

ONTARIO RESTAURANTS ARE UNDER ATTACK

Ontario's restaurant industry generates \$33 billion in economic activity, representing 4% of GDP. In Ontario this means more than 573,000 direct and indirect jobs and charitable contributions in the range of more than \$100 million dollars annually.

However, Ontario foodservice operations are struggling to survive with rising costs and burdensome regulations. Restaurants in Ontario maintain the lowest profitability in Canada at just 3.4%. Relative to other sectors of the economy where average profitability is roughly 10.1%. Whomever forms the next government in Ontario needs to look to improving conditions for the foodservice industry.

KEY ISSUE

Estimates indicate that the legislative changes will cost more than 17,000 jobs over the next two years in the sector, with a broader impact of more than 185,000 jobs across the province. This will compromise opportunities for students, women, seniors and new Canadians. The outcome of this government's social policy agenda will have a devastating impact on those very people they most wanted to help.

The government's decision to make massive labour changes in a short timeframe will cost the foodservice industry almost \$2 billion per year. We are already seeing the effects; menu prices have increased by nearly 7% and restaurants are closing their doors.

ONTARIO FOODSERVICE STATS:

- **More than 500,000 Ontarians work in the foodservice industry**
- **Bill 148 will add \$1.8 billion dollars of new costs**
- **The new legislation will put 17,000 jobs at risk**
- **Restaurateurs in Ontario operate with the lowest margins in Canada at 3.4%**
- **The impact of this legislation will be most felt outside the GTA**

