

DOUG FORD

Leader of the Ontario PC Party

May 31, 2018

Mayor Jim Watson
City of Ottawa
110 Laurier Avenue Ottawa, ON, K1P 1J1

Dear Mayor Watson,

Thank you very much for your letter. We appreciate the opportunity to listen to your priorities for Ottawa and Ontario. The only way to know what tools our municipalities need, is to listen to your concerns and ask the right questions so that collectively, we can make our cities and province thrive.

Ontarians rely on public transit to get to work, see family and friends, and live their lives. Yet, after 15 years of broken Liberal promises, they are still waking up at the crack of dawn just to beat traffic. The PC Party has committed to province-wide funding for transit, which includes completing stage 2 of Ottawa's Light Rapid Transit project. We will cut the red tape and end the delays to ensure that transit projects get completed on time and on budget and see this project through to completion.

A Doug Ford Ontario PC Government will also continue to share gas tax revenue with municipalities. They will not receive a corresponding decrease in their transfer payments as a result of our promised 10 cents per litre reduction in gasoline taxes. Not only will gas tax transfers continue as planned, but the reduction of gas taxes will save municipalities money at the pumps. We understand that this could result in as much as \$6 million in savings per year to the City of Ottawa.

For many families, finding an affordable place to live can be a challenge. This is especially true for younger families looking to purchase their first home. I believe in an Ontario where the dream of home ownership shouldn't be out of reach for the average family that works hard and spends wisely. Though the province took steps to help reduce housing prices, the Liberal government did not go far enough to increase housing supply. More needs to be done to increase housing supply so that prices return to affordable levels and stay there.

In addition, when it comes to social housing we have committed \$1.9 billion for mental health, addictions, and supportive housing. This money will help increase the stock of needed supportive housing across the province.

FOR THE PEOPLE

On long-term care, we realize that there is a growing need – with 32,000 Ontarians currently waiting for a long-term care bed. Our hospitals are overcrowded, and a lack of long-term care facilities is the primary reason why. We will build 15,000 new long-term care beds in the first five years of our mandate and 30,000 beds over 10 years.

In order to have a prosperous province, you need to have a strong economy. And to have a strong economy, you need to have strong municipalities. We have an impressive slate of qualified PC candidates running across Ottawa, which include Merrilee Fullerton, Jeremy Roberts, Colleen McCleery, Karin Howard, Goldie Ghamari, Cameron Montgomery, Amanda Simard, and current sitting MPP Lisa MacLeod. We look forward to working with the City of Ottawa and all of Ontario's 444 municipalities.

Thank you again for writing to me on such an important issue and please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any further concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D Ford', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Doug Ford
Leader, Ontario PC Party