

## Summary of Question Period for Tuesday Mar. 28/17

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**From:** "Flowers, Robert (TBS)" <robert.flowers@ontario.ca>  
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Please see the select and full summaries of today's Question Period.

### **MPP Brown (PC) to the Premier re: Hydro ads**

>> Patrick Brown: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Premier. In 2014 research and polling at least in the media had this to say. Most Ontarians would not support the provincial government selling a controlling interest in any of the five crown corporations tested. Three years later, most people don't support the Liberals' short sighted Hydro One fire sale. Mr. Speaker, it is not too late to do the right thing. With the Liberals commit to stopping the fire sale of Hydro One.

>> Premier Wynne: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. We made a very conscious decision not to do what that party had done with the 407, Mr. Speaker, because there was no benefit to the people of Ontario by that fire sale, Mr. Speaker. And, in fact, the decision that we made about building transit and transportation infrastructure in this province was premised on the understanding that Ontario's economic well-being is at least in part dependent on having the right infrastructure for people to be able to move around, for goods to be able to move, Mr. Speaker, and there had been decades of neglect in terms of building infrastructure in this province. We're patching up, Mr. Speaker. We're doing it in a responsible way. We're seeing the fruits of those investments as Ontario leads economic growth in this country.

>> Patrick Brown: Mr. Speaker, back to the Premier, the government asked that people of Ontario if they support selling Hydro One and the answer was a resounding know. The question, Mr. Speaker, that the Premier needs to answer is why spend hundreds of thousands, possibly millions of dollars on Liberal research firms if you're just going to ignore that advice? Do hundreds of thousands of dollars, do millions of dollars, taxpayer funded, precious, mean nothing to this government? Why help friends and Liberal research firms if you're just going to ignore it? It's not right.

>> Premier Wynne: Mr. Speaker, there are many, many issues that government has to make decisions on, Mr. Speaker. And it was fundamental to our understanding of the economic needs of this province that we invest in infrastructure. And by infrastructure, Mr. Speaker, that means transit. It means roads. It means bridges. It means hospitals. It means schools, Mr. Speaker. It means infrastructure across this province. \$160 billion over 12 years is being invested in this province, Mr. Speaker. And as I said, the fruits of those investments are being seen, Mr. Speaker. We have in Ontario created 702,000 new jobs, net new jobs, Mr. Speaker, since the recession. That job creation, Mr. Speaker, is connected to the investments that we have made and the economic growth that we have seen.

>> Patrick Brown: Mr. Speaker, again to the **Premier**, I ask a serious question about Liberal research being ignored, Liberals patting the backs of their friends. Mr. Speaker, to the **Premier**, the fact that this Liberal polling is being leaked to the media in itself is interesting. That means at least one Liberal want to do the right thing. At least one Liberal recognizes the fire sale of Hydro One is short sighted. Mr. Speaker, what I would like to know and hopefully the **Premier** can tell us, which Liberal leadership candidate is the one that leaked this to the media? Because the official opposition, Mr. Speaker, would like to thank that Liberal for doing the right thing. To the **Premier**, who leaked this to the media?

>> **Premier Wynne**: Mr. Speaker you know, there are huge challenges facing governments in 2017, Mr. Speaker. There are issues that have importance for the future economic well-being of this province, Mr. Speaker. And if the leader of the opposition is saying to me, **Premier**, why don't you just govern according to the polls, I think that gives us an insight into his -- into the political methodology that he is Mr. Speaker. What we do on this side of the House is we measure and weigh all of the alternatives Mr. Speaker. We take input, of course, from polling, but we take input from business. We take input from economists. We take input from people, Mr. Speaker, and then we make a decision that is going to be in the best interest of this province. That's what we have done. That's what we have made investments in the economy.