

Ontario Public Service

One of the greatest threats in the 2009 provincial budget is projected job losses in the OPS. The government says it intends to cut – “by attrition and other measures” – five per cent of the workforce – an amount that translates into about 3,400 FTEs over the next three years.

In a briefing with OPSEU staff during the budget lock-up, Finance ministry officials said they anticipate this target can be met by through normal “turn over” rates within the OPS, which they said amounts to about 1,100 positions annually through retirements and employees moving to other work outside government.

OPSEU takes the position that a position lost is a job lost and that the delivery of public services during an economic crisis will be seriously and negatively impacted by reducing the overall number of positions inside the OPS.

The anticipated reduction in FTEs sustains a tradition of reducing employment in the OPS over the past 15 years.

No explanation was provided about how the reductions will be allocated among Ministries. In the briefing Finance officials said they will be working with all Ministries “to determine a reasonable and feasible method for managing the size of the OPS and requests for FTEs. Requests will be reviewed and approved by the Secretaries of Management Board and Treasury Board.”

Ministry Expense (\$ Millions)	Interim	Plan	Difference	Percentage
	2008–09	2009–10		
Aboriginal Affairs	55.1	71.1	16	29.04%
Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs	899.9	1,116.10	216.2	24.02%
Attorney General	1,681.30	1,650.80	-30.5	-1.81%
Board of Internal Economy	198.3	173.3	-25	-12.61%
Children and Youth Services	4,102.30	4,406.50	304.2	7.42%
Citizenship and Immigration	88.5	106.7	18.2	20.56%
Community and Social Services	8,003.10	8,327.30	324.2	4.05%
Community Safety and Correctional Services	2,146.60	2,260.00	113.4	5.28%
Culture	363.9	476.7	112.8	31.00%
Economic Development	195.6	326.8	131.2	67.08%
Education	445.5	492.9	47.4	10.64%
- School Boards' Net Expense	12,839.90	13,693.50	853.6	6.65%
Energy and Infrastructure	343.1	764.7	421.6	122.88%
Environment	365.6	367.2	1.6	0.44%
Executive Offices	35.6	35.9	0.3	0.84%
Finance	571.4	669.6	98.2	17.19%
Francophone Affairs, Office of	5.5	5.1	-0.4	-7.27%
Government Services	1,093.10	1,313.40	220.3	20.15%
Health and Long-Term Care	21,776.00	22,955.40	1,179.4	5.42%
- Hospitals' Net Expense	18,567.40	19,214.40	647	3.48%
Health Promotion	379	395.9	16.9	4.46%
International Trade and Investment	67.2	72.2	5	7.44%
Labour	167	174.1	7.1	4.25%

Municipal Affairs and Housing	751.7	703.9	-47.8	-6.36%
Natural Resources	788.6	788.2	-0.4	-0.05%
Northern Development and Mines	349.9	378.4	28.5	8.15%
Research and Innovation	313.5	482.7	169.2	53.97%
Revenue	593.1	821.2	228.1	38.46%
Small Business and Consumer Services	47.1	48.8	1.7	3.61%
Tourism	183.4	216.4	33	17.99%
Training, Colleges and Universities	4,657.60	4,736.70	79.1	1.70%
- Colleges' Net Expense	1,445.70	1,549.50	103.8	7.18%
Transportation	2,032.10	2,112.60	80.5	3.96%
Interest on Debt	8,854.00	9,301.00	447	5.05%
Other Expense	2,909.60	9,821.10	6911.5	237.54%
Total Expense (\$ Millions)	97,317.10	108,880.00	11562.9	11.88%