

Response received from Premier Ford via email November 30, 2018

Dear Ms. Mitchell:

Thanks for getting in touch with me on behalf of Family Alliance Ontario to share your views about the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth.

Our Government for The People is committed to pursuing efficiencies and prioritizing funding for services that directly serve the people of Ontario and help those who need it most. We'll plan smarter, spend smarter and work smarter to achieve these goals. We'll reinvent the way government operates and delivers services.

That's why we're acting to improve government accountability in Ontario. To reduce unnecessary costs while preserving critical functions, we're proposing to reduce the number of Legislative Officers from nine to six.

The government has not done away with this office. We have, in fact, transferred all of the office's responsibilities, including its mandate, to the Ombudsman of Ontario. This will strengthen the Ombudsman's mandate and maintain full accountability - one that protects children and youth and respects parents. I have every confidence in the Ombudsman of Ontario and their abilities.

The fiscal hole is deep. The road ahead is not an easy one, and it will require difficult decisions. Everyone in Ontario will be required to make sacrifices, without exception. We must see this as an opportunity to embrace reform and transform how government serves the people.

Thanks again for contacting me.

Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

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