Helping Those Who Need It Most

Ontario is committed to improving the supports necessary to increase the incomes and overall well-being of Ontarians. A fair society helps people in their everyday lives by ensuring they have the opportunities to realize their full potential while contributing to Ontario’s economy and society.

Ontario’s Actions

- Reintroducing the Promoting Affordable Housing Act, 2016, which, if passed, would help modernize existing social housing and increase the supply of affordable housing across the province.
- Increasing the minimum wage to $11.40 and tying changes to the Ontario Consumer Price Index.
- Increasing social assistance rates for the Ontario Disability Support Program and Ontario Works. Single Ontario Works recipients without children now receive $100 more per month compared to 2012.
- Increasing the maximum annual Ontario Child Benefit per child for more than half a million families to keep pace with the cost of living.
- Launching the Survivors of Domestic Violence Portable Housing Benefit Pilot, providing assistance to about 1,000 survivors of domestic violence per year.
- Making an additional investment in autism services to accelerate the implementation of the new Ontario Autism Program, strengthen in-school autism supports to help with the transition to full-time school, increase access to assessments for earlier diagnosis and treatment, and provide more funding and choice for families that have children on the Intensive Behavioural Intervention waitlist.
- Helping refugees integrate into communities across Ontario by ensuring access to settlement services in their first languages, providing special programming for women, children and youth, and working with other community partners to provide adult training and employment assistance, health care and mental health services.
- Investing $250 million over the next three years in programs and actions to support reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.
Going Forward

- Developing a Basic Income Pilot, including launching consultations with communities, Indigenous partners, people with lived experience and policy and evaluation experts.
- Investing up to $72 million in a new Strategy to End Human Trafficking to improve survivors’ access to services and support, increase awareness, provide better information and coordination and enhance justice-sector initiatives to support enforcement and prosecution of human trafficking cases.