

The image shows the interior of the Ontario Legislative Assembly, featuring rows of wooden desks with microphones. A central text overlay is present.

Ontario Post-Election  
Transition Guide  
Ford PC Majority Government

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# Transition to Power

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Over the coming weeks and months, Doug Ford's PC government will undertake its transition to power. Key activities include:

- **Appointment of Cabinet and subsequent ministerial briefings;**
- **Staffing of Ministers' offices and onboarding/briefings;**
- **Mandate letters provided to new Minister (may or may not be made public);**
- **Appointment of new Deputy Ministers, Secretary of Cabinet and other senior bureaucrats (may be delayed during the transition); and**
- **Staffing MPP offices and securing constituency office locations.**

MPPs may also set aside time for personal vacations, likely in August.



# New Session and Throne Speech

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- Premier-designate Ford may recall the legislature in July to deliver a Throne Speech and Budget.
- On the other hand, similar to the Harris Government in 1995, the Finance Minister could introduce a Budget statement outside of the Legislature to signal their immediate fiscal priorities and stop-gap measures, putting the brakes on some of the new spending announced in the 2018 Budget while taking initial steps on some initial priorities.
- Alternatively, the Legislature may return as scheduled with a Throne Speech in mid-September, giving them time to prepare a more comprehensive legislative agenda.
- Look for the new PC government to deliver on some high profile commitments early in their mandate – i.e. in their first 100 days – drawn straight from their campaign platform to please their supporters.



# Key GR Considerations

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- Meetings with key decision-makers will be difficult to secure during the early part of the transition period.
- With limited staff, your files may shift between Premier's and Minister's Office staffers as the offices staff up.
- With 75 new MPPs, including 50 new Tory MPPs, there is a low level of institutional memory regarding your issues; this will mean going “back to basics” to educate the new MPPs and government.
- At the same time, new Ministers and staff will mean a fresh perspective, which may help get things moving in a positive direction.



# Preparing for the New Ford Government

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- **Develop your government relations strategy** for the new government
- **Send congratulatory letters** to Premier-designate Ford and your local MPPs
- **Send congratulatory letters** to new Cabinet Ministers and Parliamentary Assistants when appointed
- **Update your lobbyist registrations** (i.e. any new/relevant ministries; new MPPs, particularly those in new ridings)



# COUNSEL

