

2010 ONTARIO DISABILITY SUPPORT PROGRAM (ODSP)

Budget Overview

Budget Summary \$'000s	2009 Budget	2009 Projection	2010 Proposed	09 vs. 10 Variance	2011 Forecast	2012 Forecast
Current Budget – Total Expenditures	\$29,437	\$29,800	\$15,734	(\$13,703)	NIL	NIL
Current Budget – Total Revenue	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Current Budget – Net Cost	\$29,437	\$29,800	\$15,734	(\$13,703)	NIL	NIL
FTE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Capital						
			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

2010 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS:

Current Budget

- The ODSP monthly average caseload is expected to be 12,921.
- The Province will assume funding for 90 per cent of the ODSP benefit costs, with Peel funding 10 per cent.
- Starting with 2011 budget, the Province will assume full funding responsibility for the ODSP program.

Staffing

Not applicable

Capital

Not applicable

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Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) 2010 Budget Document

Section I. Existing Services and Service Levels:





The Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) is designed to meet the unique needs of people with disabilities who are in financial need and to support those who may be able to work. Ontarians 65 years or older who are not eligible for Old Age Security may also qualify for ODSP supports if they are in financial need. The program offers income and employment supports to clients.

ODSP provides financial assistance and other benefits to eligible persons with disabilities and their families. This includes accommodation and basic living expenses, as well as prescription drugs and basic dental care. Other supports and benefits that may be available include eyeglasses, hearing aids, special diet allowance and medical supplies.

Employment supports help eligible people with disabilities overcome barriers to employment. Persons with a disability and a desire to work may be eligible to receive supports to assist in finding and maintaining a job. People who are already working but having difficulty keeping a job because of a disability may also qualify for ODSP employment supports. Persons with disabilities do not need to be in receipt of ODSP income support in order to be eligible for employment supports.

The ODSP program is exclusively managed and delivered by the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS). Notwithstanding that, Peel’s staff are engaged routinely with ODSP clients as described in Section V. The program benefits are shared 80/20 (province/municipalities) while the program delivery and administration costs are shared 50/50. The cost sharing is mandated as part of Local Support Realignment (LSR, 1998). Municipalities have no input or approval of the annual ODSP budget. Peel’s share of the monthly ODSP costs are automatically deducted from Peel’s monthly Ontario Works subsidy entitlements.

On August 20, 2007, the Province announced its intention to upload the cost of ODSP, on a four year phased in schedule. Starting in 2008, the cost of Ontario Drug Benefits has been uploaded, followed by an uploading of the ODSP administration costs in 2009. All other remaining costs, including the ODSP benefit costs, will be uploaded evenly over 2010 and 2011. Shown below is the ODSP upload schedule.

Four Year Upload of ODB and ODSP						
	Current Provincial Cost Shares	New Provincial Cost Shares				
		2008	2009	2010	2011	
Ontario Drug Benefits	80%		100%	100%	100%	100%
Ontario Disability Support Program Administration Component	50%		100%	100%	100%	
Ontario Disability Support Program Benefits Component	80%			90%		100%

Section II. Resources to Deliver 2009 Services:

The approved 2009 ODSP operating budget reflects a total budget of \$29.4 million, as summarized below. Peel’s 2009 ODSP budget contains Peel’s 20 per cent of the client benefit costs.

The actual monthly average caseload is projected to be 11,927 cases (cases with positive cash entitlements) for 2009 vs. the budget of 11,759. The ODSP program is expected to end the year with a \$0.36 million deficit, primarily driven by a higher than projected monthly caseload and higher benefit costs.

Current \$'000	2008 Actual	2009 Budget	2009 Projection	2009 Variance Under/(Over)
Total Expenditure	\$30,555	\$29,437	\$29,800	(\$363)
Total Revenue	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Net Cost	\$30,555	\$29,437	\$29,800	(\$363)
FTE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Section III. Performance Measurement/Benchmarking:

Below are monthly ODSP caseload increases in the GTA from 2003 to 2009 (June). The data shows that Peel’s ODSP caseload growth has outpaced other GTA municipalities (other than York) and the GTA and provincial average during this period.

Municipalities	ODSP - Active” Caseload							Cumulative Change
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 (June)	
Peel	8,263	8,721	9,093	9,538	10,851	11,221	12,145	46.98%
Halton	2,762	2,938	3,123	3,366	3,612	3,723	3,950	43.01%
Durham	5,683	5,969	6,231	6,746	7,331	7,590	8,160	43.59%
York	5,488	5,817	6,173	6,733	7,380	7,667	8,339	51.95%
Toronto	46,247	46,565	47,304	49,526	52,272	53,583	56,693	22.59%
Total Including Peel	68,443	70,010	71,924	75,909	81,446	83,784	89,287	30.45%
Total Excluding Peel	60,180	61,289	62,831	66,371	70,595	72,563	77,142	28.19%
Total Ontario	201,160	206,884	213,494	224,652	238,034	243,845	257,175	27.85%

From Provincial “CMSM’s Social Assistance Quarterly”
 Caseload figures are higher as the data is depicting active caseload, not caseload with positive entitlements (cash payments)

Section IV. 2010 Base Pressures:

Not applicable

Section V. Cost Mitigation Through Efficiencies and Recoveries:

Although ODSP is a downloaded provincial program, significant attention and effort is invested in impacting ODSP effectiveness. Staff provides feedback and advice on a regular basis at a local and provincial level, through both the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA). Staff also collaborates locally to ensure efficient and effective service delivery and timely transfer of ODSP eligible clients from Ontario Works (OW) to ODSP.

Ontario Works in Peel provides programming and support services to applicants or recipients of the ODSP program in several key areas and considerable administration costs are incurred annually as a result. The following areas outline our intensive involvement:

a) Active OW / Pending ODSP

Prior to being granted ODSP, most disabled Peel social assistance recipients first receive financial, employment and social supports from Ontario Works. Their applications for assistance are taken through the Client Contact Unit, after which they are assigned to an OW caseworker who determines OW eligibility and manages their supports while assisting in processing the ODSP disability application.

These cases are routinely highly complex and require support with issues that extend beyond the presenting disability. There is often a need for supports such as health related benefits including special diets, medical transportation, physiotherapy, additional medical testing to support the ODSP application, food supplements over and above the special diet, hearing aids, orthotics, health memberships and health support programs such as pain clinics. Caseworkers often find that these individuals are isolated in the community and require someone to take the time to listen to their concerns and provide them with personal support.

In order to provide supports to these clients during the period that they apply for ODSP and await that decision, and often a subsequent appeal process should the client be found ineligible for the provincial disability program, OW staff are assigned to this work through a dedicated caseload model. In 2009, this work has been managed by 14 caseworkers, two supervisors and one administrative support representative for a total of 17 FTE's.

b) Active ODSP - Employment Supports

In addition, to improve employment outcomes for ODSP recipients and their families, employment requirements for non-disabled spouses, without care giving responsibilities, were introduced by the province in April 2006. These changes made participation in Ontario Works employment activities mandatory for spouses unless specified conditions for exception were met. To facilitate these changes, local Joint Implementation Plans (JIP) were developed between MCSS Regional offices and municipalities.

ODSP – 2010 Budget Document

Locally, OWIP worked with the Central West Regional office to establish referral protocols, including referral schedules of ODSP clients from the existing ODSP caseload and referral of new applicants who met the criteria. In addition, municipalities were required to continue to provide employment supports to dependant adults and to adult family members on ODSP who wished to participate voluntarily in Ontario Works employment programs. Peel's JIP was approved in June 2006 with services implemented July 2006.

The staff resource of one Employment Services Worker is dedicated to the delivery of the ODSP Employment Program. The program provides assessment and case management supports to assist clients in preparing and searching for and securing and retaining employment.

Provincial savings as a result of increased employment of ODSP clients are shared on a 50/50 basis with Ontario Works. Savings are calculated for a period of 36 consecutive months for each person on ODSP referred to Ontario Works for employment supports. However, due to the challenges of entry or re-entry to the labour market and the complexity of individual and family situations, a number of lengthy and intensive supports are often required to achieve the successful outcome of employment for ODSP clients.

Since inception of the program, 458 of these hard to place clients have participated with 106 securing employment.

c) Active ODSP - Discretionary and Funeral Benefits

Ontario Works staff support active ODSP recipients by responding to applications for discretionary benefits and funerals/burials. Similar to OW, while a number of benefits are mandatory, such as special diets and medical transportation, others are considered discretionary in nature. As such, ODSP recipients must apply to Peel to be considered for financial assistance with such items as adult dental care, moving, and prosthetic appliances. In addition, supports for funerals and burials for deceased ODSP recipients must be pursued through OW. At this time, 2.5 caseworkers and 1 supervisor are dedicated to these needs on behalf of ODSP clients.

d) Active ODSP - Outreach Program

Of the hundreds of individuals served annually by Peel's Outreach Team, approximately 20 per cent are actively in receipt of ODSP benefits. This workload translates into 0.5 FTE OW caseworkers.

In total, OW staff provides programs and supports to pending and active ODSP clients that equate to approximately 17 front line staff, three supervisors and two administrative support staff. Not included in this total is the significant investment in administrative costs related to internal staffing supports for policy and business analysis, training, technology etc. that relate to ODSP recipients. It should be noted that as funding is capped for both administration and employment in the OW program, costs associated with delivering all these services and supports are 100 per cent borne by the Region of Peel.

Section VI. Challenges and Emerging Trends:

Caseload Increase

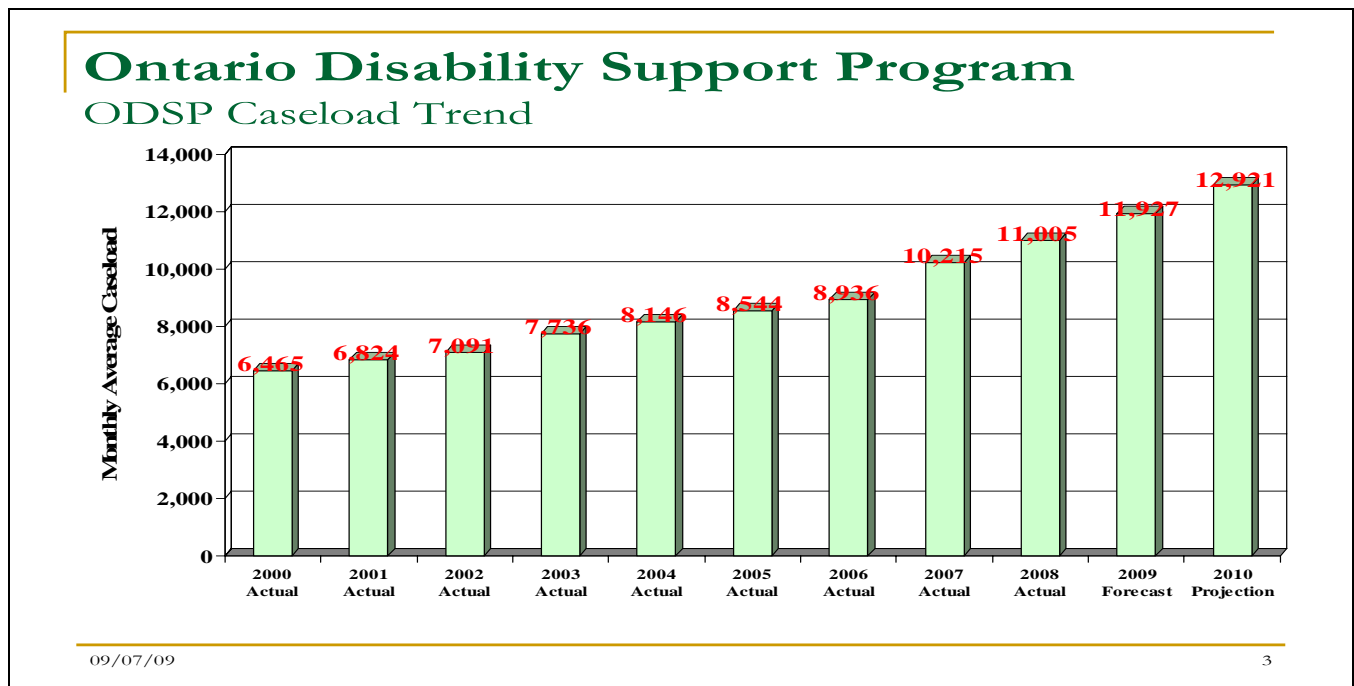
Since 2000, Peel’s ODSP caseload has steadily increased from 6,465 actual per month to 11,005 for 2008. This represents an increase of 4,540 cases, or 70 per cent over a period of eight years. Unlike the OW social assistance caseload, the ODSP caseload is not subject to seasonal fluctuations and there is no decline over the warmer months. As a result, the ODSP caseload will cumulatively increase from month to month. As well, economic factors do not have the same impact for most ODSP clients. The primary factor impacting the ODSP caseload is the overall state of health of the community, in turn driven by incidences (rates) of disability and ageing of our population. As a population ages, disabilities become more common.

Section VII. 2010 Program Pressures – Current:

The monthly average ODSP caseload is projected to be 12,921 in 2010, representing an increase of 8.3 per cent from 2009 projected actual of 11,927, and an increase of 9.9 per cent from 2009 budget of 11,759. The Region is also anticipating a two per cent benefit rate increase. Total budget increase due to caseload volume and rate increase is expected to be \$2.03 million for a total of \$31.4 million.

For 2010, the Province will fund 90 per cent of the ODSP benefit costs (up from the current funding level of 80 per cent) to result in a reduced municipal contribution of \$15.73 million, and a net cost of \$15.73 million. Full details are available in [Appendix I](#)

The following chart illustrates the caseload trend from 2000 to 2010.



Section VIII. 2010 New Initiatives - Current:

Not Applicable

Section IX. 2010 Program Pressures – Capital:

Not Applicable

Section X. Future Outlook:

2011 and 2012 Current Budget

The ODSP program will be fully uploaded to the Province effective 2011 budget. As such, the 2010 net budget of \$15.73 million will be fully off the Regional tax base for 2011.

2011-2019 Capital Plan

Not applicable to this program.

Section XI. Pressures not included in 2010 Budget:

As noted above, Ontario Works dedicates many resources to managing the ODSP program. The 2010 ODSP program does not include any program administration costs for these resources needed by the Ontario Works division. The increase in the number of ODSP clients will increase the amount of internal support resources needed.

Appendices:

Appendix I	2010 Current Pressures
Appendix II	2010 Capital Overview – N/A
Appendix III	2010 New Capital Detail – N/A
Appendix IV	Ten Year Capital Plan – N/A
Appendix V	Output/Outcome Measures – N/A

APPENDIX I
ONTARIO DISABILITY SUPPORT PROGRAM (ODSP)
2010 CURRENT PRESSURES (\$'000)

	ODSP		
	Total Expenditures	Total Revenue	Net Cost
2009 Revised Cost of Services	29,437		29,437
2010 Base Changes	-	-	-
Service Demand - Section VII			
1. The monthly average ODSP caseload is projected to be 12,921, representing an increase of 8.3 per cent from 2009 projected actual of 11,927 and increase of 9.9 per cent from 2009 budget of 11,759. The Region is also anticipating a two per cent benefit rate increase.	2,031	-	2,031
2. The Province will fund 90 per cent of the ODSP benefit costs from current funding level of 80 per cent.	-	15,734	(15,734)
<i>Sub Total</i>	2,031	15,734	(13,703)
2010 Pressures	2,031	15,734	(13,703)
Total 2010 Pressures	2,031	15,734	(13,703)
2010 Recommended Cost of Service	31,468	15,734	15,734