

May 21, 2024

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Send electronically via email  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Dear Premier Ford,

**Re: Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program**

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At its May 15, 2024 meeting, Essex County Council received the enclosed correspondence from the Town of Essex dated April 24, 2024 regarding a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates. Essex County Council resolved to support the Town of Essex letter and as such, calls upon the Provincial Government to implement the following changes:

- At least double Ontario Works and ODSP rates and index rates to inflation answering calls already made by "Raise the Rates" campaign and the "Income Security Advocacy Centre";
- Commit to ongoing cost of living increases above and beyond the rate of inflation to make up for the years they were frozen; and
- Commit to jointly working between the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, and the Ministry of Health on the best methods of assessing client needs and then matching those in need to the services they require.

Council accordingly passed the following resolution:

**144-2024**

**Moved By** Kimberly Verbeek

**Seconded By** Tony Gaffan

# Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program

May 21, 2024

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That Essex County Council receive and support the correspondence from the Town of Essex, regarding Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program financial assistance rates.

**Carried**

Should you require further information, please contact me by email at [macdonald@leamington.ca](mailto:macdonald@leamington.ca) or by phone at 519-613-3925.

Regards,




Hilda MacDonald  
Essex County Warden

Encl:

- Letter from the Town of Essex dated April 24, 2024

CC:

- Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)
- Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services [Michael.Parsaco@pc.ola.org](mailto:Michael.Parsaco@pc.ola.org)
- Ontario Municipal Support Services Association [info@omssa.com](mailto:info@omssa.com)
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)
- Local MPPs
  - Anthony Leardi [anthony.leardi@pc.ola.org](mailto:anthony.leardi@pc.ola.org)
  - Trevor Jones [trevor.jones@pc.ola.org](mailto:trevor.jones@pc.ola.org)
  - Andrew Dowie [andrew.dowie@pc.ola.org](mailto:andrew.dowie@pc.ola.org)
  - Lisa Gretzky [LGretzky-CO@ndp.on.ca](mailto:LGretzky-CO@ndp.on.ca)
- Local Municipal Partners

 519-776-6441 ext. 1327  
TTY 1-877-624-4832

 360 Fairview Ave. W.  
Suite # 314 Essex, ON N8M 1Y6

 [countyofessex.ca](http://countyofessex.ca)



April 24, 2024

**BY EMAIL**

Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier's Office, Room 281  
Legislative Building, Queen's  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

**Re: Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program**

At its Regular Council Meeting held on March 4, 2024, Council supported the enclosed correspondence dated February 16, 2024 from the County of Prince Edward regarding a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates. Council calls upon the Provincial Government to implement the following changes:

- At least double Ontario Works and ODSP rates and index rates to inflation answering calls already made by "Raise the Rates" campaign and the "Income Security Advocacy Centre";
- Commit to ongoing cost of living increases above and beyond the rate of inflation to make up for the years they were frozen; and
- Commit to jointly working between the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, and the Ministry of Health on the best methods of assessing client needs and then matching those in need to the services they require.

Council accordingly passed the following resolution:

**R24-03-083**

Moved By Councillor Allard  
Seconded By Councillor Verbeek



**That** the correspondence by the correspondence from the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward dated February 16, 2024 requesting support for a review of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates be received and supported; and

**That** a letter of support be sent to Ontario Municipal Support Services Association, Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, AMO, and local municipalities.

**Carried**

We trust you will find this satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "jmall", written in a cursive style.

Joseph Malandrucolo  
Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk  
[jmalandrucolo@essex.ca](mailto:jmalandrucolo@essex.ca)

Enclosure

cc: Ontario Municipal Support Services Association  
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
County of Essex  
Town of Amherstburg  
Town of Kingsville  
Municipality of Lakeshore