change book

#changebook



[changevbook]

What happened? Ontario families once had a straightforward path to get ahead: work hard, play by the rules, support your community, and be assured the future was bright for everyone around your dinner table. There was no better place to live.

We know it isn't like that anymore. Life has become unaffordable for too many families. Surprise new taxes have taken repeated bites out of the family budget. Expensive experiments have sent hydro bills skyrocketing. The government spends far more than it ever did and services haven't improved. As a result, we face record deficits that will not go away without setting priorities. Private sector job growth has stalled, but the current government has no plan to create new jobs. Too many people try to take advantage of the system, usually at the expense of our families.

We look at the last eight years and we say ... "enough".

We say it's time for change. Change that gives our families the relief they need ... the hope they deserve ... and the time together they cherish.

Change that strengthens the care doctors, nurses, and hospitals provide for our families.

Change that supports the teachers and schools that prepare our kids for tomorrow.

Change that guarantees a promising future to every hard-working family that plays by the rules.

Change built on a focused plan that puts Ontario families first.

This is how we will bring that change. This is changebook.

It has been built from conversations we've had with families in every corner of this province. We've heard from them in person at coffee shops and hockey arenas; on the phone; through email, Twitter, Facebook, and our unprecedented Have Your Say Ontario discussion. This survey gave hundreds of thousands of people the chance to make their voices heard about the future for their families and their communities.

They were direct in their comments. They were inspired in their ideas. Changebook is the product of what they told us are their priorities – now and for a brighter future.

Changebook has also been inspired by ideas from all of our Ontario PC candidates and thousands of our Party members.

Together, we will provide the respect, relief, and change that Ontario families so clearly deserve.

changebook





I was born and raised in Fort Erie, a small town in Niagara. My younger sister, Tricia, and I were lucky to have the love, support, and guidance of our parents, Pat and Anne Marie, both of whom were teachers. My introduction to the political process came from my mother, who was elected to town council.

After graduating from university, I was a Customs Officer at the Peace Bridge. Then I traveled across Canada as part of a management team helping a major international retailer grow its operations throughout Canada.

The motivation for my entry into politics came in the early 1990s. Like most of Ontario, my town was having a tough time. My friends were leaving Fort Erie, heading to other places to find the opportunities they were being denied at home. I wanted to stand up for families like mine, and restore the jobs and the sense of community that were under such serious pressure, not just where I lived, but all over Ontario.

I was first elected as the MPP for Niagara South in 1995. I served as a Cabinet Minister for five years. I was elected the 23rd Leader of the Ontario PC Party in June 2009. But the most important dates in my life are October 5, 2002, when I married my wife Debbie, and October 3, 2007, when the light of my life – my daughter Miller – was born.

I want to be Premier to stand up for families ... to restore Ontario as the economic engine that drives this great country ... to ensure that Miller has every opportunity to succeed like I've had and more ... and to deliver the change Ontario needs.

Ontario PC Leader

Have YOURSAY Ontario

Changebook is the result of hundreds of ideas and thousands of conversations that have taken place across our province since 2008. That's when our Party and caucus began the largest grassroots policy and idea exchange we have ever undertaken. The Ontario PC Party conducted over three dozen policy town halls and policy roundtables across the province. A robust series of consultations led to our Regional Policy Forums, which connected over 500 PC members across Ontario via real-time webcast, who debated and voted on over 200 policy options.

> Our Have Your Say Ontario survey broadened the discussions even further. We received advice from thousands of families from every corner of Ontario. We heard excellent ideas on how to give families the relief they need, and how to get government focused on the basics that matter most. The survey was translated into 15 languages and hit mailboxes and inboxes across the province.

> Ongoing policy research and consultation was conducted by over 350 volunteers on the Ontario PC Party's 12 Policy Advisory Councils. Dozens of policy proposals were also collected from our PC Riding Associations, PC Youth Associations and PC Campus Clubs.

The result of these perspectives, ideas, and discussions are reflected throughout Pauline hurch, Andrew Lahush, idol, James T. Hook, Am Dontario families first.

Senechal, Fred

Changebook was informed by thousands of families from across the province.



Change: To Put More Money In Your Pocket

Change: To Put More Money In Your Pocket is about your wallet and your family finances.

Tax relief for families' budgets	01
Getting home energy bills under control	04
Our jobs plan for Ontario	07
Balancing the budget responsibly	12



Change: To Guarantee The Services You Need

Change: To Guarantee The Services You Need is about the services you expect for your tax dollars.

Putting patients at the centre of their health care	16
Providing a 21st century education for Ontario students	20
Strengthening local communities	23
Protecting and enhancing our environment	25



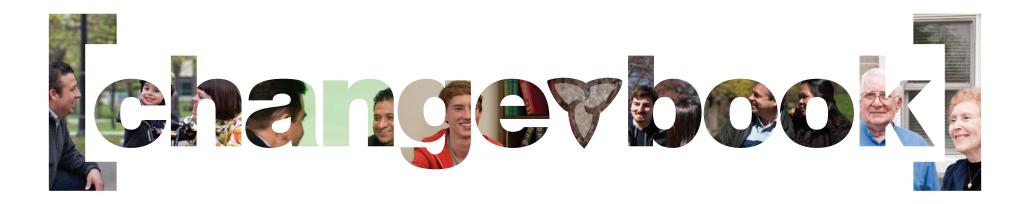
Change: To Clean Up Government

Change: To Clean Up Government is about stopping the scandals and waste.

Demanding government accountability and innovation	27
Promoting personal accountability	30

31

Fighting for hardworking families against those who take advantage of us



#changebook





Families need change. They need a break from Dalton McGuinty's constant tax hikes. For some, even the basics have become out of reach. A Tim Hudak government will bring immediate relief.

- Tax relief for families' budgets
- Getting home energy bills under control
- Our jobs plan for Ontario
- Balancing the budget responsibly

TAX RELIEF FOR FAMILIES' BUDGETS

For the last eight years, more new and unexpected taxes and costs have been sprung on us, taking more and more out of the family budget. The HST, health tax, eco taxes, and skyrocketing hydro bills are just some examples.

You have a clear choice in this election. You can vote for more unannounced and undesired tax hikes. If the Liberal government is re-elected they will hike taxes, just like they've done twice before. Or you can vote for change, and for tax relief by voting for the Ontario PC Party and our changebook.

With a debt that will have doubled in just eight years and massive deficits for the next several years, we can't reduce the tax burden as much as we would like. But we can, and will, ease the tax burden with a package of relief.

[income sharing]

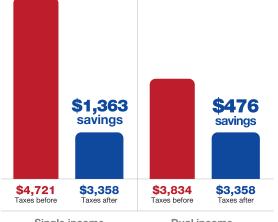
\$70,000 in applicable income



Impact of Dalton McGuinty's tax increases



Source: Ministries of Finance, Energy, and Environment



Single income

Dual income

We will let families reduce their taxable income through income sharing.

We will change the tax system to allow all couples to share up to \$50,000 of their income for tax purposes. This change is an important step towards recognizing that there really is a family budget. A middle class family, earning \$70,000, could save almost \$1,400 per year in taxable income.

Our income sharing plan builds on the Government of Canada's proposed Family Tax Cut. We're calling on the federal government to implement their tax relief for families at the same time as ours, to give Ontario families more tax relief, more guickly.

This hardworking family finds it harder and harder to stretch a dollar.

- John E. Bartlett, Niagara Falls

We will lower income taxes on middle-class families.

To give families some tax relief and to spur economic growth, a Tim Hudak government will lower income taxes by 5% on the first \$75,000 of taxable income. This will put \$258 back in the pocket of a taxpayer earning \$70,000 each and every year when our tax relief plan is fully implemented.

We will cancel the eco taxes on items you use around your house everyday.

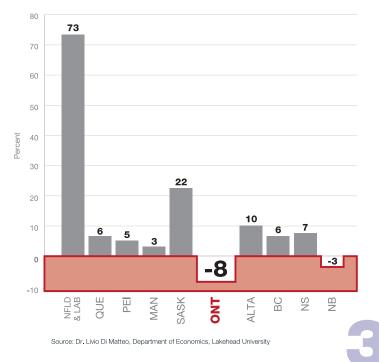
Dalton McGuinty snuck in his eco tax scheme on the very same day he slapped you with the HST. A Tim Hudak government will eliminate eco taxes on everyday items like light bulbs and batteries. We'll also take them off your iPod and laptop. These costly and bureaucratic schemes don't actually protect our environment. For example, in 2009, Ontario's electronics recycling program collected \$33 million in eco taxes, while only achieving 2% of its reuse targets.

We will double the Caregiver Tax Credit for those who care for an elderly or critically ill family member.

Families that choose to care for a loved one in their own homes make a significant sacrifice and bear a financial burden. We will double the tax credit for everyone who takes on these important responsibilities.

standard of living

Growth of Real Per Capita GDP: Canada's Provinces, 2000-2010



GETTING HOME ENERGY BILLS UNDER CONTROL

For eight years, billions of your energy dollars have been thrown away through mismanagement and expensive experiments. The result? Skyrocketing rates are making it harder and harder for families to pay their hydro bills and harder and harder for our economy to grow.

A Tim Hudak government will fight this unfair burden and make energy more affordable for Ontario families. We will treat energy policy as economic policy and take immediate steps to give the typical Ontario household \$275 in annual relief from rising energy bills.



My husband and I are senior citizens living on a small pension. The rise in the prices of electricity and home heating fuel is very difficult for us.

- Heather Bodrogi, Keswick

We will remove the HST from home hydro bills.

The HST has made life unaffordable for many families. Combine the HST with expensive energy experiments and hydro bills have soared. We will remove the provincial portion of the HST from those bills.

We will remove the HST from the cost of home heating.

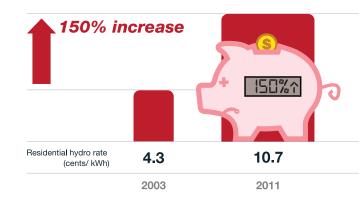
We live in Canada. Heating our homes is not a luxury. Increasing the cost with a surprise tax increase is grossly unfair. We will remove the provincial portion of the HST from every home heating bill.

We will remove the Debt Retirement Charge from home hydro bills.

This charge was added to hydro bills in 2002. As of 2010, the full amount had been collected – yet it was extended to 2018. It's like a credit card you've paid off, yet have to keep paying, and no one tells you why. We will remove it from your hydro bill.

[hydro rates]

Impact of smart meter tax machines



We will unplug the mandatory smart meters.

We will end mandatory time-of-use pricing. We will stop forcing families to be showered and ready for school and work before 7am or compelling seniors to do laundry late into the night. The smart meters forced on our homes – at a cost of more than \$1 billion – have become nothing but governmentsponsored tax machines. We will let you decide whether your family wants to use the time-of-use pricing system.

Source: Ontario Energy Board

We will eliminate expensive energy bureaucracy.

The Ontario Power Authority was a 15-person "transitional" body created by Dalton McGuinty's Liberal government to manage Ontario's energy supply. Today it's a 253-person permanent entity where 91 people earn over \$100,000 and the CEO earns over \$570,000. In just six years, it has burned through \$300 million in expenditures. A Tim Hudak government will close it.

We will invest in an affordable clean energy supply mix.

We will focus on the proven technologies that are effective, efficient, and clean; like natural gas, hydroelectric, and nuclear. Any investments in nuclear technology will, of course, be subject to the most rigorous safety standards in the world. We will have an open and fair process for alternate energy sources like solar, wind, and biomass that demands affordable prices and respects local decisions.

[growth in OPA]

Ontario Power Authority

Expenses	Staff		
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\$14 \$74 million	15 employees	253 employees	
2005 2011	2005	2011	

Source: Ministry of Finance and Ontario Power Authority

[change⊽book]

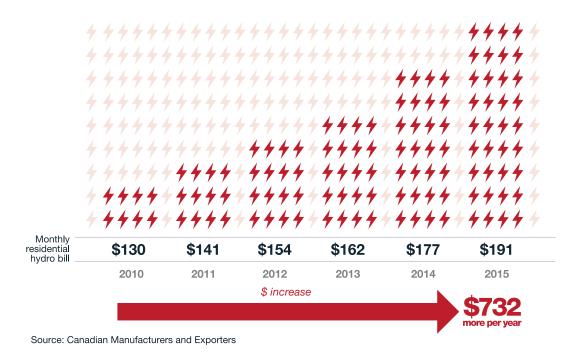
We will stop the expensive energy experiments that are driving up hydro bills.

A Tim Hudak government will end the Liberal government's schemes that have families subsidize hydro prices. We will end the feed-in tariff program that, in some cases, pays up to 15 times the usual cost of the hydro. Hardworking farmers and other Ontarians who signed contracts to host energy production on their property will have their contracts honoured. But there will be no more of these deals.

We will end the king of all secret, sweetheart deals – the \$7 billion Samsung deal – that happened without a competitive process or a guarantee of job creation targets. Building our green energy sector cannot be achieved by writing a cheque to one single foreign-owned multinational corporation that was handed every advantage.

[hydro bill increases]

Projected hydro bill increases under Dalton McGuinty, 2010-2015



We will give families a voice in how hydro rates are set.

Families understand that their hydro bill goes up if they leave the lights on. But why does it skyrocket for no apparent reason? The Ontario Energy Board sets rates, but this body has lost its independence. We will restore that independence by ending the day-to-day political interference of the last eight years. And we will establish a powerful Consumer Advocate at the OEB. The Consumer Advocate will represent only consumers. Not the bureaucrats. Not the energy sector. Not the special interests.

OUR JOBS PLAN FOR ONTARIO

Ontario once was the economic engine of Canada. Families had the chance at a better job and the knowledge that there would be almost unlimited opportunities for their children. But today, even as the Canadian economy recovers, Ontario isn't keeping up.

In fact, we're slipping further behind. Our province has become a have-not province. This is unacceptable, given our traditional place as a leader in Canada. In the manufacturing sector alone, almost 300,000 jobs have been allowed to vanish. Dalton McGuinty's high taxes, large deficits, soaring energy costs, crushing regulatory burden, and pronounced lack of leadership are the reasons we have fallen so far behind.

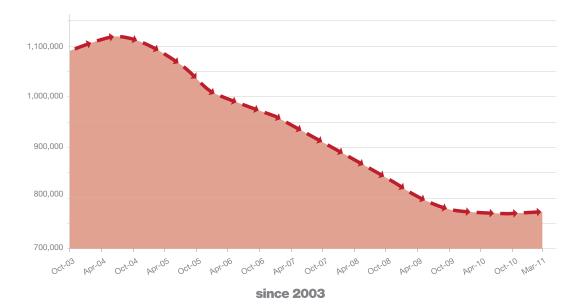
When it comes to jobs, we are driven by one goal: to make Ontario Canada's leader in private sector job creation once again.

The change we will bring to spur job creation is detailed below, but it's also found throughout this document: from reducing taxes on families and workers, to more affordable energy prices, to expanding college and university places. These are all critical aspects of a climate that creates good jobs.

A Tim Hudak government will focus on letting the job creators – not the government – drive new job growth. This is how we will do it.

manufacturing jobs

Total manufacturing jobs under Dalton McGuinty



Source: Statistics Canada

7

[change⊽book]

We will be the best partner small businesses ever had.

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. They are the source not only of jobs and opportunity, but also the innovation and risk-taking that are essential to a strong, modern economy. A Tim Hudak government will ensure small businesses have every possible advantage to succeed and grow.

We will introduce a Small Business Bill of Rights to recognize that they are the engine of growth, job creation, and prosperity. The Bill will give five specific rights to small business that will guarantee fair, helpful, and equal treatment from the Ontario government. These are:

- ▼ Red tape reduction
- Fast, efficient, customer-friendly service standards for their dealings with government
- Choice over mandatory smart meter energy pricing
- ♥ Greater ability to bid on government contracts
- A formal, impossible-to-ignore voice for small business in any new legislation or regulation that affect our economy

We will eliminate job-killing red tape.

Business needs to focus on growing, not on endless paperwork, forms, and directives. We will appoint a Minister responsible for reducing the regulatory burden by a minimum of 30%.

Special attention will be paid to the burden faced by our farmers and small businesses. Farmers will finally have one window to the Ontario government, in which their needs can be served through the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, rather than through multiple ministries.



We will make Ontario's business tax rates competitive by reducing them to 10%.

The Dalton McGuinty government's surprise tax grabs have hit more than sales taxes, health taxes, and eco taxes. Business taxes were boosted too. In fact, this was one of Dalton McGuinty's first acts when he was elected in 2003.

It was the absolute worst time to threaten Ontario's ability to compete. We are still feeling the impact of those early tax hikes. Because businesses create the jobs our economy needs, we will reduce the basic corporate income tax rate from 11.5% to 10% by 2013. This change will help bring more, well paid, private sector jobs to Ontario.

We will fix the apprenticeship system.

A Tim Hudak government will create more than 200,000 new apprenticeship spaces over four years. We will bring a system designed for the needs of the 1970s into the 21st century to create lifelong, in-demand careers. Aside from being severely dated, the current system is too complex. It serves special interests instead of individuals aspiring to become skilled tradespeople, or the job creators who need these talents. Too many motivated workers from Ontario are leaving for better opportunities in other provinces.

We will modernize the apprenticeship system by delegating more responsibility for signing up apprentices to the colleges who will also match apprentices with employers. We will reduce the ratio of journeymen to apprentices, making it 1 to 1 to put more skilled workers on the job.

We will make Ontario's labour laws fairer for union members and taxpayers.

We will change Ontario's labour laws to give union members more flexibility and a greater voice. We will give all individuals the right to a secret ballot in certification votes. We will introduce paycheque protection so union members are not forced to pay fees towards political causes they don't support.

Unions will be required to be transparent and open with their financial information, just as businesses and charities are. This will enable union members to know exactly how their dues are being spent.

[changevbook]

We will be a champion for agriculture and the rural economies it supports.

Strong farms are vital to a strong Ontario. Like every business, our farms have been hit hard by sneaky tax grabs, excessive red tape, and skyrocketing hydro bills. At the same time, farming comes with some unique challenges. We must meet those challenges to see farmers succeed and maintain farming as an attractive career choice for the next generation.

We will deliver the business risk management program that the Ontario PC Party has long championed. Other provinces are giving their farmers a market advantage over ours. For eight years, this wasn't a priority for Dalton McGuinty's Liberals; it will be ours from day one. We will also protect supply management for farmers.

We will have a Buy Ontario food policy. We will lead by example at provincial institutions such as hospitals and schools. We will also increase market access for Ontario's VQA wines.

For years Ontario farmers have been asking for a business risk management program for all non-supply managed sectors. I appreciate Tim Hudak's long standing commitment to a permanent business risk management program.

- Gerry Prentice, Wainfleet



We will fight the traffic congestion that chokes economic growth and cuts into family time.

Traffic in the Greater Toronto Area has become the worst in North America. Not Ontario, not Canada – North America. We're spending too much time in traffic and not at home with our families.

Across the province, there are roadways that just don't work anymore: In Ottawa, there is a jam every day because no one has fixed the split where Highway 417 and Ottawa Road 174 converge. In Northern Ontario, two-lane Highways 11 and 17 grind to a halt whenever there is an accident. No matter where you are, traffic congestion costs our economy, hits our wallets because of rising gasoline costs, and puts a strain on family life.

We need change to tackle traffic congestion that only seems to get worse and worse.

A Tim Hudak government will test all proposed road and transit projects with one question: will they move more people or goods, more quickly, while being a good deal for the people who are paying for them?

We will invest more than \$35 billion to pay for new infrastructure – much of it in transit and transportation – over our first three years in office and use innovative technologies to help reduce congestion.

There Are Five Specific Principles That Will Guide Our Change To Infrastructure:

Fair: We will give all Ontario communities a share of the gas tax for the transportation projects that make the most sense for them.

Transparent: A complete list of all infrastructure projects will be provided online in real time so that families, commuters, and businesses can track how well we are doing.

Balanced: We will stop the war on the car. Our transportation policy needs to be a balance between public transportation and the cars we drive.

Realistic: Fifty year grand visions with no funding and no commitment don't move goods or people any faster. We'll develop realistic and pragmatic plans that will make a real difference for today's families.

Prudent: Tax dollars will be spent on the projects that matter most to Ontario's families and economy. We will prudently budget for these projects, just like Ontario's families and businesses do.



We will create more opportunities for newcomers to Ontario.

We will make Ontario a magnet for the world's best and brightest by reducing barriers for potential new Canadians, particularly for people who settle in Ontario's small towns. To ease our newcomers' transition we will improve transparency of foreign credential recognition, and create a tax credit for employers who sponsor language training.

BALANCING THE BUDGET RESPONSIBLY

Families must live within their means and make choices to balance their budgets. Government should be no different.

The economic uncertainty of the past few years is no excuse for Dalton McGuinty's irresponsible binge of reckless spending that has driven Ontario's deficit and debt to levels never before imagined. It took 136 years for 23 Premiers to build Ontario's debt. Dalton McGuinty will double it in his eight years in office.

For Ontario to lead again, we must make the decisions necessary to balance the budget in a responsible way. A balanced budget is possible; we also know this important goal will not be easy.

We will commit to only as much government as we can afford. Investments in patient care and classroom education will grow under a Tim Hudak government. We will set priorities – and stick to them – to balance the budget no later than 2017-18.



We will attack waste and rein in runaway spending.

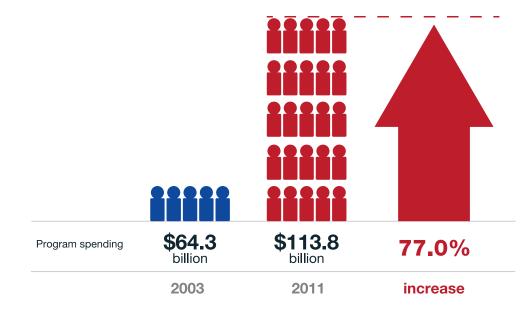
Outside of our priority public services of health and education that will grow, we will find savings of two cents on the dollar, every year on government spending. Two percent – this is realistic and achievable.

Responsible savings can be found throughout the government. A Tim Hudak government will work with our partners to stop spending on programs that no longer function, and spend smarter on programs that do. We will have a waste watchers' website to give all families a direct line to help identify areas of wasteful government spending.

Government assets and property will be evaluated. If there are advantages to taxpayers in getting out of some areas like golf courses, restaurants, and amusement parks, we will do so, and use the proceeds to improve patient care and student achievement, or to balance the province's books.

increase in government spending

Under Dalton McGuinty



Source: Ministry of Finance

We will reduce the size of the Cabinet and the Ontario Public Service.

Over the last eight years, the private sector has struggled to grow by 10%, while Ontario's government has grown by almost 80%.

A Tim Hudak Cabinet will be at least 20% smaller and more focused on families' priorities. We will reduce the size of the bureaucracy. This will be achieved primarily by not filling vacant positions. We will protect vital frontline positions in health, education, and public safety.

[change⊽book]

We will reduce the number of agencies, boards, and commissions, and the hidden billions they consume.

Ontario has almost 630 different agencies, boards and commissions. Every one of them will be reviewed to ensure they are providing good value to families. Our process will be straightforward. If it works, leave it alone. If it's broken, fix it. If it cannot justify its existence, it goes.

As a start, a Tim Hudak government will eliminate the Ontario Power Authority and the 14 Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs).

We will change the way services are delivered to get a better deal for taxpayers.



We will introduce initiatives requiring public sector unions to compete for government contracts, where appropriate. If another organization – whether a non-profit group or a private business – can provide better value for money, taxpayers deserve to benefit. In many cases, government workers may well prove to be the best ones to run the services themselves.

For example, if we can improve service delivery and get a better deal for taxpayers, in areas such as support services like food preparation or laundry in our public institutions, we will require public sector unions to compete for government contracts.

We will bring public sector paycheques in line with private sector standards.

A Tim Hudak government will achieve a fair deal for the people who are paid by taxes and the people who pay the taxes. Public sector wages, benefits, and pensions are a significant part of government spending – the same spending that will double the debt and has produced record deficits.

Public sector compensation must reflect the ability of families to pay the bills. That ability has been pushed well past its limit. We will work with our public sector partners to develop a pay and benefits package that is fair, but that recognizes the enormous financial hole that Dalton McGuinty's Liberals have dug. We must address this gap to protect Ontario's long-term financial stability.

In recent years, arbitrators have awarded unions excessive contracts, even as Ontario has been saddled with record deficits and a struggling economy. Ontario families get stuck with the bill.

We will fix this costly problem. We will require arbitrators to respect the ability of taxpayers to pay, and take into account local circumstances. We will make the system more transparent and accountable by requiring arbitrators to explain the reasons for their decisions. When arbitrators make decisions that cost Ontario families money, those families deserve to know why.

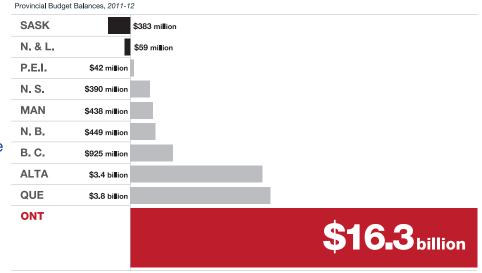
We will require that clear and tight timeframes be met by arbitrators so that the provincial and local governments can budget accordingly.

We will stop subsidizing big corporations with families' money.

It's not government's job to pick the winners and losers amongst privately-owned companies. Government's role is to create the best conditions for economic growth in a stable, surprise-free environment. The Liberal government made its sweetheart deal with Samsung using your money. Families can't afford these massive subsidies.

Ontario deficit

Provincial comparison



Source: RBC Economics Research





For all you pay in taxes, you should receive the highest quality services in the country. We will do what is necessary to deliver these services. In many cases, it's not about more money. It's about rethinking and revitalizing the way our services work. Too often, the needs of today and tomorrow are being met with the ideas and the bureaucracy of yesterday. It's time for change.

It's time to bring services into the 21st century, and put you at the centre of service delivery. We will focus on:

- Putting patients at the centre of their health care
- Providing a 21st century education for Ontario students
- Strengthening local communities
- Protecting and enhancing our environment

PUTTING PATIENTS AT THE CENTRE OF THEIR HEALTH CARE

We are committed to publicly funded health care for Ontario families. Everyone knows some change will be required to provide modern, sustainable care.

The size and scope of our health system obscures the most important person: the patient. Care in Ontario is structured around forms, processes, long lines, and bureaucracy, when it should be built from the patient out. This is true when it comes to emergencies. It's true when it comes to chronic diseases like cancer or diabetes. It's especially true for people who have a mental illness who too often get lost in the system.

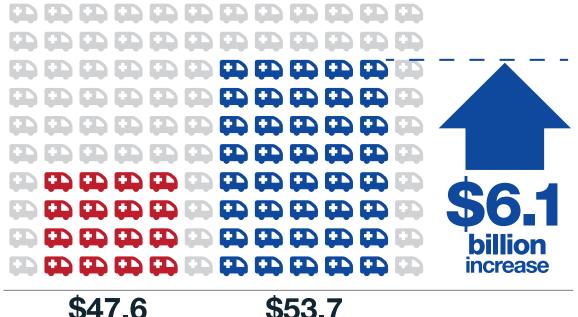
We will introduce a series of patientcentred reforms that make the patient – not bureaucracies, not administrators – the focus of our health care system.

We will grow our investments in health.

We will increase annual investments in health care by more than \$6 billion by the end our first term.

[health spending]

Annual health spending under an Ontario PC government



billion	billion	
2011	2015	



[change⊽book]

We will introduce a rigorous system of patient satisfaction and health outcome measures.

We will give patients a much clearer idea of what to expect and health care providers a much clearer idea of what must be improved. We will strengthen the mandate of Ontario's Health Quality Council to monitor and report on the performance of our health care system. These ratings and patient feedback will be available on a dedicated website.

Performance measures are more than just facts and figures to help patients. They will give our health care providers valuable information to help them deliver better care. Highly-paid hospital CEOs will be held to account for the quality of the health outcomes and patient experience in their hospitals.

We will establish wait time guarantees for emergency room visits.

Too many families spend too much time waiting in emergency rooms. The Liberal government has set wait time targets that many hospitals are missing. We will set specific, measureable ER wait time guarantees. Hospital CEOs will be held responsible for delivering on these guarantees. Wait times will be reduced, in part, through our proposal for a system of health outcome measures described above and by relieving pressures on hospitals through our investment in long term care.

We will also make ER wait times available in real time through Telehealth and online.



We will improve health care for Ontario seniors with 40,000 long term care beds.

We will support our seniors and free up hospital beds by expanding long term care with 5,000 new long term care beds. This is on top of the 35,000 renovated beds that will be coming on stream over the next ten years that will give more seniors additional privacy and dignity. This means shorter wait times and less worry about receiving appropriate and comfortable care for an aging parent.

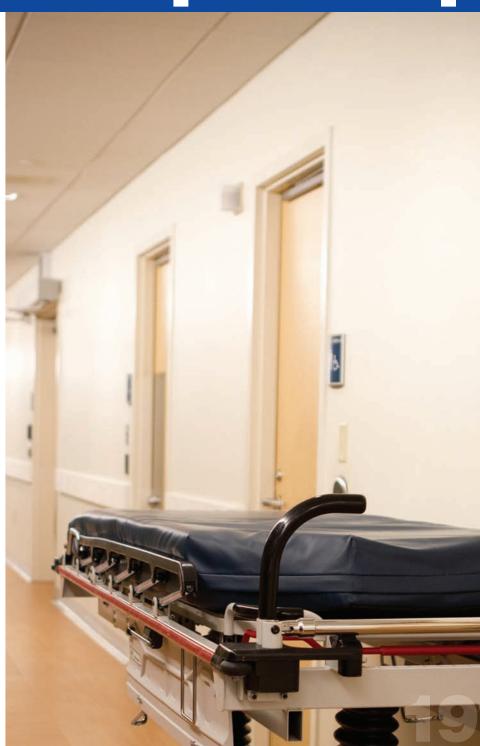
We will increase investments in home care and give families more control over services.

We will give home care users more dignity, more flexibility and more say in determining where they acquire these important services. They will be able to choose to stay with the provider they have now, or pick a new government funded home care provider who better meets their individual needs.

We will bring more doctors to the communities that need them.

We will encourage health care providers like doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants to work collaboratively, particularly in underserviced areas to meet patients' needs.

We will increase residency placements for medical students from Ontario who have pursued world-class medical training outside Canada and want to return home to practice.



We will eliminate fraud and waste in health care and reduce administration.

A Tim Hudak government will target the costly health bureaucracies that take money from direct patient care. We will put a stop to scandals like eHealth and stop putting health care dollars towards ever-expanding salaries for administrators.

For example, the LHINs are unelected, unaccountable, faceless bureaucracies that the Dalton McGuinty Liberals hide behind whenever there are beds to close, emergency rooms to shut, or nurses to lay off. To date, \$300 million health care dollars have been diverted from frontline care to pay for salaries and administration. We will close the LHINs and redirect those dollars to patients.

Whether in the Ministry of Health, hospitals, or Community Care Access Centres, there are savings to be found at multiple levels – savings that can go towards helping patients. We will reduce administration and reinvest that money in nurses, doctors, health care technology, and other frontline care.

To reduce health care fraud, we will require people who have the old red and white health cards to identify themselves and present another form of government-issued identification, such as a driver's licence or passport.

PROVIDING A 21ST CENTURY EDUCATION FOR ONTARIO STUDENTS

Education is the great opportunity-builder, giving kids from all different types of families an equal start in life. We will make our public education system even better.

We will increase investments in our kids' classrooms and the tools that help kids learn.

We will increase spending on K-12 education by \$2 billion by the end of our first term. We will root out waste and unnecessary bureaucracy in Ontario school boards and invest it in our kids' education. For example, since 2004, trustee expenses at the Toronto District School Board have soared by 550%. The number of education administrators who earn more than \$100,000 per year has increased by more than 181% over the same period. This is unacceptable. We will work with school board trustees to stop the waste and excesses that rob resources from the classroom.

We will ensure the education system puts students first.

Ontario's education system is not one-size-fits-all. Schools in different parts of Ontario have different and unique needs. We will ensure the funding formula meets the needs of single school communities and effectively supports special education for families that rely on it. We will give principals more flexibility to meet the individual needs of their communities and students.

We will implement full-day kindergarten for all schools.

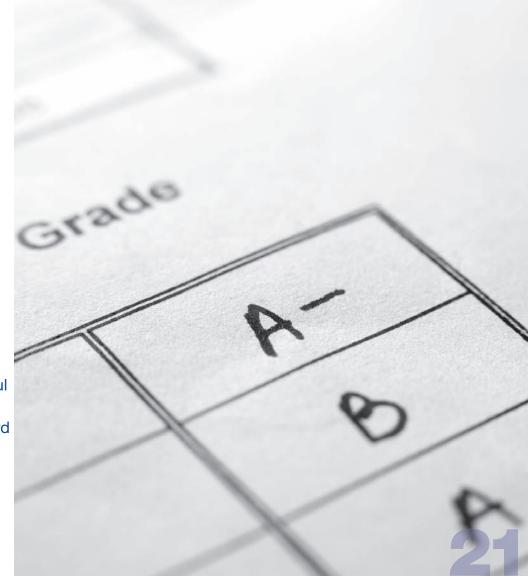
We know many families are making plans expecting the program to be fully implemented.

Full-day kindergarten has challenges that need to be addressed and we believe it can be improved. But it would be a mistake to disrupt its implementation. That's why we will make it fully operational for all four and five year olds in Ontario by 2014.

We will free the teachers to teach.

We will give teachers the support and discretion to do what they know is right for their own classroom. They will be able to ban cell phones in their classroom, teach phonics, give out marks free from pressure to inflate grades, and write meaningful report cards. Because we believe it's never too early to start measuring student progress, we will reinstate the fall report card for elementary students that was eliminated last year.

We will take steps to prohibit bullies from disrupting the classroom and ensure that no child is forced to go to school in fear.



[change⊽book]

We will expand the use of technology in our teaching.

Our kids will compete in a 21st century economy; they should learn in 21st century classrooms. While recognizing the importance of the basics, we believe many parents see the potential learning opportunities available through some exciting new technologies, like online learn-to-read applications or e-texts.

We will give parents more information in a timely manner by allowing them to view their child's standardized test results online. This will give students and parents the opportunity to review results together and focus on areas of improvement.

We will work with leaders in education and technology to set ambitious goals to enhance the student learning experience through the use of new learning technologies. We will achieve these goals within existing education budgets by spending more on student learning and less on ineffective systems and administration.

We will put the needs of students and the economy at the centre of Ontario's post-secondary education system.

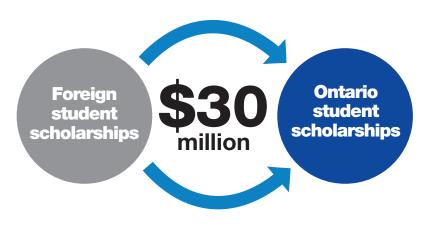
Strong universities and colleges, focused on developing the innovations of tomorrow, are fundamental to creating a dynamic economy today. A Tim Hudak government will create up to 60,000 post-secondary spaces in Ontario. Individual colleges and universities will be asked to compete for these new spaces and find new ways to ensure access, affordability, and excellence in our post-secondary institutions. Greater co-ordination and co-operation between universities and colleges, such as the number of credit transfer programs, will amplify these opportunities.

We will raise the threshold on financial support to make it more accessible for middle-class families to send their children to college or university.

We will end the Dalton McGuinty Liberals' foreign scholarship program that puts foreign students ahead of Ontario students. We will reinvest those funds in our students instead.

investment in students

\$30 million that Dalton McGuinty has pledged for foreign student scholarships will be redirected to Ontario students



Source: Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, News Release, November 4, 2010

STRENGTHENING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Our local governments have had their decision-making power chipped away in recent years. This is unfair, undemocratic, and does nothing to increase the value of services provided at the community level. We will enable more local and decentralized decision-making, and give municipalities more tools to provide better value for local families.

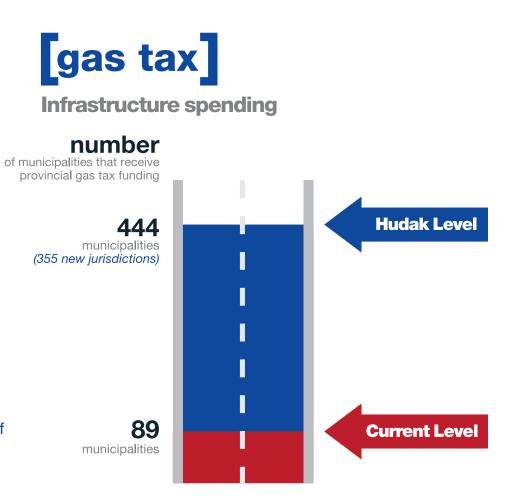
We will give cities and towns the power to decide what happens within their boundaries.

Local councils have been robbed of a say over what happens in their communities. This has allowed industrial wind farms to be placed in communities without any consultation with local councils or residents. We will restore the local decision making powers that were taken away by the Dalton McGuinty Liberals. We will end the constant provincial tinkering and delays in local official plans.

We will give more cities and towns access to gas tax revenue.

Communities too small to have bus or subway systems do not get a share of the gas tax revenue, even though families in those communities pay the gas tax. We will bring change to give all communities a share of the gas tax to meet their local infrastructure needs. We will increase the dedicated revenue from the provincial gas tax to transit, roads, and other infrastructure projects. No municipality will receive less funding; every municipality can count on receiving some level of investment. This will be a permanent commitment.

We will respect the unique priorities of individual cities and towns, and give them the ability to choose between roads, bridges, and transit.



Source: Ministries of Transportation, Finance, and Revenue



[change⊽book]

We will give Northerners a stronger voice at Queen's Park and more control in their local communities.

The North has vast potential, but decisions made at Queen's Park are often out of touch with the reality in Northern communities. Families in Northern Ontario deserve a strong voice in government. They also deserve the right to be heard and to plan their own future. We will focus on bringing jobs and investment to the North.

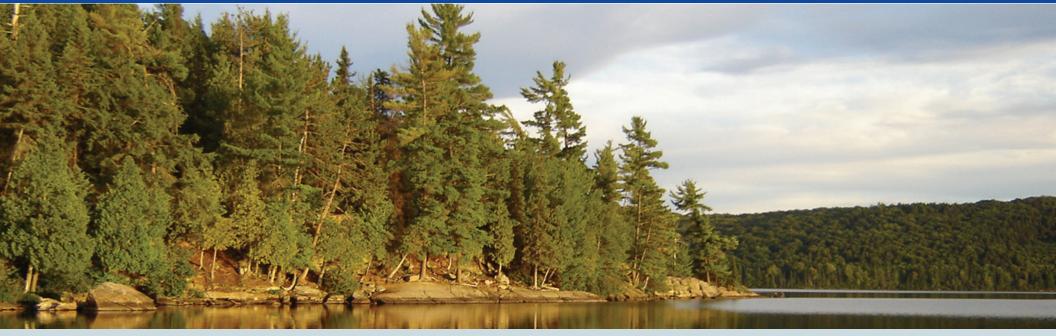
A Tim Hudak government will repeal Bill 191, the Far North Act, which effectively turns the North into a museum by banning development and killing potential jobs.

We will allow local municipalities and First Nations to keep the revenue from the Mining Tax for any new mines that are developed.

We will work with Northerners to ensure they get their share of new jobs in the knowledge-based economy.

Because Northeastern and Northwestern Ontario are so different from Southern Ontario, our northern platform – changebook North – will define the opportunities available and lay out the specific path to seize them.





PROTECTING AND ENHANCING OUR ENVIRONMENT

Ontario families expect our environment to be safe, clean, and sustainable for future generations. Everything we do affects the environment in some way.

In that sense, there is an environmental element to many of our policies. Committing to clean energy and reducing traffic congestion are just two examples. Of course, there are some very specific steps we will take that will have a direct impact on the protection and enjoyment of our environment.

We will guard the quality of the air we breathe and the water we drink.

We will complete the closure of coal powered plants by 2014. This often-promised goal is behind schedule. A Tim Hudak government will finish the job Dalton McGuinty couldn't get done. We will use the soon-to-be closed coal plants as sites to provide newer, cleaner energy from sources like natural gas or biomass.

We will protect all programs that safeguard water quality.



[change⊽book]



We will protect our land, lakes, and rivers.

Ontario parks are known throughout the world for their beauty and accessibility. We will improve provincial parks for Ontario families with a new investment of \$10 million to make them even more enjoyable and accessible. We will also increase funding to expand land acquisition for the Bruce Trail.

We will support local conservation efforts in protecting Ontario's many signature rivers such as the Thames, Don, French, and Ottawa. This will include activities like protecting riverbanks, cleaning debris, and stocking fish.

We will ensure Ontarians get a fair deal from their government if their land is required for public purposes. Occasionally the government imposes a limitation on what you can do with your property, for example by declaring it an environmentally protected area. We will offer fair and reasonable incentives or compensation to encourage Ontarians to help protect sensitive environmental land.

We will support conservation of wildlife and fish populations in Ontario.

We will ensure 100% of hunting and fishing licence revenue is dedicated to conservation. Those on the frontline of conservation like hunters and anglers will have a real say in how these funds are spent.

We will do our share in the climate change battle.

Climate change is by definition a global challenge. Our efforts will be meaningful and practical. We will close Ontario's coal plants by 2014. We will take steps to make government buildings more energy efficient. And we will work with other provincial governments, the federal government, and our international partners to ensure Ontario is doing its part to combat climate change.





There is nothing more frustrating to Ontario families than the sense that they're being cheated. We see examples of government acting without accountability. We see billion-dollar scandals like eHealth go unpunished. We see too many people taking money out of our families' pockets through recklessness, carelessness, or outright fraud. The worst part is, too often, they're getting away with it.

This is wrong. We need change. Families that work hard and play by the rules need to know that their standard is the one that everyone is expected to follow.

We will focus our attention on three areas:

- Demanding government accountability and innovation
- Promoting personal accountability
- Fighting for hardworking families against those who take advantage of us

DEMANDING GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AND INNOVATION

Government should be the leader in openness, access, and service – not the last frontier. You have the right to expect better service from government just as you do with any other organization.

We will make Ministers and senior civil servants accountable for the results we expect.

Leadership accountability is essential in business. But it's something radical for government. The entire Cabinet will have its pay docked if it misses important financial or regulatory goals. We will work with senior civil servants to set aggressive but achievable targets so that their performance is closely tied to the mandate the people of Ontario give our government.

We will show you where your money goes.

We will bring forward a Truth in Government Act to mandate the public sharing of information, contracts, grants, travel costs, and expenses. All information will be posted online, and families will be able to contribute in order to help fight wasteful spending.

We will give citizens more direct control over politicians who break their promises.

We will make it the law that the provincial government cannot raise taxes without a clear mandate. The new law will not allow for any exceptions, loopholes, or end runs around it. That way, we will make it nearly impossible for future governments to repeat the Dalton McGuinty government's disregard for the Taxpayer Protection Act – first with the Health Tax, then with the HST, and, if they're re-elected again, with more tax hikes.

The five components of the Truth in Government Act:

- Expand the scope of Freedom of Information
- Full disclosure of all goods or service contracts over \$10,000
- **Full disclosure of travel and hospitality expenses**
- **Full disclosure of grants over \$10,000**
- **Full disclosure of all position reclassifications**

We will promote the concept of Open Government to bring forward citizens' innovative ideas on public policy.

While protecting privacy, we will make large amounts of government data available to the public to engage people in solving important problems, and to help people become watchdogs for government waste.

We will look to the successes of similar initiatives. In the United Kingdom, FixMyStreet.com has led to the repair of over 32,000 potholes by sending citizens' complaints to the appropriate local council. Right here in Ontario, SunshineOnSchools.ca allows people to compare different school boards across a number of criteria, from student performance to administrative costs. We will enable more Open Government initiatives like these in Ontario.

We will reduce the hassle of government transactions, making them easier and faster.

We will give you more ways to get routine government transactions done. Municipal offices, private businesses, and the internet will be engaged to make transactions simpler, more efficient, and more readily available.

For those transactions that must be completed in person – like driver's licence and health card renewals – we will extend the hours of government offices so families have a more convenient way to deal with government.

We will create a Call Before You Dig not-for-profit call centre to act as a single point of contact for all underground utility locations in Ontario. It would streamline the current system, preventing accidents and saving lives.



Change:

PROMOTING PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

As much as government needs to be accountable, individuals have the same responsibility. In some cases, it is up to the government to make those responsibilities very clear. These specific measures will ensure they are unmistakable.

We will modernize the welfare system to make it fairer, both for society's neediest and for those who pay for it.

The goal of welfare should be straightforward: to help our neediest rebuild their lives, get out of the system, develop useful skills, and get a full-time job. We will help more people exit welfare and enter the working world.

A Tim Hudak government will allow Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program recipients who work part time to keep more of their benefits and ease their transition from welfare to a job. Finding and maintaining a job should be applauded, not penalized.

We will streamline the system. It is currently governed by over 800 different rules and many of them contradict one another. We will condense them for a more effective system.

We will require welfare recipients to be residents of Ontario for one year before collecting benefits.

Ontario tax dollars support welfare payments. They show our commitment to helping those in need. But it's only fair that recipients have a similar level of commitment to Ontario.



FIGHTING FOR HARDWORKING FAMILIES AGAINST THOSE WHO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF US

For Ontario families, the idea that some people get ahead by living outside the rules is one that's very hard to take. We rely on our police officers to enforce these rules and keep us safe. This is necessary because there are too many people trying to take a free ride on the backs of hardworking, law-abiding Ontario families. A Tim Hudak government will support front line police officers who have a difficult job to do, in part by reducing their administrative burden. These are among the steps we will take to bring those free rides to a full stop.

We will toughen our treatment of criminals.

A Tim Hudak government will require provincial prisoners to work up to 40 hours per week of manual labour. This includes picking up litter, raking leaves, cutting grass, and other tasks. These tasks will provide an extra means of giving back to society.

We will use GPS technology to monitor registered sex offenders and other high risk offenders. Police will be able to monitor them and, if needed, react immediately to protect the community. We will also develop a website that lists the names and addresses of registered sex offenders who are living in Ontario.

We will work with municipalities to collect the \$1 billion in unpaid fines. For most people, the odd parking ticket is no big deal. But there is another class of serial offenders who rack up huge amounts of parking and traffic offenses with no intention of ever paying them. We will give municipalities the tools to find them and recover the money.

We will fight for victims of crime.

We will end the Liberals' indifference to the rights of victims. We will remove bureaucracy standing in the way of victims and justice. For example, while victims suffered in silence, the government sat on a \$31 million surplus in the Victims' Justice Fund meant to help those victims. We will direct all funds to victims and improve the services they deserve. At the same time, we will ensure the definition the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board uses to award compensation reflects the real needs of victims, who will be given significant representation on the Board itself.

[change⊽book]

We will make the justice system more accountable and accessible.

We will reform the justice system to bring criminals to justice more quickly and effectively by removing bureaucracy and making prosecution more effective. One specific step we will take to speed up the justice system will be to extend the hours of Ontario's busiest courts.

We will create a provincial registry of houses previously used as grow ops and meth labs.

In order to keep our neighbourhoods safe, we will establish a registry to allow realtors and future homeowners to know whether or not a property was ever used as a grow op or meth lab.

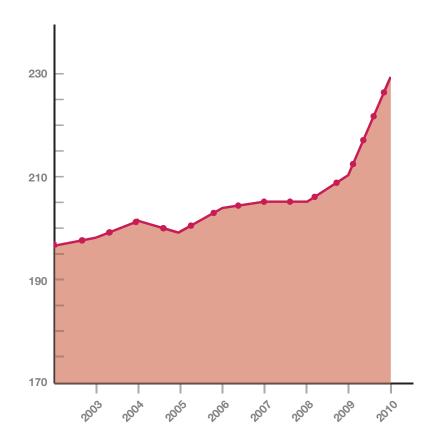
We support one law for everyone.

We will toughen the rules on illegal occupations. Nobody should have to show their passport to come and go from their home. The risk of damage to property and financial stability in these situations is matched only by the impact on our basic sense of fairness. We will support our frontline police officers in these difficult situations. We will expand the powers in the Trespass to Property Act to help restore faith in the fairness of how these disputes are settled.

[court delays]

Since 2003, it takes 16% longer - 31 more days - to finish a criminal court case. On average, 228 days were needed to finish a criminal case, in 2010.

Average Days to Disposition



We will fight fraud, focusing on those areas most important to you.

We will create a special unit of Crown Attorneys, the Office of Financial Crimes Prosecution, dedicated to fighting the fraud that erodes our shared trust in so many places.

We will stop the organized crime schemes that drive up auto insurance rates. What some people seem to shrug off as a harmless little ploy for cash is actually part of an epidemic that costs Ontario drivers \$1.3 billion each year – money that could be keeping your premiums under control. Ontario has the highest auto insurance rates in Canada largely because of the government's indifference to these schemes.

The worst repeat offenders of welfare fraud will face tough penalties, up to a lifetime ban.

We will crack down on the sale of illegal tobacco.

Illegal tobacco sales have grown over recent years, as the Dalton McGuinty Liberals looked the other way. This criminal trade is bad for the young people who can easily access illegal tobacco, the honest businesses who are robbed of revenue, and every Ontario family, as we lose at least \$500 million each year in tax revenue. It is also dangerous, because illegal tobacco sales are controlled by organized crime that uses it to fund their drug and weapons trades.

We will aggressively tackle this problem by: increasing enforcement efforts including at the US border; reducing the authorized volume of unmarked tobacco produced on reserves; working with reserve police agencies and band councils to close unauthorized cigarette manufacturing facilities and prevent delivery of manufacturing materials used by illicit factories; and increasing police search and seizure authority relating to tobacco products.



The last eight years have been tough on our families. Ontario needs change. Change that puts families first.

Change that puts more money in your pocket, with relief from taxes and skyrocketing hydro bills.

Change that guarantees the services you need, with the very highest standards in the country.

Change that cleans up government and restores the accountability and trust that seem to have become an afterthought.

Changebook is how a Tim Hudak government will bring that change.

Changebook is how a Tim Hudak government will take Ontario forward responsibly, with respect for the people of this province who pay the bills.

The choice on October 6th is clear.

More tax increases, more surprises, more misplaced priorities, more experiments with your money, and more of your money wasted on bureaucracy and bloat.

Or you can join with families across our province to make a better choice. A choice to put families first. A choice for changebook. A choice for a Tim Hudak government.



[changevbook]

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