

Government Consultation on Income Security Reform

A new report, [Income Security: A Roadmap for Change](#), outlines specific advice to government to help guide decision-making on a multi-year path for reforming the income security system. This could affect the benefits delivered through municipally delivered programs such as social assistance, childcare, social housing.

The report, prepared by multi-stakeholder Income Security Reform Working Groups including First Nations, charts a proposed path forward sequencing reforms over a ten-year period. Some proposed measures include:

- adopting a Minimum Income Standard
- introducing an Ontario Housing Benefit
- moving income support for children outside social assistance
- making health benefits available to low-income people
- transforming social assistance
- providing an assured income approach to people with disabilities
- assuring self-governance and respect for First Nations jurisdiction with control of social services by First Nations
- providing adequate funding for First Nations.

Municipal government have a significant interest in the outcome of this initiative given the role played by municipalities and District Social Service Administration Boards delivering human services to residents through provincial-municipal cost-shared programs.

The government is consulting on the Roadmap for 60 days up until January 2, 2018. To view the report to make a submission, visit the income security [website](#). AMO will conduct further analysis and the Board will consider the municipal impacts of the report's recommendations.