



Ottawa, December 13, 2018

The Honourable Doug Ford, M.P.P.
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queens Park
Toronto, ON
M7A 1A1

Re: Provincial Budget Cuts Affecting Franco-Ontarians

Dear Premier:

Collectively, we represent over 260,000 Canadian federal public service employees.

We are writing you today to express deep concern and disappointment over the recent decision to cut back provincial funding for institutions, programs and services intended to support and protect the Ontario French speaking community. We ask that you urgently reconsider this decision. We strongly believe that the budget cuts you have passed will hurt our national cultural fabric and goes against what we, Canadians, stand for.

Franco-Ontarians may be in minority, but they have won the recognition and rightful respect of their fellow citizens from one Canadian province to the next, including Ontario. Let's not forget that they are part of a broader community of millions of French Canadians who want to see their language and culture protected and recognized across the country.

Your recent decision to take away funding for Franco-Ontarians' institutions that were set-up after considerable effort and with great promise represents a devastating step backward for Franco-Ontarians. It also sets a negative precedent that could adversely affect other French speaking minorities across Canada.

We encourage you to opt for financial decisions that are guided by higher principles. It is our wish to see Franco-Ontarians receive the resources and services they need for their community to thrive and prosper.

We, Canadians, are inclusive, diverse and community-driven. We also have a strong sense of history. Let's make sure we preserve our rich cultural and linguistic heritage.



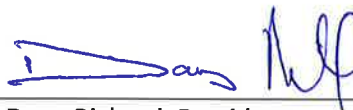
Greg Phillips, President
Canadian Association of Professional Employees



Debi Daviau, President
Professional Institute of the Public Service Canada



Chris Aylward, President
Public Service Alliance of Canada



Dany Richard, President
Association of Canadian Financial Officers