

Partnership and Resilience: Preparing for Austerity Session

Setting the Broader Context

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Setting the Context

Introduction

The Turn to Austerity

From 'Building Back Better' to the 'Austerity Turn'

2025 Budget and Beyond – “modernizing government operations” and “shifting from reliance to resilience” (code for austerity)



Cuts to Settlement Services and Restructuring (15% over 3 years \$320 million plus, reduced eligibility and possible co-payments)

What is Austerity? (Prioritizing certain values over others and responsabilization)

Resilience

Neoliberal Resilience (settling on less and 'doing more with less')

To 'resiliently endure'



Social Resilience (the importance of institutions)

Settling on services and contesting the status quo

Partnerships

Importance of meaningful equitable partnerships over contractual market financial arrangements

Service with Voice



Situating LIPs/RIFs

Pandemic demonstrated the value of cooperation and partnering (LIPs and RIFs important role)

LIPs born out of austerity

Debbie Douglas (OCASI) call to action, the need to move
“Beyond Austerity: Building a Resilient Future for Our Sector”
(Blog, November 13, 2025: <https://ocasi.org/beyond-austerity-building-resilient-future-our-sector>).

