

THE WAY FORWARD

THROUGH IT'S NEVER OKAY: AN ACTION PLAN TO STOP SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT WE ARE DOING OUR PART TO ESTABLISH AN ONTARIO WHERE EVERYONE LIVES IN SAFETY AND IS FREE FROM THE THREAT, FEAR OR EXPERIENCE OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT. THE PLAN INCLUDES COMMITMENTS TO:

- 1** Introduce legislation to strengthen provisions related to sexual violence and harassment in the workplace, on campus, in housing, and through the civil claim process.
- 2** Launch a public education and awareness campaign across Ontario to challenge attitudes, promote immediate change in rape culture behaviour, and encourage a longer-term generational shift to end deep-rooted attitudes and behaviours.
- 3** Develop tools and identify best practices to support a compassionate and sensitive response from law enforcement authorities to encourage more survivors to report sexual assaults.
- 4** Increase supports and develop an enhanced prosecution model to improve the experience of survivors navigating the criminal justice system.
- 5** Update the Health and Physical Education curriculum to help students from grades 1–12 gain a deeper understanding of a host of important issues, including healthy relationships and consent.
- 6** Introduce legislation to require colleges and universities to work with students to adopt campus-wide sexual violence and harassment policies that include training, prevention, complaint procedures and response protocols.
- 7** Strengthen supports provided by hospital-based Sexual and Domestic Violence Treatment Centres to maintain 24/7 access to excellent, appropriate and timely care.
- 8** Develop up-to-date training for front-line workers in the health, community services, education and justice sectors to better support survivors of sexual assault and harassment and develop training for workers in the hospitality sector to empower them to know how to help when they encounter high-risk situations.
- 9** Stabilize and increase funding for community-based sexual assault centres.
- 10** Create a pilot program to provide free independent legal advice to sexual assault survivors whose cases are proceeding toward a criminal trial.
- 11** Establish a permanent roundtable to make Ontario a leader within Canada on issues of violence against women.
- 12** Enhance workplace laws to strengthen enforcement under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, including establishing a Code of Practice to help employers develop stronger sexual harassment policies.
- 13** Launch a creative engagement fund that supports Ontario artists to develop projects that provoke conversation and dialogue on issues of consent, rape culture and gender inequality.

FOR HELP, CALL **211** OR VISIT **211.CA**
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