**PLEASE CONSIDER SENDING YOUR OWN EMAIL OR LETTER CALLING ON THE PROVINCE TO STOP CUTTING HOUSING SUPPORT TO THE CITY OF TORONTO. A FEW POINTS are PROVIDED BELOW. SEE THE FACTSHEET FOR MORE DETAILS.**

* It is estimated there are 1,500 people living in nearly 100 encampments throughout the city of Toronto. Recently the city has housed almost 200 of the most vulnerable of that population to protect them during COVID-19. But the City of Toronto cannot run a deficit and so must rely on federal and provincial financial support. The City needs support from the province to end encampments in our parks and provide short term and long term solutions. Essential and cost effective housing solutions are available that will both provide jobs and help cut the rising rate of people who are homeless in our city.
* Despite supposed cost-matching requirements, the Ontario Government is actually spending LESS money on housing programs, despite receiving MORE federal funding under the National Housing Strategy. Last year the Federal Parliamentary Budget Officer released a report indicating that the Ontario Housing Ministry had reduced spending by $161 million in 2019-20 (as compared to the previous year), even though it had received an additional $100 million in federal funding under the NHS.[[1]](#footnote-1)
* I am asking that both Premier Doug Ford and the Hon Steve Clark, Minister for Municipal Affairs and Housing, immediately reinstate the $161 million cut from this year’s budget to help the City of Toronto deal with the rising rates of people who are homeless.

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1. Ontario’s 2019-20 Main Estimates reduced operating spending on housing programs from $944 million in 2018-19 to $866 million in 2019-20, and capital spending from $302 million to $219 million, despite $0.1 billion in additional funding provided to Ontario by CMHC in 2019-20 for which cost-matching was required. While matching funding was nominally committed in Ontario’s 2018 Budget, this was offset by other reductions, notably the expiry of the Provincial Affordable Housing Lands Program. Content taken from: Federal Program Spending on Housing Affordability. Page 8. Ottawa, Canada. 18 June 2019 <https://www.pbo-dpb.gc.ca/web/default/files/Documents/Reports/2019/Housing_Affordability/Federal%20Spending%20on%20Housing%20Affordability%20EN.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)