

WHAT THE PARTIES ARE SAYING ABOUT THE NONPROFIT SECTOR

Deep in campaigning mode, the provincial parties have been articulating their visions for Ontario. What are they saying about the nonprofit sector? Not much, really. All parties are talking about some parts of the sector – like health care, mental health, child care services, and the environmental issues. But very little is being said about the nonprofit sector as a whole and our important role in the economy and in society. Let’s grab the opportunity over the next few weeks to remind the politicians of the need to consider the sector when formulating plans and to partner with the sector in order to create a fair, sustainable economy and a more inclusive society.

Not all parties have released detailed platforms, but we’ve scoured official documents to find what the parties are saying about the sector. Whatever the election results, the ONN is committed to working in partnership with the next government to strengthen the sector and create thriving communities.

ONN Ask: “Recognize the nonprofit sector as a pillar of a fair, sustainable economy and an inclusive society – alongside the public and private sectors”			
Ontario Green Party #peoplepoweredchange	Ontario Liberal Party #careovercuts	Ontario NDP #change4better	Ontario PC Party #pcpo
Create nonprofit workplace development strategy, with a modernized, stable funding model for the sector	Talks about working with the sector in the areas of child care and housing	Better Ontario Fund, a \$300-million commitment over three years to make life better for people across Ontario. Community based not-for-profit organizations that serve a number of nonprofit subsectors to support their initiatives	We could not find anything.
ONN Ask: “Help public benefit nonprofits scale up their contributions to a fair, sustainable economy through strategic deployment of public capital investment, a surplus lands policy, and social procurement.”			
Ontario Green Party	Ontario Liberal Party	Ontario NDP	Ontario PC Party
Will require Community Benefits Agreements as a part of major infrastructure projects	Commitment to having major infrastructure projects comply with Community Benefits Framework by 2020 Launch of new Social Purpose Real Estate (SPRE) strategy to embed community needs in government decision	Expansion of Community Benefits Agreements	We could not find anything.

ONN Ask: Support the nonprofit sector to provide decent work and meaningful volunteer opportunities.			
Ontario Green Party	Ontario Liberal Party	Ontario NDP	Ontario PC Party
<p>Nonprofits with payrolls under \$5M will pay less payroll tax to support nonprofits and social enterprises</p> <p>Increase the exemption for the Employer Health Tax for nonprofits and small businesses allowing nonprofits and businesses to invest in their communities and pay workers better wages</p>	See child care and housing subsectors (below).	See Better Ontario Fund (above).	We could not find anything.
What the parties are saying that's of particular interest to nonprofit subsectors			
Arts and Culture			
Ontario Green Party	Ontario Liberal Party	Ontario NDP	Ontario PC Party
<p>Renew Ontario's culture strategy every 5 years</p> <p>Increase support for Ontario Arts Council, Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund and Ontario Arts Foundation</p>	Investment of an additional \$50 million in the Ontario Arts Council	Stabilize funding for Ontario Arts Council and Media Development Corporation	We could not find anything.
Child Care			
Ontario Green Party	Ontario Liberal Party	Ontario NDP	Ontario PC Party
<p>Increase Ontario Child Care Benefit</p> <p>Increase funding for licensed child care spaces</p>	<p>Free child care for children aged 2.5 to start of junior kindergarten</p> <p>Investment of an additional \$534 million over the next six years to build an additional 10,000 preschool child care spaces and 4,000 spaces in the community</p>	<p>Free licensed, nonprofit child care for households under \$40K; means-tested child care for other households (averaging \$12/day)</p> <p>202,000 new spaces</p>	Tax rebate to parents of up to \$6,750 of child care costs

	\$30 million for a new Early Years and Child Care Innovation Fund that will support child care innovations in the nonprofit sector and in rural and remote communities		
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Climate Change and the Environment

Ontario Green Party	Ontario Liberal Party	Ontario NDP	Ontario PC Party
<p>Initiate a \$4.18 billion, four-year Green Building and Business Program to provide grants and interest-free loans to help homeowners, renters and businesses invest in energy efficiency and conservation</p> <p>Redirect the \$3.1 billion per year in existing business support programs targeting cleantech innovation, advanced manufacturing and bio-products</p> <p>Stop subsidies for businesses that pollute</p> <p>Change government procurement rules to support low-carbon products and services</p> <p>Close the Pickering Nuclear Power Plant in 2018 and replace the power by purchasing hydro power from Quebec</p> <p>Expand the Greenbelt</p> <p>Introduce legislation to permanently protect Ontario's prime farmland and source water regions</p>	<p>Climate Change Action Plan beginning 2021</p> <p>Investment of \$20 million over three years to launch Ontario's Climate Change Resiliency Organization</p> <p>Invest \$ 2.3 billion in green infrastructure projects</p> <p>\$1.7B to support energy savings under the Green Ontario program</p> <p>\$52M over 3 years on new technologies for dealing with toxic substances</p> <p>\$15M over 3 years to protect forests, wetlands and lakes</p> <p>Work with Grassy Narrows and partners to address mercury contamination in English-Wabigoon River –proposed \$85 million in dedicated funding</p>	<p>\$50 million from cap-and-trade programs for home retrofitting</p> <p>Clean up the mercury in the English–Wabigoon River</p> <p>\$12 million for a Mercury Disability Fund</p> <p>Update the Environmental Bill of Rights</p> <p>Expand parks in consultation with First Nations</p>	<p>Repeal Ontario's cap-and trade system</p> <p>End the Green Energy Act</p> <p>Cancel Liberal energy projects that are in the pre-construction phase</p> <p>Moratorium on new energy contracts; renegotiate existing ones</p> <p>Protecting the Greenbelt in its entirety</p> <p>Creating a Cleaner Ontario initiative total of \$500 million investment over mandate</p>

Community and Social Services			
Ontario Green Party	Ontario Liberal Party	Ontario NDP	Ontario PC Party
<p>Create the Basic Income Guarantee (BIG)</p> <p>Increase Ontario rates for Disability Support Payments and Ontario Works</p> <p>Invest an additional \$3.4B in 2018-19 to raise rates in Basic Income Guarantee pilot.</p> <p>Spend \$6.4B a year by 2021-22 to phase in basic income guarantee at the low-income cut-off</p>	<p>Continue Basic Income Pilot</p> <p>\$1.8B for services for adults with developmental disabilities</p> <p>\$62 million in new funding to the Ontario Autism Program to increase access to support services</p> <p>\$10 million (rising to \$16 million in 2020-2021) in new funding for intervenor services</p> <p>Provide women's centres an increase (amount unknown) to improve quality of service in areas: counselling, systems navigation and pre-employment for training and to increase ability of centres to address the needs of communities</p> <p>Increase Ontario Works and the Ontario Disability Support Program by %3 annually over the next three years</p>	<p>Continue Basic Income Pilot</p> <p>Increases to Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program</p> <p>Full implementation of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act</p> <p>\$67 million annual investment to increase supports for agencies serving adults with developmental disabilities</p> <p>Launch of a comprehensive autism-support strategy to improve services and ensure that they are targeted for distinct abilities and challenges</p>	<p>Investment of an additional \$38 million for all children with autism</p> <p>Autism funding increase to total \$100 million over mandate</p>
Employment and Training			
Ontario Green Party	Ontario Liberal Party	Ontario NDP	Ontario PC Party
<p>Support adult education provided by nonprofit organizations</p>	<p>\$411 million for a high school apprenticeship program</p>	<p>Streamlining the Jobs and Prosperity Fund targeted to support (1) youth apprenticeship and employment opportunities (See Youth); (2) mid-career</p>	<p>Cancel Jobs and Prosperity Fund, replace with grants and targeted contributions</p>

	<p>\$935 million over three years for a Good Jobs and Growth Plan</p> <p>A new Jobs and prosperity Fund, investing in key sectors and regions</p> <p>Establishment of the Ontario Training Bank (assistance for employers hiring at-risk workers)</p> <p>\$500 million over 10 years for New Economy Fund</p> <p>\$200 million over 10 years in regional economic development</p>	<p>education and lifelong learning; and (3) the promotion of manufacturing research and development</p>	
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Health and Long-Term Care

Ontario Green Party	Ontario Liberal Party	Ontario NDP	Ontario PC Party
<p>Will make OHIP available to all Ontario residents</p> <p>Extended health benefits to cover low income Ontarians outside the social assistance system</p> <p>Increase spending for mental health by 4.1B over 4 years</p> <p>Creation of an umbrella organization - Mental Health and Addictions Ontario - to consolidate and focus on mental health and addictions programs and services across the province</p>	<p>Free prescriptions for seniors through OHIP+</p> <p>\$822M increase for hospitals in 2018-19; \$19B over 10 years for hospital capital</p> <p>New Ontario Drug and Dental Program for those without workplace benefits or not covered by OHIP+ or other government programs</p> <p>\$2.1B for mental health and addiction care</p> <p>30,000 new long-term care beds over the next 10 years</p> <p>Increase the number of hours that RNs spend with LTC patients by 2022</p>	<p>\$916 million annual base funding increase that is above inflation</p> <p>2,000 new hospital beds - \$312 million in the first year</p> <p>End the underreporting of surgery wait times</p> <p>Expansion of community governed nonprofit health care - funding increase of \$30 million</p> <p>Ministry of Health and Addictions</p> <p>Investment in 35 new community-governed nonprofit health centres with a capital investment of 42 million per year beginning 2020</p>	<p>15,000 LTC beds to ease hospital crowding and wait times</p> <p>\$1.9B for mental health</p> <p>Lower taxes for physicians moving to northern Ontario</p> <p>Removal of safe-injection, investments in drug-rehabilitation</p> <p>15,000 long-term care beds</p> <p>\$98 million for free dental care for low-income seniors</p>

	<p>\$1B for new Seniors' Healthy Home Program which includes an annual benefit of \$750 for those aged 75+ years to assist with ageing in place</p>	<p>Seniors in long-term care homes to receive at least four hours of care per day, at \$257 million per year</p> <p>40,000 new long-term care beds and update to the long-term care residents' "Bill of Rights" to allow couples to stay together</p> <p>Ontario Public Dental (See Ontario Benefits)</p>	
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Infrastructure, Housing and Development

Ontario Green Party	Ontario Liberal Party	Ontario NDP	Ontario PC Party
<p>Increase spending by \$200M for proposed and existing social, shelter, nonprofit and co-operative housing</p> <p>All new developments will be required to have 20% rental units</p> <p>Will change zoning and buildings approvals to allow innovative housing types: e.g. tiny houses, laneway units</p> <p>Support for co-op housing</p>	<p>\$3 million in new funding to establish a Cooperative Housing Development Fund to encourage the construction of new co-op housing</p> <p>\$547 million for green repairs and retrofits in social housing buildings over five years</p> <p>2,475 new supportive housing units – including 525 for people with mental health and addictions needs</p>	<p>Institute a housing speculation tax on out-of-province residents who own investment properties in the GTHA. The tax will start at \$5 on every \$1000 of a home's assessed value and will increase to \$20 in 2021</p> <p>Build 65,000 new affordable homes over 10 years</p> <p>Overhaul inclusionary zoning regulations</p> <p>\$3 million for the co-op housing sector</p> <p>30,000 units of supportive housing for adults with developmental disabilities</p>	<p>Increase the supply of affordable housing across the GTA</p>

Newcomer Services			
Ontario Green Party	Ontario Liberal Party	Ontario NDP	Ontario PC Party
Assist newcomers access services they need by doubling the funding for immigrant settlement programs and economic bridging programs	95 new projects to improve social and economic outcomes for refugees and vulnerable newcomers \$45.6 million into the Ontario Bridge Training Program to serve up to 14,000 more immigrants	As a component of the Better Ontario Fund (see above), community services and initiatives that support newcomers will be funded	We could not find anything.
Rural and Northern Communities			
Ontario Green Party	Ontario Liberal Party	Ontario NDP	Ontario PC Party
Invest \$200 million over 4 years to pay farmers to protect water and store carbon	Cut rural electricity rates by 40-50% \$500 million over three years to expand broadband connectivity in rural and northern Ontario communities Will invest an additional \$100 million in Eastern Ontario Development Fund and the Southwestern Development Fund over the next ten years Will increase Northern Ontario Heritage Fund to a total of \$150 million over the next three years \$20 million investment in Rural and Northern Education Fund	25% of cap and trade to rural and northern communities Create 70 new public dental clinics and seven new mobile dental buses for rural and remote regions	Plan for the People of Northern Ontario: give northern municipalities, families and businesses the money they need to meet local needs; develop northern resources, including Ring of Fire; share resources and revenue from mining, forestry and aggregates to help northern towns and indigenous communities; fishing and hunting licence revenues to support conservation; cut the aviation fuel tax in north; bring back northern rail service (The Northerner) Cut taxes for physicians moving to northern Ontario Continue Regional Economic Development Fund \$45 for passenger rail service to the North

Youth			
Ontario Green Party	Ontario Liberal Party	Ontario NDP	Ontario PC Party
Provide interest-free student loans	<p>\$411M for a high school apprenticeship program</p> <p>Post-secondary tuition free for 225,000 students</p> <p>\$570 million over four years to improve counselling and therapy for children, including \$175 million over four years to expand mental health support in high schools</p> <p>Invest \$500 million over three years to provide students with experiential learning opportunities</p>	<p>Turning student loans into grants and removing student loan interest owed or paid</p> <p>27,000 job opportunities for students through the Career Kick-Start Program</p>	We could not find anything.

Sources

Ontario Liberal Party. [Budget 2018: A plan for care and opportunity](#) and [The Ontario Liberal Plan for Care and Opportunity](#)
 Ontario Green Party. [People powered change](#) and [Vision](#)
 Ontario NDP. [Change for the Better](#)
 Ontario PC Party. [News](#) and [For the People: A Plan for Ontario](#)