



Relevant Quotes from the Commission on the Reform of Ontario's Public Services

These selected quotes from the Commission touch on issues of high interest for the broader nonprofit sector. The section “Contributions of the Non-Profit Sector” are perhaps the best ‘go-to’ pages (273-274) for a quick read. More broadly, Chapters 8 and 16 of the report are the most directly relevant sections for the broader nonprofit sector.

** Please note that page numbers refer to the actual report numbers, not the PDF counter.*

Appreciate and engage the **value of the sector** for reform: “The non-profit sector is an often-overlooked contributor to the Canadian economy” (p. 273-274).

Explore further **partnership** with non-profit delivery agents: “The government should also enhance its efforts to develop partnerships with the private and not-for-profit sectors in supporting innovative programs” (p. 345).

Increase **transparency**: “Currently, many organizations are funded by multiple ministries, but the government has no easy way to assess the universe of funded organizations as a whole” (p. 400).

Re-think **accountability**: “At some point, this investment is subject to diminishing returns” (p. 395; see also p. 55).

Focus on **outcomes**: “The government should shift to measuring outcomes rather than inputs and process, and should take a risk-based approach to accountability. In trying to balance the goals of accountability and efficiency, the government may well find that there are opportunities both to streamline administration and ensure accountability in the OPS [Ontario Public Service], BPS [Broader Public Service], private sector and non-profit sector” (p. 395).

Engage in systemic **investment reform**: “A thorough review of funding and service delivery relationships and responsibilities may prove to be useful in providing clarity” (p. 476).

Consider “**new approaches** to achieve more cost-effective social outcomes,” like Social Impact Bonds (p. 274).