



Official Opposition • l'Opposition officielle

Ontario NDP Caucus • Groupe parlementaire du NPD de l'Ontario

July 31, 2025

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy
Minister of Finance

Mr. Mark White
Chief Executive Officer
Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario

RE: Urgent need for oversight of climate-driven home insurance inflation

Dear Minister Bethlenfalvy and Mr. White,

We are writing to urge the Ministry of Finance and the Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario (FSRA) to take immediate action to confront the growing climate risks, affordability crisis, and lack of transparency in Ontario's home insurance sector.

Climate-related disasters, including floods, wildfires, and storms, are driving record insurance claims across Canada. The 2024 Toronto-area floods alone caused over \$1 billion in insured losses.¹ Instead of absorbing these costs, insurers are passing them on to Ontarians through steep premium hikes and reduced coverage, while continuing to raise dividends for shareholders.² Between 2014 and 2024, average home insurance rates in Ontario rose by 84 percent.³ In 2024, premiums increased by 12.7 percent, with a further 5.7 percent increase in 2025.⁴

Home insurance rate increases in Ontario are not publicly reported or explained, making it difficult for consumers to assess whether premiums are fair or justified. Ontarians don't know why their rates are going up, what climate risk data is being used to justify coverage decisions, or whether insurance companies are taking meaningful action to reduce their own contributions to climate damage.

¹ Investors for Paris, [Our Complaint to Ontario Insurance Regulator](#)

² Intact Financial, [Q4 2023 earnings release](#).

³ MyChoice Financial, [Climate Change is Responsible for a 379% Increase in Average Annual Insurable Damages in the Last Decade in Canada](#)

⁴ Canadian Underwriter, [How much home insurance rates are up in 2025](#)



Official Opposition • l'Opposition officielle

Ontario NDP Caucus • Groupe parlementaire du NPD de l'Ontario

The Ministry of Finance has acted before when insurance markets required intervention. In the case of auto insurance, the Ministry took steps in 2018 and 2019 to strengthen public oversight, including requiring public rate filings and supporting FSRA's launch of an online rate approval system that gives consumers access to insurer-specific data and rationale for rate. Ontarians deserve the same protections when it comes to their homes.

We are calling on the Ministry of Finance and the FSRA to act:

- **Launch an investigation** into Ontario's home insurance sector, with a focus on climate-driven affordability pressures, transparency gaps, and the industry's continued investment in fossil fuels.
- **Require pooled public disclosure** from home insurers operating in Ontario, including premium increases and justifications, the flood and fire mapping data used in underwriting decisions, and each company's climate transition and net-zero plans.
- We are specifically asking the Ministry of Finance to exercise their authority under the FSRA Act to **issue a policy direction** requiring FSRA to investigate these climate-related risks and introduce stronger disclosure rules for the home insurance industry.

Ontario homeowners should not be left in the dark while premiums rise, coverage shrinks, and climate risks accelerate. We are requesting a meeting to discuss this issue further and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

MPP Jessica Bell
MPP for University-Rosedale

MPP Sandy Shaw
MPP for Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas

MPP Peter Tabuns
MPP for Toronto Danforth