growing strong communities

THE ONTARIO LIBERAL PLAN FOR CLEAN, SAFE COMMUNITIES THAT WORK
The strength of our province depends on the strength of our communities. Yet Ontario’s communities are not all they can be. They are not all they should be.

The Harris-Eves government has failed to provide people with the quality of life they expect and deserve, the quality of life that should come with living in a province this rich and diverse.

The air we breathe is dangerous, and many Ontarians do not trust their water.

Working parents spend endless hours in their cars instead of home with their families.

Too much farmland and greenspace is being lost to development that threatens our quality of life.

Our streets are not as safe as they should be.

Communities cannot thrive if they struggle to meet the basic needs of our citizens. And they cannot thrive without healthy businesses. Our cities and towns will only attract and retain jobs if they are appealing places to live, as well as work.

This is our plan to strengthen Ontario communities and to help them thrive. We will clean up our air and water. We will protect our greenspaces, and make our streets safer.
We know that the key to building strong communities is to recognize their differences and build on their strengths. We won’t impose urban solutions on rural areas, or vice versa.

Join me in forming a government dedicated to improving the quality of life in all the communities that make this province great.

Our communities deserve it. Our future depends on it.

Dalton McGuinty
Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party
The Harris-Eves government has spent seven years eroding the foundations of our communities. It has helped its friends and backers at the expense of the rest of us and the communities in which we live.

The Harris-Eves government allowed polluters to run roughshod over the rules and regulations that are supposed to protect this province. Ontarians worry that their water is not safe and they know the air is so dirty it kills. **We will clean up our air, protect our water and crack down on polluters.**

The Harris-Eves government welcomed urban sprawl, accepting gridlock as a fact of life and greenspace as yesterday’s luxury. **We will put quality of life first by tackling gridlock, containing sprawl and preserving greenspace.**

The Harris-Eves government betrayed tenants by gutting rent controls and abandoned our poorest families by refusing to support affordable housing. **We will provide real protection for tenants and invest in affordable housing.**

The Harris-Eves government spent seven years talking tough on crime but doing little about it. **We will do more than talk. We will build safe communities, with more police and more prosecutors.**
Instead of protecting the environment, the Harris-Eves government has given us dirty air, tainted water and hazardous waste. Ontarians deserve to live and work in communities where the environment contributes to our health and quality of life, not threatens them.

**Air we can breathe**

*No more coal*

We will shut down Ontario’s coal burning power plants by 2007 and replace them with cleaner sources of energy.

It is hard to believe, but at the beginning of the 21st century we still burn coal, the dirtiest way to generate electricity. Our five coal burning plants are the worst polluters in Ontario. They create smog and threaten our health.

*Asthma is the most common reason for admitting children to Ontario hospitals. Polluted air is a major cause of this epidemic.*

We think our most vulnerable citizens – seniors and children – should be able to go outside in summer without consulting a smog index.

**The Harris-Eves Record**

- There was a month of smog in Ontario in 2002 – a record 27 days. That compares to 11 smog days in 1995.
- Smog kills 1,900 Ontarians every year.
- The Nanticoke power station is the dirtiest in North America, generating the pollution equivalent of 3.5 million cars every year.
Clean, renewable energy

We will bring clean, renewable energy to Ontario.

We will require that Ontario electricity suppliers obtain at least five percent of their electricity from new clean, renewable sources by 2007 and 10 percent by 2010.

We will expand power generation at Niagara Falls, creating enough new, clean electricity to power every home in a city the size of Hamilton.

The days of burning coal will soon be behind us. We will move to clean alternatives to coal like natural gas, and exciting renewable sources like hydro, wind and landfill methane. This will increase supply, open up new markets and create thousands of new clean energy jobs.

Green is Good for Business: An Ontario Success Story

Interface Flooring Systems of Belleville is the largest commercial carpet manufacturer in Canada. Since 1995, it has reduced its electricity consumption by 70% and cut its water intake by an unbelievable 98%.

The company has committed to switching completely to green electricity and has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 65%.

These measures have saved the company $12 million since 1995 and production has more than doubled.

Interface is proof that “green thinking” is not just good for the environment, it is good for business.

Reducing electricity costs

We will help Ontario homes and businesses reduce their costs and cut their electricity consumption five percent by 2007.

Individual metering technology can help businesses and households dramatically
reduce their electricity costs by allowing them to monitor and manage their consumption. We will give consumers access to this technology so that they can use electricity when rates are lowest.

Industrial cogeneration is an effective way to reduce the consumption of electricity from the public grid. Cogeneration uses by-products of industry such as steam to generate electricity.

We will encourage businesses to use cogeneration by ensuring that they have reliable backup electricity and fair access to sell any surplus into the system. This will increase our electricity supply, reduce demand, and create environmentally-friendly electricity.

We will lead by example, reducing the Ontario government's own electricity use 10 percent by 2007.

*Our Clean Air Plan alone will take Ontario three-quarters of the way towards satisfying our responsibilities under the Kyoto Accord.*

**Clean fuel**

*We will clean up gasoline and diesel fuel.*

Ethanol and bio-diesel fuels are made from agricultural products grown in Ontario such as corn and soybeans. They are much friendlier to the environment than regular gasoline and diesel.

We will require that ethanol make up five percent of gasoline by 2007 and 10 percent by 2010. We will also develop an Ontario Bio-Diesel Strategy that will include mandatory bio-diesel content in diesel fuel.
**Water we can trust**

*Implementing the Walkerton report*  

We will prevent any future tainted-water tragedies.

Seven people died and 2,300 were made seriously ill after drinking tainted water in Walkerton. The Walkerton Inquiry found that the Harris-Eves government’s reckless cuts to environmental protection contributed to that tragedy. Two years later, the government is still not doing enough to protect our water.

One of the basic responsibilities of government is to protect our drinking water. After seven years of neglect, it is time to get it right.

Unlike the Harris-Eves government, we will implement every recommendation of the Walkerton Inquiry.

We will build a network of water monitoring stations across the province and make reports available online.

**The Harris-Eves Record**

- As Finance Minister, Ernie Eves cut the Environment Ministry’s budget nearly in half.
- In 1995, Ontario had 730 provincial water monitoring stations. Today there are only 240.
- Two years after Walkerton, Ontario’s environmental watchdog, the Environmental Commissioner, warned the monitoring problem “may be worse than ever.”
Drinking water
source protection

We will protect our water from stream to tap by preventing it from getting polluted in the first place.

The best way to ensure clean drinking water is to prevent it from getting polluted. We will pass a law to enhance protection of the lands that surround our vital water sources.

Incredibly, the Harris-Eves government allows the spreading of untreated human waste on our farmlands. This threatens our drinking water. We will immediately ban the spreading of raw human waste.

Preserving water supplies

We will stop allowing companies to raid our precious water supplies.

Companies that want to take oil from the ground or trees from the forest have to pay for that privilege. The quantity of resource they can extract or harvest is regulated in line with provincial needs and environmental protection.

But when companies want to bottle our water or export it as part of other products, the Harris-Eves government gives it to them free and without any consideration of impact on the local aquifer.

One company alone wants to ship more water out of Ontario annually in the form of industrial slurry than the entire country exports in all beverages.

We will end this reckless giveaway.
Before we issue a single new water-taking permit, we will review Ontario’s groundwater supplies. Once we are sure we have enough for ourselves, we will make water-bottling companies and others who mix water with their exports pay for this precious resource.

**Youth Corps**

We will involve young people in preserving our environment.

We will establish an Environmental Youth Corps to create summer jobs for young people in areas like water testing, protecting natural habitats and working with energy providers to conduct home energy audits.

**A cleaner Ontario**

**Cracking down on pollution**

We will protect Ontario from pollution and hazardous waste.

The Harris-Eves government turned our province into a haven for polluters. They weakened our laws, and opened our doors to hazardous waste and fired inspection and enforcement officers.

The Sierra Legal Defense Fund documented more than 10,000 violations of Ontario’s water pollution laws between 1995 and 1999. The Harris-Eves government laid only 11 charges.

We will end this sorry record of neglect. We will prosecute and fine polluters and we will make this province’s hazardous waste disposal rules the toughest in North America.
Recycling

**organic waste**

We will divert 60 percent of waste from landfills within five years.

Organic waste is a resource, not garbage. We will phase in a ban on organic waste in our landfills, diverting it instead to environmentally-friendly compost.

We will increase provincial and industry support for waste diversion programs, helping municipalities achieve a 60 percent waste diversion rate within five years.

**The Harris-Eves Record**

- Since 1995, Ontario has seen the largest increase in pollution in North America.
- Ontario is now the third worst polluting jurisdiction on the continent.
- Ontario imports of hazardous waste from the U.S. have quadrupled since 1995.
communities that work

Ontario is a vast province, made up of communities of every shape and size. For our cities and towns to thrive, their different needs must be recognized and met. The Harris-Eves government has downloaded responsibilities, ignored local requirements and abandoned citizens with basic needs like affordable housing.

Diversity is our strength

New Canadians

We will help new Canadians to settle more quickly in Ontario.

The diverse cultures that make up Ontario enrich our communities and strengthen our economy. However, new Canadians are waiting too long to become what they so desperately want to be: successful, contributing citizens. This is unacceptable. We will accelerate the integration of immigrants into our province.

We will negotiate an agreement with the federal government to better support, appropriate settlement services and language integration for immigrants.

We will also work with community-based organizations to assist new Canadians. We will helping them make the transition to life in Ontario as easily and quickly as possible.
Access to trades and professions

We will ensure timely access to trades and professions for qualified professionals trained outside Canada.

Newcomers face too many barriers that prevent them from practicing their trade or profession. We will require that all Ontario trades and professions accelerate the entry of qualified new Canadians. If after one year any profession or trade has not eliminated barriers to entry, we will act.

In short, access to trades by foreign professionals is an economic priority for us. For diverse communities to work, new Canadians must get a seat at the table of opportunity. We will make that happen.

Thriving urban communities

Our cities are growing rapidly. If managed properly, this growth will create vibrant, diverse communities.

The Harris-Eves government has not managed growth – it has encouraged sprawl. The result is traffic gridlock and the loss of precious greenspace that reduces quality of life while adding substantial infrastructure costs for taxpayers.

Helping municipalities

We will invest in our cities and towns.

The Harris-Eves government “solved” many of its problems by downloading them onto cities and towns. The result was cuts to services and crumbling infrastructure. This was unfair, short-sighted and destructive to our communities.
We will help communities become more self-sustaining by giving them the means to invest in their own infrastructure and growth.

We will give two cents per litre of the existing provincial gasoline tax to municipalities for public transit. Fully implemented, this will generate an initial $312 million per year, an amount that will grow with the economy.

The federal government must also do its part to meet the needs of Ontario communities. We will demand that the federal government match our commitment on gas tax funding and invest directly in major infrastructure projects.

In keeping with their request, we will give municipalities the option to place up to a three percent visitors’ levy on hotel room bills. This will yield potential revenues of up to $75 million per year for promotion and development of tourism.

**Affordable housing**

We will get more Ontarians into affordable housing.

The Harris-Eves government abandoned families in need of affordable housing. In seven years, they have not built a single unit. They gutted rent controls, dumped responsibility for social housing onto municipalities who could not afford it and refused to participate in a joint federal-provincial housing program.

We believe that the provincial government has a responsibility to help provide affordable housing.
We will match federal support to create almost 20,000 new housing units for needy Ontario families.

We will give priority to the development of affordable housing on Ontario government-owned lands.

We will establish the Ontario Mortgage and Housing Partnership to provide competitive financing rates for non-profit, co-operative and commercial developers who want to build rental housing in Ontario.

**Options for Homes: An Ontario Success Story**

Mike Labbe is the creator and founder of Options for Homes, a private, non-profit company that makes home ownership affordable for moderate and low-income Ontarians. Labbe has built condominiums and town homes without the “frills”, such as saunas, pools, or model suites that can make the price of a home skyrocket.

Options for Homes has built over 460 units in sturdy, attractive buildings with the basic necessities that a family needs and has sold units to families with incomes as low as $16,000 – all without any government subsidy.

**Helping those most in need**

We will provide direct assistance to the families in greatest need of housing help through a housing allowance program.

The fastest and most efficient way to help families who need affordable housing the most is to provide a direct housing allowance payment. This will allow a needy family to keep their existing home at a cost they can afford or find suitable accommodation in the rental market.
The Harris-Eves government promised a housing allowance program in 1995. Ontario families are still waiting.

We will establish a housing allowance for low-income families, as recommended in the Golden Report. It will provide direct, immediate housing relief for 35,000 families.

**Rent control**

We will provide real protection for tenants.

We will introduce real protection for tenants from excessive rent increases.

In our first year of government, we will repeal the misnamed Tenant Protection Act and replace it with an effective tenant protection law. Our law will protect tenants by making unfair rent increases illegal and by encouraging the construction of more rental units to reduce upward pressure on rents.

We will ensure that municipalities with low vacancy rates have the right to protect existing rental housing from unreasonable demolition or conversion to condominiums.

Short-term arrears is the most common reason tenants lose their apartments and end up in shelters. Illness, loss of a job or a family emergency can result in a missed rent payment and an eviction notice.

We will establish a Provincial Rent Bank to help tenants with short-term arrears so that they can keep their homes.
More public transit

We will invest in public transit across the province.

Public transit reduces pollution, commuting times and gridlock. By allocating two cents of the existing provincial gas tax to municipalities, we will double the existing provincial investment in public transit.

Working with the federal government, we will make transit passes a non-taxable benefit, so people who receive passes from their employers will no longer have to pay taxes on this benefit.

Controlling development

We will ensure that all developers play by the rules.

The Ontario Municipal Board is supposed to ensure that developers follow provincial policies in areas such as greenlands preservation, rural protection and affordable housing.

Under the Harris-Eves government, the OMB consistently overruled democratically elected local officials, giving the go-ahead to projects that made sense only to the developers.

The Harris-Eves Record

- In the past five years, municipalities in the GTA spent more than $20 million fighting OMB decisions.
- The township of Uxbridge had to raise property taxes just to pay the legal fees it incurred while fighting a developer at the OMB.
We will give the OMB clear planning rules to ensure that it follows provincial policies. We will prevent developers from forcing unwanted municipal expansion and we will give municipalities more time to consider development applications.

**Protecting greenspace**

We will protect one million new acres of greenspace on the outskirts of our cities.

Families should not have to drive ever-increasing distances to experience the countryside. We will ensure that future generations have greenspace to enjoy close to our urban and suburban centres.

To permanently protect these lands from development, we will use a wide array of creative solutions, including tax credits, easements, land trusts, land swaps and new park designations. To this end, we will work closely with conservation authorities, nature organizations, farmers, municipalities and private landowners.

Over the course of 20 years, our plan will call for the accumulation of one million acres of protected greenspace and farmland.

**Long-term growth for the Golden Horseshoe**

The Golden Horseshoe, from Niagara Falls to Oshawa, grows by more than 115,000 people every year. Within 15 years, it will be the third-largest urban region in North America, after only New York and Los Angeles.

We will manage this growth in a way that encourages quality of life for all. That means
repairing the damage done by the Harris-Eves government and planning sensibly for the future.

**Managing growth**

*We will manage long-term growth in the Golden Horseshoe.*

We know the difference between well-managed growth and sprawl.

We will develop a long-term plan for managing growth responsibly in the Golden Horseshoe. It will take into account expected population growth and infrastructure needs, without developing areas that provide our food, water and recreation.

**Permanent greenbelt**

*We will protect the greenspace that surrounds our cities, forever.*

The lands most threatened in Ontario today are the lands right on the edge of the Golden Horseshoe’s developed areas. We will enhance our quality of life by containing sprawl and focusing growth inside a permanent GTA greenbelt.
This greenbelt will permanently protect more than 600,000 acres of environmentally sensitive land and farmland, from Niagara Falls to Lake Scugog.

We will start by giving real long-term protection to the Oak Ridges Moraine. The Eves government secretly approved a plan to build 6,600 new homes on one of the most sensitive spots on the Moraine in Richmond Hill. We will stop their construction.

We will establish an independent Greenbelt Commission that will be given authority over the Moraine, as well as responsibility for developing a Greenbelt protection plan.
We will build a GTA Greenbelt by linking the lands already protected on the Niagara Escarpment and Oak Ridges Moraine and add important new areas, such as the Dufferin-Rouge Agricultural Preserve, a Bronte Provincial Park-Escarpment corridor and two-thirds of the provincially-owned Seaton Lands.

Pending a final decision on the lands to be protected, we will place a moratorium on zoning changes from rural to urban on all lands within the Greenbelt areas.

Beyond the GTA, other key areas in the Golden Horseshoe will be designated for similar protection. The first of these reserves will be a new Niagara Tender Fruit Lands Agriculture Preserve to enhance the wine, fruit and tourism industries of this area.

**No to sprawl**

We will manage growth by encouraging good development and discouraging sprawl.

The Harris-Eves government subsidized sprawl. It gave the green light to developments communities did not always want, frequently could not sustain and often regreted.

If development continues at the rate sanctioned by the Harris-Eves government, an area twice the size of Toronto will be paved within the next 30 years.

We will build only where it makes sense to build, and we will stop subsidizing sprawl.
We will provide infrastructure funding to priority growth areas like our city centres and urban nodes, rather than new sprawl developments. In other areas, we will make sure developers absorb their fair share of the costs of new growth.

Instead of subsidizing sprawl, we will develop our brownfields – thousands of acres of vacant industrial lots and derelict port lands in city centres. We will work with developers to get projects on these priority sites off the drawing board and into construction.

We will change the Land Transfer Tax Rebate Program to encourage people to buy homes in priority growth areas. All purchasers of newly-built homes will be eligible where the homes are part of urban or suburban intensification.

**Breaking gridlock**

We will ease gridlock with a seamless transportation network across the GTA.

Anyone who has driven in the GTA knows the region has a serious gridlock problem. Hours spent on the road keep families apart and slow down our just-in-time economy.

Easing gridlock will require region-wide transportation planning that balances investment in public transit, roads and rail.

*Toronto is already 40 percent paved. Los Angeles, with the worst traffic in the U.S, is 60 percent paved.*

We will bring a region-wide approach to identifying and meeting GTA transit needs, by creating the Greater Toronto Transportation Authority (GTTA).
The Harris-Eves Record

- The Harris-Eves government eliminated all provincial support for public transit in 1998.
- A study by York region found that over the past five years, commuting times have increased by 50-60%.
- Without major changes, by 2011, a trip from downtown Toronto to the edge of the city will take an estimated 70 minutes.
- Gridlock costs the GTA two billion dollars per year in lost productivity.

The new GTTA will be given the clout and resources to tackle gridlock and ensure free movement of people and goods in a rapidly-growing region.

The GTTA will be given the mandate to move on immediate priorities, including establishing within 18 months a seamless, integrated ticket system to allow users to move easily across the region using a single ticket.

The GTAA’s first priority will be to repair the damage from years of neglect by the Harris-Eves government: more GO trains on existing lines, expanded GO parking, new vehicles for the TTC and the removal of highway bottlenecks.
The right roads

We will build the right roads to the right places.

Easing gridlock requires highway improvement and highway expansion as well as major transit support. But building the wrong roads can actually make the problems of gridlock and sprawl worse.

The GTAA will review road and highway expenditure plans to ensure that they aid the goals of well-managed growth and the efficient movement of goods and people.

Lessons from Portland

In the 1970’s, community leaders in Portland, Oregon, decided to take action on urban sprawl and gridlock by promoting public transit and sensible growth management. Today, Portland is a model of smart development and community liveability. For example:

- Portland’s population has grown by 50% since 1973, but the city’s land area has only increased by 2%.
- Portland’s air quality has consistently improved over the past nine years, dropping from 11 bad air days in 1990 to only two in 1999.
- Portland’s transit ridership increased 51% between 1990 and 1999. It is one of only two regions in the U.S. where transit growth outpaced growth in vehicle miles driven.
safe communities

In seven years, the Harris-Eves government’s main contribution to fighting crime has been making the world safe from squeegee kids. We know there are more serious problems that need our attention. Ontario families have the right to feel safe; they have the right to BE safe. That means supporting our police, fire fighters, prosecutors and those who administer our justice and corrections systems.

Getting tough on crime

More police on the street

We will put 1,000 more cops on the street.

The number of police officers per capita in Ontario has dropped more than eight percent in the past 10 years. We need more police officers to keep our communities safe. Over the next four years, we will put 1,000 new police officers on the street, specifically for community policing.

Better intelligence

We will give additional resources to Ontario’s police intelligence services.

The number of dangerous biker gangs in Ontario is increasing, the illegal drug industry is thriving and threats to our communities from organized crime and street gangs are growing.
Our police forces need the resources to track organized crime activities and keep communities safe. We will provide additional support for police intelligence services to ensure that our various police forces can work together to protect all Ontarians.

**Halting hate crimes**

We will expand the number of hate crime units in the province.

Since 1996, there has been a 93 percent increase in the number of hate crimes in Ontario. We will stand up for all Ontarians, and we will not tolerate hate crimes.

We will provide support for dedicated hate crime units across the province.

**More prosecutors**

We will put more prosecutors in our courts.

Catching criminals will do little good if we cannot prosecute them. Huge courtroom backlogs delay and sometimes deny justice.

We will hire 50 new prosecutors to focus on the most serious cases.

**Firm but fair**

We will take a firm but fair approach with young offenders.

Letting young offenders off lightly only encourages more crime down the road. Treating them as if they are hardened adult criminals, without any attempt at guidance and rehabilitation, has the same result.
We will exercise Ontario’s right under the Criminal Code to transfer dangerous young offenders to adult court and we will demand that the federal government identify dangerous young offenders who pose a threat to their communities.

We will find community-based punishment alternatives to prison for first-time young offenders charged with minor offences.

**Parole and probation officers**

We will hire 100 new parole/probation officers to help protect the public.

The national average caseload for parole and probation officers is one officer for every 70 offenders. In Ontario today, officers handle an average of 121 offenders.

This overwhelming caseload is putting the public at risk. We will hire an additional 100 officers to reduce caseloads and better protect Ontarians.

**Cyberproofing our kids**

We will protect our kids against the dangers of Internet stalkers.

Police tell us that pedophiles and other criminals increasingly use the Internet to prey on children.
The Internet is an essential educational tool for children. But too many are not aware of its risks. Of Canadian children who regularly visit Internet chat rooms, 23 percent subsequently meet with strangers after contacting them on-line.

Protecting Kids: An Ontario Success Story
The Peel Regional Internet Safety Committee is working hard to protect kids in the community from Internet stalkers. A program called “Cyberproofed?” is being taught by teachers and police officers to all Peel Region students between grades three and 10. That is more than 100,000 kids being taught how to stay safe on the Internet.

We will ensure that Ontario children are educated in Internet safety.

Giving victims real rights
Rights for victims
We will give real legal rights to victims of crime.

The Harris-Eves government failed victims of crime by refusing to give them statutory rights. We will pass strong Victims’ Rights Legislation that ensures victims have access to information and services. We will also make it easier for victims of crime to attend court by making it their legal right to get time off work to do so.
Confronting domestic violence

We will protect victims of domestic violence.

Domestic violence is on the rise in Ontario. The number of Ontario women killed by their partners is increasing. There is not enough second-stage housing where women and their children can be safe from their abusers. Abusive partners make bail too easily, allowing them to re-offend.

The Harris-Eves government has done very little about any of this.

We will do more to protect women and children who are threatened by domestic violence. We will increase support for second-stage housing, giving women a safe place where they can receive support and counseling.

We will work to amend the Criminal Code of Canada to make it more difficult for those arrested for domestic violence to make bail. We will ensure that police conduct risk assessments of accused abusers on their first charge.

The Harris-Eves Record

• Approximately 40 women are killed by their partners in Ontario every year.
• The Harris-Eves government eliminated funding for counseling and support programs in second-stage housing.
• At one shelter alone, more than 1,000 women and children were turned away in 2000.
We will direct all Crown attorneys to review risk assessments before bail hearings and demand that monitoring devices be used in appropriate cases. We will strongly oppose further release of accused abusers who violate bail conditions.

**Cracking down on deadbeats**

We will crack down on deadbeat parents and make them pay up.

Withholding family support payments is a serious crime. It makes the lives of single parents even tougher, and it hurts our kids. We will not watch children suffer while deadbeat parents shirk their responsibilities.

**Deadbeat parents in Ontario owe more than $1 billion to their partners and children.**

We will use innovative new techniques, such as Internet tracking, to find deadbeats and recover the money they owe.

We will pursue aggressive enforcement measures such as suspending driver’s licenses for anyone missing two or more support payments.

**Tracking Down Deadbeats**

Alberta has enjoyed remarkable success in a pilot project using the Internet to track down deadbeat parents. Of the delinquent fathers and mothers whose names and pictures were posted on the website, 63% were found. They represented more than $1 million in child maintenance payments.
Countering sexual assault

We will help protect women from sexual assault.

We will increase support to sexual assault networks for awareness programs and campaigns related to new threats like date rape drugs.

We will also help sexual assault centres, hospitals and family doctors provide date rape drug testing to women who have been assaulted. Better access to these tests will encourage more women to report assault to the police.

Supporting our fire fighters

Fire safety

We will equip our fire fighters with new safety technology.

Often the first to respond to an emergency, Ontario’s fire fighters have a vital and dangerous job. We need to be sure that our fire services are equipped to keep the public, and themselves, as safe as possible when responding to fire calls.

We will help our fire services purchase state-of-the-art thermal imaging equipment. This technology permits firefighters to locate victims in smoke and darkness within seconds.

We will give Ontario citizens, including our police and fire fighters, the right to know what hazardous materials are stored in their communities.

These investments will save lives.
you have a choice

A choice between five more years of a government that fails Ontario communities or a government that builds clean, safe communities that work.

Between a government that turns its back on the environment or one that will stand up for clean air and protect our water.

Between a government that creates sprawl and gridlock or a government that puts communities first.

Between a government that talks tough on crime or one that does something about it.

Choose leadership that works for you... for a change.

Choose Dalton McGuinty and the Ontario Liberals.