

The 2025 Ontario Budget, entitled “*A Plan to Protect Ontario*”, was introduced in the Ontario Legislature on May 15, 2025. This budget is delivered later in the year than usual, owing to the decision to call an early election, which was held on February 27.

Given the stated motivation for calling an early election was to secure a strong mandate to respond to the recent trade-related hostilities with the United States, it was foreseeable that the budget would be focused on their economic impacts. Within the broad themes of Providing Relief and Support for Workers and Businesses, Unleashing Ontario’s Economy, Supporting Families, Workers and Communities, and Delivering Better Services, the budget is characterized as a plan to build an economy that is more resilient and self-reliant.

The heavy emphasis on infrastructure that has been a key feature in government policy in recent years remains, most notably in transportation (highways and transit), as well as job creation, and addressing health care capacity.

The only specific mention of public health is in a section that restates the government’s commitment to [addressing contraband tobacco](#) (p. 106). It will also be of interest that one of the highlights of this year’s budget is a reduction of certain [taxes and markups on beverage alcohol products](#) (p.126). alPHa will be reminding decision makers of the evidence that such reductions are likely to increase alcohol-related harms, as mentioned in [Resolution A24-03](#), that calls for a comprehensive provincial alcohol strategy, as part of our response.

Links to the official documents:

- The landing page for the 2025 Ontario Budget is [here](#).
- The full budget can be read online or downloaded [here](#).
- The highlights of the budget are provided [here](#).
- The news release is [here](#).

We hope that you find this information useful.