



## **Petition on the Provincial Wage Enhancement Grant Frequently Asked Questions**

### **WHAT IS THE PROVINCIAL WAGE ENHANCEMENT GRANT (PWEG) ?**

The Provincial Wage Enhancement Grant (PWEG) is funding from the Ontario government that currently provides \$2 an hour in wage support to many Registered Early Childhood Educators and child care workers in licensed child care.

### **WHY DOES THE WAGE ENHANCEMENT GRANT MATTER?**

The grant is crucial to income security for many educators. This grant was introduced in 2015 and supports recruitment and retention of educators in licensed child care and keeps parent fees from rising. The grant begins to recognize the importance of educators' work in our communities and helps close the gender wage gap.

### **IS THE GRANT BEING CUT?**

Funding for the grant has only been confirmed until the end of March 2019. The future of the grant is in the hands of the provincial government and will be part of the upcoming Ontario Budget this spring. We are concerned that this funding is at risk.

### **WHY DO A PAPER PETITION ABOUT SAVING THE GRANT?**

An official paper petition to the Ontario legislature is an effective way of ensuring that this issue is raised during debate at Queen's Park. It increases visibility of the issue and helps us gain widespread support for our cause. Each time petitions are introduced by an MPP is an opportunity for them to talk about the importance of this grant to educators.

### **WHY NOW?**

The Ontario legislature is currently on break and will begin to meet again on February 19th. There are still consultations happening on the Provincial Budget. This is an opportunity to influence a decision on the future of the PWEG. Our goal is to get as many signatures as possible by February 14th, then submit these to the legislature through supportive MPP's offices. Please sign today to support educators.