

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau Office of the Prime Minister 80 Wellington Street Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

And copy: Minister Seamus O'Regan Jr.

The Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion is part of the <u>#JustRecoveryHamOnt</u> coalition that released a policy document with over <u>150 recommendations for the City of Hamilton</u>. The policy document was sent to all Members of Parliament, members of Provincial Parliament and City Councillors in Hamilton. In the policy document we talk about the importance of providing workers with permanent paid sick days.

The Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion fully supports the recommendation of health providers and experts, like those in the Decent Work and Health network to immediately legislate 10 permanent paid sick days, plus 14 during health emergencies.

We are encouraged by your government's commitment to legislate 10 permanent paid sick days in the Canada Labour Code within the first 100 days of its mandate.

To be effective, paid sick leave policy must be:

- 1. **Adequate:** 10 paid sick days plus 14 during public health emergencies, such as the COVID-19 pandemic
- 2. Universal: all workers are able to access them with no exceptions
- 3. **Fully-Paid:** employees must receive full wages on their regular paycheck
- 4. **Permanent:** no more expiry dates
- 5. **Seamlessly accessible:** employer-provided with no proof of illness required and no waiting periods

You have the opportunity to set a standard for paid sick and emergency leave policy across North America. We hope you will carefully consider the above principles and implement a robust paid sick days plan as soon as possible. Your urgent action will provide the leadership necessary to push the provinces and territories to follow.

Sincerely, Kojo Damptey On behalf of Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion

Cc: Premier Doug Ford, MPPs, MPs, Mayor, & City Councillors - Hamilton