



April 13, 2026

Natalie Pierre, MPP Burlington
306-3027 Harvester Rd.
Burlington, ON L7N 3G7

Dear Ms. Pierre,

I am writing on behalf of CFUW Burlington. CFUW is a self-funded, national organization of over 6,600 women whose mission is “to achieve educational and economic equality and social justice through continuous learning and empowerment”. Advocacy on significant issues of importance for the wellbeing of Canadians, and women in particular, is fundamental to the work of CFUW. As concerned Ontario residents, we wish to express our serious concerns about the ongoing underfunding of public education in our province and the impacts these policies are having on communities such as Burlington.

Public education is one of the most important investments Ontario can make. Yet multiple analyses show that, when adjusted for inflation, provincial funding for schools has declined significantly in recent years. Since 2018, inflation-adjusted education funding has dropped by roughly \$1,500 per student, leaving school boards with far fewer resources to meet growing needs.

At the same time, changes to the funding formula and staffing levels have resulted in fewer educators in our classrooms. By the 2024–2025 school year, Ontario is projected to have nearly 5,000 fewer classroom educators than it would have had if staffing levels had remained consistent with the 2018 formula.

These reductions have real consequences for students and families. Larger class sizes mean less individual attention for students. Teachers and education workers are stretched thinner, and schools struggle to provide adequate support for students with special education needs, mental health challenges, or language barriers.

These issues matter deeply in Burlington. Our community values strong public schools, and families here expect their children to learn in well-resourced classrooms with adequate support staff and manageable class sizes. When provincial funding falls short, local school boards are forced to make difficult decisions that directly affect students and educators in our own community.

As our Member of Provincial Parliament, you have an important role in advocating for the needs of Burlington students and families.



We respectfully urge you to advocate within your caucus and in the Legislature for:

- Restoring stable, inflation-adjusted funding for Ontario's public schools
- Hiring more teachers and education support staff to reduce class sizes
- Increased funding for special education, mental health supports, and student services
- Long-term investments that ensure every child in Ontario has access to a high-quality public education

Strong public education is not a partisan issue—it is a commitment to our province's future. When we invest in schools, we invest in the success of our communities, our economy, and the next generation of Ontarians.

We look forward to hearing what steps you plan to take to ensure that Burlington students receive the support and resources they deserve.

Respectfully,

Ruth Levkoe, President CFUW Burlington