

Successor Rights: A Promise is a Promise

A Special Fax from OPSEU Members

To: _____

Fax Number: _____ Date: _____

I'm writing to ask your help in ensuring fairness for Crown employees and protecting Ontario's public services.

In April, 2003, Dalton McGuinty made an important promise to Crown employees. He said:

*Public employees should have the **same rights** as employees in the private sector, and, as Premier, I will restore **successor rights** for Ontario government employees.*

"Successor rights" provide minimum protections to workers whose jobs are transferred or contracted out to another employer. They ensure workers can move with their jobs – and take their wages, benefits, collective agreements and their union with them.

The vast majority of unionized workers in Ontario have successor rights. Crown employees don't. This includes 50,000 OPSEU members who work in the Ontario Public Service, certain provincial agencies and at the LCBO. Our successor rights were stripped away in 1995 to make it easier to cut public services. This cost thousands of Crown employees their jobs, and meant wage and benefit cuts for thousands more.

It's time Dalton McGuinty lived up to his promise.

Restoring successor rights is about fairness. Crown employees should not be treated as second class citizens by the government we work for.

It's also about protecting the public services we provide. Any divestment is extremely disruptive. The best way to maintain the quality and level of divested services is to protect the jobs, working conditions and standards of living of the dedicated employees who deliver them.

I am writing to ask your help.

- Please raise this issue with Premier McGuinty, Labour Minister Steve Peters, Government Services Minister Gerry Phillips, and your caucus colleagues.
- Tell them that successor rights matter to hundreds of OPSEU members who live in your riding, and 115,000 across the province.
- And urge the government to pass legislation to restore successor rights for Crown employees during the next legislative session.

Sincerely,

Name: _____

Address: _____



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