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# Lobbying YOUR MPP

# 2012

A Comprehensive Guide to Lobbying YOUR MPP

Taking Action  
in Your  
Community



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## **1.0 Organize**

Once you have read the brochure use this guide as the next step to setting up a meeting with your MPP and getting your voice heard!

**Use this sheet to help you stay organized and keep track of your progress**

### **PRE-MEETING**

DATE:

TIME:

LOCATION:

MAIN POINTS YOU WANT TO DISCUSS:

1.

2.

3.

STATISTICS TO BACK UP YOUR ARGUMENT (refer to 3.0 and don't be afraid to use personal experience):

1.

2.

3.

WHAT IS YOUR ASK? (Example: Ask to champion affordable housing issues in the constituency)

WHAT IS YOUR TASK? (Example: Meet with local non-profit housing organizations, or ask a specific question in the legislature)

POST MEETING

WHAT WAS DISCUSSED?

ASK AND TASK DECISIONS?

ADDITIONAL NOTES and/or THINGS TO REMEMBER FOR NEXT MEETING

## **2.0 Letter Template**

(Date)

(Name of MPP and constituency)

(Title)

(Address)

Dear (Name of MPP),

I am writing to you today to request a meeting to discuss critical issues faced by your constituents.

As you are aware, in 2009 Ontario's MPPs unanimously passed the Poverty Reduction Act. Poverty affects all of us and it is important that the government and MPPs takes steps to reduce and eventually eradicate poverty for all. Even though 19,000 fewer children live in poverty now with the help of the first poverty reduction strategy to reduce child poverty by 25% in 5 years, hundreds and thousands of children still have to deal with the harsh realities of living on low income. Within our own community, we have children whose parents cannot afford to pay for even one meal a day on occasion, who struggle to pay for appropriate winter clothing, who cannot afford to pay for field trips, school stationary, and birthday presents – things that no child should have to do without. Moreover, many of these parents work an equivalent of full-time, full year in low paid, precarious jobs.

The overall unemployment rate in our (city/region) of (x%) and the youth unemployment rate of (x%) is of grave concern. We have xxx low income households in our city/region waiting for affordable housing and they can expect to wait x years before finding suitable accommodation. The problematic state of childcare funding and services, too, is of concern – particularly as young parents on modest- to low-income are really struggling with finding affordable, high quality childcare for their children which in turn affects their transition into the labour market. We need to start tackling the social and economic issues of today for the benefit of future generations. I am extremely concerned that the level of poverty in our community and in our province will only get worse if most of the recommendations made by the Drummond Commission are adopted, and that this increase in poverty will have a further detrimental impact on our economy.

I want to further discuss these pressing issues with you and bring forward recommendations on tackling poverty on behalf of our constituency and in our province. Please contact me at (phone number) or (email address) to set up a date and time for this meeting.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

(Your signature)

First Name Last Name

Full Address

### **3.0 Local Media Release Template**

Citizens engage local MPP on harsh realities of poverty in constituency

Today, a group of concerned citizens met with **XX**, MPP to voice their concerns around the issue of poverty in the constituency, and to warn against the negative impact that the Ontario government's economic decisions will have on the community's social and economic well-being.

The group, who are also involved in (**Ontario Campaign 2000/Alliance for a Poverty Free Toronto**), raised their concerns on the rate of unemployment in the area/province, the impact that current government cuts have had on youth, and the lack of affordable housing/childcare in the area that deters modest- and low-income residents from pursuing good jobs. The group's main message at the meeting was that the economy will only do well if we, as families and as members of civil society, are able to pursue a decent standard of living – which is far from the case right now.

**XX**, one of the community members that met with the MPP states, "Quote"

**YY** added, "Quote"

-30-

Insert local Contact name and number

#### **Use as required:**

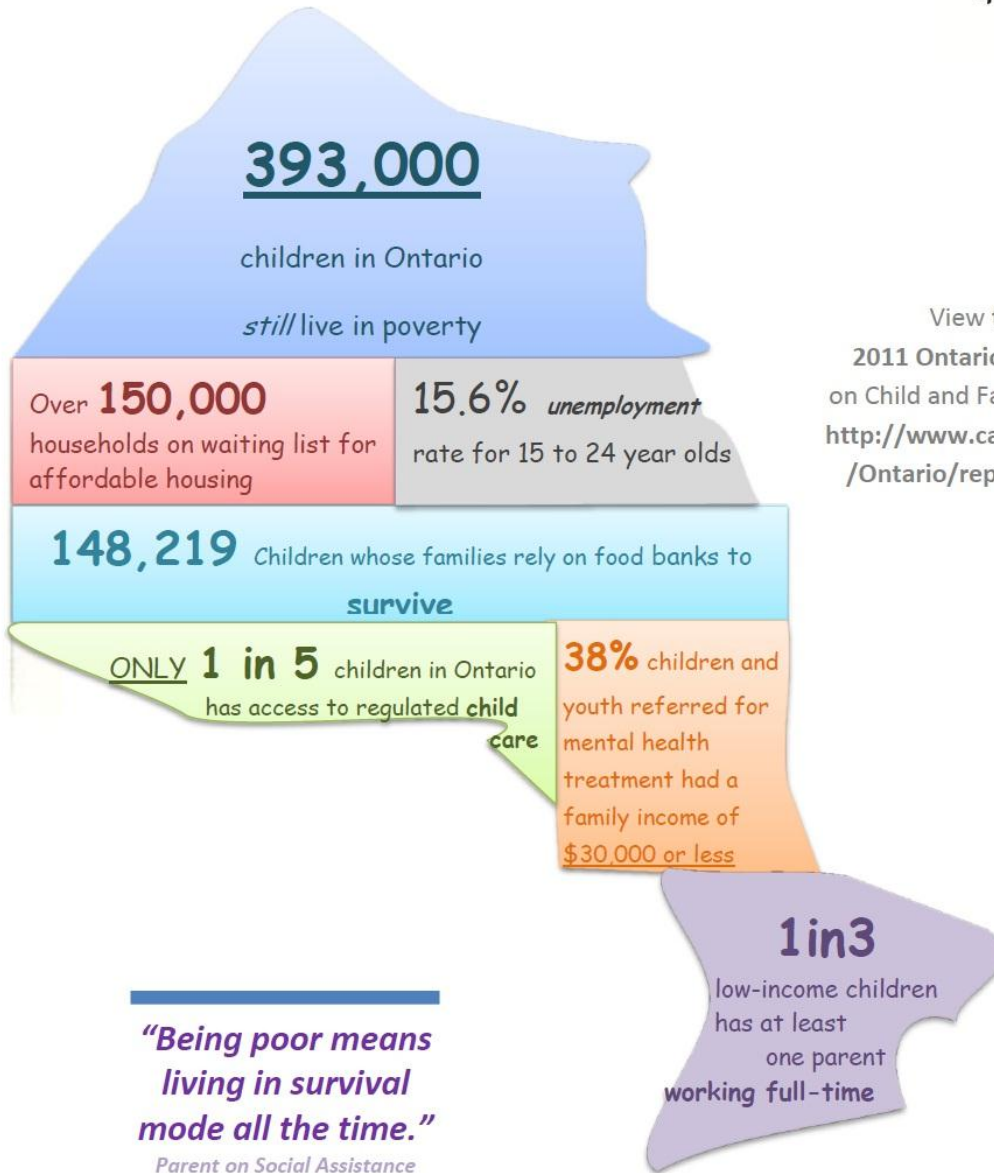
**Ontario Campaign 2000 is a non-partisan, Ontario-wide coalition of more than 60 organizations committed to eradicating child & family poverty in Ontario. The Campaign has worked extensively on the Social Assistance Review, poverty reduction measures, affordable housing, child care and employment issues.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

**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.**

## 4.0 Helpful Statistics

### POVERTY REDUCTION IN AN AGE OF UNCERTAINTY & CHANGE

2011 SNAPSHOT OF CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY ONTARIO



View the full 2011 Ontario Report Card on Child and Family Poverty at <http://www.campaign2000.ca/Ontario/reportcards.html>

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Please see Ontario Campaign 2000's 2011 Report Card at <http://www.campaign2000.ca/Ontario/reportcards.html> for the complete list of recommendations

### PRIORITIZE POVERTY REDUCTION

#### *What Ontario Needs to Do*

- Provide adequate funding for programs affiliated with the poverty reduction strategy
- Introduce targets and timelines for the eradication of child poverty in Ontario

### ENCOURAGE GOOD JOBS AT LIVING WAGES

#### *What Ontario Needs to Do*

- Increase minimum wage to \$11/hour in 2012 & fully index to inflation
- Address workplace discrimination: implement Employment Equity program; ensure pay equity

### PROVIDE A STRONG SOCIAL SAFETY NET

#### *What Ontario Needs to Do*

- Fully index social assistance rates to inflation & transform social assistance to support movement out of poverty; Ensure high quality training programs to support the move from welfare to work, and layoff to work
- Increase maximum Ontario Child Benefit to \$125 a month
- Introduce \$100 monthly Healthy Food Supplement for all adults on social assistance.

### ENSURE ACCESS TO EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE

#### *What Ontario Needs to Do*

- The 2012 budget must allocate \$287 million in emergency funding to prevent the closure of hundreds of child care centres across Ontario
- Issue a moratorium on licensing of new for-profit child care centres.
- Commit to developing policies and a new funding model to support affordable high quality child care.

### IMPROVE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

#### *What Ontario Needs to Do*

- Invest to bring aging social housing stock up to standard, build more affordable housing and new supportive housing
- Provide a monthly Housing Benefit to low-income tenants to reduce high rent costs



## 5.0 List of MPP's

Constituency	Salutation	First Name	Last Name	Party	Email Address	Phone Number	Street no. and name	City, Province, Postal Code
York-South Western	Ms.	Laura	Albanese	Liberal	<a href="mailto:lalbanese.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org">lalbanese.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org</a>	416-243-7984	99A Ingram Drive	Toronto, ON M6M 2L7
London-Fanshawe	Ms.	Teresa	Armstrong	NDP	<a href="mailto:tarmstrong@ndp.on.ca">tarmstrong@ndp.on.ca</a>	519-668-1104	16-771 Southdale Road E	London, ON N6E 2C6
Wellington-Halton Hills	Mr	Ted	Amott	PC	<a href="mailto:ted.amottco@pc.ola.org">ted.amottco@pc.ola.org</a>	519-787-5247	2nd Floor, 181 St. Andrew Street East	Fergus, Ontario N1M 1P9
Samia-Lambton	Mr.	Bob	Bailey	PC	<a href="mailto:bob.baileyco@pc.ola.org">bob.baileyco@pc.ola.org</a>	519-337-0051	836 Upper Canada Drive	Samia, Ontario N7W 1A4
Scarborough-Rouge River	Mr.	Bas	Balkissoon	Liberal	<a href="mailto:bbalkissoon.mpp@liberal.ola.org">bbalkissoon.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	416-297-5040	Unit B, 4559 Sheppard Avenue East	Scarborough, Ontario M1S 1V3
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Etobicoke-Lakeshore	Ms.	Laurel	Brotten	Liberal	<a href="mailto:lbrotten.mpp@liberal.ola.org">lbrotten.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	416-259-2249	Suite 100, 701 Evans Avenue	Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 1A3
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							Suite 3, 140 Fourth Street West	Fort Frances, Ontario P9A 3B8
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Thunder Bay-Atikokan	Mr	Bill	Mauro	Liberal	<a href="mailto:bmauro.mpp@liberal.ola.org">bmauro.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	807-623-9237	205 Main Street West, P.O. BOX 1780	Atikokan, Ontario P0T 1C0
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Ottawa-Orleans	Mr	Phil	McNeely	Liberal	<a href="mailto:pmcneely.mpp@liberal.ola.org">pmcneely.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	613-834-8679	Unit 6, 110 Bearbrook Road	Gloucester, Ontario K1B 5R2
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Kitchener Centre	Mr.	John	Millroy	Liberal	<a href="mailto:jmillroy.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org">jmillroy.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org</a>	519-579-5460	Unit 6 C, 1770 King Street East	Kitchener, Ontario N2G 2P1
Richmond Hill	Mr	Reza	Moridi	Liberal	<a href="mailto:Reza.moridi@ontario.ca">Reza.moridi@ontario.ca</a>	905-884-8080	9891 Yonge Street	Richmond Hill, Ontario L4C 1V1
York-Simcoe	Ms.	Julia	Munro	PC	<a href="mailto:julia.munro@pc.ola.org">julia.munro@pc.ola.org</a>	905-478-2572	18977 Leslie Street P.O. BOX 1129	Sharon, Ontario L0G 1V0
Toronto Centre	Mr	Glen	Murray	Liberal	<a href="mailto:gmurray.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org">gmurray.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org</a>	416-972-7683	514 Parliament Street	Toronto, Ontario M4X 1P4
Ottawa Centre	Mr	Yasir	Naqvi	Liberal	<a href="mailto:ynaqvi.mpp@liberal.ola.org">ynaqvi.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	613-722-6414	Suite 204, 411 Roosevelt Avenue	Ottawa, Ontario K2A 3X9
Essex	Mr	Taras	Natyshak	NDP	<a href="mailto:tnatyshak@ndp.on.ca">tnatyshak@ndp.on.ca</a>	519-776-6420	316 Talbot Street North	Essex, Ontario N8M 2E1
Chatham-Kent-Essex	Mr	Rick	Nicholls	PC	<a href="mailto:rick.nicholls@pc.ola.org">rick.nicholls@pc.ola.org</a>	519-351-0510	Suite 100, 111 Heritage Road	Chatham, Ontario N7M 5W7
Sault Ste. Marie	Mr	David	Oraziotti	Liberal	<a href="mailto:doraziotti.mpp@liberal.ola.org">doraziotti.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	705-949-6959	Room 202, 2nd Floor, 432 Great Northern Road	Sault Ste Marie, Ontario P6B 4Z9
Durham	Mr	John	O'Toole	PC	<a href="mailto:john.otoole@pc.ola.org">john.otoole@pc.ola.org</a>	905-697-1501	75 King Street East	Bowmanville, Ontario L1C 1N4
Oshawa	Mr	Jerry	Ouellette	PC	<a href="mailto:jerry.ouellette@pc.ola.org">jerry.ouellette@pc.ola.org</a>	905-827-5141	170 Athol Street East	Oshawa, Ontario L1H 1K1
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Beaches-East York	Mr	Michael	Prue	NDP	<a href="mailto:mprue-co@ndp.on.ca">mprue-co@ndp.on.ca</a>	416-690-1032	1821 Danforth Avenue	Toronto, Ontario M4C 1J2
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Guelph	Ms.	Liz	Sandals	Liberal	<a href="mailto:lsandals.mpp@liberal.ola.org">lsandals.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	519-836-4190	173 Woolwich Street	Guelph, Ontario N1H 3V4
Davenport	Mr	Jonah	Schein	NDP	<a href="mailto:jonah@jonahschein.ca">jonah@jonahschein.ca</a>	416-535-3158	1674 St. Clair Avenue West	Toronto, Ontario M6N 1H8
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York West	Mr	Mario	Sergio	Liberal	<a href="mailto:msergio.mpp@liberal.ola.org">msergio.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	416-743-7272	Unit 38, 2300 Finch Avenue West	North York, Ontario M9M 2Y3
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Prince Edward-Hastings	Mr	Todd	Smith	PC	<a href="mailto:todd.smith@pc.ola.org">todd.smith@pc.ola.org</a>	613-962-1144	P.O. BOX 575	Belleville, Ontario K8N 5B2
							Unit C, 33 Station Street	Bancroft, Ontario K0L 1C0
Vaughan	Mr	Greg	Sorbara	Liberal	<a href="mailto:gsorbara.mpp@liberal.ola.org">gsorbara.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	416-212-1022	Unit A8, 140 Woodbridge Avenue	Woodbridge, Ontario L4L 4K9
Mississauga South	Mr	Charles	Sousa	Liberal	<a href="mailto:csousa.mpp@liberal.ola.org">csousa.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	905-274-8228	Unit 1 & 2, 120 Lakeshore Road West	Mississauga, Ontario L5H 1E8
Toronto Danforth	Mr.	Peter	Tabuns	NDP	<a href="mailto:tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca">tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca</a>	416-461-0223	923 Danforth Avenue	Toronto, Ontario M4J 1L8
Mississauga Erindale	Mr	Harinder	Takhar	Liberal	<a href="mailto:htakhar.mpp@liberal.ola.org">htakhar.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	905-828-8989	Unit 2, 3413 Wolfedale Road	Mississauga, Ontario L5C 1V8
Hamilton Mountain	Ms.	Monique	Taylor	NDP	<a href="mailto:mtaylor@ndp.on.ca">mtaylor@ndp.on.ca</a>	905-388-9734	Unit 2, 952 Concession Street	Hamilton, Ontario L8V 1G2
Huron-Bruce	Ms.	Lisa	Thompson	PC	<a href="mailto:lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org">lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org</a>	519-482-5630	408 Queen Street, P.O. BOX 426	Blyth, Ontario N0M 1H0
							Unit 2, 807 Queen Street	Kincardine, Ontario N2Z 2Y2
Timiskaming-Cochrane	Mr	John	Vanthof	NDP	<a href="mailto:jvanthof@ndp.on.ca">jvanthof@ndp.on.ca</a>	705-567-4650	Unit 5, Pinewoods Centre, 247 Whitewood Avenue	P.O. BOX 398, New Liskeard, Ontario P0J 1P0
							2nd Floor, 30 Second Street East	Kirkland Lake, Ontario P2N 1R1
Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound	Mr	Bill	Walker	PC	<a href="mailto:bill.walker@pc.ola.org">bill.walker@pc.ola.org</a>	519-371-2421	Suite 100, 920 1st Avenue West	Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 4K5
Simcoe Grey	Mr	Jim	Wilson	PC	<a href="mailto:jim.wilson@pc.ola.org">jim.wilson@pc.ola.org</a>	1-800-268-7542	Suite 28180 Parsons Road	Alliston, Ontario L9R 1E8
Kitchener-Waterloo	Ms.	Elizabeth	Witmer	PC	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.witmer@pc.ola.org">elizabeth.witmer@pc.ola.org</a>	519-725-3477	375 University Avenue East	Waterloo, Ontario N2K 3M7
Scarborough-Agincourt	Ms.	Soo	Wong	Liberal	<a href="mailto:swong.mpp@liberal.ola.org">swong.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	416-297-6568	Unit 3, 2245 Kennedy Road	Scarborough, Ontario M1T 3G8
Don Valley West	Ms.	Kathleen	Wynne	Liberal	<a href="mailto:kwyne.mpp@liberal.ola.org">kwyne.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	416-425-6777	Suite 101, 795 Eglinton Avenue East	Toronto, Ontario M4G 4E4
Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke	Mr	John	Yakabuski	PC	<a href="mailto:john.yakabuski@pc.ola.org">john.yakabuski@pc.ola.org</a>	613-735-6627	The Victoria Center, 84 Isabella Street	Pembroke, Ontario K8A 5S5
Elgin-Middlesex-London	Mr	Jeff	Yurek	PC	<a href="mailto:jeff.yurek@pc.ola.org">jeff.yurek@pc.ola.org</a>	519-631-0666	Suite 201, West Wing, 750 Talbot Street	St. Thomas, Ontario N5P 1E2
Willowdale	Mr	David	Zimmer	Liberal	<a href="mailto:dzimmer.mpp@liberal.ola.org">dzimmer.mpp@liberal.ola.org</a>	416-733-7878	Unit 3, Newtonbrook Plaza, 5801 Yonge Street	North York, Ontario M2M 3T9

## **6.0 Additional Resources**

### **Other ways to find your MPP:**

[http://fyed.elections.on.ca/fyed/en/form\\_page\\_en.jsp](http://fyed.elections.on.ca/fyed/en/form_page_en.jsp)

[http://fyed.elections.on.ca/fyed/en/list\\_page\\_en.jsp?show=all](http://fyed.elections.on.ca/fyed/en/list_page_en.jsp?show=all)

### **Helpful organizations/links:**

Family Service Toronto/Campaign 2000- Full Ontario report card 2011:

[http://www.campaign2000.ca/Ontario/reportcards/2011Ont.%20Report%20Card\\_Feb2012.pdf](http://www.campaign2000.ca/Ontario/reportcards/2011Ont.%20Report%20Card_Feb2012.pdf)

ISARC Social Assistance Review:

<http://www.isarc.ca/>

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternative- Deconstructing Drummond:

<http://www.policyalternatives.ca/newsroom/updates/deconstructing-drummond>

Social Planning Toronto- Resources:

<http://www.socialplanningtoronto.org/category/reports/>

Daily Bread Food bank- Hunger Profile in the GTA:

<http://www.dailybread.ca/learning-centre/hunger-statistics/>

Statistics Canada- Community Profiles:

<http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>

Statistics Canada- 2011 Census Profile:

<http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/index-eng.cfm>

National Council for Welfare:

<http://www.ncw.gc.ca/h.4m.2@-eng.jsp>

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