



June 10, 2014

Better Budget Toronto  
[info@betterbudget.ca](mailto:info@betterbudget.ca)

Dear Better Budget Toronto Team,

Thank you for your letter regarding the Ontario Liberal commitment to better budgeting. We appreciate the work that your group does at the municipal level, and we continue to take that work into consideration as we work to improve our own policy process.

As you know, Ontario Liberals have already taken a number of steps to enhance the quality of our budgeting and to ensure that our policies are evidence-based. Ontario Liberals are proud of the strong relationships we have developed with the academic and research communities and the ways in which we have relied on those communities to collaboratively develop policy options. The Commission on the Reform of Ontario's Public Services, the Commission for the Review of Social Assistance in Ontario, and the more recent Open Government Engagement Team - are notable examples of Ontario Liberals seeking to leverage expertise, from within and outside of government - to ensure that our decisions are based on the best evidence.

We are committed to extending these partnerships even further, to ensure a strong formal link between government and the research community outside of government. More specifically, we are committed to creating a Centre for Evidence Based Budgeting which can act as a stable, robust, and collaborative hub of research expertise on issues of importance to Ontarians. This centre would act as bridge between government and those outside government seeking to provide input into the policy process. It would engage both world-class researchers and citizens seeking to make their voices heard. We believe the centre can act as model of better budgeting for governments at all levels, including the municipal level.

Ontario Liberal Party

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The Ontario Liberal Party is committed to working with the academic community and groups like your own to develop the centre and its mandate. The centre is something we would be eager to establish and therefore would move quickly to develop.

We look forward to working with you on this important issue.

Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kathleen Wynne'.

Kathleen Wynne  
Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party  
Premier