



PO Box 1132 Station F
Toronto, ON M4Y 2T8

Premier Doug Ford
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

June 13, 2022

Dear Premier Ford,

The issue of affordability is top of mind for many Ontarians right now. And people with disabilities are feeling the effects of the cost of living crisis the most intensely.

While the cost of everything, including food, shelter and transportation, continues to increase, Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) rates have remained flat at an unlivable \$1,169/month.

Premier, unfortunately the 5% ODSP increase you promised last month during the campaign is wholly insufficient to address the challenges people on ODSP are facing.

That is why I am calling on your government to immediately double ODSP rates and tie all future increases to inflation.

People on ODSP shouldn't have to choose between putting food on the table or keeping a roof over their head.

Even with a 5% increase, people on ODSP will still be living in legislated poverty.

Premier, investing in lifting people out of poverty is the fiscally responsible thing to do and the right thing to do. Poverty costs Ontario up to \$33 billion a year, primarily due to increased health and justice system expenses.

Doubling ODSP rates will help people with disabilities afford to put food on the table and a safe place to call home.

With the budget still yet to be passed, this is your opportunity to address the severe financial challenges many Ontarians with disabilities are currently facing.

It's time to start treating people with disabilities with the dignity and respect they deserve.

I sincerely hope you consider and act on my proposal to immediately double ODSP rates and tie all future increases to inflation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mike Schreiner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Mike Schreiner
Leader, Green Party of Ontario