

Facts for Seniors about the Ontario Budget

The 2009 Ontario Budget introduces a single sales tax to replace the GST and PST Ontarians now pay—the single most important thing we can do to make Ontario more competitive and create jobs.

It also includes over \$10.6 billion over three years in tax cuts for people—including those targeted to seniors—and more funding for services many seniors depend on.

Here are some facts seniors should know about the Budget:

Lower Taxes

- ✓ Increasing the Senior Homeowners' Property Tax Grant from \$250 to \$500 a year
- ✓ A new, refundable property tax credit for low and middle-income earners
- ✓ A new, refundable sales tax credit of up to \$260 for low and middle-income earners
- ✓ Payments of \$1,000 for families earning under \$160,000 and of \$300 for singles earning under \$80,000
- ✓ A broad-based, permanent personal income tax cut that would reduce taxes for 93 per cent of Ontario taxpayers

Better Services

- ✓ Investing more in health care and hospitals—\$13.2 billion more than in 2003-04
- ✓ Reducing emergency room wait times with a comprehensive \$361 million strategy
- ✓ \$223 million for an aging at home strategy to support seniors who want to stay at home longer
- ✓ More funding to Community Care Access Centres

Access to Locked-in Accounts

- ✓ Increasing unlocking from Ontario life income funds from 25 to 50 per cent
- ✓ A two-year waiver of fees for financial-hardship unlocking applications

To find out more, contact my office:

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