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Honourable Dalton McGuinty, MPP Premier of Ontario Main Legislative Building Queen's Park Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1A2

Dear Premier,

Last night when you announced your resignation, I extended my appreciation for your twenty-two years of service to Ontario. I wished you well in your future endeavours and also took the opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to our spouses, Terri and Debbie, whom without their support and sacrifices, we would not be where we are today. To that end, those sentiments stand.

Nonetheless, Ontario is facing major challenges. By proroguing the House, the critical work that needs to be done to address Ontario's jobs and debt crisis has been put on hold. Your stated reason for this prorogation was partly to allow the Liberal Party of Ontario to hold a leadership campaign to replace you. Surely we can find a way to carry on the business of the Legislature while this internal Liberal party matter takes place.

We must keep in mind that 600,000 Ontarians woke up this morning without a job to go to. Every day we delay the urgent action necessary to grow the economy is another lost opportunity to help get those people back to work. Each day the House is not sitting, we lose an opportunity to take bold action to rein in spending and to reduce Ontario's record deficit and debt.

Therefore, I am asking you to immediately commence a new session of the Legislature without delay. Ontarians deserve to have their elected officials hard at work putting Ontario on a path to prosperity with bold ideas, such as those put forward by the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario. We should be passing new laws to modernize our skilled trades system; to make energy more affordable for job creators; and, to lower taxes to create jobs and grow Ontario's economy.

I also draw your attention to Standing Order Seven of the House, which states that "before a Session is prorogued, the Government House Leader shall announce the approximate date upon which the Assembly will be reconvened". Neither you nor your House Leader, before or after the Proclamation of Prorogation was issued has made such an announcement. Once again, your government and a senior Minister are at odds with the rules of the Legislature, which is most regrettable and embarrassing.

Premier, I respect your decision to resign. However, we do not need to bring the daily workings of the Legislature to a halt in order to accommodate a Liberal leadership race. Accordingly, I urge you to take my advice. Announce a new session and recall the Legislature without delay so that we can get back to work. Too much needs to be done and too much is at stake. I look forward to your anticipated cooperation.

Yours trul

Tim Hudak, MPP

Leader of the Official Opposition and of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario.