

25-in-5 Founding Declaration:

We believe in a poverty-free Ontario.
A place where everyone can live in dignity
and enjoy a good standard of living.

Action on **Poverty Reduction. It starts with a plan.**

The Government of Ontario is committed to a Poverty Reduction Strategy with targets and measures to ensure “opportunity that is accessible to all.” (Throne Speech, November 2007)

We are asking our government for a plan to reduce Ontario poverty levels by 25% in 5 years and by 50% before 2018. We call this the ‘25-in-5’ campaign.

Poverty reduction makes social and economic sense. We believe in an inclusive Ontario, where everyone can develop their talents and contribute to thriving communities. We want a province with a vibrant economy and shared prosperity.

Serious action on poverty reduction is possible. The U.K. has reduced poverty by nearly 25% in the past 5 years. Quebec, as well as Newfoundland & Labrador, both have ambitious plans to tackle poverty. *It’s Ontario’s turn.*

For Ontario, it starts with a plan. A plan that brings hope and shared prosperity for **all** Ontarians: *in urban neighbourhoods; in rural communities; among Aboriginal peoples; within racialized and newcomer communities; among single female parents; and persons with disabilities.*

We call on leadership from the Province, working with all orders of government. Working with all sectors and especially with people living on low incomes, we can create opportunities, remove barriers and provide supports so that all Ontarians can live with dignity.

Ontario’s poverty reduction plan should address three priorities:

- 1. Sustaining employment** means assuring a living standard above poverty for any adult who works full time throughout the year. It means fair pay and stable working conditions for all Ontarians.
- 2. Livable incomes** mean dignity for all Ontarians — including those unable to work.
- 3. Strong and supportive communities** mean affordable housing, early learning and child care, public education and community programs that help people connect.

25-in-5: Network for Poverty Reduction includes more than 100 provincial organizations and people committed to action on eliminating poverty.

For more information visit www.25in5.ca

**25 in 5: Network for
Poverty Reduction**

