



Premier McGuinty
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1A1

January 16, 2012

Dear Premier McGuinty,

Thank you for your recent correspondence in response to my October 27th, 2011 letter regarding the Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN) and its partnership-building efforts between your government and the nonprofit sector. As previously noted, ONN has been actively engaged with various Ministries on key issues facing the sector as well as promoting the sector's work in the delivery of critically important programs and services to Ontarians, their families and communities across the province.

In these uncertain and difficult economic times facing the province, ONN strongly believes the "third sector" is well positioned to play an even more prominent role in sustaining and improving public service delivery in an efficient and effective manner. The sector's view fits well with key messages outlined in your government's November 2011 "Speech from the Throne and Subsequent Economic Up-Date" on getting more value for money, efficiency, productivity and results from public services. In short, we agree with your vision on the urgency to make transformational reforms in the public service delivery system to strengthen critical services to Ontarians and their communities.

To this end, ONN has submitted a brief to the "Commission on the Reform of Ontario's Public Services" chaired by Don Drummond and met with one of the Commissioners to discuss concrete approaches for streamlining the process, reducing the costs, and improving the results/accountability in the current government-sector investment relationship. In addition, we urged the Commission to focus on supporting a new public service model that fosters and rewards social entrepreneurship and the jobs, wealth and social benefits that result from these important enterprises.

Our sector recognizes the enormous challenges facing your government as it seeks to reform the delivery of public services and allocate precious tax dollars to address the critical social, economic and environmental challenges facing Ontarians. Unlike previous governments, reaching out to the nonprofit sector for creative yet pragmatic solutions will contribute to the transformational public service reforms you are seeking.

Indeed, the real winners of such reforms will be communities and citizens who depend on more accessible and responsive services especially in tough times. The third sector is prepared to do its part and more in partnership with governments and the for-profit sector. Together let's continue to make Ontario one of the best places in the world to live, work and raise families.

Tonya Surman
ONN Co-chair

c.c. Minister Brad Duguid
c.c. Minister Margaret Best
c.c. Minister Charles Sousa
c.c. Caitlin McLung