

## **Women Promoted to Cabinet in Key Government Roles**

*Updated Cabinet for 2018 to Continue Push for Fairness and Opportunity in Ontario*  
January 17, 2018 3:15 P.M.

Premier Kathleen Wynne today announced changes to her cabinet that place eight women, including three new ministers, in key roles across government. In this time of economic change, Ontario is moving forward on a plan to create more fairness and opportunity for everyone. This updated cabinet draws on the strength of the government team to continue that work in 2018.

Nathalie Des Rosiers, MPP for Ottawa-Vanier, joins cabinet as the new Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry. Daiene Vernile, MPP for Kitchener Centre, moves into cabinet as Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport. And Harinder Malhi, MPP for Brampton-Springdale, becomes the new Minister of the Status of Women.

Other changes to cabinet include:

- Mitzie Hunter becomes Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development
- Eleanor McMahon becomes President of the Treasury Board and Minister Responsible for Digital Government
- Kathryn McGarry becomes Minister of Transportation
- Indira Naidoo-Harris becomes Minister of Education and remains Minister Responsible for Early Years and Child Care
- Steven Del Duca becomes Minister of Economic Development and Growth.

In addition, Dr. Helena Jaczek, Minister of Community and Social Services, will take on the responsibilities of Chair of Cabinet.

Ontario's plan is creating fairness and opportunity during this period of rapid economic change. The plan includes a higher minimum wage and better working conditions, free tuition for hundreds of thousands of students, easier access to affordable child care, and free prescription drugs for everyone under 25 through the biggest expansion of medicare in a generation.

### **QUOTES**

" I am thrilled to have three new ministers joining cabinet for 2018. The knowledge and skills they bring to these roles will be crucial as we continue our work to create more fairness and opportunity for the people of Ontario. In a changing economy, our plan is about making sure everyone has a fair shot at getting ahead. That's why it is also important to me that this updated cabinet continues to reflect both the diversity and the geography of our province. I am deeply

grateful to our outgoing ministers — Deb Matthews, Liz Sandals and Brad Duguid — for their commitment to the people of Ontario and for all they have contributed at the cabinet table over the years. And I am pleased they will all be staying on as MPPs, continuing to dedicate themselves to their constituents and to the work of this government."

- Kathleen Wynne  
Premier of Ontario

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