

SHEREF SABAWY MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT MISSISSAUGA-ERIN MILLS

YEAR IN REVIEW 2023

SHEREF SABAWY, MPP - MISSISSAUGA-ERIN MILLS

Foreword

To my friends and neighbours,

The government of Ontario is committed to addressing the needs of Ontarians and working for the people of our community. At its core, this means listening to the concerns of our constituents and meeting them where they are.

Ontarians aren't asking for too much when they say they just want to be able to provide a comfortable life for their family. Therefore, this is my focus: to build a strong Ontario together that is thriving and affordable for all.

In the midst of a housing crisis, the government has a comprehensive plan to build 1.5 million homes, of all types, so that every family can have a place they can call home.

Together, we're bringing healthcare closer to your home with a new and innovative plan to make healthcare more connected and convenient within our own community.

Cutting red tape that slows businesses down. Reducing costly gas taxes to make life more affordable. Transitioning more government services to digital formats to improve accessibility and convenience. We're working to make life easier for all Ontarians!

When it comes to governance, there is no one-size-fits-all solution. Our government's goal is to address the needs of individual Ontarians, making life more convenient and affordable for everyone in any circumstance.

Yours truly,

Shevef Sabawy

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Building 1.5 Million Homes

We know that there is a housing crisis ongoing in our province and across the country. For too many families, the dream of owning a home has been put out of reach.

That's why the government is taking immediate and decisive actions to solve the housing supply crisis and make life more affordable. We are building homes that meet the needs of Ontarians. The government is increasing density, supporting walkable neighbourhoods, accelerating approval timelines, and increasing consumer protections.

The goals include targets for each municipality, such as the 120,000 homes that the City of Mississauga has agreed to build. These goals are achievable because we have implemented the necessary tools to empower growth.

Together, we will increase the housing supply and make homes more affordable for Ontarian families.



Getting Shovels in the Ground Faster

The Ontario government has empowered municipalities to prioritize housing development through several key initiatives. A unified provincial planning statement guides municipalities in building more homes, while reduced development fees aim to encourage construction by eliminating prohibitive costs. Accelerated permit review timelines streamline the process for developers, and the freeze on 74 provincial fees further incentivizes and supports home construction. These efforts collectively aim to facilitate and expedite housing projects, addressing the pressing need for more homes in the province.

Increasing Density

By encouraging higher density in sustainable urban areas, we are aiming to enhance connectivity and accessibility while fostering vibrant, multi-use communities.

The vision involves the construction of residential, commercial, and recreational spaces in close proximity to major transit hubs, supporting walkable and transitoriented communities.

Simultaneously, we're streamlining approval processes and reinforcing safeguards for consumers.







Financial Incentives for Growth

Our government is working on removing the eight percent provincial HST on new purpose-built rental housing starting 2023.

This was announced with the fall economic statement that, if passed, will apply to qualifying constructions like apartments and student housing.

Additionally, the government is launching the Building Faster Fund, a new three-year \$1.2 billion program to encourage and reward municipalities for meeting or exceeding the housing targets that they have committed to. Eligible municipalities would receive up to a total of \$400 million each year based on their performance towards their housing targets, if passed.

We expanded strong mayor powers for 21 municipalities, conditional on heads of council committing to a municipal housing target.

Be assured, our dedication to accomplish this mission is unwavering.

Buyer Protection

The government is dedicated to not only building 1.5 million homes but to making sure that people are protected, especially as we know how scary it might be for many first time home buyers. That's why the government is proposing requiring:

- A cooling-off period for purchasers of new freehold homes.
- Legal advice for all buyers of new homes concerning purchase agreements.
- Limitation on price increases for new homes after they've been sold.



Tenant Protections

We are committed to bolstering consumer protections, ensuring tenants are treated fairly. This includes taking a strong stance against bad-faith evictions, such as renovictions.

The government is currently working on legislation that, if passed, involves a significant step of doubling fines for those engaging in unacceptable practices.

To ensure better living conditions, if passed, we're permitting air conditioning as a standard in rental properties.

To alleviate the existing backlogs and streamline dispute resolution, we are working to reduce delays at the Landlord-Tenant Board. If passed, this means quicker responses and resolutions for tenant concerns.

The government is committed to doubling the number of adjudicators, which, if passed, will significantly enhance the board's capacity to handle cases promptly and ensure that both landlords and tenants have their concerns addressed efficiently and equitably.

The government is dedicated to providing safe and stable housing environments for vulnerable individuals, ensuring they receive the necessary support and resources to help them thrive.

The government is focused on collaborating with stakeholders, leveraging resources, and implementing innovative solutions to make supportive housing a reality in Mississauga.

Together, we will create a more inclusive and supportive environment for all members of our community.

Erin Mills Small Businesses





Convenient & Connected Healthcare

Your Health Plan

For too long, the health system in Ontario has been under pressure. Backlogs are high. Ontarians are waiting too long to get an appointment or surgery. Patients are travelling too far to get care, and spending lots of time and effort navigating the system. The status quo is not acceptable.

In February, the Minister of Health released *Your Health - A Plan for Convenient and Connected Care*. This plan focuses on providing people with a better, more convenient health care experience closer to home, while taking action to reduce wait times and grow the health care workforce across the province.

The government is implementing a bold and innovative plan to get Ontarians the high-quality care they need. Ontarians will continue to receive insured health services with their OHIP card.

Together, we will ensure that you have convenient access to quality healthcare services, right in your own community.







Care Closer to Home

In 2023, our government gave pharmacists the ability to treat and prescribe for 19 common ailments. These include hay fever, acid reflux, sprains and strains, acne, yeast infections, and insect bites.

This decision will allow Ontarians to have more convenient choices, get quicker and easier access to healthcare whilst also help decrease the wait time for others seeking medical attention from physicians.





Funding for Emergency Departments

The government is investing an additional \$44 million in 165 high volume and smaller emergency departments across the province to reduce wait times and provide Ontarians with faster and easier access to timely emergency care close to home.



Peter Gilgan Mississauga Hospital

The Peter Gilgan Foundation generously donated a record \$105 million to the Trillium Health Partner Foundation to help build and create an innovative healthcare model that will better meet the needs of the diverse and expanding communities in Ontario. In honour of philanthropist Peter Gilgan, Trillium Health Partners will name the "largest and most advanced hospital in Canada" after him.

This new hospital will be approximately 2.8 million square feet with over 905 new beds. The number of operating rooms will increase to 23, up from 14. It will also feature the largest emergency department, which will reduce wait times and improve patients' experiences.

Women's and Children's Hospital

In September, our government announced that Canada's first ever Women's and Children's Hospital will be built here in Mississauga in partnership with Trillium Health Partners. The 200,000 square foot hospital will feature top of the line technology, specifically curated to improve generational health for all Ontarian families.



Paediatric Care

The government has made the largest investment in an expansion of paediatric care in the province's history — an additional \$330 million each year for over 100 high-priority paediatric care initiatives across the province. This will ensure children and youth in every corner of the province can connect to the care they need, where they need it.



Land Ambulances

We know that there have been many who have suffered as a result of ambulances that have taken too long. To connect people to emergency care faster, the government is providing over \$811 million through the annual Land Ambulance Service Grant (LASG) to help municipalities facing cost pressures in their emergency departments. This will support the hiring of additional paramedics, wage and cost of living adjustments and general ambulance services operation.





Community and Long term care

Long Term Care Facilities

The Ontario government is investing close to \$10 million to enable long-term care facilities to offer in-home diagnostic and lab services. The new Equipment and Training Fund aims to reduce the need for residents to travel to hospitals, providing more convenient and efficient healthcare within these care homes.

Long term care facilities will be provided funding to get reimbursements to be able to purchase more diagnostic equipment, such as in-home blood work lab services. They will be able to train staff so that they can better manage and treat resident's conditions that often lead to preventable hospital visits.

The Ontario Seniors Care at Home Tax Credit is a refundable tax credit designed to aid low-to moderate-income seniors in covering eligible medical expenses, specifically those supporting ageing in their homes or places of residence. This credit provides up to 25% of claimable medical expense.

This year, healthcare investment is at \$81 billion

- 3,500 hospital beds across the province,
- Launching the largest medical school expansion in 15 years,
- Registering 63,000 new nurses,
- Reducing the surgical backlog to prepandemic levels,
- Promising to break ground on 50 new hospital developments across the province.



Ivan Franko LTC

This October, Ivan Franko Homes, a not-for-profit organisation, broke ground for construction of their new 160-bed long term care facility in Mississauga—Erin Mills. This facility will offer tailored assistance, encompassing medical care, social engagement, and rehabilitative services.

This will be a campus of care, connecting residents to the care they need without pulling them from their own community.



This project is part of a collective initiative supported by the Ontario government to fast-track 67 long-term care projects, with the aim of generating over 58,000 new and upgraded long-term care beds across the province.

Upon completion, the facility will accommodate 75 new beds and upgrade 85 existing beds, with an anticipated opening for residents in winter 2025.





Wellsbrook Place

The Ontario government, this October, marked the inauguration of Wellbrook Place, which will consist of two new cutting-edge long-term care homes and a Seniors' Hub that will introduce 632 new homes to Mississauga. The new facility will feature different services to make life for seniors as comfortable as possible such as beauty salon, spiritual space, therapy rooms, indoor gathering spaces, a gift shop, and internal gardens.

Wellbrook Place opened for residents starting November 7. Through the Accelerated Build Pilot Program, the government has collaborated with Infrastructure Ontario and three hospitals to add up to 1,272 net new beds at four long-term care homes across the GTA, addressing challenges related to scarce and costly land for prospective long-term care homes.







Back to Basics in Education

As Ontario students returned to classes for a stable and normal year, the priority was delivering a 'back to basics' focus and revitalizing the school system. The Ontario government provided more than \$27 billion to school boards for a successful 2023-24 school year. As part of the plan, the government introduced a new strategy to boost literacy and math rates, supported by the hiring of 2,000 more educators based on merit, not seniority.

New English and French language curriculums will introduce phonics, digital literacy, and critical thinking skills. Financial literacy modules will teach students how to create a budget, manager their money, and protect themselves from financial scams.

Ontario is also supporting mental health with a historic investment \$114 million. As the government continues to build this world-class publicly-funded education system, it will continually support the voices of parents so that their children can graduate with the real-life skills they need to succeed.

This back to basics approach will ensure Ontario remains a world leader, now and for future generations.



Skilled Trades & Work Programs

By 2025, one in five jobs in Ontario will be in the skilled trades. The government is supporting these well-paying jobs to help young people build a good, fulfilling, successful life. The government has invested over a billion dollars to support skilled trades over three years. As part of this initiative, it has created a new agency, Skilled Trades Ontario to promote and provide opportunities in the trades.

The skills development fund has invested \$860 million to give over half a million workers the training needed for their careers.

Last year alone, apprenticeship registrations increased by 24%, including 28% among women who have traditionally been underrepresented.

The government is helping students access these lifelong careers by increasing awareness and mandating one technological education requirement for graduation, allowing students in high school the option to pursue further training in the skilled trades.

Ontario's government has embarked on significant investments in two crucial programs. A commitment of \$224 million has been allocated to the Skills Development Fund (SDF) Capital Stream, specifically designated to build and upgrade training centres. We have emphasised the objective of this program, highlighting the intention to provide greater access to high-paying, in-demand jobs through improved skill development opportunities.

The enhancements in these centres are anticipated to benefit over a million workers by providing essential training and supporting business growth, for nearly 300,000 jobs in Ontario.



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The Ontario government is also extending the Investing in Women's Futures program to 10 additional locations across the province. This expansion represents a \$6.9 million investment over a three-year period, specifically aimed at empowering women who face social and economic barriers.

The program's primary objective is to provide comprehensive support, essential services, and crucial training opportunities for women, with a particular focus on aiding survivors of gender-based violence.

Achëv in Mississauga is one of the beneficiaries of this expansion, having received an investment of \$324,932 over three years. The organization is set to provide employment readiness programs, mentorship, financial workshops, counselling, and comprehensive support services, tailoring its efforts to address the heightened challenges faced by women, especially after the pandemic.





Better for Consumers Better for Businesses

With the ever-evolving marketplace, it's time we empower both consumers and businesses to thrive in this dynamic landscape. After twenty years, the government is updating consumer protection laws.

This fall, the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery introduced the *Better for Consumers, Better for Businesses Act*, 2023, reflecting our commitment to shielding hardworking Ontarians from unfair practices whilst fostering a smarter, safer, and more robust economy. It's about ensuring that everyone can shop with confidence, whether at home, online, or in their communities.

This legislation, if passed, will not only strengthen consumer rights but also simplify the rules for businesses, making compliance in our digital-first world, more accessible. It's a promise to Ontarians that their hard-earned money will be safeguarded, and their transactions will be conducted with the highest level of transparency and fairness.



Building a Strong Ontario Together



Hazel McCallion LRT

The Hazel McCallion Line, spanning 18 kilometres, promises more than just transit. It puts us on the right track towards a dependable and environmentally conscious travel for our growing region. With 19 stops, connecting to major transit systems, dedicated lanes, and fueled by electric light rail vehicles; it's a declaration for cleaner, greener commuting, reducing emissions and paving the way for an eco-friendly future.







Ontario Infrastructure Bank

This year, the Minister of Finance introduced The Ontario Infrastructure Bank during November's fall economic statement announcement. With the Building a Strong Ontario Together Act, if passed, it will be a new arms-length agency created to enable and encourage large institutional investors to invest in large-scale infrastructure projects. These investments will help deliver more infrastructure faster, while maintaining a fiscally responsible plan for future generations.

Ontario Place

The Ontario government announced its plans to revitalize Ontario Place, aiming to transform it into a vibrant, accessible public space for all. This new Ontario Place will serve as a central hub for cultural events, entertainment, and community participation, all with the aim of meeting the diverse needs and aspirations of the province's residents.





401 Expansion

In 2023, the long-anticipated expansion of the 401 officially opened, marking the culmination of a project that commenced in 2014. This initiative has reached completion, representing a significant milestone in Ontario's transportation infrastructure. The expansion of the 401 aimed to alleviate traffic congestion and enhance transportation efficiency by increasing the number of lanes and improving the overall road system.





Highway 413

Ontario's Highway 413 represents a significant commitment by the government to enhance infrastructure and improve the lives of Ontarians. With a focus on addressing traffic congestion and improving connectivity, the highway is part of a broader initiative to build a more efficient transportation network. By providing a vital link between major highways, Highway 413 is poised to reduce travel times, enhance regional mobility, and stimulate economic development. The government's dedication to investing in strategic infrastructure projects highlights its commitment to creating a more accessible and interconnected Ontario, ultimately benefiting residents and businesses alike.



Nuclear Energy

Ontario is currently a world leader in clean electrical production.

As Ontario continues unprecedented economic growth and pursues the electrification of transportation and heavy industry, it will be necessary for Ontario to maintain and expand this electrical capacity so our province can continue to grow.

The government is building on Ontario's clean electricity advantage with new projects such as new nuclear builds and small modular reactors to ensure the province has the power to maintain its position as a leader in job creation and a magnet for the industries of the future.



Small Modular Reactors to Power Province's Growth

The Ontario government is collaborating with Ontario Power Generation (OPG) to advance plans for the construction of three additional small modular reactors (SMRs). These reactors will be able to power 1.2 million homes. This will position Ontario as a pioneering force in clean energy production. This investment will drive job creation within innovative industries, enhance operational efficiencies, reduce expenses, and foster collaboration with Indigenous communities.



Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Ontario is extending EV charging stations to smaller communities and Indigenous areas as part of the EV ChargeON program. With a \$91 million investment, more stations will be set up, enhancing access for businesses and families. Ontario already has over 135,000 registered EVs, and the province hosts 2,900 public charging stations, aiding in reducing emissions and supporting automotive innovation goals.

More Jobs

In the first nine months of 2023, Ontario saw a surge in job creation, with over 170,000 new jobs added, significantly bolstering employment opportunities across various sectors. The Ontario government's proactive measures have played a crucial role in fostering this job growth, reflecting a robust commitment to enhancing the province's workforce and contributing to a more vibrant economy.

Less Red Tape

Ontario's initiatives to reduce red tape have resulted in substantial savings for businesses, surpassing \$900 million annually. These measures demonstrate the government's commitment to streamlining processes and cutting unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles, contributing to a more business-friendly environment and fostering economic growth in the province.

Extending Gasoline and Fuel Tax Rate Cuts

We continue to emphasize the importance of easing costs for families and businesses, especially amidst ongoing inflationary pressures. The Ontario government is proposing to extend the cuts on gasoline and fuel taxes until June 30, 2024, to provide relief to households and businesses. These cuts have reduced gas tax by 5.7 cents per litre and fuel tax by 5.3 cents per litre, saving an average of \$260 per household since its introduction. This proposal aims to alleviate financial burdens for Ontarians, especially amid economic uncertainties.

Around Erin Mills



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Strengthening Safety & Modernising Justice

The safety of Ontarians is paramount and the justice system needs to keep anyone who poses a threat to public safety off the streets. Earlier this year, amidst rising crime, the government of Ontario along with other provinces called on the federal government to implement meaningful bail reform.

The Ontario government announced \$112 million into bail enforcement and prosecution teams, to make sure that repeat violent offenders stay off the streets. They have also invested more than \$250 million to combat violence against women and to support victims of violence.

We're doing everything we can to keep Ontarians safe.

Everyone should feel safe and secure in their own community.

Digitizing Justice

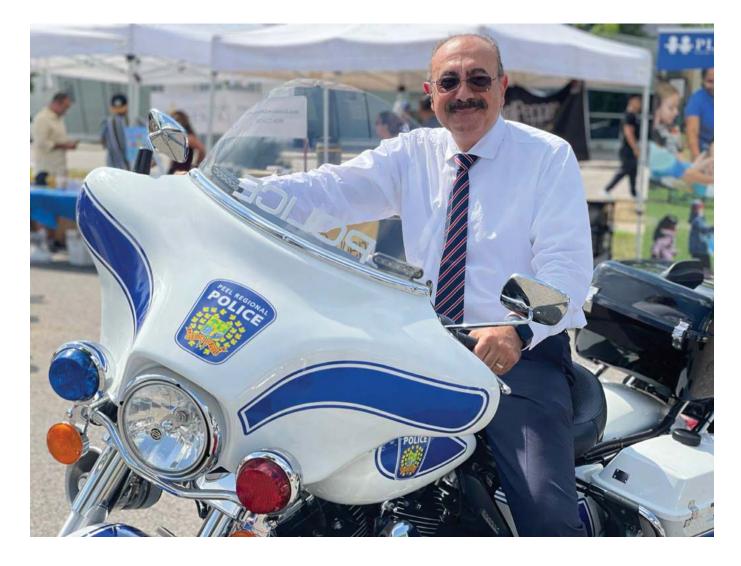
To make life easier for all Ontarians, the government is investing \$166 million to deliver more legal services online and replacing outdated paper-based procedures in the justice system.



Auto Theft

With vehicle thefts and carjackings on the rise, the government is taking bold action against this serious crime. That's why Ontario is investing \$51 million over three years to fight crime organisations and put criminals behind bars. The investment includes:

- The creation of an Organized Crime Towing and Auto Theft Team led by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP),
- A new community safety grant that targets auto theft,
- Creation of a new Major Auto Theft Prosecution Response Team.



In memory of Hazel McCallion.....









HERE ARE THE SERVICES WE CAN HELP YOU WITH:

Anniversary, special occasion, and birthday scrolls

- Birth/ Marriage/ Death Certificates
 - Trillium Drug Plan
 - Ontario Works
- Ontario Disability Support Program
 - Family Responsibility Office
 - Hydro One Inquiries
 - Information on various Provincial

government programs

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