

[INSERT DATE]

[INSERT ADDRESS OF THE PREMIER, MINISTER OR MPP]

Dear [INSERT NAME OF THE PREMIER, MINISTER OR MPP],

My community in [INSERT THE NAME OF YOUR CITY/TOWN] is experiencing an alarming and growing trend of adults with intellectual disabilities being unable to afford important supports and services that would facilitate their development, independence and participation in the community. The Ontario government's Passport program and the Special Services at Home (SSAH) program are two vital sources of funding for such support. However, Passport and SSAH remain grossly under-funded, with unwieldy, expanding waiting lists, and no program transparency. As a result, Ontarians with intellectual disabilities and families like mine are suffering extreme hardship.

After many months, and years, my family and thousands of other families are *still* waiting for funding for which we qualify, while the development and physical and emotional well-being of our family members with intellectual disabilities continues to deteriorate, and the ability of families to be economically independent is compromised.

[WRITE ABOUT YOUR OWN EXPERIENCES AND STRUGGLES WITH PASSPORT AND/OR SSAH FUNDING]

I am urging the Ontario government to take quick action to substantially improve developmental services by:

- Making the application and funding allocation processes transparent;
- Ensuring that all qualified Passport and SSAH applicants receive adequate funding while the government completes its "transformation" of the developmental services sector; and
- Ensuring that sufficient long-term funding is in place so that Ontarians with intellectual disabilities can access the supports and services they need.

I would appreciate hearing from you about how the urgent need of Ontarians with intellectual disabilities will be addressed now and in the upcoming budget.

Sincerely,

[INSERT YOUR NAME]