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**ONTARIO
FEDERATION OF
LABOUR**

November 15, 2018

TO: OFL EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COUNCIL

Greetings,

Fall Economic Statement

Attached please find the OFL's statement on today's fall economic update. Needless to say, the government's announcement paints a bleak outlook for our environment, for democracy, for Ontario workers and the most vulnerable among us including indigenous communities, children and Ontarian's with disabilities, people of colour and women.

Below is a non-exhaustive, top-line summary of some of the key measures announced today:

- introducing BC-style government control of broader public sector wage bargaining
 - "Provincial agencies will now be required to obtain approval of their bargaining mandates and ratification of collective agreements... Looking ahead, the government is also exploring additional opportunities to expand collective bargaining oversight to other areas of the broader public sector." (p. 27)
- reporting \$3.2B in savings from program spending (based on previous announcements since June)
 - Ontario already has the lowest program spending per capita in the country.
- reporting revenue losses of \$2.7B, mostly from cap-and-trade and the minimum wage tax cut
 - No provincial income tax for those making up to \$30,000 and a tax break up to \$38,000. While the government says workers will save up to \$850, the reality is that a real dollar per hour wage increase would've increased these workers' disposable income by about \$2000.
- cutting the number of legislative officers from 9 to 6 folding them into other offices (i.e., French Language Services Commissioner to Ombudsman; Child and Youth Advocate to Ombudsman; and Environmental Commissioner to Auditor General)
- reducing the per-vote subsidy in 2021 while eliminating it completely by 2022; Official Party Status threshold being increased to 12
 - increasing political contribution limits from \$1200 to \$1600 by 2020.
 - MPPs, ministers, and candidates to again be allowed to attend political fundraisers

- changing Ontario's rent control laws: if a newly-built or newly-converted rental unit is occupied after today, it will not be subject to rent control.
- cancelling an income tax hike on the highest earners
- delaying the implementation date for the Pay Transparency Act, 2018 "to allow for consultation", jeopardizing its ability to ever come into force
- cancelling plans for new French university
- allowing LCBO & Beer Stores to open 9am-11pm 7 days/ week

Here is a [link](#) to the full Economic Statement. As we continue to analyze the plan, and as more details emerge, we will continue to facilitate discussion between affiliates and labour councils to develop our collective action plan to fightback against this government and its regressive policies.

In solidarity,



CHRIS BUCKLEY
President

CB/RH/jc/cope343/Attachment