

# WEBINAR:

# HOW TO WRITE A PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION



ONTARIO NONPROFIT NETWORK



MAPLE LEAF  
STRATEGIES

OUR  
PEOPLE

OUR  
FINANCING

OUR REGULATORY  
ENVIRONMENT

# THE PROVINCIAL BUDGET

- An expression of government's public policy
- Framework in which resources are spent
- It is indicative of the current state of the province's economy
- Usually announced between March and May

# WHAT IS A PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION?

- Gives recommendations to government as it begins to plan for the fiscal year
- Aims to get government to take policy actions or decisions (i.e. What is our ask?)
- Convinces government officials by being practical, timely, and responsive to their mandate

# WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- Urges the government to take an action in the next fiscal year
- Allows government to be better informed about how decisions in the budget affect people
- Opportunity for nonprofits to demonstrate that they are a part of the policy process
- Providing policy solutions that would support their communities

# RESOURCES TO HELP DEVELOP YOUR SUBMISSION

- Throne Speech
- Fall Economic Statement
- Press Releases and Statements by Ministries and Premier
- Party Platform
- Public Accounts (government revenues and expenses)

# FORMATTING YOUR PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION

1. Your Organization/Title Page
2. Your budget 'asks' - Speaking The Government (of the day) Language
3. Justification of your asks
4. Contact

# FORMAT

- Logo
- Title
- Month and Year
- Quotation
- About ONN
- Executive Summary
- A list of asks  
(recommendations)
- Numbered
- Contact Information



**Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN)**

**2019 Ontario Pre-Budget Submission**

**Prepared for the Standing Committee on Finance**

**January 2019**

*"In the current climate, creating and protecting jobs should be something that unites us all."*

- Lieutenant Governor of Ontario,

Speech from the Throne, July 12, 2018

## About ONN

The Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN) is the independent nonprofit network for the 58,000 nonprofits and charities in Ontario, focused on policy, advocacy, and services to strengthen Ontario's nonprofit sector as a key pillar of our society and economy. ONN works to create a public policy environment that allows nonprofits and charities to thrive. We engage our network of diverse nonprofit organizations across Ontario to work together on issues affecting the sector, and channel the voices of our network to government, funders, and other stakeholders. Our work is guided by the vision that a strong nonprofit sector leads to thriving communities, and in turn, a dynamic province.

# YOUR BUDGET ASKS

- Lead with your budget 'asks'
- Asks should be actionable
- Understand your audience (e.g. Minister, MPPs, policymakers, public servant)
- Speak the Government (of the day) language



# HOW TO DEVELOP YOUR ASKS

- Consult with peers
- Leverage your networks
- Share with public servants and ask for feedback
- Share with key ministries - Ministry of Finance and Treasury Board
- Seek advice on whether your proposal needs legislative change or a policy change

# MAPPING PRIORITIES

	Government Priorities				
ONN Policy Agenda Items	Create Good Jobs	Open Ontario for Business	Accountability	Prosperity	Lower-day-today cost
1.1 Labour Force Strategy	✓				
1.2 Decent Work and Pensions	✓			✓	
1.3 Labour Market Data	✓	✓			
1.4 Police Record Checks	✓				✓
2.1 Champions for a Decent Economy		✓			

# SPEAKING THE LANGUAGE

- Language is important
- Be conscious of the language government uses by referring to documents they are familiar with, such as the Throne Speech, Economic Statements, and other government documents
- Conveying a willingness to work with government is important
- Understanding your audience is key

# JUSTIFYING YOUR ASK

- Discuss and identify how the proposed solutions will meet the objectives of the government
- Provide evidence
- Demonstrate how the recommendation provided is actionable and the estimated cost (if possible)
- Articulate the impact of implementing the proposed recommendations for the people, in this case what is the return on investment

# ONN's ASKS

1. Burden reduction in nonprofit funding agreements
2. Modernizing the police record check system for volunteers
3. A web portal for legislation affecting nonprofits
4. Expanding access to the Infrastructure Ontario Loans Program
5. Maintaining Ontario Trillium Foundation at 2018 Budget levels

# EXAMPLE

“ Fourth, we ask you to maintain funding at current levels for the Ontario Trillium Foundation, which **provides critical investments in services** such as food banks, sports facilities, arts groups, and social service providers...Our ask is that you **maintain OTF at the level it's at now because it plays a critical role in building healthy communities.**

# FOLLOW UP

- Read the Budget
- Identify if your ask is in budget
- Thank government
- Follow up if unsure about an ask
- Stay in contact with ministry staff and your MPP
- Read ONN's budget analysis

# SUBMITTING YOUR SUBMISSION

The Ontario pre-budget submission deadline is February 8, 2019. You can send your written submission to:

The Ministry of Finance at [submissions@ontario.ca](mailto:submissions@ontario.ca) and the Standing Committee [comm-financeaffairs@ola.org](mailto:comm-financeaffairs@ola.org)

- Include your name or the name of your organization
- Use “2019 Budget Consultations” in the subject line
- Attach your submission as a PDF or Word document



# PARTICIPATE AND SHARE THE SURVEY

The Ontario government is also looking for feedback on the budget by survey, the deadline is February 8, 2019. You can participate in the survey here:

<https://www.ontario.ca/form/2019-ontario-budget-listening-to-the-people-survey>

# JOIN US

**Become an ONN member:** [theonn.ca/membership](http://theonn.ca/membership)

**Subscribe for news and updates:** [theonn.ca/subscribe](http://theonn.ca/subscribe)



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# THANK YOU



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