



Premier of Ontario - Premier ministre de l'Ontario

January 2009

A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to congratulate all those whose efforts have made possible this inaugural issue of *Esurio: Ontario Journal of Hunger and Poverty*.

Our government firmly believes that everyone in Ontario must have the opportunity to succeed, and this means responding to the needs of low-income Ontarians across the province. That is why our government has created a new cabinet committee on poverty — one that is working hard to develop a focused strategy to reduce child poverty and to lift the standard of living of more Ontario families. We have made children the first priority of this strategy because by helping kids now, we can break the cycle of poverty.

By bringing together diverse voices and perspectives, *Esurio* will do much to further theory and practice in alleviating hunger and poverty and addressing food security issues. I commend the Ontario Association of Food Banks and Meal Exchange for your dedication to helping those in need throughout Ontario, and for your commitment to this laudable initiative. I would also like to thank everyone — students, community members and academics — who contributed to the creation of *Esurio: Ontario Journal of Hunger and Poverty*.

Please accept my best wishes for much success in your inaugural year and in those that follow.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dalton McGuinty". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dalton McGuinty
Premier