



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

August 8, 2018

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

The Honourable Lisa McLeod
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
77 Wellesley Street West,
PO Box 156
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

Dear Premier and Minister:

RE: INCOME SECURITY: A ROAD MAP FOR CHANGE

The Ontario Provincial Council (OPC) of The Catholic Women's League of Canada (CWL) represents nearly 45,000 women in Ontario. Over the past year, these women have studied homelessness becoming more informed on the reasons for homelessness and concern for those homeless and 'at risk for homelessness'.

During its annual convention in Toronto, Ontario July 8 to 11, 2018 attendees were introduced to and supported resolution ON.18.02 related to the report *Income Security: A Road Map for Change* commissioned by the Ontario government and released in November 2017. The resolution resolved "that the OPC of The CWL urge the Ontario provincial government to immediately implement the recommendations of *Income Security: A Roadmap for Change* pertinent to Ontarians with a disability." In addition to this, discussion included support of the income security pilot project launched April 2018.

The *Income Security: A Road Map for Change* and its recommendations are the result of significant consultation with the people of Ontario and are publically supported by many advocates for the impoverished. As an example, the Ontario Human Rights Commission's letter to Minister Coteau dated March 18 2018 states:

"If implemented, the Roadmap would have the potential to significantly improve the lives of people identified by Code grounds who are affected by poverty. It expertly explores the disproportionate poverty experienced by some groups, particularly people with disabilities, and Indigenous and racialized people. It includes important insights and recommendations addressing the complicated ways that discrimination and systemic barriers can create, compound and perpetuate poverty."

The Premier's website includes a descriptive for his team: a practical, affordable and **responsible government** to rebuild Ontario and deliver our plan for the people. It would be irresponsible to cancel the pilot project impacting up to 4,000 participants depending on additional social payments to improve their lives. On behalf of our members, I urge you to take action to secure the income security pilot project and implementation of all recommendations of the income security road map for change.

Sincerely

Anne Madden, Provincial President
Ontario provincial council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call
www.cwl.on.ca

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