



A People Place, A Change of Pace
SHELBURNE
ONTARIO, CANADA

April 27, 2021

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office, Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford:

On behalf of my Council, I am urging your government to *immediately* implement and fund the necessary policies to provide adequate paid sick day benefits for Ontario's workers.

It is a widely accepted fact that workplaces are a significant source of COVID-19 transmission throughout our province. Sadly however, too many Ontarians are still going to work when they are sick for fear that they will lose pay should they stay at home. This is entirely counterproductive to our collective efforts to contain this deadly virus and is contributing to the high case counts that we continue to see throughout Ontario.

The federal Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit is not nearly sufficient to rely upon as our only line of defense on this front. While it offers some help, this program is temporary, not fully accessible to all workers, and the delays involved in applying fail to adequately cover the crucial first few days of an illness. We can do better Mr. Premier.

I am confident that a "Team Ontario" approach to this issue will find the kind of tailored solution needed to meet the needs of workers within our province. A universal Ontario paid sick day policy must ensure accessible and timely supports to allow workers to stay home when they are sick, get tested, self-isolate and follow all necessary COVID-19 control measures without fear of income-loss and financial hardship. We owe this to our workers who have given so much over this past year.

It's time for action Mr. Premier.

Respectfully yours,

Wade Mills

Mayor, Town of Shelburne