

THE 2004 LIBERAL BUDGET: What it means to you and your family

Tearing Down the Economic Foundation:

- The Liberals are *Breaking Faith* with the taxpayers of Ontario by increasing taxes, user fees and adding \$12 billion to the Ontario debt by 2007.
- Despite Dalton McGuinty's promise to not raise taxes, Ontarians will pay \$1.6 billion more in personal income tax through the new Ontario Health Premium.
- Ontarians will also see increased taxes on tobacco, wine, spirits and beer.
- Electricity consumers will be forced to swallow \$3.9 billion in hydro costs due to electricity sector reforms.
- Under the reckless Liberal plan, all Ontarians will have to pay more to receive less.

Squandering Our Health Dollars:

- The new \$1.6-billion health tax that the Liberals will inflict upon all modest- and middle-income Ontarians will go directly into the pockets of doctors, nurses and support staff with little or no improvement in service provided to Ontarians.
- This tax will be in addition to the Fair Share Health Care Levy that the Liberals committed to maintaining. Under the new Liberal plan, an Ontarian earning \$60,000 would now pay \$800 per year towards health care costs. That is even more than the premiums that were cancelled by David Peterson in 1989.
- The de-listing of key health services such as routine eye exams, chiropractic and physiotherapy services will also mean a reduced quality of life for many Ontarians.
- The Liberals have also failed on their promise to deliver 8,000 more nurses.

Crooks Not Cops in McGuinty's Ontario:

- This Liberal government made a commitment to the people of Ontario to hire 1,000 new police officers for community policing in Ontario. The Liberals are *Breaking Faith* with the people of Ontario by failing to mention this commitment in today's budget.
- In addition there is no mention of the 100 new Probation/Parole officers they promised the people of Ontario to make our communities safer.
- This new budget confirms that this Liberal government is **SOFT ON CRIME**. The Liberals are fostering a breeding ground for criminals, organized gangs and thugs, while putting every law abiding Ontarian at risk.

Ontario's Un-Educated Plan:

- The \$400 million in funding for school boards is simply to reward unions. Any additional funding to school boards will be used to set the stage for the unattainable McGuinty hard cap on classroom sizes.
- The most unfortunate part of this is that students will see no improvements in the quality of the education they receive.
- While the Liberals are claiming to follow through on their commitment to cap class sizes, the reality is that the 2004 Budget does not put one single additional teacher into a classroom. Without teachers in classrooms the Liberal fallacy of reduced class sizes will *never* be achieved.

"The 'Plan for Change' is how the Liberals changed their plan"