

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2019 Provincial Pre-Budget Submission - Backgrounder

The Ontario Chamber Network has provided the Government of Ontario with thirteen tangible recommendations for the upcoming provincial budget to build a stronger Ontario and create a business climate which encourages growth. The following are the key areas of recommendation of the business advocate's pre-budget submission.

Tax Competitively

- Establish tougher penalties for tax noncompliance.
- Create a variable small business deduction and delay taxation on corporate income growth to overcome Ontario's scale-up challenge.
- Maintain the current mining tax rates for remote, non-remote, and diamond mining operations.
- Preserve provincial tax exemptions on employer health and dental plans.
- Modify the Municipal Accommodation Tax to protect tourism industry competitiveness.

Enhance Fiscal Capacity for Municipalities

- Gradually increase the Heads and Beds Levy on institutions.
- Fix the interest arbitration system for fire and police services.

Address Ontario's Infrastructure Deficit

- Leverage the private sector to expand broadband access.
- Restore passenger rail.

Adopt Sustainable Spending Models

- Use value-based procurement to more effectively spend taxpayer money.
- Implement user-pay models and means testing for certain government services.
- Direct business support to where it is needed most.
- Leverage technology to increase public sector cost efficiency.