

Response to NDP presser

From: "Speers, Michael (MOL)" <michael.speers@ontario.ca>
To: "@OPO-Media Relations and Issues Management" <opo-mediarelationsandissuesmgmt@msgov.gov.on.ca>, "Williams, Emily (MOL)" <emily.williams@ontario.ca>
Date: Thu, 10 Aug 2017 08:24:38 -0400

Here's a first draft:

Our government's Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act is landmark legislation. It provides new protections and rights for hard-working Ontarians, and will lift millions of people out of poverty.

The Ontario economy is strong right now. Investment is up and unemployment is down. But too many people still feel like they can't get ahead; too many parents are struggling to give their children the basic necessities; too many young people are unable to plan properly for their futures because they're working part-time or contract jobs.

This is why we're taking the bold steps needed to support Ontario workers and their families. It's why we're raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour by 2019; it's why we're ensuring that part-time workers get paid the same hourly rate as full-time workers; it's why we're providing 10 personal emergency leave days for every worker in the province; and it's why we're making sure that the voices of all workers are heard when it comes to deciding whether or not to join a union.

Ontario is at a turning point. Alongside workers and the business community, we're forging a new path forward that will give Ontarians hope, and ensure everyone feels confident about their future.

Together with truly progressive initiatives such as free tuition, free prescription drugs for anyone under 25, expanded childcare, our basic income pilot, the Fair Hydro Plan and the Fair Housing Plan, we're building a province where real opportunity and greater security is within the reach of everyone.

The Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act will bring transformative changes to workplaces across Ontario, and will make sure that fairness and decency are the true defining values of all our workplaces.

Michael Speers
Senior Communications Advisor
Office of the Hon. Kevin Flynn, Minister of Labour

t: 416-325-6955 | c: 647-533-8483 | e: Michael.Speers@ontario.ca