

Resolution: #A01-19, Ontario Works Allowances and Adequate Nutrition

The operative clause of this resolution passed in 2001 states that that the Government of Ontario is urged to review and ensure that the Basic Allowance portion of Ontario Works Financial Assistance allows for adequate nutrition;

This resolution was *closed* on March 12, 2002

Recent Developments:

April 23, 2004

Response to March 23rd letter received from Minister Papatello with items on skills training, affordable housing, and top-ups for special dietary needs. [Please click here to read.](#)

March 23, 2004

Letter sent to Community and Social Services Minister Sandra Papatello reintroducing Resolution A01-19 and congratulating the government for scrapping the lifetime ban for welfare fraud. [Please click here to read.](#)

March 28, 2003

alPHa member, Porcupine Health Unit, passed resolution in support of #A01-19 calling for a review of the basic allowance of Ontario Works Financial Assistance to ensure recipients meet adequate nutrition needs and that the province provide funding to families ineligible to receive social assistance due to fraud conviction to help them meet nutritional and accommodational needs.

March 12, 2002

Resolution closed with approval from sponsor, Durham Region Health Department, which has suggested alPHa contact Chief MOH to inquire how the information he collects on costs of nutritious food baskets is used and if so, if there is room for local advocacy.

October 10, 2001

Minister Baird replied in a letter that Ontario Works has provisions to assist people with special dietary needs in which an amount for a special diet is issued. The government also gives \$4.5 million annually to provide schoolkids with a nutritious meal. Since the welfare reforms in 1995, more than 593,000 people have left the welfare rolls in Ontario due to the reforms (e.g. more employment assistance supports).

September 25, 2001

Received a reply from Premier Harris who forwarded the resolution to Community and Social Services Minister John Baird.