



Hon. Madeleine Meilleur
Minister of Community and Social Services
Ministry of Community and Social Services
6th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1E9

Hon. Deb Matthews
Minister of Health and Long Term Care
Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
10th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2C4

April 1st, 2010

Dear Ministers,

The Ontario Council of the Canadian Federation of University Women has endorsed the 25in5 Poverty Reduction campaign and applauded the government's initiatives towards ending poverty.

We are therefore concerned about the cancellation of the Special Diet Allowance, and its subsequent transfer to the Health Ministry to become a nutritional supplement program.

We can only hope that during the upcoming review of social assistance policies and programs, and with the work of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Results Committee, it will be realized that nutritious food is almost impossible to purchase for families living on Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program.

We are supportive of the \$100. Food Supplement to the basic needs allowance, whose need was highlighted in the "Do the Math" Campaign, and we hope in time that this financial assistance will be realized.

We look forward to the upcoming review of social assistance, and applaud the small steps that you have already taken. As well we wish to recognize the importance of the increase in the minimum wage, an important step to assist the working poor.

Ontario Council of the Canadian Federation of University Women is composed of 57 clubs comprised of graduates living in urban and rural areas across Ontario. We are non-partisan, non-sectarian and we are totally member funded.

Yours truly,

Myra Willis
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Canadian Federation of University Women
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