

November 27, 2023

Mayor Sandy Shantz  
24 Church Street West  
Elmira, ON, N3B 2Z6  
519-669-6003

Subject: Motion to urge the province to raise ODSP

Dear Mayor Shantz,

Extend-A-Family Waterloo Region supports over 2,400 families, which include both adults and children with physical, intellectual, or developmental disabilities. In Woolwich Township, we provide support for 94 individuals.

In September the City of Kitchener passed a motion urging the province to raise ODSP and OW rates. I have attached a copy of the motion. It is clear throughout our community that people who rely on these provincial sources of income cannot afford to pay rent (even at a subsidized rate). The dollars currently provided essentially amount to legislated poverty.

The 17 adults who use our services are unable to pay rent and purchase food in the same month. The parents of the 77 children who use our services need hope that their children will not have to overcome poverty while simultaneously striving to become contributing citizens.

I would welcome an opportunity for a conversation with you or a member of your council in support of this urgent motion.

Please help amplify the voice of your constituents and pass a similar motion, urging the province to take action.

Sincerely,



Allan Mills  
Executive Director

CC: Mayor Dorothy McCabe, Mayor Natasha Salonen, Mayor Jan Liggett, Mayor Joe Nowak, Mayor Sue Foxtan