

Updates to Provincial Regulations Create a Fairer, Better Ontario

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
To: "Foster, Robert (CAB)" <robert.foster@ontario.ca>
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News Release

Updates to Provincial Regulations Create a Fairer, Better Ontario

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Changes Offer Convenience and Make Everyday Life More Affordable

Starting July 1, legislation and regulation changes come into effect that will make life more convenient and affordable for people in Ontario, strengthen democratic institutions, and help build a fairer, more inclusive province. These include:

- Helping seniors participate in community life by providing a [refundable tax credit for 15 per cent of the eligible public transit costs of Ontario residents 65 or older](#)
- [Reducing electricity bills by 25 per cent on average](#) for all residential consumers and as many as half a million small businesses and farms
- Providing even [greater electricity rate relief](#) for lower-income Ontarians and those living in eligible rural and northern communities by reducing their electricity bills by as much as 40 to 50 per cent
- [Recognizing the legal status of all parents](#) by amending regulations to include gender neutral terminology wherever possible on 11 family law forms
- Creating a new streamlined nomination, registration and endorsement process for candidates in provincial elections
- Helping voters get to the polls by standardizing advance voting hours across all locations
- [Putting spending limits on nomination contestants](#) as well as a limit on contributions by individuals to those contestants.

In addition to these changes, the government has reduced business costs by [\\$152 million since 2011](#) through a series of measures to eliminate red tape. The government is continuing to reduce red tape by modernizing regulations, inviting businesses to submit ideas to eliminate costly or burdensome regulations through the Red Tape Challenge, and proposing to offset every \$1 of new administrative costs to business by removing \$1.25 of old and unnecessary costs.

Modernizing laws and regulations to better serve Ontarians is part of our plan to create jobs, grow our economy and help people in their everyday lives.

QUICK FACTS

- Twice a year, the government releases a list of fees and regulations coming into effect on January 1 and July 1.
- Over the past three years, Ontario's real GDP growth has outpaced that of all G7 countries, supported by the government's strategic investments.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- [Regulation and Fee Changes Coming Into Force July 1, 2017](#)

QUOTES

"Updating regulations to evolve with our changing times is another opportunity to put fairness at the heart of everything we do here in Ontario. We want to make sure that everyone in the province can benefit from our strong economy and get ahead. These changes will help make life more affordable and more convenient and continue to build a fairer, better Ontario."

— *Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario*

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99 Wellesley Street West 4th floor, Room 4620 Toronto ON M7A 1A1

