Facilitator
- Reinstate the Ontario Incredible tax rebate
- Make the Ontario Film Investment Program permanent and demand-driven
- Reinstate the managed-forest tax rebate program

Quality health care

- Reinstate out-of-country health coverage for emergency services
- Establish two Call-In Care projects in southwestern and northern Ontario

Excellence in learning

- Establish local school councils
- Create a volunteer Council for International and Global Studies

Fighting crime

- Introduce legislation to keep dangerous sexual predators off the streets
- Establish rigorous review and selection process for appointments to provincial parole boards
- Make it mandatory for Crown attorneys to oppose bail when a man has previously broken a peace bond or ignored court orders to stay away from a woman
- Prohibit Crown attorneys from plea-bargaining hate crimes and instruct them to seek the maximum possible sentence
- Establish a provincial Crime Prevention Advisory Council
- Set up new crime prevention programs and expand support for existing ones

Children and family services

 Introduce legislation allowing early childhood educators to form a self-regulating body

A healthy environment

- Scrap the Ontario Waste Management Corporation
- Adopt a strong role in monitoring and ensuring compliance with all environmental regulations throughout the province

Accountable government

- Appoint an Ethics Commissioner
- Reduce government advertising by \$10 million
- Allow more free votes and increase the importance of legislative committees
- Keep one set of books, not two
- Ask the Provincial Auditor to look at financial statements to ensure that they adhere strictly to generally accepted accounting principles

Within one year of taking office

Jobs and growth

- Cut central government administration
- Implement reinventing-government initiatives
- Reduce the number of small businesses required to file for corporate minimum tax
- Reform the Workers' Compensation Board, including hiring a qualified CEO to run the board, streamlining appeals, cracking down on fraud, improving the rate of return on invest-

ments, and disbanding the Workplace Health and Safety Agency and placing it under the WCB

- Boost funding to the New Ventures program
- Strengthen entrepreneurial education programs
- Develop programs to help workers exploring the option of self-employment
- Introduce Ontario Training Network initiatives

Focused economic support

- Make available short-term financing for companies
- Install one-stop shopping facilities offering information on federal, provincial, and municipal programs
- Expand the Sectoral Partnership Program (including Biotechnology Partnership)
- Open a small number of overseas offices and introduce other export initiatives
- Move to restore GO Rail service to Guelph and extend the line to Kitchener-Waterloo
- Move to extend GO Rail service to Barrie
- Move to extend GO Rail service to Peterborough
- Create marketing programs to highlight the

quality of Ontario produce, including introducing an "Ontario Choice" designation

- Aggressively market our tourist attractions through reopened overseas offices
- Amend the Employment Equity Act and streamline regulations under the act
- Work to improve access for foreign-trained persons to trades and professions
- Preserve rent controls and streamline the existing rent control system
- Review the non-profit housing program
- Correct the effect of Bill 120 in order to meet the special needs of those who live and work in retirement homes

Focused economic support

- Return authority to municipalities to approve where new basement apartments can be constructed
- Implement mandatory registration of basement
- apartments, and allow municipalities to require that they be inspected for building and fire code compliance prior to registration
- Introduce fire safety training for tenants

Quality health care

- Expand 911 service to more communities
- Enter negotiations with the Ontario Medical Association and doctors to develop new payment plans in order to compensate physicians who provide services in low-volume emergency wards, who do not receive adequate funding through the fee-for-service model
- Establish a provincial Cancer Control Agency
- Begin meeting the urgent need for radiology equipment
- Correct the effect of Bill 120 so seniors who live in rest and retirement homes can once

- again get services such as light nursing and security checks
- Mandate District Health Councils to develop long-range plans for a coordinated, integrated mental health system
- Find ways to inform individuals of the cost of health care services they use, such as sending an itemized account
- Create the Ontario Health Research and Development Council
- Create a Health Care Reform Commission

Excellence in learning

- Develop a core education program for Ontario students, with clearly defined goals and standards that are tested
- Develop a common report card for each grade
- Establish school-business-labour advisory councils
- Cap trustee salaries and recognize the part-time nature of the job
- Publish guidelines for spending on administration and ask school boards to publish an annual "report card" comparing their administrative spending with the provincial guidelines
- Develop a new teacher education system and

- ways for teachers to upgrade their certification
- Increase the number of college and university courses offered on weekends, in the evenings, in the summers, part-time, etc.
- Increase the use of new technologies to deliver teaching and learning materials to Ontario students
- Require that information on the salary and benefit ranges paid to senior university officials be made public
- Expand exchange programs that allow Ontario students to study overseas

Fighting crime

- Strengthen regulations governing the licensing and inspection of gun dealers
- Develop sentencing guidelines for prosecutors
- Create a province-wide data base with up-todate sentencing information
- Pass legislation to hold parole board members responsible for their decisions
- Mandate and enforce the removal of violent and abusive men from their homes, instead of forcing their spouses and children to seek refuge elsewhere
- Adopt a Victims' Bill of Rights
- Explore innovative ways of easing the burden on our criminal courts
- Expedite child abuse cases and reduce stress to child victims
- Designate special Crown attorneys to oversee prosecution of hate crimes, and implement further measures to fight hate crimes
- Require the Ontario Housing Corporation and other provincial non-profit housing providers to carry out safety audits

Children and family services

- Collect specific data to measure the effectiveness of new and existing programs
- Help communities provide prenatal and postnatal programs
- Establish community-driven home visiting programs
- Identify services for children in communities, and eliminate gaps and duplication
- Establish community networks and information centres at which parents can find out about services and programs
- Establish a child care tax credit
- Increase the availability of child care spaces

A healthy environment

- Introduce mandatory vehicle emissions testing
- Update air pollution regulations for industrial sources
- Work with the federal government to create a bilateral smog agreement
- Establish a province-wide registry of the sites of contaminated soil in Ontario
- Establish an open, accountable, and enforceable system for ensuring water quality
- Review the environmental assessment process and develop a plan to streamline it
- Market our domestic environmental industry through the reopened overseas trade offices

Accountable government

- Scrap the current MPP pension plan and move to an RRSP system
- End double-dipping by former MPPs
- Require paid lobbyists to register with the provincial government
- Introduce a streamlined Municipal Act, putting more responsibility in the hands of local communities
- Cut political appointments and move to volunteer service, where possible
- Cut services to MPPs
- Require that by-elections be called within 70 to 100 days of a vacancy occurring
- Bring in a more open budget process

- Require that information on the salary and benefit ranges of senior public sector officials be made public
- Create a computerized index of frequently used government programs and services
- Require every ministry to produce a summary of services, using customer-friendly language
- Introduce one simplified application form for government documents such as driver's licences, fishing and hunting licences, birth certificates, and health cards
- Extend the hours of the most frequently used government offices, such as driver and vehicle licensing offices
- Fix the NDP's flawed planning legislation

The balance of the initiatives in the Ontario Liberal Plan will be completed during the full term of government.





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Authorized by the CFO for the Ontario Liberal Party.

the ONTARIO LIBERAL PLAN



My top priority is to get Ontario working again. We'll achieve that by creating a climate that will help business grow and attract new investment and jobs.

I also want to get Ontario working again in a broader sense. We need a health care system that works. We need an education system that works. We need safe communities and other services that work. We can have these things – but only if we have a government that works. We need a government that offers honesty and integrity, a government that understands that by modernizing, getting rid of waste and duplication, and listening to people, it can spend less money and offer better programs and services.

Everything in this plan is practical, affordable, and do-able. Our plan sets out clearly what we will do in the first 30 days in office, in the first 90 days, in the first year, and beyond. It's our commitment to you.

Lyn M Good

LYN McLEOD

Leader, Ontario Liberal Party

"This act

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ge "seanisud Under a Libe make auto insurance more affordable. begin working on reforms that will tax on auto insurance premiums and taking office, we will repeal the 5% Cutting taxes Within 30 days of

Z6, 16, 06, 9Z

Provincial debt, 1990-94

to work and

working hard a that Ontario is By lowering tax

\$14-million NDP tax grab. filing fee, which is nothing more than a 50%, we'll scrap the \$50 annual corporate doing business with government by at least our long-term goal of cutting the cost of

tions like the Red Cross and Meals on Wheels. law and introduce legislation to preserve the role of organizastop the implementation of the NDP's flawed long-term care Long-term care Within 30 days of taking office, we will

are a tax on the sick and won't stop abuse. The Liberal plan rejects user fees, because t

and sensible to fighting er The Liberal p

issuing a directive to Crown attorneys. toughen prosecution for gun-related crime, by Tougher prosecution We will immediately

violent criminals are caught and punis fight violence in our communities, and I believe government must act to previ



to use — and that c demand for service A Liberal governme

We will cut the number of Fewer political staff

openness and accountability." We will set new standards of public, not serve themselves. "Politicians should serve the

THE ONLYRIO FIBERAL PLAN

& growth sqo

is our top priority. Unearing source and building a strong economy

& education health

care and high-quality education. Alfash sldisssoor array oitsinO to slqosq salth

communities Safe

and neighbourhoods. crime and violence – in their homes, schools, Everyone has the right to be secure from

accountability

confidence while improving customer service. must act in a way that restores public trust and Accountability begins at the top. Government

tion plan tells you what we'll do, wh

06 days ▶

d give young p Our Youth Opport Youth Opport

tuture, by helping opportunities to b

90 days of taking office, we will have Operation Job Check Within

education, trainir lops with red tape. make sure it doesn't strangle new every proposed new regulation to a program in place that will evaluate

in Ontario. accommodations and goods purchased a rebate on retail sales tax paid on program, which gives visiting tourists bring back the Ontario Incredible Ontario Incredible We will

24-hour toll-free numbers to give access will establish pilot projects setting up Call-In Care A Liberal government

buying their children shoes and taking them to remember what it was like to choose between "I've talked to people in this province who can

doctor. No one should have to make that choic

law in the first place. people from breaking the to try to prevent young "It is more cost-effective

tionships between students and police. and other illegal activity in schools and impri such as Crimestoppers and School Watch to Safe schools We will expand in-school p

Queen's Park in their ridings." Park and not just speak for speak for their ridings at Queen's "I will make sure that MPPs

ing to the highest ethical standards. operates in an open, honest way, accord-Commissioner to ensure that government move quickly to appoint an Ethics

on competence and merit.

parole boards. Appointments will be based

process for appointments to provincial

Responsible decisions We will

establish a rigorous review and selection

hate crimes and instruct them to seek the

prohibit Crown attorneys from plea-bargaining

Fighting hate A Liberal government will

violence against women.

crime: tough laws, tough enforcement,

plan takes a three-pronged approach

training programs that really work

multimillion-dollar program and get

Training We will end this failed End jobsOntario

to work on developing Jobs and

in co-op education, 1993-94 % of high school students enrolled ".bəhsin

they

and make sure

e prevention measures.

and taking risks pays off."

is a place of opportunity where

axes, we will send a clear message

l earn a secure economic future.

ıgain. Our plan will give people the opportunity

eral government, Ontario will be "open for

event crime,

ses that are modern, streamlined, and easy

nent will respond to the growing public

Ethics Commissioner We will

more free votes, restrict the number Wolls Iliw Inamnavog Israel A Parliamentary reform

legislative committees. the importance and usefulness of of confidence votes, and increase

transfer tax rebate for first-time home-buyers. closing down the Interim Waste Authority and reinstating the landthe damage of the past five years under the NDP. Measures include government will bring in its "Good Government" package to undo Good government Within 30 days of taking office, a Liberal

games and serial killer cards that encourage

Stopping violence against women

Within 30 days of taking office, we will restrict

on-the-Job training and experience.

We will expand apprenticeship and

and move to bring in legislation to

implementation of the Advocacy Act

Advocacy Act We will stop the

and get on with real reform.

Compensation, freeze rates,

immediately cancel the Royal

Commission on Workers'

WCB reform We will

combine in-school learning with cooperative education programs, which

More hands-on learning

the distribution of slasher films and video

Hen we'll do it, and how much it will

T ye aysb

economic success, Go Under the Liberal plan

small business." to establish the location of these offices. will work with the business community a priority to encourage and support Untario's private sector to export. We encourage investment and make it offices in foreign countries to help a small number of low-cost economic to the people of this province. We will Boosting exports We will create "We understand the value of business

Une-stop shopping Working with other levels of

and municipal programs. information facilities offering data on federal, provincial, to get the assistance they need by installing one-stop government, we will help communities and companies

in the basic skills of reading, writing, math, clearly defined goals and standards, particularly education program for Ontario students, with Core curriculum We will develop a core

coordinate, and develop health research in Ontario. Health Research Council to set priorities and guide, Better research We will establish the Ontario

"We must assess the value of each change

a permanent and expanded program.

industries by making the successful

We will help build Ontario's cultural

Strong cultural industries

Ontario Film Investment Program

"¿gninzəl əvorqmi ii in our schools against one simple test: does

students, community representatives, and teachers. local school councils, made up of volunteer parents, Community involvement We will set up

and act as a resource centre for local government advice on crime prevention Prevention Advisory Council, to give the communities, we will establish a Crime Preventing crime Working with

to keep dangerous sexual predators

men We will make it mandatory for Crown Protecting women from abusive

court orders to stay away from a woman. has previously broken a peace bond or ignored attorneys to oppose bail in cases where a man

advertising by \$10 million. cut the cost of government Saving money We will



mprove rela-

sool programs

oice," to the

raining, and jobs.

elping them get

wan alqoaq gnu

es to build a secure

pportunities strategy

n to report guns

Reported assaults, 1986-92

off the streets.

Rural Development Facilitator.

tect the farm tax rebate, and appoint a

safety-net stabilization programs, pro-

Helping farmers We will improve

06. 88.

days, we will introduce legislation

Protecting society Within 90

considered by a legislative committee. in a more open budget process, including allowing budget proposals to be the NDP practice of keeping two sets of books will end. We will also bring Honest, open budgets We will have only one set of books in Ontario;

gnibnut wan gniqolavab bna ing recommendations to dispute resolution mechanisms lines for prosecutors makby implementing alternative clear sentencing guide-We will develop new, ease the burden on our courts Tough sentences Court reform We will

the board, and we will disband the Workplace Health and and more accountable, we will hire a qualified CEO to run of the WCB Board of Directors to make it less partisan Cleaning up the WCB We will change the makeup

Safety Agency and place it under the WCB.

In Ontario to register with pass legislation requiring all paid Lobbyist registration We will

cause, cannot be tolerated.

Lawlessness, whatever its

office, we will adopt a Victims' Bill of Rights.

dollars on class

The Liberal plan

and clearly define school boards' r

duce guidelines for spending on ad

number of trustees, cap their salar

Less administration We will

Սոеmployment, 1989–94 t6, 86, 76, 16, 06, 68,

Victims' rights Within a year of taking

the provincial government. Scrapping MPP pensions

and put an end to double-dipping. nelq 92AA ne to tuovet ni nelq nois We will scrap the current MPP pen-

'sə6pnf

PPG ONTARIO LIBERAL PLAN

Affordable

will reduce taxes by 5%. budget – without raising taxes. In fact, we while reaching our goal of balancing the Everything in this action plan can be achieved The Ontario Liberal Plan is affordable.

Where Well Cut

Here are some examples

\$339 million by ending

\$2 million by cancelling the

\$16 million by cutting

political staff by 10% \$2 million by cutting WCB Royal Commission

Year

that is given only to products that meet the highest quality standards. quality of Ontario produce, including introducing an "Ontario Choice" designation Ontario Choice We will create marketing programs that highlight the

pelp the growing biotechnology industry and Supporting new industries We will ccess. Government's role is to remove the barriers.

deral plan, communities hold the key to their own

researching and producing biopharmaceutical

create jobs by making Ontario a centre for

and industrial products.

will cost."

nployment, 1989-94

as for spending on administration,

stees, cap their salaries, introent eation We will reduce the

the province-wide planning and management that is will establish the Cancer Control Agency to carry out Cancer care Within a year of taking office, we

to do the same in their neighbourhoods. and will encourage municipalities and communities

profit housing providers to carry out safety audits Safety audits We will require all provincial non-

s on classroom learning and less on administration. beral plan will spend more of our precious education

Year-by-Year Savings

Decrease in spending noillim 099\$

\$2,251 billion

Cost of Liberal programs

down the Interim Waste

gnittuds yd noillim &&\$

Management Corporation

NDP Advocacy Commission

\$30 million by scrapping the

\$2 million by closing

\$10 million by cutting

\$114 million by cutting

66-8661

Authority

noillid 201.18 programs

noillim 099\$ Cost of Liberal programs

43.505 billion Decrease in spending

1999-2000

noillid ₹21.1\$ programs Savings and cuts to existing

noillim 0008 Cost of Liberal programs

#3.505 billion Decrease in spending

noillid 241.18 Savings and cuts to existing

Decrease in spending noillim 20£\$

noillim £87\$

46-9661

noillid ₹88.1\$

noillim 0128 Cost of Liberal programs

noillid 275.12 Decrease in spending

86-7661

noillid 119.2\$ programs Savings and cuts to existing

> believe in an approach that is driven from policy handed down from Queen's Park. to every problem isn't a one-size-fits all Government has to realize that the answer

local communities. Act, putting more responsibility in the hands of office, we will introduce a streamlined Municipal Municipal reform Within a year of taking

nign-rise apartments.

fire safety training for tenants in

Fire safety We will introduce

renewal offices. frequently used government extend the hours of the most

the community level up."

py expediting court cases involving child

child victims of crime from further stress

Helping children We will protect

offices, such as car licence Better service We will

gister with bisq lls | Iliw 9W m

dna

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ng alternative

su ou ont courts

oe tolerated."

natever its

ms' Bill of Rights. a year of taking

Iliw 9W Ⅲ

non mechanisms

apnae

Beyond Year One

The Ontario Liberal Plan continues through a full term of government. Everything in this action plan can be achieved while reaching our goal of balancing the budget – without raising taxes. In fact, we will reduce taxes by 5%.

Ontario Liberals will:

- implement balanced-budget legislation
- fund needed radiation equipment for cancer therapy
- introduce a new post-secondary student support system
- reduce spending through private/public-sector partnerships
- · create a rural investment fund

The Goals of the Ontario Liberal Plan

By the end of our first term, Ontario Liberals will:

- balance the budget
- cut government spending by more than \$4 billion
- •cut taxes by 5%