
MINIMUM WAGE GOES UP MONDAY*A Better Standard Of Living For Hard Working Families***NEWS**

March 28, 2008

When minimum wage earners in Ontario go to work Monday, they will be getting a raise.

Ontario is raising the minimum wage to \$8.75 on March 31, 2008. This is the fifth increase since 2004.

The [minimum wage](#) remained static between 1995 and 2004.

The McGuinty government began implementing annual increases early in its first term. Minimum wage:

- Increased from \$6.85 in 2004 to \$8.00 in 2007
- Will reach \$10.25 in 2010

Phasing in these increases balances the needs of hard working families with the needs of the small businesses that create jobs.

QUOTES

“Increasing the minimum wage is a key component of the McGuinty government's plan to reduce poverty in Ontario by expanding economic opportunity for hard working families,” said Labour Minister Brad Duguid.

QUICK FACTS

- The minimum wage has risen \$1.15 (17 per cent) between 2004 and 2007
- By 2010, raises will have totalled \$3.40 (50 per cent) since 2004
- The major industries employing minimum wage earners are: accommodation and food, retail trade, and agriculture.

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Further information on [minimum wage increases](#).