



September 17, 2011

Ms. Lisa Kaldeway, Co-chair
Ms. Chantal Lalonde, Co-chair
Ontario Society of Physical Activity Promoters in Public Health
1000 Pitt Street
Cornwall, Ontario
K6J 5T1

Dear Ms. Kaldeway and Ms. Lalonde:

Thank you very much for your letter on behalf of the Ontario Society of Physical Activity Promoters in Public Health (OSPAPPH). I appreciate hearing your views and suggestions. I am pleased to respond on behalf the Ontario Liberal Party on these issues of key importance.

Ontario Liberals' mandate is to ensure Ontario is the healthiest province in which to grow up and grow old. As Ontario families know, the best investment in health care is the one that keeps us healthy. By working together, we have put Ontario back on track with sensible policies that promote health, such as our Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy. But there is more work to do. Today, obesity rates are rising — most dramatically among our young people — leading to diabetes and heart disease. Unchecked, these chronic diseases can be fatal. That is why the Ontario Liberal Plan, *Forward. Together.*, which can be found at <http://www.ontarioliberal.ca/OurPlan/Platform.aspx>, will provide new opportunities for people to make healthy choices.

We will tackle the challenge of childhood obesity by joining with governments, non-profit agencies and businesses. We will create a Council on Childhood Obesity, whose goal will be a 20 per cent reduction in the childhood obesity rate within five years. We will start by providing all elementary school children with a healthy snack program, exposing more students to fresh, nutritious foods and building healthy eating habits. And Ontario Liberals will get our children moving by doubling our Children's Activity Tax Credit from \$50 to \$100 per child. We will also do our part to help Ontarians get healthy local food by creating a Local Food Act that will celebrate, support and promote local food. We will continue to support farmers' markets and increase the amount of local food purchased by schools and hospitals.

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Ontario has made significant progress in fighting cancer. Several international studies have found that cancer survival rates in Ontario rank among the best in the world. Ontario Liberals will go even further by providing everyone in the province with an online Personalized Cancer Risk Profile. The profile will use a person's medical and family history to measure the risk of cancer. The system will match people to screening programs and prevention supports such as genetic testing for high-risk people.

We also recognize that mental health is creating an increasing burden on Ontario's health care system, businesses and families. One in five of our citizens has struggled with mental illness. We will face this challenge with a comprehensive approach to mental health. Our investment will start with a focus on children, touching the lives of some 50,000 young Ontarians. Then we will focus on prevention, early identification and services for adults.

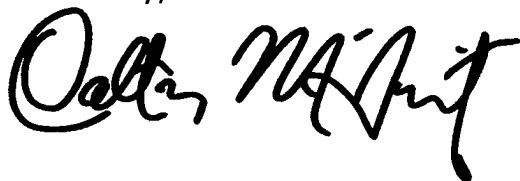
Ontario Liberals are the only party with a positive plan to move Ontario forward. Together, we got through the recession the Ontario way: we protected education and health care, stood by workers in the hardest hit industries, and worked together to find new opportunities for our province and our families. Our strong leadership, experienced team and thoughtful long-term plan are getting results for Ontario families.

Eight years ago, during the dark days of Conservative cuts and conflict, Ontario was moving backwards. Today, our schools are rated among the world's best, our health care ranks first in Canada, and old jobs are coming back while new jobs are being created in emerging industries like advanced manufacturing and clean energy.

Our plan is getting results and Ontario is turning the corner out of recession. Ontario is back on track. The Hudak PCs would take us off track and put our fragile recovery at risk with their reckless schemes. We need to keep moving forward, together.

Ms. Kaldeway and Ms. Lalonde, thank you, once again, for your suggestions and recommendations on behalf of the OSPAPPH. My Liberal colleagues and I will take them into careful consideration. We hope to have the opportunity to continue to work with Ontarians to keep Ontario moving forward. Please accept my best wishes.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dalton McGuinty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dalton" being particularly prominent.

Dalton McGuinty
Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party
Premier