

# Feed Ontario Election Platform Tracker 2022

*Last Updated: May 9, 2022*

Since 2018, food bank use in Ontario has increased every single year. **The upcoming Ontario election is an opportunity for all parties to commit to taking action on hunger and poverty in our province, and turn the tide on food bank use.**

Feed Ontario has created an Election Platform Tracker to assist voters in easily understanding what each of Ontario's four major political parties have promised to do about poverty. In particular, we have focused on our "[3 Big Ideas](#)":

- **End legislated poverty:** Increase social assistance rates to \$2000 and reform unfair rules that trap recipients in poverty
- **Make housing affordable:** Build more social and supportive housing than is currently committed to in the National Housing Strategy, expand the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit, and strengthen laws to protect tenants
- **Guarantee decent work for all:** Increase the minimum wage to \$20, improve the Employment Standards Act (ESA) to protect workers, mandate at least 5 permanent sick days





We've also included a fourth section summarizing other important poverty reduction measures parties have committed to.

Learn more and take action: <https://feedontario.ca/election-2022/>





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## Social Assistance (Ontario Works & Ontario Disability Support Program)

				
Increase <b>OW and ODSP rates</b> to \$2000	Increase ODSP by 5% (ODSP → \$1,227) and tie rates to inflation, no announced increase to OW (current rate is \$733)	Increase rates by 20% in year one (ODSP → \$1,403 and OW → \$880), double rates second year and increase with inflation; eventually set rates based on cost of living	Increase ODSP rates by 10% in 2022, another 10% in 2023 (ODSP → \$1,403), increase OW by 10% in 2022 (OW → \$806)	Double ODSP & OW rates (ODSP → \$2,338, OW → \$1,466)
Reform <b>social assistance rules</b>	Target moving recipients into employment, potentially contract employment services to private companies	Stop the privatization of the delivery of social assistance employment services, improve ODSP rules	Increase earned income limits from \$200/month to \$6,000/year, replace current complex rate structure with single flat rate, redefine 'spouse'	Reduce earned income clawbacks, eliminate unnecessary reporting requirements, consult people w/ lived experience with poverty
Other: <b>Income Assistance</b>	Unknown	Restart the Basic Income Pilot, create a Caregiver Benefit Program to provide \$400/month to informal caregivers	Restart the Basic Income Pilot, top up OAS recipients by \$1000 and increase eligibility, make Caregiver Tax Credit refundable & tax-free	Phase in a Universal Basic Income program





## Affordable Housing

				
Build & repair more <b>social housing</b>	Build: 19,660 units of social housing, 7,081 units of affordable housing Repair: 131,067 units	Build: 100,000 units of social housing, 150,000 units of affordable housing Repair: 260,000 units	Build: 78,000 units of social and community homes Repair: 260,000 units	Build: 160,000 units of affordable community housing Repair: 260,000 units
Build more <b>supportive housing</b>	Unknown	Build 60,000 units	Build 38,000 units	Build 60,000 units
Expand the <b>portable housing benefit</b>	Provide to 50,623 households	Provide to 311,000 households	Unknown	Provide to 311,000 households
Strengthen <b>rent control</b> , incl. end vacancy decontrol (raise rent between tenants)	Rent control applies to units occupied before November 2018	Apply rent control to all units, end vacancy decontrol, stop renovictions	Apply rent control to all units	Apply rent control to all units, end vacancy decontrol, stronger renoviction penalties, limit above-guideline rent increases
Other: <b>Landlord Tenant Board (LTB), Legal Aid Ontario (LAO)</b>	Increase funding to LTB	Increase funding to LTB, restore right to in-person hearings	Increase funding to LTB, reverse cuts to LAO	Increase funding to LTB, restore right to in-person hearings, increase funding to LAO

## Good Jobs

				
Raise the <b>minimum wage</b> to \$20/hour	Increase to \$15.50/hour by October 2022	Increase to \$20/hour by 2026 (increase to \$16/hour by October 2022)	Increase to \$16/hour by 2023, develop a regional living wage structure	Increase to \$16/hour by 2022 and annual \$1 increases, living wage top-ups based on region
Protect workers by improving the <b>Employment Standards Act</b>	Unknown	Ensure workers cannot be fired without cause, classify gig and contract workers as employees, proactively enforce health and safety	Classify gig workers as employees, equal pay for equal work, 3 hours pay for being on call	Classify gig workers as employees, equal pay for equal work, make gig work count towards PR applications
Mandate at least 5 paid <b>sick days</b>	3 paid sick days set to expire in July 2022	10 paid personal emergency leave days	10 paid sick days, ban employer-required doctor's notes	10 paid sick days, ban employer-required doctor's notes
Other: <b>WSIB (aka Worker's Comp)</b>	Unknown	End deeming, ensure surpluses are used towards injured workers	Unknown	End deeming, provide all workers with access
Other: <b>Unions</b>	Unknown	Remove barriers to joining a union	Make it easier to join a union	Restore and improve workers' rights to collective bargaining

## Other Poverty Reduction Measures

				
<b>Health Care &amp; Benefits</b>	Create a portable workplace health benefits package	<p>Create a portable workplace health benefits package</p> <p>Strengthen and accelerate the expansion of dental care, Pharmacare, enhance homecare</p>	<p>Create a portable workplace health benefits package; anyone not captured will receive drug coverage through OHIP+ or ODB</p> <p>Match savings up to \$1,000 a year for low-income earners</p>	<p>Create a portable workplace health benefits package</p> <p>Partner with the federal government to implement a universal dental care and pharmacare program</p>
<b>Mental Health &amp; Addictions</b>	Invest \$3.8 billion over 10 years in mental health and addiction services	Invest \$1.15 billion into universal mental health coverage to cover psychotherapy with OHIP, plus funding for frontline agencies, hospital beds, crisis response teams	<p>Invest \$3 billion into mental health and addiction services</p> <p>Require private employer benefits to include mental health services</p>	Invest \$6.6 billion over 4 years to include mental health services under OHIP, fund crisis responses teams, youth wellness hubs
<b>Child Care</b>	Licensed child care that costs an avg of \$10/day by Sept 2025 with fee reductions starting April	Work with the federal government to speed up the implementation of \$10/day child care	Make the child care deal retroactive to Jan 2022, giving families a refund of \$2,750 per child;	Work with the federal government to ensure continued funding for universal access to

	2022; add 86,000 new childcare spaces; continue Ontario Child Care Fee Subsidy and Ontario Child Care Tax Credit Program		implement \$10/day before- and after-school program by September; bolster CARE tax credit by 50%	high-quality, \$10/day childcare
<b>Income Taxes</b>	Enhance Low Income Families Tax (LIFT) Credit	Freeze taxes for low and middle income families	Unknown	Unknown
<b>Cost of Living</b>	Cut gas tax by 5.7¢/L from July-Dec 2022, eliminate GO-municipal double fares, increase student PRESTO discount, maintain tuition freeze, create a tax credit to assist seniors with medical expenses	Regulate the price of gas to lower the cost of shipping food	Remove provincial HST on prepared food under \$20, cut transit fares to \$1/ride and \$40/pass, expand the Student Nutrition Program, expand Seniors Home Safety Tax Credit & make permanent	Half-price transit fares for 3 months, provide energy subsidies to those in need while providing free access to upgrades that lower energy costs and consumption, implement a school food program

## Sources

All platform promises summarized in this document have been taken from literature published by the parties, public statements they have made, or correspondence with party officials.

A copy of this document was provided to all parties in advance of its release for an accuracy check. If you are a party representative and note an inaccuracy in this document, please contact **Ashley Quan, Manager of Advocacy and Network Engagement**, at [ashley@feedontario.ca](mailto:ashley@feedontario.ca)

### **Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario (PCPO):**

- [Budget 2022](#)
- Social Assistance: [Ontario's Vision for Social Assistance Transformation](#) / [News Release, ODSP Rate Increase](#)
- Housing: [Housing and Homelessness Programs in Ontario](#)
- Other: [Portable Benefits Package](#), [Mental Health](#)

### **Ontario New Democratic Party (ONDP):**

- [Official Platform](#)
- Social Assistance: [Doubling ODSP](#)
- Housing: [Homes You Can Afford](#)
- Other: [Mental Health](#)

### **Ontario Liberal Party (OLP):**

- [Official Platform](#)
- Social Assistance: [ODSP](#), [OAS](#)
- Jobs: [The Ontario Liberal Plan for Economic Dignity](#)
- Other: [Childcare](#), [HST](#), [\\$1/ride transit](#)

**Green Party of Ontario (GPO):**

- 2022 Platform TBA
- Social Assistance: [Green Party Will Double ODSP Rates](#)
- Housing: [Building Livable and Affordable Communities](#)
- Jobs: [Jobs](#), [Minimum Wage](#), [Sick Days](#)
- Other: [People](#), [Mental Health](#)