

May 24, 2018

Canadian Federation of Independent Business
401-4141 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON, M2P 2A6

Dear Mr. Petkov,

Thank you for taking the time to write and share the concerns of small- and medium-sized businesses across Ontario.

For too long, the challenges facing Ontario businesses have been ignored. Whether it is the introduction of new taxes, burdensome red tape, or skyrocketing hydro bills, Kathleen Wynne and the Liberals have placed an unfair burden on businesses. After 15 years, it's time to turn the page and replace the Wynne Liberals with a government that will always respect the important contribution that small- and medium-sized businesses provide in communities throughout Ontario.

A Doug Ford Ontario PC Government will create the conditions that make it easier to start a business, grow a business, or invest in Ontario. Instead of corporate welfare, we're going to make our business taxes competitive. Instead of complex regulations that reward the insiders with the best lobbyists, we're going to remove barriers and reward the entrepreneurs with the best ideas. Our plan includes helping small business by reducing the small business tax rate by 8.7%. We will also work to cut red tape and stifling regulations that are crippling job creation and growth.

But even more needs to be done to fix the business environment in Ontario following the damage done by the Kathleen Wynne Liberals. We will clean up the Liberal hydro mess, fire the millionaire hydro executives getting rich off of ratepayers' bills and act to ensure our electricity system works for the people, once again.

This means no carbon tax or cap-and-trade schemes. And it also means that, after years of skyrocketing electricity rates, hydro bills will finally start coming down, allowing business in Ontario to be more competitive in an evolving global market. An Ontario PC Government will cut hydro rates by 12% for families, farmers, and small businesses.

Under Kathleen Wynne, good jobs aren't being created - at least not in Ontario. As we go door-to-door, we keep hearing about one big reason - because it takes so long to get approval

FOR THE PEOPLE

to start or grow a business in Ontario. An Ontario PC Government will introduce single-window access for all provincial approvals. This means that for every ministry, and every agency, there will be one phone number and one website that you can access in order to get all approvals you need to create jobs - no guesswork or expensive lobbying required.

There will also be a hard deadline of one year for the government to make a decision on permits. There is no reason any government approval should take longer than a calendar year. That is plenty of time to hold consultations, and perform and review assessments. If a project won't be approved, then tell people, so they can move on. Don't leave them hanging.

It's time for a government that works for the people. On June 8th we will make Ontario open for business once again. Change is coming and help is on the way.

Thank you again for writing to me on these important matters 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