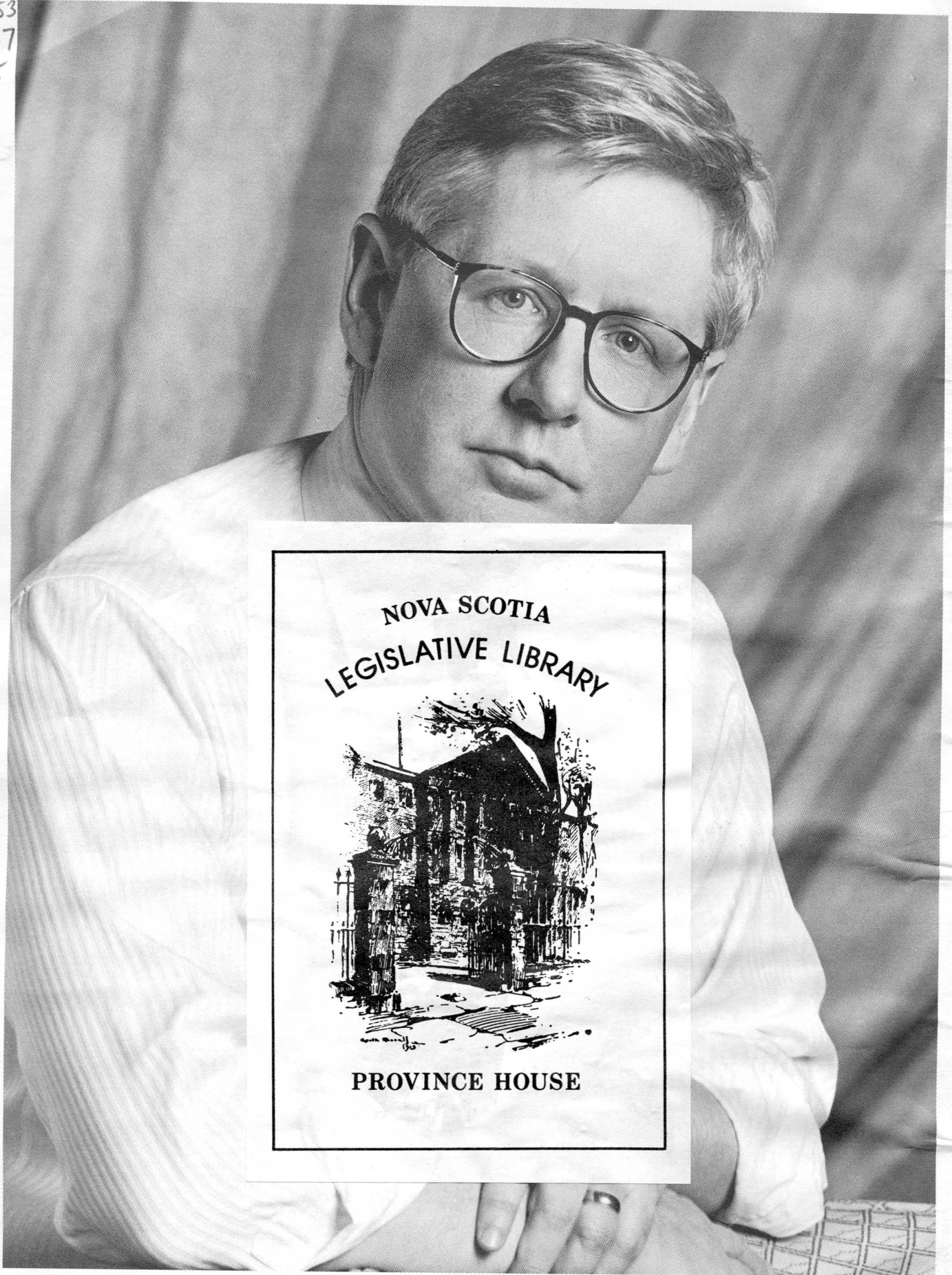

THE
RIGHT CHOICE
FOR
ONTARIO



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*Working together with the people of Ontario,
Bob Rae's New Democratic Party government has
helped to bring our province out of the worst
recession since the 1930s – and put Ontario
on a solid footing for recovery.*

*It took hard work and tough decisions to save jobs,
hold the line on the deficit, and maintain
essential services like health care and education.*

But we're doing it.

*The results of that hard work are
threatened by federal Liberal budget cuts to Ontario's
health care, education and social assistance.
Now more than ever, we need an experienced leader like
Bob Rae to stand up for the people of Ontario.*

**THE
NEW
DEMOCRATS**



From recession to recovery



Bob Rae being sworn in as Premier by Lieutenant Governor Lincoln Alexander in 1990.

When the Bob Rae government was sworn in on October 1, 1990, it was to the echo of Liberal claims that Ontario's economy was booming and the budget was balanced. The truth was exactly the opposite.

Ontario was already in the grip of the most painful recession since the 1930s. It started in February, 1990. The Mulroney free trade deal and the GST made a bad situation even worse. By provincial election day – September 6, 1990 – Ontario had already lost 107,000 jobs.

For too many Ontarians, who had worked hard all their lives to raise and support their families, this period is a painful memory. By the spring of 1992, more than 333,000 jobs were gone from our economy – and because of free trade, many are gone forever. Thousands of people who thought it would never happen to them were forced onto social assistance.

The deficit surprise

There were no easy answers to the ravaging of Ontario's manufacturing and resource base. The Liberals' balanced budget turned out to be a joke. It was, in fact, a \$3 billion deficit by the end of the 1990 fiscal year. By the time the Bob Rae government brought down its first budget in April, 1991, the shortfall from the Liberal years totalled \$8 billion.

Still, we were determined to fight the recession. Our first budget maintained spending and created a special \$900 million anti-recession fund to keep 17,000 people working.

Then we rolled up our sleeves and got to work on longer-term solutions. We had three priorities:

- PROTECT AND CREATE JOBS FOR PEOPLE
- CONTROL THE DEFICIT AND LIVE WITHIN OUR MEANS
- MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Ontario deserves fair treatment from Ottawa

As if free trade and the GST weren't bad enough for Ontario, the Mulroney Tories stopped paying their half of the cost of welfare – at a time when the welfare caseload had doubled. Instead of paying 50 cents on each dollar Ontario spends, like they do for most other provinces, the federal government is only paying 29 cents on the dollar. This action, the cap on the Canada Assistance Plan, has cost Ontario \$7.7 billion. And we were short-changed on support for immigrants, on training, on regional development and on unemployment insurance.

The Liberals have not simply continued this unfair policy – they've made it worse. Right now, the cost of off-loading the federal debt by Tory and Liberal governments adds up to a staggering \$12.4 billion. The recent Liberal budget will add at least another \$3.6 billion in cuts over the next three years. Ontario has 38 per cent of Canada's population, but the Liberals just handed us 54 per cent of the 1996 cuts in federal funding for health, education, social assistance and other transfer payment programs.



Ontario has the strongest job growth in the country

For the Bob Rae government, the first priority has always been to help get Ontarians working again. Through our own initiatives and partnerships with the private sector and other levels of government, we helped to create more than 435,000 jobs over a three year period. Unemployment dropped to 8.6 per cent in January, 1995 – the lowest level in four years. Ontario now has the strongest job growth in Canada, with 40 per cent of all new jobs being created here.

Almost as important as creating jobs is the way we did it. We developed a new approach to rebuilding the economy that's based on four cornerstones: partnership, an industrial strategy, training and public investment. The Bob Rae government recognized early on that if Ontario is to succeed in the future, the economic players – business, labour and government – had to find new ways of working together.

From our industrial strategy that focusses on building the capabilities of whole sectors to our "Clearing the Path" project, which reduces the amount of bureaucracy small businesses face, we are making Ontario a better place to do business. Take the auto industry as one example.

Automakers have invested more than \$5.5 billion in the past five years to build and upgrade their Ontario operations. Ontario – with our highly skilled workers and competitive costs – now exports more vehicles to the United States than Japan does. Current plans by car makers to continue investing in Ontario will create 22,000 new jobs over the next three years.

Like so many other businesses in Ontario, automakers have taken advantage of new training opportunities offered by the Bob Rae government to get the trained workforce they need. And 60,000 unemployed people in Ontario have found the help they need through jobsOntario Training.

Other Ontarians are still working because of the investments the Bob Rae government has made in capital works projects and in private companies.

Our commitment to jobs extends beyond the industrial or manufacturing sectors to Ontario's strong agricultural economy. We set up programs to help keep farmers farming and to keep rural dollars in rural communities. We are partners in agricultural spinoffs like the Guelph Food Technology Centre. This \$15 million, world class research laboratory and food product testing facility will create jobs by securing Ontario's place in an increasingly competitive world market. As well, the Ontario Ethanol Manufacturers Agreement clears the way for up to 1,000 construction jobs, several hundred ongoing operations and maintenance jobs, and another market for Ontario's 25,000 corn producers. The only thing holding it up is the go-ahead needed from the federal Liberals.

Whether through direct government investment, initiatives like the Worker Ownership Plan or training partnerships, the Bob Rae government has helped create or save hundreds of thousands of Ontario jobs.

jobsOntario works

Bob Rae's New Democrats have tackled job creation with energy and creativity. jobsOntario, with its five different programs, is one of the great success stories of modern government.

- jobsOntario *Capital* has provided funding for public transit, roads, water treatment, sewers and telecommunications networks – a permanent benefit to Ontarians and a solid base for economic expansion. Since 1991 the jobsOntario family of programs has invested \$19 billion to build roads, schools, hospitals, subways, sewers, water plants and homes. More than 600,000 person years of work have been created.
- jobsOntario *Training* has placed 60,000 unemployed people in full-time jobs in private companies, replacing welfare and unemployment insurance cheques with pay cheques. People who get jobs and training through this program receive a steady pay cheque, with an average wage of \$21,000. jobsOntario Training is saving taxpayers \$420 million in social assistance costs. As well, employers are helped because they get the trained workforce they need.
- Under jobsOntario *Homes*, we are funding the construction of 20,000 units of non-profit and co-op housing over four years. We have created 80,000 person years of work through this and other social housing programs.
- jobsOntario *Community Action* puts local growth into local hands. It helps communities across Ontario plan local economic development. So far, more than \$400 million has been committed to local projects. In rural communities, projects range from boosting markets for locally-grown food to innovative financing. FarmPLUS earmarks funds at local credit unions and caisses populaires for farm loans and mortgages. jobsOntario Community Action funding makes it possible for small communities with no other financial institutions – such as Northern Ontario's Ear Falls and South River – to set up their own credit union or caisse populaire.
- jobsOntario *Summer Employment* is providing jobs for more than 23,000 students this summer.

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Investing in Ontario companies

New Democrats believe that government has an important role to play in fostering a thriving economy. We have taken action together with our partners in business and labour to keep jobs in Ontario.

- Through our Worker Ownership Plan, the Spruce Falls Mill in Kapuskasing is in business and making a profit. The plan also helped and encouraged workers to buy out the Provincial Papers Mill in Thunder Bay. These two deals kept 1,500 people in their jobs.
- The Bob Rae government helped restructure Algoma Steel into a revitalized, profit-making, worker-owned company, saving 5,000 jobs and making sure the company remains a major employer in Sault Ste. Marie.
- Ontario became a 49 per cent owner of de Havilland, preserving a future for Toronto's largest industrial employer and a key part of the province's aerospace industry. Since March, 1992, 2,900 jobs have been maintained.
- In October, 1994, we added St. Mary's Paper in Sault Ste. Marie to the list of companies saved and protected 326 jobs.
- When the British owner of Mitel Corporation, an Ottawa-based telecommunications leader, threatened to close the company, the Bob Rae government found a new buyer and provided support for new product development guarantees.
- We also supported Husky Injection Molding in Bolton, creating a technology centre for the plastics industry.
- In Elliot Lake, we set up a \$250 million fund to help the community adapt to a declining uranium market.
- Our anti-recession fund spent more than \$900 million in partnership with local governments and agencies in 1991 for repairs and improvements for schools, community centres, bridges, roads, and arenas across Ontario. It created more than 17,000 jobs.

Sometimes assistance comes in the form of grants, loan guarantees or equity.

- The Manufacturing Recovery Program aided more than 220 companies during the recession, saving or creating 14,300 jobs.
- The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund spent \$130 million to fund 1,233 projects resulting in 6,870 jobs created or saved.
- The Ontario Development Corporation has loaned or guaranteed more than \$1 billion to more than 15,000 businesses since January 1991, securing 127,000 jobs.

These are just some examples of strategic investments the Bob Rae government has made to help get Ontario working again.

Levelling the playing field

Partnerships among business, labour, communities and government have worked in Ontario to protect and create jobs. But partnership begins by creating a level playing field. The Bob Rae government has shifted the balance of power so that labour is a real partner with business and communities in working together to rebuild the economy.

- The labour relations climate in Ontario has improved with the New Democrats' labour law reform. It extended collective bargaining rights to thousands of workers who had been excluded. It also limits the use of replacement workers during strikes and lockouts, simplifies some proceedings and promotes greater co-operation between employees and employers.
- Our Wage Protection Plan recognizes the work performed by employees who are owed money for wages, vacation, termination and severance pay by former employers. Since the program started, 57,080 Ontario working men and women have received from the government about \$133 million that they had been unable to collect.
- We have provided increases of \$200 a month to 47,000 older injured workers who were trying to get by on meagre Workers' Compensation pensions.
- Employees working at home – many of them immigrant women – were not protected by the Employment Standards Act. New Democrats brought in new regulations to cover hours of work, overtime, holiday pay, costs of equipment, and conditions of work.
- We increased the minimum wage from \$5.40 to \$6.85 an hour.

All of these changes help create a new attitude that lets partnerships flourish. And, when business and labour are partners with their community and their government, great things can happen. Algoma Steel, Spruce Falls, Provincial Paper, de Havilland, Bombardier, St. Mary's Paper all show what is possible.



Making the difficult decisions to keep spending in line

The Bob Rae government has been able to protect and create jobs and maintain services, but it took some tough decisions. We reduced Ontario's operating deficit by 30 per cent in two years – and by 1997 it will be completely gone. Now, with the Ontario economy growing at its fastest rate in six years, it's worth looking back and remembering why tough action was needed.

By the fall of 1992, it was clear the recession was longer and deeper than any of the experts had predicted. The economy shrank by almost three per cent, more than 330,000 jobs were lost and provincial revenues decreased by about \$3 billion. As we prepared the 1993-94 budget, Ontario faced a \$17 billion deficit, totally unsustainable levels of borrowing, double digit unemployment and the prospect of huge job losses in the public sector.

We realized that if we didn't do something, the interest to be paid on the public debt would be the highest single budget item – 25 cents of every dollar spent.

We decided to take action to reduce our operating budget by \$6 billion. We reduced our own spending on government by \$2 billion. We raised an extra \$2 billion through fair personal income tax increases – the top 10 per cent of earners pay for 40 per cent of the increases – and by bringing in a corporate minimum tax for large, profitable companies. And we introduced the social contract to cut \$2 billion in public sector wages while saving 40,000 jobs.

Making government more efficient and affordable

The Bob Rae government is Ontario's first in 50 years to actually reduce government spending. And we maintained and improved services at the same time. Here's what we did.

- We reduced the size of the Ontario Public Service by 5,000 positions with virtually no layoffs.
- There are now 20 ministries instead of the 28 that existed in 1990-91.
- To allow government to work in a more business-like way with the private sector, we set up a new family of crown corporations. The Ontario Transportation Capital Corporation, in partnership with the private sector, is building Highway 407 twenty years ahead of schedule. The Ontario Clean Water Agency is building 190 sewer and water projects. It turned a profit in its first year. The Ontario Realty Corporation manages all public property. And the Ontario Financing Authority arranges loan financing for new public-private ventures like Highway 407.

Farming still the heart of rural Ontario

Bob Rae and the New Democrats have worked to help keep Ontario's rural communities strong. We've taken action in the spirit of the co-operation, commitment and creativity of rural people, providing the support and tools they need for economic development and greater self-reliance.

More than 60 per cent of jobs Ontario Community Action projects are in rural Ontario, organized by groups like Women in Rural Economic Development.

One important step the Bob Rae government took was to expand the role of credit unions and *caisses populaires* in rural lending.

Farming remains the backbone of much of rural Ontario. When farmers told us they wanted new sources of capital at reasonable rates, we acted quickly. The new farmer-run Agricultural Commodity Corporation has loaned \$80 million so far.

Research and marketing remain key to the future of farming. Our government has invested millions in research, including \$17 million for the new Guelph Food Technology Centre.

New Democrats have made it possible for fish farmers to raise many new species in an industry that is expected to triple in size and create about 1,000 new, rural jobs over the next few years. And we've helped get Canada's first world-scale ethanol plant off the ground in Chatham. Besides creating more than 1,000 construction jobs and more than 500 permanent jobs, it will use 20 million bushels of local corn. The Bob Rae government has also joined eastern Ontario shareholders in the Seaway Valley Farmers Energy Co-operative to start an ethanol plant in Cornwall.

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Fair taxes

While the Bob Rae government didn't raise taxes in 1994 and won't do it in 1995, we didn't have that luxury two years ago when we were facing a possible \$17 billion deficit. We increased personal income tax – we had to, but we did it fairly.

On average, Ontario families have seen their annual taxes increase by 1.2 per cent. Yet, the Ontario taxpayer earning an average industrial wage still pays the third lowest personal income tax rate in Canada.

The top 10 per cent of income earners have paid for 40 per cent of the increases brought in by the Bob Rae government. We reduced income taxes for 270,000 low income Ontarians – including 200,000 who have been removed from the tax rolls entirely.

On the corporate side, we brought in a corporate minimum tax on large, profitable companies, took action to close corporate loopholes and reduced deductions for expense account meals and entertainment. At the same time, we gave small business some tax “breaks” to help create jobs and expand production. Employers no longer have to pay the health payroll tax for the first year that a new employee works. And we've given small and medium sized businesses a tax credit to help with the costs of research and development.

The Bob Rae government even got rid of some outdated taxes like the tire tax and commercial concentration tax. In difficult times, we've managed to make the tax system more productive and equitable.

Improving health care

By helping to get Ontario working again – and making tough decisions to control the deficit – we have been able to maintain and improve essential services. Health care is a good example.

When the Bob Rae government took office, spending on hospitals had been increasing anywhere from eight per cent to 11 per cent a year. OHIP spending usually increased by about 12 per cent a year. Ontario Drug Benefits (ODB) program costs were going up by 19 per cent a year.

Four years later, Ontarians have better cancer care, a new drug plan and expanded home care because the Bob Rae government started to control spending.

The annual OHIP increase is now under 2.2 per cent. ODB costs are going up just over three per cent a year. At the same time, we have increased spending in both community health and long-term care. The number of Ontarians receiving long term care services in their own homes has grown 45 per cent.

Hospital funding has been brought under control, but without the drastic cutbacks seen in other provinces. Hospital funding has increased nine per cent or \$604 million since 1990-91.

The social contract

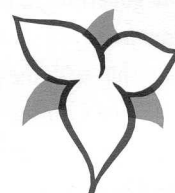
In their recent budget, the federal Liberals said they will get rid of 45,000 public servants. The Lyn McLeod fiscal plan says they will get rid of 12,000 Ontario government workers. And Mike Harris wants to put 13,000 out of work.

The Bob Rae government puts people first. By bringing in the social contract, we were able to save the jobs of 40,000 public employees, maintain services, and permanently save Ontario taxpayers about \$2 billion.

Under the social contract, public employees and employers in the Ontario government, hospitals, schools, municipalities, and community agencies negotiated 7,600 local agreements to reach their targets in their own way with their own plan.

We have made some changes to the training and adjustment programs in the social contract to prepare for its expiry in April, 1996. Training for Workplace Innovation under the Job Security Fund has been opened to all employees in the broader public sector who need training and labour adjustment support as a result of restructuring in their workplace. Previously, this program was available only to people whose employment was affected by the social contract alone. As well, each key sector in the broader public service will have a mandatory jobs registry to help employees find new jobs. And there is demonstration project funding available for innovative restructuring projects that illustrate best workplace practices and partnerships between employers and employees in the public sector.

There are still some public complaints about the social contract. But privately, many people agree that they'd rather have a Rae day than no pay cheque.



While costs have to be kept in line, better health care is more than just a cost-cutting exercise. We want to provide health care in a different way. Over time, we will rely less on hospitals and institutions and more on community-based health care. We would rather concentrate on keeping people well so that the funds will be available when treatment is necessary. And that necessary treatment has also improved – for instance, we added 11 more radiation therapy machines around the province and have plans for another 13.

Now Ontario is facing a new health care challenge in the wake of the federal Liberal budget. The Bob Rae government is ready to meet that challenge and stand up for what is important to the people of Ontario – a health care system that works for everyone.

A decent, affordable place to live

Bob Rae and the New Democrats have an impressive record on improving housing for the people of Ontario.

We funded 50,000 non-profit and co-operative rental housing units which amount to more than 80,000 person-years of work. These projects are mixed-income communities that provide decent and affordable housing for single people, families, seniors and people with disabilities.

Non-profit and co-op housing accounts for 15 per cent of what Ontario spends on a balanced mix of housing programs. The result is a permanent stock of more than 101,000 housing units for the people of Ontario.

But people need more than a roof over their heads. We are the only government in Canada to put real rent control into law. We made rent increases predictable and fair – keeping them low – while still allowing landlords the funds needed for capital improvements. If buildings are not kept in good repair, there's no rent increase allowed.

We also allowed homeowners to have apartments in their homes as long as they meet health and safety standards. In the past, these apartments were illegal because of zoning. That means tenants often lived in unsafe or unhealthy conditions. They were afraid they would be evicted by the municipality if they complained. Making these apartments legal also creates jobs in the construction and renovation business.

Ontario has many other small, unregulated operations called "care homes." They provide some care to tenants but not as much as nursing homes do. Tenants in "care homes" are now safe from arbitrary eviction and have the benefit of rent control, thanks to Bob Rae and the New Democrats.

Finally, right across Ontario, we've brought tenants, housing authorities and community service agencies together to co-operate in improving the quality of life in public housing.

Ontarians value fairness

No matter how tough times get, people expect fair treatment – and they want to be included. People in Ontario value compassion and care for their communities and their environment. The Bob Rae government has worked to make those values a part of everyday life in Ontario. Our emphasis has been on making the most of the talents of all the people in our communities.

- We improved the pay equity law, adding coverage for 420,000 women who had been excluded by the Liberal law.
- The employment equity law ensures we are making the best use of our entire workforce, including Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, racial minorities and women, and that employers are using fair hiring practices.
- We opened up public appointments, so that any Ontarian can find out what appointments exist and how to apply.
- We formally recognized the right of First Nations to be self-governing and are dealing with the First Nations on a government-to-government basis.

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MAINTAINING SERVICES

	1990	1994	Change %
Students in elementary and high school (millions)	1,770	1,893	7%
Students in colleges and universities (I)	319,000	363,000	14%
Hospital cases/ patients (millions) (II)	14.7	16.0	9%
Women covered by pay equity	360,000	780,000	117%
Subsidized child care spaces	46,600	68,300	47%
People in training programs (III)	313,000	376,000	20%
People receiving in-home long-term care services (IV)	207,000	300,000	45%

(I) Based on full-time enrolments. Preliminary figure for 1994, based on fall survey.

(II) 1989-90 fiscal year versus preliminary 1993-94 fiscal year.

(III) Training interventions and job placements plus literary programs funded by the Province. Estimated figure for 1994.

(IV) Estimated figure for 1994.

A healthy environment

People in Ontario want to see their environment protected and kept healthy. The Bob Rae government made the principles of sustainable development and environmental protection a priority.

- We brought in the Environmental Bill of Rights to give all Ontarians a say in protecting the environment.
- The environment and jobs do go together. Ontario's "green" industries employ 30,000 people.
- We brought in the best waste reduction regulations in Canada, based on the 3Rs – reduce, reuse, recycle.
- We banned new municipal garbage incinerators, which are expensive, polluting, and discourage recycling.
- Our nuclear moratorium put an end to nuclear megaprojects like those of the 1980s that were pushing hydro rates up by more than 10 per cent a year.
- Ontario's new Crown Forest Sustainability Act balances environmental and economic interests, involves local citizens in forest planning and guarantees funding for full forest renewal.
- We expanded Wabikimi Provincial Park to 900,000 hectares, creating one of the world's largest protected areas of boreal forest.
- Our creation of Rouge Park gives Ontarians the largest urban park in North America.



GETTING READY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Bob Rae and the New Democrats are not making promises about unaffordable new programs. Unlike the Liberals and Conservatives we will not promise to do the impossible. Neither will we join the stampede to the political right.

We offer government that has clear goals and priorities.

- *A government that will be there to protect vital services like medicare.*
- *A government that will be there as a partner with business, labour and community to save and create jobs.*
- *A government that will be there to stand up and fight for Ontario when we deal with the federal government.*
- *A government that will live within its means through a steady, fair approach to a balanced operating budget by 1997.*

1. The fight for Ontario

Since 1984 Ontario has been denied fair treatment by the federal government.

Under Mulroney and the Conservatives, Ontario's economy was ravaged by free trade, the GST and high interest rates. Transfer payment cuts and federal cutbacks to job training, immigration services and social assistance have cost Ontario a total of \$12.4 billion.

Now with Paul Martin's budget the Liberals have made it worse. Over the next three years, Ontario faces another \$3.6 billion in cuts from the federal government.

And, the federal Liberals have abandoned their historic commitment to use the payments the federal government makes to the provinces as a way to enforce national programs and national standards.

Ontarians are now on their own. The only government they can depend on to be there when they need it is the government at Queen's Park.

2. Saving medicare and improving health services

Bob Rae and the New Democrats created a new approach to running medicare. New Democrats led the fight to get medicare for Canadians, and now we're leading the fight to protect it.

Runaway cost increases were threatening the future of medicare. Instead of taking a slash and burn approach – cutting services or bringing in user fees – the Bob Rae government has brought costs under control and shifted the focus of the health care system. And as a result, important new reforms have been possible.

Doing what's right and what's fair

You've been reading about the tough decisions Bob Rae and the New Democrats have had to make in tough economic times. Our decisions weren't always popular, but governing isn't a popularity contest. It's doing what's right and what's fair for the people of Ontario. Here's what you can expect from Bob Rae and the New Democrats in the future.

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Ontario is making changes in our health care system to promote healthy communities and ensure we can meet the health needs of Ontarians now and into the 21st century.

- There are more elderly people in our population and more people with physical disabilities who want to live independently. Since 1990, the number of people receiving long-term care services in their homes has risen by 45 per cent to 300,000. To ensure that in-home services like nursing, meals, physiotherapy and homemaking are available in the future to those who need them, we have launched Neighbours, a program that will provide one-stop access in communities.
- Some individuals and families who are struck by conditions like multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis or AIDS are having a hard time paying for all the prescription drugs they need. The new Trillium Drug Program will help about 250,000 Ontarians cope with unmanageable drug expenses.

Nearly every family in Ontario has been touched in some way by cancer. Ontario spends more than \$1 billion a year on cancer care. Now, for the first time, Ontario has a provincial cancer strategy that looks at every aspect of cancer care, from early detection to treatment, community support and palliative care.

- Since 1990, we have put more than \$370 million into expansion of cancer facilities in places like Oshawa, London, Ottawa, Durham, Peel, and Toronto's Princess Margaret Hospital.
- Since 1990, 11 new radiation therapy machines have been put in place, compared to three in the previous four years. Another 13 new machines will be in operation over the next two years.
- The Breast Cancer Screening Program, introduced in 1990 to encourage more women to have mammograms to check for early signs of cancer, is now screening 60,000 women a year. The number of screening centres was increased in the fall of 1994 from 10 to 16 so that the program will be able to serve even more women in future.
- Cancer Care Ontario is the new agency that will ensure all Ontarians have access to cancer treatment, no matter where they live.

New technologies are transforming health care right across the province. There are now 25 MRI machines for hospitals. The Health Network allows pharmacists to make sure elderly patients are not taking the wrong or too many drugs. And we're using the latest technology for the new Ontario Health Cards, including a digitized picture, to help prevent fraud.

Immunization of students, recognition and regulation of midwives and the Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy, a five-year plan to tackle health and social problems facing Aboriginal communities, are all changes to the traditional way some health care services have been provided. We also are investing \$20 million in new community mental health services to make this shift to community care possible.

Services that are under pressure from increased demand have been given additional funding, for example providing dialysis treatment for more than 2,000 additional patients and caring for almost 3,000 more cardiac patients.

The only promise: no two-tiered medicine

The federal Liberal government has abandoned its financial support for medicare. Federal actions threaten the improvements our government has been able to make in health care. Bob Rae and the New Democrats will not permit Liberal budget cuts to harm medicare in Ontario. There will not be two-tiered medicine in Ontario, with one level of service for the rich and another for everybody else.



3. Keeping Ontario growing

Job creation remains the New Democrats' priority for the second term. Our record speaks for itself.

Ontario's economic growth rate for 1994 was 5.3 per cent – the highest in six years and one of the highest in the world. Between 1995 and 1998 growth will average 3.8 per cent, with 115,000 new jobs in 1995 and 380,000 jobs in the next three years. By the year 2000, 800,000 new jobs will be there for Ontario's people.

We will continue the approach developed in our first term based on four cornerstones: partnership, industrial strategy, training and public investment.

Partnership

Ontario's economy can be rebuilt only if business, labour and communities are real partners. Ontario needs an active, caring government that will be there when needed to help save and create jobs.

Industrial strategy

Economic growth requires planning that is based on building the strength of the economy sector by sector.

Training

The Ontario Training and Adjustment Board will modernize Ontario's workplace training programs. jobsOntario Training will change its focus to support jobless young people. And jobLink Ontario will expand its services to people trapped on social assistance.

Public investment

The New Democrats remain committed to public investment as a key element of job creation. Whether it's investment in capital infrastructure like highways, transit or schools, or loan guarantees or training incentives, a New Democrat government will be there when it's needed. The kind of capital spending that's already created more than 600,000 person-years of work in our first term will continue in our second term.

4. Making sure our children get the education they need

Bob Rae and the New Democrats are reforming the school system in Ontario. It's the first major overhaul of education in more than 25 years.

Here's our plan.

- A province-wide curriculum for Junior Kindergarten through Grade 12 to set out clearly what students are expected to learn.
- New provincial standards to measure how well students are learning.
- Standard report cards to tell parents how their children are doing.
- Province-wide testing in reading, writing and math in Grades 3, 6, 9 and 11.
- Better teacher training and certification.
- School Councils in each school to link school and parents.
- Voluntary early childhood education for four- and five-year-olds, for those parents who want their children to have it.

Helping young people get their first job

To meet the special needs of young people searching for their first job, we have introduced JUMPstart. JUMPstart will provide first-job experience for 66,000 young people. It will pull together our youth training and employment programs, expand what works well, add new measures where they're needed, and make it easier for young people and employers to find the help they need.

Ontario's economy is on the move and gathering strength for sustained growth through the rest of the decade.

Training

We will continue the successful jobsOntario Training program that has already helped more than 60,000 welfare and unemployment insurance recipients get back to work through on-the-job training. It is saving us \$420 million in welfare costs. The focus of jobsOntario Training will change to support unemployed young people and prevent a new cycle of dependence on social assistance.

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- Special help with reading for the youngest learners.
- No more Grade 13. Students will graduate in four years instead of five years. The savings will finance the added help for the youngest learners in the early grades.
- Stronger guidance programs and more on-the-job training for real careers.
- Computers in the classroom and in the hands of all students.
- Less bureaucracy. Reduce the number of school boards. Cut the number of school trustees and cap their salaries at \$20,000 a year. Put the money back into the classroom.

We have already started on these reforms to strengthen public education with a new focus on students, a new commitment to excellence and a new accountability to the public.

5. Clean water, clean air, green solutions

Bob Rae and the New Democrats remain committed to the principles of sustainable development and to the priority of environmental protection. In our second term we will continue and strengthen the major initiatives now underway.

Waste

Our approach to waste disposal is based on solid environmental principles. The 3 Rs – reduce, reuse, recycle – must be the foundation of any waste solution. Like all areas of the province, the Greater Toronto Area is responsible for looking after its own garbage. Waste problems will not be exported to other regions. All solutions will be green solutions, subject to independent environmental assessments.

The provincial Interim Waste Authority will continue its fair, impartial and independent search for GTA dumpsites. Each of the three proposed sites will be subject to stringent environmental assessment and a full and open hearings process starting this summer.

Bob Rae and the New Democrats have already exceeded the first-term target of a 25 per cent reduction in disposable garbage. For the second term, our target is 50 per cent or more by the year 2000.

Ontario Hydro, energy and sustainable development

The New Democrats' nuclear moratorium will continue. There will be no more nuclear megaprojects like Darlington, which cost \$15 billion under then Liberal energy minister Lyn McLeod. Ontario Hydro's \$30 billion debt and colossal mismanagement led to annual hydro rate hikes of more than 10 per cent. Under the New Democrats, Ontario Hydro has become smaller and its finances are under control. Rates were frozen for the past two years.

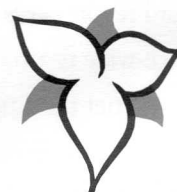
Green industry

The environment and jobs go together. jobsOntario Capital will continue to invest in the Green Industry Strategy with a focus on energy efficiency, waste reduction and water conservation for homeowners and businesses. The Green Communities program and Home Green-Ups will continue to support water and energy conservation and waste reduction in homes and businesses across Ontario.

6. Reforming social services

When economic circumstances permit, we will replace the existing welfare system with a system that encourages and rewards people for getting back to work through training. The New Democrats' vision of welfare reform has three parts. The Ontario Adult Benefit will provide basic income support. The Ontario Child Income Program will provide a monthly benefit to low-income families, making sure that parents working at low-wage jobs are not forced to turn to welfare in order to care for their children. And jobLink Ontario will give people the help they need to start or return to work.

jobLink Ontario Resource Centres are already being set up in cities across Ontario to help people replace welfare cheques with pay cheques.



Stopping pollution

Bob Rae and the New Democrats will continue the ban on new municipal solid waste incinerators. We will continue tough enforcement of anti-pollution laws to make the polluter pay. We will bring a renewed vigour to strong enforcement of emission control laws on pulp and paper, including chlorine, to help clean up the Great Lakes. The ongoing ban on CFC's will ensure the elimination of 90 per cent of ozone-depleting emissions in Ontario by the end of our second term in office.

In our second term we will introduce new pollution prevention legislation as well as a tough new anti-dumping bill.

Land use planning

The New Democrat Planning Act reform will protect the environment and stop urban sprawl. The principles of the Crombie Commission Report will continue to govern development in the Oak Ridges Moraine and the Toronto Waterfront.

7. Strengthening rural communities and farming

Bob Rae and the New Democrats will continue working closely with farmers and rural communities to strengthen the rural economy.

The Agricultural Investment Strategy helps farmers achieve long term stability through a systematic strengthening of farm credit and loan programs.

The Farm Tax Rebate will be fixed at 75 per cent for a three year term.

We remain absolutely committed to support for our family of stabilization programs, our reforms to crop insurance, effective marketing support through Foodland Ontario, the Environmental Farm Plan and supportive research for Ontario's food industry.

Canada's first ethanol plant in Chatham is the beginning of a new industry and a new market for Ontario's corn producers – and a new, clean fuel source.

And jobsOntario will continue to invest in community self-help and infrastructure projects to build for the future prosperity of rural Ontario.

8. Affordable housing and real rent control

Bob Rae's government has funded the construction of 50,000 non-profit and co-operative homes. And we have passed Ontario's first workable rent control law. The Liberals and Conservatives oppose both social housing and our rent control reform.

Our commitment is to continue building affordable housing and to maintain strong tenant protection and rent control.

9. Living within our means

In our second term, Bob Rae and the New Democrats will continue to follow a balanced and fair approach to deficit reduction. Over the past two years the deficit has been reduced by 30 per cent. And there have been no new taxes. We are already on track to a balanced operating budget by 1997, without raising taxes.

We will meet our deficit targets while protecting medicare for everyone, public education for our children and services to the vulnerable.

**THE
NEW
DEMOCRATS**

The Right Choice for Ontario

Bob Rae and Ontario's New Democrats haven't always done the popular thing. But they've done the right thing. They've weighed the options, listened to the arguments and tried to make decisions that are fair and in the best interest of the people of Ontario.

Ontarians know what to expect from Bob Rae. He stands for an Ontario that works through partnership. He stands for an Ontario that encourages every person to play a part. Bob Rae stands for an Ontario where people come first – and that means creating jobs and maintaining essential services like health care.

**THE
NEW
DEMOCRATS**

Authorized by the CFO of Ontario New Democrats.



**Bob Rae
and the
New Democrats
are the right
choice
for Ontario**



If you'd like more information
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Bob Rae's Re-election Campaign

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