

A portrait of Andrea Horwath, a woman with short, light brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a dark blue blazer over a dark blue collared shirt, a pearl necklace, and a watch on her left wrist. Her hands are clasped in front of her. In the background, the Canadian flag and the Ontario flag are visible.

*Andrea Horwath's*

**Plan that  
Makes Sense**

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Friends,

I grew up in Hamilton, a simpler place where making good on promises matters. My leadership has always been about ideas that make sense for you and delivering results.

Today, families are being squeezed right out of the middle class as the cost of living rises and good jobs disappear.

Today's families face many challenges, but know this: New Democrats have a plan that will put Ontario back on track.

We can create jobs by rewarding job creators and small businesses. We can make life more affordable by reducing your hydro bills and saving you money on auto insurance. We can end the scandals and waste of public dollars. We can invest in your priorities, starting with healthcare and education.

It's time for change. Let's get the job done.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Andrea Horwath". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

# 1

## Respect your tax dollars and invest responsibly

*People are tired of Liberal waste, scandal, and mismanagement. We will protect your tax dollars.*

### **Save \$600 million with a Minister of Savings and Accountability**

This will be achieved by implementing measures such as:

- Shrinking Ministers' office budgets and cutting the size of cabinet by a third;
- Consolidating agencies that overlap; and
- Capping the salaries of public-sector CEOs.

### **Stop corporate tax giveaways and close tax loopholes**

- New Democrats will implement a modest increase in the general corporate tax rate from 11.5% to 12.5% and halt the phase-out of the HST Input Tax Credit Restrictions slated to occur between 2015 and 2018.
- We will increase compliance, crack down on the underground economy, and enhance auditing and collection measures.

### **Toughen up rules on government partisan advertising**

- New Democrats will ensure that all provincial government advertising – including online advertising – is vetted by the Auditor General.

### **Appoint a Financial Accountability Office to stop waste before it happens**

- Kathleen Wynne's Liberal government promised to get the Financial Accountability Office up and running by the end of 2013, but the office is still empty.
- New Democrats will immediately move to fill the Financial Accountability Officer position.
- Clean up the mess in Ontario's hydro system and pass the savings on to consumers.

### **We will reduce hydro costs by:**

- Merging four of Ontario's hydro agencies;
- Capping hydro CEO salaries; and
- Getting a better price for electricity exports through direct trading.

### **Balance Ontario's Books by 2017-18**

- We will balance Ontario's books by 2017-18 with significantly more fiscal space than the Liberal plan.
- Our plan will provide an additional fiscal cushion of over \$700 million annually.

# 2

## Reward job creators and get Ontario moving again

*Liberals believe job losses are a “myth,” and Ontario lost 300,000 manufacturing jobs on their watch.*

*We will create jobs by supporting small businesses and local companies.*

### **Reward businesses that create jobs with a Job Creation Tax Credit**

- Credit will be equal to 10% of an employee’s salary to a maximum value of \$5,000.
- Our tax credit will help create up to 170,000 jobs.

### **Cut the Small Business Tax Gradually to 3%**

- We will reduce the Small Business Tax Rate from 4.5% to 3% by 2016.
- This will provide small business owners with over \$90 million in tax relief annually.

### **Attract manufacturing jobs by providing incentives for upgrades and expansions**

- Our plan will reward companies that invest in buildings, machinery, and equipment in Ontario with an Investment Tax Credit.

### **Bring better public transit to cities and towns across Ontario**

- We will create a dedicated fund of \$29 billion over 10 years for transit and transportation projects across the province, and begin flowing funds immediately.

### **Prioritize high impact transit projects**

- We will boost transit investment by \$250 million annually to kick start priority transit projects.
- We are focused on prioritizing the Downtown Relief Line, Scarborough transit, Clean Trains Now on the air-rail link, all-day two-way GO train service to Kitchener-Waterloo, and year-round daily GO train service to St. Catharines and Niagara Falls.

### **Commit to widen 60 km of highways across Ontario every year**

- A long-term commitment to transportation infrastructure to widen 60 km of highways across Ontario every year, at least half of which will be in the north.
- We will restore passenger service on Ontario Northland Rail and deliver 200 more snowplows and trucks to improve winter road safety.

### **Create jobs by investing in Ring of Fire infrastructure and promote revenue-sharing with First Nations**

- We will begin investing in infrastructure for the Ring of Fire without delay, and work with First Nations communities to support revenue-sharing and training opportunities.
- We are committed to ensuring that Ontario benefits from value-added processing jobs.

### **Invest in re-training programs for workers over the age of 55**

- Our plan tops up a federal-provincial cost-shared program that helps unemployed workers aged 55 to 64, to enhance programs and services that increase older workers’ ability to find employment.

### **Start an emerging industries fund**

- We will establish an emerging industries fund to support jobs and growth in Ontario’s high-tech and creative sectors (including film, television, digital, gaming, music, and publishing), putting them in a better position to hire local talent and compete globally.

# 3

## Take HST off hydro and make life more affordable

*Liberals are squeezing people out of the middle class by making everything more expensive.*

*We will give families a break for a change by taking the HST off hydro.*

### Take the HST off home hydro bills

- At the start of 2016, we will remove the provincial portion of HST from home hydro bills, saving families approximately \$120 a year.
- We will also repeal the debt retirement charge, worth \$70 per family per year, meaning that the total savings we are offering to families is nearly \$200 annually.

### Reduce auto insurance by 15%

- A year after the Liberals agreed to a 15% rate reduction, few Ontario drivers have seen any cost decrease at all.
- We will make reductions effective immediately upon renewing policies, make transparent rate-setting permanent, and allow consumers to have a voice in the rate-setting process.

### Help families install solar panels and make energy efficient retrofits

- This revolving fund would provide homeowners with loans for energy efficient retrofits and the installation of solar panels, which are paid back through energy savings – helping families consume less energy, save money, and help the environment.

### Invest in safe and affordable childcare spaces

- We will provide critical relief funding to help childcare providers and parents in our first year in government.
- Our plan will also provide ongoing funding to prevent the closure of childcare centres in 18 communities.

### Freeze post-secondary tuition and make student loans interest-free

- Undergraduate tuition fees will be frozen at 2014 levels.
- Provincial student loans will be made interest-free.

### Prevent unfair price increases for natural gas consumers

- We would give the Ontario Energy Board enhanced powers to take exceptional impacts on consumers into consideration when evaluating proposed rate increases.

# 4

## Cut ER wait times in half and make healthcare a priority

*Liberals mismanaged our healthcare system by wasting money on eHealth and ORNGE.*

*New Democrats will invest our healthcare dollars on frontline service and end long waits.*

### **Open new 24-hour Family Health Clinics**

- 50 new family health clinics will be built across the province with the capacity to serve at least 250,000 people, cutting the number of Ontarians without access to primary care by 25%.
- Family Health Clinics will give patients an alternative to ERs for after-hours medical needs.

### **Hire more nurse practitioners to treat and discharge patients in ERs**

- New Democrats will hire 250 nurse practitioners to get ER patients treated and discharged more quickly, opening up more spaces for those with urgent or complex needs.
- St. Michael's Hospital has already introduced a program using nurse practitioners that has cut ER wait times in half.

### **Eliminate the waitlist for acute long-term care beds**

- Our investment will create 1,400 additional long-term care beds, which will eliminate the entire "crisis" wait list.
- This will relieve considerable pressure from hospitals and in-patient beds, allowing for faster transfer from the ER for those who require hospitalization.

### **Eliminate wait times for seniors with a Five Day Home Care guarantee**

- We will eliminate the list of 3,300 Ontarians waiting for personal support worker care. These clients will receive approximately two nursing visits and 7.5 hours of personal support per month.

- Our plan also eliminates the wait list of 2,800 Ontarians waiting for other non-nursing care such as physiotherapists, social workers, etc.

### **Support families caring for the ill or elderly with a Caregiver Tax Credit**

- Anyone who is a primary caregiver for someone needing help with basic functions like bathing, meal preparation, and receiving medical care will receive a credit of \$1,275 per year.
- This credit is fully refundable and is in addition to supports available through other programs.

### **Attract doctors to underserved communities by forgiving student debt**

- Our plan will attract doctors to underserved areas with a program to forgive student debt incurred in medical school.
- This will help bring as many as 250 new physicians to rural communities by forgiving up to \$20,000 of debt per year of service.

# 5

## Keep schools open and foster healthy communities

*Liberals are closing schools and cutting programs vital to the health of our children.*

*New Democrats will keep schools open.*

### **Bring back physical education teachers and keep children healthy and active**

- We will invest in health and physical education initiatives, including hiring up to 1,000 new health and physical education teachers by the end of our mandate.

### **Create an “Open Schools” fund to prevent school closures and extend after-hour programs**

- Schools boards will be able to apply for funding to help keep schools threatened with closure open, make necessary renovations, and to repurpose under-utilized space for other community uses.
- Schools can also apply to the fund to increase free and low-fee access for non-profit groups to use school space during evenings and weekends.

### **Launch a Student Achievement Program to help students succeed**

- An NDP government will invest in student achievement by hiring up to 1,000 more Educational Assistants so that all kids can get the help they need to succeed in the classroom.

### **Invest in student nutrition programs so children begin with a healthy start**

- Our plan invests an additional \$15 million per year in student nutrition and local food initiatives, to promote healthy eating and provide nutritious breakfasts and lunches.

### **Expand dental benefits for children from low-income households**

- We will ensure that more low-income children have access to dental care.
- With our financial commitment, coverage will be expanded to 100,000 low-income children.

### **Protect tenants by enforcing building standards and maintenance rules**

- An NDP government will help municipalities enforce inspections to ensure landlords respect their commitments to tenants.

### **Get new and replacement buses on the road in cities and towns**

- This will provide support for up to 127 municipalities across Ontario for the purchase of new and replacement buses.

### **Help communities create bike networks and make roads safer for everyone**

- Our plan makes important investments to help communities build bike lanes, expand cycling infrastructure networks, and support complete street design.

### **Conduct an Environmental Assessment of pipeline projects that impact our communities**

- We will commit \$2 million annually to ensure proper community consultation and environmental protection through provincial Environmental Assessments of pipeline projects that impact Ontario communities.

**New Democrat Fiscal Framework (\$ millions)**

<b>New Revenues &amp; Savings</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>
Appoint a Minister of Savings and Accountability	300	600	600	600
Set the general CIT rate at 12.5%	680	700	730	760
Prevent the phase-out of the Input Tax Credit Restrictions	0	150	370	600
Implement revenue integrity measures	230	485	650	800
Extend the ban on partisan advertising and reduce general ad spending	6	6	6	6
Limit the use of consultants	150	150	160	160
Appoint a Financial Accountability Officer	-	-	-	-
Rationalize business investment funds	250	250	250	250
Repurpose Budget 2014 funding for more effective jobs programs	250	250	250	250
Repurpose Budget 2014 funds for health and education	715	650	655	280
<b>Total New Revenues &amp; Savings</b>	<b>2,581</b>	<b>3,241</b>	<b>3,671</b>	<b>3,706</b>

<b>New Investment</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>
Create a Job Creation Tax Credit	250	250	0	0
Reduce the tax rate on small business to 3%	90	180	280	290
Create a Manufacturing Investment Tax Credit	250	250	0	0
Prioritize key transit projects	250	250	250	250
Purchase 200 additional snowplows and sand trucks	40	0	0	0
Restore passenger service on Ontario Northland Rail	20	20	20	20
Widen a 60k stretch of highway each year	250	250	250	250
Ring of Fire	-	-	-	-
Increase funding for re-training workers over the age of 55	0	25	25	25
Start an Emerging Industries Fund	0	75	75	75
Take the HST off of hydro	0	180	775	815
Reduce auto-insurance rates by 15%	-	-	-	-
Create a revolving fund for energy efficient home retrofits	50	50	60	60
Funding to maintain childcare spaces and link funding to inflation	100	20	60	80
Freeze tuition fees and eliminate interest on student loans	0	90	175	270
Prevent unfair price increases for natural gas consumers	-	-	-	-
Open new 24-hour family health clinics	75	75	75	75
Hire more nurse practitioners to treat and discharge patients in the ER	30	30	30	30
Eliminate the waitlist for acute long-term care beds	70	70	80	80
Eliminate wait times for seniors with a 5-day home care guarantee	30	30	30	30
Support families caring for the ill or elderly with a Caregiver Tax Credit	0	230	240	250
Attract doctors to underserved communities by forgiving student debt	0	5	5	5
Bring back dedicated physical education instructors	0	20	35	45
Create an Open Schools Fund	0	60	60	80
Provide additional capital funding for the education sector	200	150	100	0
Launch a Student Achievement Program	0	0	35	35
Invest in student nutrition programs	15	15	15	15
Expand dental benefits for children from low-income families	15	15	15	15
Expand protections for tenants	2	2	2	2
Restore the Ontario Bus Replacement Program	60	60	60	60
Help communities create bike networks and make roads safer for everyone	5	5	5	5
Conduct environmental assessments of pipeline projects	2	2	2	2
<b>Total New Investments</b>	<b>1,804</b>	<b>2,409</b>	<b>2,759</b>	<b>2,864</b>

<b>Summary</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>
Total New Revenue & Savings	2,581	3,241	3,671	3,706
Total New Investments	1,804	2,409	2,759	2,864
<b>Contingency</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>842</b>



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government that makes sense.

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