

Results-based Plan Briefing Book 2006-07

Democratic Renewal Secretariat

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PART I: Published Results-based Plan 2006/07

Ministry Vision and Responsibilities

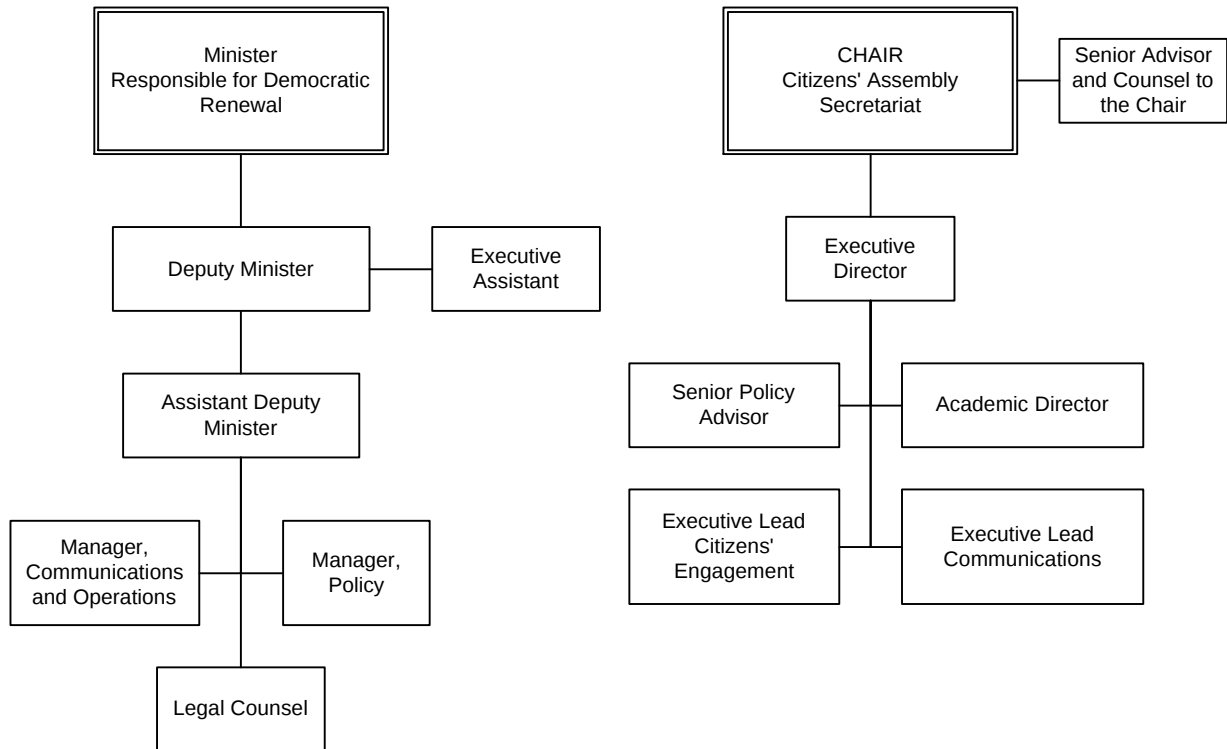
The Democratic Renewal Secretariat (DRS) was created to reform and revitalize the democratic institutions of the province, and create new opportunities for citizen participation.

The Democratic Renewal Secretariat supports the Minister Responsible for Democratic Renewal. It is responsible for policy development, coordination and implementation of initiatives in support of democratic renewal.

DRS delivers strategies and related activities to support the government's commitment to engaging citizens in improving the quality of our democracy, modernizing our political institutions, and enhancing public confidence and trust in government.

DRS also supports other ministries in the development of legislative reforms and initiatives aimed at renewing Ontario's democracy.

Ministry Organization Chart





Legislation

The Minister Responsible for Democratic Renewal is responsible for the *Election Finances Act*, the *Legislative Assembly Act*, the *Representation Act, 2005* and the *Election Act*.

The Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform, created by O.Reg 82/06 under the *Election Act*, will present its report and recommendations to the Minister Responsible for Democratic Renewal on or before May 15, 2007.

In addition, the Hon. Dr. Marie Bountrogianni, the Minister Responsible for Democratic Renewal, introduced for first reading on February 16, 2006, Bill 62, *An Act to amend the Election Finances Act and the Legislative Assembly Act*, which would amend Ontario's party registration rules.

Agencies, Boards, Commissions

No agencies, boards or commissions report to the Democratic Renewal Secretariat.



PUBLISHED RESULTS-BASED PLAN 2006/07

Stronger Democracy in 2006-2007

“Stronger Democracy” is a priority for the government, and the Democratic Renewal Secretariat (DRS) has taken the lead. In 2006-2007 the Minister will deliver on several government commitments described below.

Key Strategy: Political Finance Reform

The government will consider changes in how political parties and election campaigns are financed. Supported by new rules requiring real-time disclosure of political contributions, changes will aim to reduce the influence of money in politics.

Any proposed changes would complement the reforms begun in February 2006 with Bill 62, which would make it easier to register new political parties in Ontario, creating new opportunities for Ontarians to participate in the electoral process and encouraging better representation of the full diversity of voices across the province.

Key Initiatives for 2006-2007

- Engage the public and stakeholders on changes in how provincial political parties and election campaigns are financed,
- Introduce legislation regarding political finance.

Key Strategy: Citizens' Assembly

An independent Citizens' Assembly will assess Ontario's current electoral system and others, and recommend whether Ontario should keep the current system or adopt a new one.

If the Assembly recommends a change, the government will hold a referendum on that proposed change within its current mandate. The Minister will introduce legislation in 2006-07 to enable a potential referendum.

For the first time, citizens will participate in a full, open debate on which electoral system best serves Ontario.

Key Initiatives for 2006-2007

- Assemble a Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform,
- Introduce draft referendum legislation.



Key Strategy: Modernizing Elections

DRS will develop initiatives to improve how elections work and target an increase in voter turnout of ten per cent.

Key Initiative for 2006-2007

- Develop initiatives to improve how elections work and target an increase in voter turnout of ten per cent.

Performance Measures

In 2006-2007, DRS will:

- Assemble a Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform,
- Introduce legislation to enable a provincewide referendum if the Citizens' Assembly recommends a change to the current electoral system,
- Introduce legislation regarding political finance,
- Develop initiatives to improve how elections work and target an increase in voter turnout of ten per cent.



MINISTRY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Table 1:

Table 1: Ministry Planned Expenditures 2006/07

	Ministry Planned Expenditures (\$M) 2006/07
Operating	9,606,894
Capital	

Table 2:

Table 2: Ministry Planned Expenditures by Program Name 2006/07

Program Name	Ministry Planned Expenditures (\$M)
Democratic Renewal Secretariat	3,606,894
Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform	6,000,000

PART II: 2006/07 DETAILED FINANCIALS

VOTE INFORMATION

Combined Operating and Capital

DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SECRETARIAT
Table 1: Operating and Capital Summary by Vote

The Democratic Renewal Secretariat delivers strategies and related activities to support the government's commitment to engaging citizens in improving the quality of our democracy, modernizing our political institutions, and enhancing public confidence and trust in government.

Votes/Programs	Estimates 2006-07 \$	Change from Estimates 2005-06 \$	Change %	Estimates 2005-06 \$	Interim Actuals 2005-06 \$	Actuals 2004-05 \$
OPERATING AND CAPITAL						
Vote A	3,594,200	(338,200)	(8.6)	3,932,400	2,243,437	2,338,708
Vote B	6,000,000	6,000,000	100.0	--	--	--
Total Including Special Warrants	9,594,200	5,661,800	143.98	3,932,400	2,243,437	2,338,708
Less: Special Warrants	--	--		--	--	--
Total to be voted	9,594,200	5,661,800		3,932,400		2,338,708
Special Warrants	--	--		--	--	--
Statutory Appropriations	12,694	505	4.14	12,189	12,421	12,189
Ministry Total Operating and Capital	9,606,894	5,662,305	143.55	3,944,589	2,255,858	2,305,897

Operating Summary

DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SECRETARIAT
Table 2: Operating Summary by Vote

Vote	Estimates 2006-07 \$	Change From Estimates 2005-06 \$ %	Estimates 2005-06 \$	Interim Actuals 2005-06 \$	Actuals 2004-05 \$
OPERATING					
Vote A	3,594,200	(338,200) (8.6)	3,932,400	2,255,858	2,338,708
Vote B	6,000,000	6,000,000 100	--	--	--
Total Including Special Warrants	9,594,200	5,661,800 143.98	3,932,400	2,255,858	2,238,708
Less: Special Warrants	--	--	--	--	--
Total Operating To Be Voted	9,594,200	5,661,800 143.98	3,932,400		2,238,708
Special Warrants	--	-- --	--	--	--
Statutory Appropriations	12,694	505 4.14	12,189		12,189
Ministry Total Operating	9,606,894	5,662,305 143.55	3,944,589	2,255,858	2,350,897

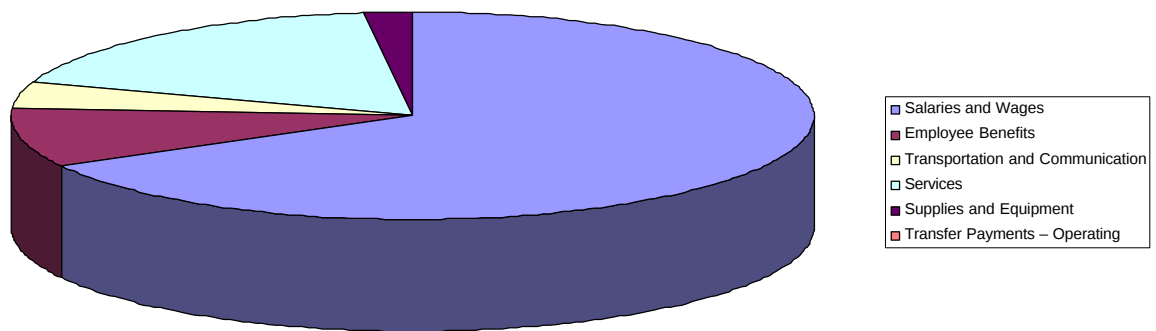
Table 3: Operating Summary by Vote and Standard Account

**DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SECRETARIAT
2006-07 ESTIMATES**

Table 3: Operating Summary by Vote and Standard Account

Standard Account	Vote # Vote A (Democratic Renewal Secretariat)	Vote # Vote B (Statutory Appropriations)	Vote # Vote C (Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform)	Total Ministry	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	%
OPERATING					
Salaries and Wages	2,404,600	12,694	1,400,000	3,817,294	40
Employee Benefits	333,600	--	185,500	519,100	5
Transportation and Communications	143,900	--	1,000,000	1,143,900	12
Services	642,500	--	3,000,000	3,642,500	38
Supplies and Equipment	68,600	--	414,500	483,100	5
Transfer Payments	--	--	--	--	
Other Transactions	1,000	--	--	1,000	
Recoveries	--	--	--	--	
TOTAL	3,594,200	12,694	6,000,000	9,606,894	
PERCENT OF TOTAL MINISTRY	37.41	0.13	62.46		
ASSETS					
Deposit and Prepaid Expenses	--	--	--	--	
Advances and Recoverable Amounts	--	--	--	--	
Loans and Investments	--	--	--	--	
Recoveries	--	--	--	--	
TOTAL	3,594,200	12,694	6,000,000	9,606,894	
PERCENT OF TOTAL MINISTRY	37.41	0.13	62.46		

2006-07 Item 01



2006-07 Item 02

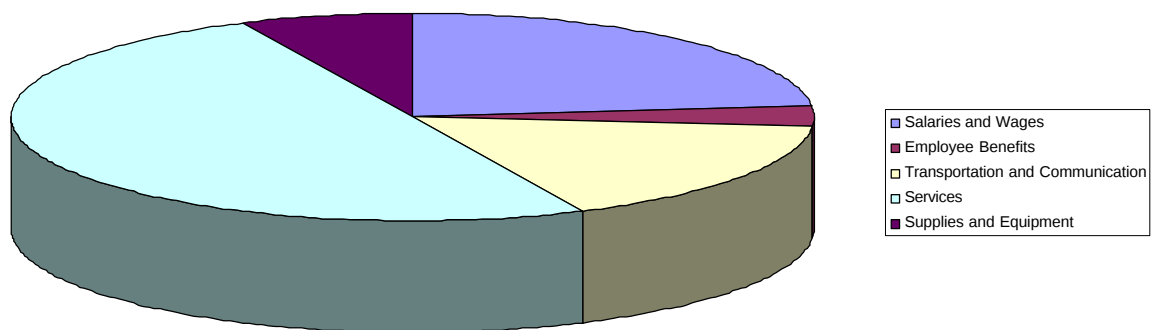


TABLE 4: ITEM/SUB-ITEM INFORMATION

VOTE/ITEM:	4101-1
VOTE:	Democratic Renewal Secretariat
ITEM:	Democratic Renewal Secretariat
TYPE:	Operating

ITEM/SUB-ITEM DESCRIPTION

The Democratic Renewal Secretariat delivers strategies and related activities to support the government's commitment to engaging citizens in improving the quality of our democracy, modernizing our political institutions, and enhancing public confidence and trust in government.

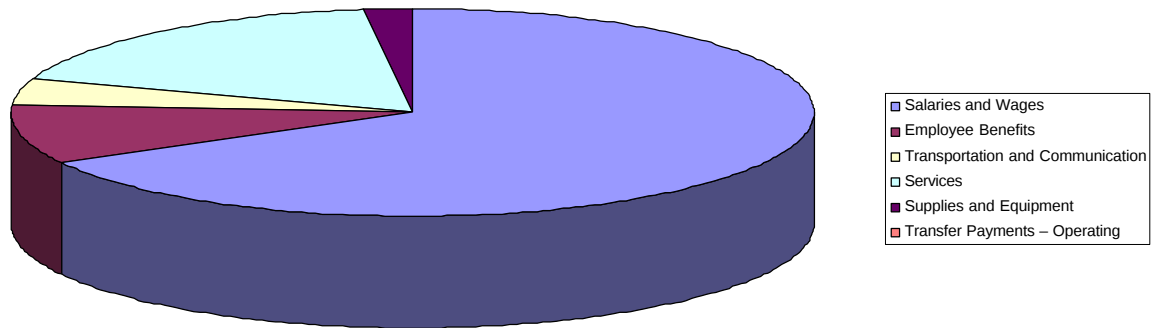
**TABLE 5: COMPARATIVE DETAILS****VOTE/ITEM: 4101 - 01****VOTE: Democratic Renewal Secretariat****ITEM: Democratic Renewal Secretariat****TYPE: Operating Expense**

Standard Account	Estimates 2006-07 \$	Change from 2005-06 Estimates \$	%	Estimates 2005-06 \$	Interim Actuals 2005-06 \$	2004-05 Actuals \$
Salaries and Wages	2,404,600	327,400	15.76	2,077,200	1,730,040	1,741,459
Employee Benefits	333,600	47,200	16.48	286,400	177,841	171,995
Transportation and Communication	143,900	--	--	143,900	59,399	127,714
Services	642,500	(742,800)	53.62	1,385,300	190,038	237,696
Supplies and Equipment	68,600	30,000	77.72	38,600	98,550	72,033
Transfer Payments – Operating	1,000	--	--	1,000	--	--
Other Transactions	12,694	505	4.14	12,189	(10)	--
Recoveries from other Ministries	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total	3,606,894	(337,695)		3,944,589	2,255,858	2,350,897

EXPLANATIONS FOR CHANGE FROM 2005-06 ESTIMATES

Decrease in the Services standard account as well as reallocation of internal operating expenses.

2006-07 Item 01



**TABLE 6: ITEM/SUB-ITEM VOTE CHANGES/INITIATIVES**

VOTE/ITEM:	4101 - 02
VOTE:	Democratic Renewal Secretariat
ITEM:	Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform
TYPE:	Operating Expenses

VOTE CHANGES/INITIATIVES:

New vote direction for the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform. An independent Citizens' Assembly will assess Ontario's current electoral system and others, and recommend whether Ontario should keep the current system or adopt a new one. If the Assembly recommends a change, the government will hold a referendum on that proposed change within its current mandate.

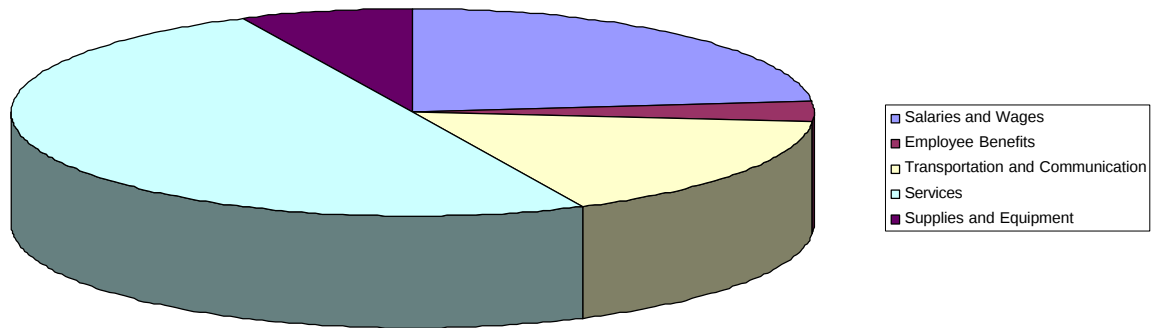
The Citizens' Assembly is a deliberative body, made up of ordinary citizens, empowered to examine Ontario's electoral system. The Assembly will work under the direction of a Chair, who will be independent of the government.

The Citizens' Assembly will control its own budget within the envelope established by the government. Dedicated staff selected by the Chair will provide policy, communications and administrative support.

The Assembly process will likely have several phases, including a learning phase for Assembly members, a public hearing phase to listen to the views of other Ontarians, and a deliberation phase where members will discuss and decide on their preferred electoral system. The Assembly will issue a final report in 2007.

Standard Account	Estimates 2006-07 \$	Change from 2005-06 Estimates \$	%	Estimates 2005-06 \$	Interim Actuals 2005-06 \$	2004-05 Actuals \$
Salaries and Wages	1,400,000	1,400,000	100	--	--	--
Employee Benefits	185,500	185,500	100	--	--	--
Transportation and Communication	1,000,000	1,000,000	100	--	--	--
Services	3,000,000	3,000,000	100	--	--	--
Supplies and Equipment	414,500	414,500	100	--	--	--
Transfer Payments – Operating	--	--		--	--	--
Other Transactions	--	--		--	--	--
Recoveries from other Ministries	--	--		--	--	--
Total	6,000,000	6,000,000	100	--	--	--

2006-07 Item 02



APPENDIX I:

PUBLISHED RESULTS-BASED PLAN 2005/06 AND ANNUAL REPORT 2004/05

2005/06 Published Results-based Plan

Stronger Democracy in 2005-2006

The business of the Democratic Renewal Secretariat (DRS) is focused on the government's priority "More active citizens contributing to a stronger democracy." To accomplish this goal in 2005-2006, DRS will deliver election reform, institutional reform and citizen engagement.

Key Strategy: Citizens' Assembly

An independent Citizens' Assembly will assess Ontario's current electoral system and others, and recommend whether Ontario should keep the current system or adopt a new one.

If the Assembly recommends a change, the government will hold a referendum on that proposed change within its current mandate.

For the first time, citizens will participate in a full, open debate on which electoral system best serves Ontario.

Key Initiatives for 2005-2006

- Move forward on giving Elections Ontario the ability to select volunteers to sit on the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform,
- Establish a Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform.

Key Strategy: Institutional Reform

Reforming our political institutions can enhance public trust and increase the opportunities for Ontarians to have their voices heard and hold their elected representatives accountable.



Key Initiatives for 2005-2006

- Establish fixed election dates to de-politicize the timing of provincial elections,
- Preserve 11 northern ridings and increase the number of southern ridings from 92 to 96 to secure strong representation for all Ontarians in the legislature,
- Move forward on real-time disclosure legislation, requiring political parties and leadership campaigns to report contributions to the Chief Election Officer. The Chief Election Officer will then post details of the contribution on the internet.

Key Strategy: Citizen Engagement

The Democratic Renewal Secretariat will work to encourage citizens' participation in the democratic process.

Key Initiatives for 2005-2006

- Maintain an effective on-line presence to facilitate awareness of the government's democratic renewal activities,
- Work with other ministries to foster better citizen engagement policies and practices.

Table 1: Ministry Planned Expenditures 2005/06

	Ministry Planned Expenditures (\$M) 2005/06
Operating	3,944,589
Capital	--

Table 2: Ministry Planned Expenditures by Program Name 2005/06

Program Name	Ministry Planned Expenditures (\$M)
Democratic Renewal Secretariat	3,944,589



2004/05 Annual Report

Democratic Renewal Secretariat Achievements in 2004-2005

DRS delivers strategies and activities to support the government's commitment to engaging citizens in improving the quality of our democracy, modernizing our political institutions, and enhancing public confidence and trust in government.

Key Strategy: Ministers' Attendance at Question Period

With the passage of the *Executive Council Amendment Act*, Cabinet ministers are now required to attend two-thirds of Question Periods in the legislature, or be fined \$500 for each day they fall below the standard during the government's term in office.

Key Strategy: Dialogue on Democracy

On November 18, 2004, Premier Dalton McGuinty and Minister Responsible for Democratic Renewal Michael Bryant launched a Dialogue on Democracy. The Dialogue stimulated debate and discussion on reforming our political institutions.

Key Strategy: Democracy Challenge

On November 19, 2004, Minister Responsible for Democratic Renewal Michael Bryant launched a process to engage youth in improving Ontario's democracy.

Table 3: Ministry Expenditures

	Ministry Planned Expenditures (\$M) 2005/06
Operating	3,944,589
Capital	--
Staff Strength (as of March 31, 2005)	19