

Ontario's \$186 billion budget 2021-2022

(a racial justice relevant summary)

Anti-Racism and Anti-Hate Grant program (RE-ANNOUNCED – unspent from July 2020 !?) - \$1.6 million over 2 years to address systemic racism - by supporting community based anti-racism initiatives focusing on anti-Black racism, anti-Indigenous racism, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia - **no mention of anti-Asian racism !?**

\$4 million to provide culturally responsive support to First Nations, Métis and Inuit populations. In recognizing COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted racially diverse, newcomer and low-income communities - **\$50 million to support targeted and tailored** community outreach and education using Community Ambassadors, mobile testing sites, distribution of PPE kits, case management support to connect individuals to critical services and to safely self-isolate. In addition.

To 'defeat' COVID-19 - \$1 billion for vaccination rollout (**\$50 million targeted for rural and urban Indigenous people**); \$2.3 billion for testing and contact tracing in 2021 and 2022; \$1.8 billion to provide care for COVID-19 patients and tackle surgical backlogs; \$50-million boost for last years program for manufacturers of personal protective equipment and other supplies; hospitals getting \$1.8 billion to help ease pandemic-related pressures; \$1 billion to support municipalities with COVID-19 expenses; \$50 million for **cultural organizations and faith-based groups for costs associated with COVID-19**; \$3.7million to help remove barriers and provide safe, accessible transportation for persons with disabilities and older adults with limited mobility to travel to their COVID-19 vaccination appointments - **no mention of funded capacity for disaggregated data collection ?**

Housing - \$255 million for municipal service managers and **Indigenous program partners** to respond to rising COVID-19 cases in shelter settings; \$18.5 million over 3 years for the **Transitional Housing Support Program** to support victims of domestic violence and survivors of human trafficking; \$13 million over 3 years to assist people with developmental disabilities in accessing community housing and to expand the **Adult Protective Service Worker** program to support them to live independently.

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Long Term Care - \$2.3 billion over four years to expand the system (replaces \$1.75 billion previously announced) - for 20,161 (??) **new beds for both "for-profit" and public facilities;** \$4.9 billion over four years for previously announced **average of 4 hours of direct care per resident** each day

Mental Health - \$175 million for **mental health and addictions support programs.**

Policing - \$8.4 million over three years to fund a **crisis call diversion program** within OPP to help divert calls to mental health services (while investing \$12.5 million over 3 years to enhance mental health services available to OPP staff !?)

Tribunals Ontario - \$28.5 million over 4 years for **new case management system** - to modernize client interactions, provide comprehensive online dispute resolution services, enhance ability to monitor cases online and receive/submit documents electronically - **no mention of access to justice or disaggregated data collection !?**

Capital Plan - investments in transit, highways, schools, hospitals, broadband - additional \$16.9 billion in 2021–22 - fundamental to made-in-Ontario growth, recovery, long-term prosperity - **no mention of employment equity related conditions or obligations attached with respect to all the many jobs that are being created !?**

Families - **Child Benefit doubled** - a one-time payment of \$400 per child and \$500 per child with special needs; **expanded Childcare Access and Relief from Expenses tax credit (CARE)** by 20% for one year - which increases support from \$1,250 to \$1,500 on average; \$2.1 million over 3 years to **assist survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking;** \$18.2 million over 3 years to help **address violence against First Nations, Inuit and Métis women and girls;** a new \$30 million for a **Seniors' Home Safety Tax Credit** for 2021.

Children & Youth with Special Needs - \$240 million over 4 years for more service capacity in **early intervention and rehabilitation and Preschool Speech and Language Program services;** \$4.5 million over 3 years to support the **Abilities Centre in Whitby** to connect **youth and adults with disabilities to employment opportunities.**

Small business support - \$1.7 billion for businesses that received the [Small Business Support Grant](#) can get a **second payment** - \$10,000 to \$20,000 - no need to re-apply; new \$100 million

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Tourism & Hospitality Small Business Support Grant program for hard-hit businesses - one-time payments between \$10,000 and \$20,000; new Ontario Tourism Recovery Program - also \$100 million - to help “historically successful businesses” get back on their feet; \$150 million for a tax credit to encourage Ontarians to explore their home province once it’s safe to travel.

Job Training - Ontario Jobs Training Tax Credit - up to \$2,000 - for Ontario residents between 26 and 65; \$85.0 million for the Skills Development Fund; \$117.3 million to assist job seeking women, racialized individuals, Indigenous peoples, youth and people with disabilities; \$157.2 million for workers in the hardest hit sectors during the pandemic - ie. hospitality and tourism sectors - to provide career counselling and urgent training; \$60.8 million to upgrade and expand high-speed internet and other digital infrastructure for community organizations, colleges and other employment training service providers; \$194 million for employment and training programs and services that are responsive to the province’s economic recovery; \$2 million for the development of a "virtual skills passport" that tracks learners’ credentials; \$288.2 million for the Skilled Trades Strategy; and establish an Ontario Workforce Recovery Advisory Committee - representation !?

Long-Term Recovery Plan - \$6 million annually for the Indigenous Community Capital Grants Program to address long-term infrastructure needs and fast-track shovel-ready on and off-reserve projects; \$1million for enhancements to the Ontario Made program; \$5 million over 2 years for the new Ontario Junior (Mineral) Exploration Program; \$50 million over 2 years for the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation to support investments in infrastructure, culture, economic development and training; form a task force to address economic barriers faced by women; \$56.4 million over 4 years to create a new Ontario Vehicle Innovation Network to accelerate the development of next generation electric, connected and autonomous vehicles and lower environmental and carbon footprint mobile technologies - **doesn't include Indigenous Peoples, peoples of colour, persons living with (dis)abilities, 2SLGBTQ+ individuals** !?

Broadband Access - additional \$2.8 billion to bring broadband to more people by 2025.