

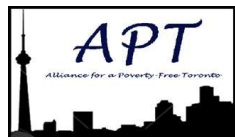


Ontario Campaign 2000

Ontario Campaign 2000 is a non-partisan, Ontario-wide coalition of more than 60 organizations committed to eradicating child & family poverty in Ontario. The campaign has worked extensively on the Social Assistance Review, poverty reduction measures, affordable housing, child care and employment issues. The campaign produces an annual report card measuring child and family poverty in Ontario.



ONTARIO CAMPAIGN 2000 is hosted by Family Service Toronto, a United Way Member Agency



Alliance for a Poverty Free Toronto (APT)

The Alliance for a Poverty-Free Toronto is a Toronto-based network of community groups, agencies, concerned residents and individuals, (including persons with lived experience of poverty), working for the eradication of poverty in the city. APT's priorities for action include promoting living wages and strong employment standards, accessible and affordable housing and strong community services and programs.



Alliance for a Poverty Free Toronto
c/o Social Planning Toronto

Websites

List of Current MPPs

www.ontla.on.ca/web/members/members_current.do

Find your MPP

http://fyed.elections.on.ca/fyed/en/form_page_en.jsp

Ontario Campaign 2000

www.campaign2000.ca/Ontario

Alliance for a Poverty Free Toronto

www.povertyfreetoronto.org/

Additional resources available at

www.campaign2000.ca/Ontario



Ontario Campaign 2000: on.fb.me/ybKQEW

APT: on.fb.me/ztgL1d



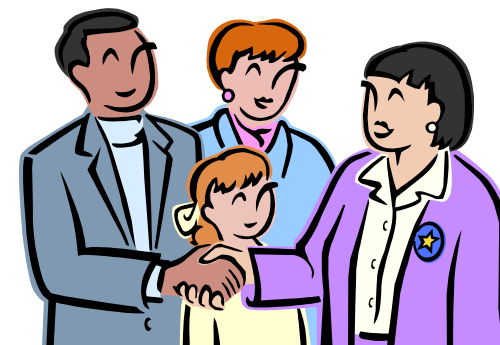
Ontario Campaign 2000: @campaign2000

APT: @PovFreeToronto



Lobbying YOUR MPP

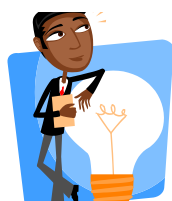
some tips to get you on your way ...



Did you know...

meeting with your local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) is a powerful, personal way to influence decisions made by government in Ontario.

Meeting your MPP can be easy and will benefit you and your community



Why is it a good idea to meet with your MPP?

- ⇒ You have an opportunity to build relationships with your local representative for Ontario.
 - * MPPs have a say in what laws are adopted by our province and can hold the government to account on key provincial issues
- ⇒ Your MPP needs to know what issues are most important to you.
 - * Your MPP maybe unaware of some issues that matter to you, or may not bring up issues in the legislature that constituents do not raise in meetings or in correspondence
- ⇒ You have the opportunity to influence how your province works.

What you need to do

Set up a meeting

- Send an email, mail a letter, or call your MPP's constituency office requesting a meeting on the issues that are important to you.
- You may have to follow up with a phone call or an email a few times before you get a meeting. Don't despair! Keep trying and you will get your meeting.



Prepare

This may sound intimidating, but it's quite simple—know your issue and know what you are going to talk about.

- Write down the key issues you want to discuss
- Conduct some research and find statistics to make your case—a few statistics would be just fine. Remember—your experience, or the experience of a friend or a client, will be a powerful tool that will give a voice to the research
- You don't need to reinvent the wheel. Check out the websites listed on the back of this brochure for information that you can use at the meeting.
- Pick a 'task' and an 'ask' for the MPP. E.g. the **ask** is to champion affordable housing issues in the constituency. The **task** is to meet with local nonprofit housing organizations, or ask a specific question in the legislature.

At the meeting

You will most likely have 30 minutes. The MPP's staff will be present at the meeting.



- ⇒ Stay confident. Your MPP is your representative and should know of your concerns
- ⇒ Be polite and respectful to everyone at the meeting, including your MPP
- ⇒ If your MPP diverts the conversation, wait for your turn to speak and try to bring the conversation back to the main issues that you want to discuss
- ⇒ Give your MPP the 'ask' and the 'task'
- ⇒ Ask if your MPP requires any further information—be helpful!
- ⇒ Thank the MPP for his/her time
- ⇒ Ask for staff contact information so you can follow up on the meeting and the 'asks' and 'tasks'
- ⇒ Send a thank you email or letter to the MPP's office and reiterate what was discussed and the next steps agreed to
- ⇒ Let Ontario Campaign 2000/Alliance for a Poverty Free Toronto know about the meeting by filling out the survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/5X9CLTD