

The Premier
of Ontario

Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A1

Le Premier ministre
de l'Ontario

Édifice de l'Assemblée législative
Queen's Park
Toronto (Ontario)
M7A 1A1



May 6, 2010

Mr. Michael Creek
Co-Chair
Mr. Greg deGroot-Maggetti
Co-Chair
25 in 5 Network for Poverty Reduction
c/o Mennonite Central Committee Ontario
50 Kent Avenue
Kitchener, Ontario
N2G 3R1

Dear Mr. Creek and Mr. deGroot-Maggetti:

Thank you for your valuable feedback regarding poverty in Ontario. I appreciate the importance of this matter and want to acknowledge the hard work of your organization and its members in this regard.

Supporting the vulnerable and helping people succeed is not only fair but is also good for the economy. And, in this challenging economic climate, it is more important than ever. That is why, in the 2010 Ontario Budget — which will move forward our new, five-year Open Ontario Plan for jobs and growth — we committed to advancing our Poverty Reduction Agenda by:

- Increasing the adult basic-needs allowance and maximum shelter allowances for people on the Ontario Disability Support Program and Ontario Works again this fall — the sixth increase made to rates since 2005
- Raising the minimum wage to \$10.25 per hour on March 31, 2010.
- Through these initiatives, our government has made a permanent commitment to break the cycle of poverty.

My colleagues in the Ontario government and I remain deeply committed to the well-being of our province's most vulnerable citizens.

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As this important issue would best be addressed by the Honourable Laurel Broten, Minister of Children and Youth Services, I have forwarded a copy of your correspondence to her so that she or a member of her staff can respond to you directly.

Thank you again for writing. Please accept my best wishes.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dalton McGuinty". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dalton McGuinty
Premier

c: The Honourable Laurel Broten