

"IT'S CRIMINAL," ACTON POVERTY ADVOCATE RESPONDS TO ONTARIO LABOUR CHANGES

ALEXANDRA HECK
aheck@metroland.com

There's a mixed reaction in Halton Hills to the Province's choice to keep minimum wage at \$14, among other changes to labour policy in Ontario.

The Halton Hills Chamber of commerce is breathing a sigh of relief over Doug Ford's announcement to repeal Bill 148.

On October 25, the Premier unveiled the new Making Ontario Open for Business Act, which halted former Premier Kathleen Wynne's plans of making Ontario's minimum wage \$15 by 2019, cancelling paid sick days, and dissolving the Ontario College of Trades.

"Bill 148 was too much, too fast," said the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce in a press release.

The organization said that local businesses will have to hire fewer staff, cut back on employee benefits and decrease product offering, among other measures in order to stay afloat given the wage hikes.

They state that in the long term, Wynne's

THE ISSUE: MIXED REACTION TO MAKING ONTARIO OPEN FOR BUSINESS ACT
LOCAL IMPACT: LEGISLATION HALTS MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE TO \$15 BY 2019, CANCELS PAID SICKS DAYS AND DISSOLVES ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TRADES

Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act was set to cost the economy \$150 million and put over 50,000 to 180,000 Ontario jobs at risk.

For some business owners, like Nathalie Brooks of Brooks Heating and Air in Georgetown, they are more concerned with other aspects of Wynne's labour reform.

"For us at Brooks Heating and Air Bill 148

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