



## ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION

**Leading Education's Advocates**

**November 15, 2018**

Today, Finance Minister Vic Fedeli delivered the provincial government's [Fall Economic Statement](#), which outlines the government's plans for spending and fiscal restraint. OPSBA staff monitored the announcement and briefly reviewed the report. There were no elements of the announcement that related directly to education. What follows are highlights from the statement:

### ***Low Income Tax Credit***

- Introduction of Low-income Individuals and Families Tax (LIFT) Credit. Ontario workers earning less than \$30,000 will be exempt from paying income tax starting in 2019. Tax credit would benefit 1.1 million workers

### ***Oversight Officers***

- The offices of French Language Services, Ontario Child Advocate and Environmental Commissioner of Ontario have been cut.
- The Auditor General's office will assume the Environmental Commissioner's duties.
- The Ontario Child Advocate and French Language Services duties will be added into the Ombudsman's office.

### ***Rural and Northern Ontario***

- Natural gas and broadband expansion to everyone. Develop the Ring of Fire with First Nations partners.
- Resource revenue sharing agreements.

### ***Housing***

- Development and Implementation of a Housing Supply Action Plan.
- Reintroduce a rent control exemption that will apply to new rental units. Rent controls will remain in place for current units/tenants.

### ***Additional highlights:***

- The government is aggressively pursuing every opportunity to find new efficiencies and savings.
- \$3.2 billion in savings have been generated.
- Deficit has been reduced by \$500 million and provincial deficit now stands at \$14.5 billion.
- \$308 million in Liberal tax hikes are being halted.
- \$90 million to create 1,100 beds.

- \$2.7 billion in tax relief.
- Elimination of the College of Trades.
- A debt reduction strategy will be put into place and fiscal balance will be restored on a reasonable timeframe.
- Cutting red tape across government.

In the [full review](#), the section on Education can be found on page 77. This section reiterates previous government announcements on

1. Education Reform Consultations
2. College of Teachers Reform
3. Ending Discovery Math
4. Free Speech on Campus

***Resources:***

[Ontario's Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review](#)

[A Plan for the People - Media release](#)

[Bill 57, An Act to enact, amend and repeal various statutes](#)