



Ontario Federation of Labour Pensions Lobby

The future of Canadians' retirement security hangs in the balance.

Pension reform is being debated this Spring. Federal and provincial finance ministers have promised to consult with Canadians and report back by May. The usual voices are advocating for a system that will benefit the financial industry and the wealthy. The CLC has waged a successful campaign to ensure that the interests of workers are not forgotten in this debate. Labour is advocating for an expansion of the Canada Pension Plan. This safe, low-cost alternative will benefit all workers in every sector of the economy.

Labour's vision and alternative is on the table, but we are fighting against powerful interests. We are asking you to add your voice to this debate by lobbying your local MPP. We need a show of force to send a message to politicians that they have to consider the retirement needs of all Canadians.

This kit is designed to assist you in your lobby back in your community. All evidence points to the fact that elected officials are most persuaded by pressure from the people that elect them. We need Liberal MPPs, in particular, to get on side with labour's proposals around expanding the Canada Pension Plan, so they will put pressure on the Liberal Government.

In this kit you will find tips for effective lobbying, fact sheets on the issues, questions to ask the MPP, and a list of the MPPs' offices.

Also in the kit are tips for effective phone and letter writing campaigns, a sample letter to your MPP and a petition, if you wish to use them.

Lobby Instructions

Prior to the Meeting

- Organize a team of 3 or 4 activists to lobby with you
- Call and make an appointment to see your MPP
- Have a pre-meeting caucus to go over who says what
- Chose a main spokesperson and a recorder for your team
- Review the speakers' notes in your kits
- Review the questions to ask the MPP's in your kits

At the Meeting

- Introduce your delegation
- State your position - mention that pension reform is an important issue in your community. State that you are seeking the MPP's support for the following: (fill in with exact wording)
- Ask the questions and wait for the MPP's response.
- Record the response on the sheet provided at the back of the kit
- Thank the MPP for their time and leave

After the Meeting

- De-brief with your team and mail your response sheets back to the OFL, c/o Sandra Clifford, Ontario Federation of Labour, 15 Gervais Drive, 2nd Floor, Don Mills, ON M3C 1Y8.



QUESTIONS FOR MPPs

For all MPPs

Name of MPP: _____

Your name: _____

Question 1 Do you support doubling CPP benefits as an affordable, equitable way to increase retirement security for all Ontarians?

Response: _____

For Government MPPs

2. If no, why not?

Response: _____

3. If yes, will you advocate for your government to take a strong, public position supporting doubling CPP benefits with your Cabinet and caucus colleagues?

Response: _____

For Opposition MPPs

If not, why not?

Response: _____

4. If yes, will you advocate for the Ontario government to take a strong public position supporting doubling CPP benefits in question period and with your constituents?
