

[PRESS RELEASE] More Interviews, Less Facts - Facts Still Matter in Ontario - June 12, 2017

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Facts Still Matter in Ontario – June 12, 2017

Good Afternoon,

Patrick Brown was on the radio this morning making false statements about our plan to reduce electricity bills by 25%. As someone with no plan to reduce bills he should know that Facts Still Matter in Ontario.

He claimed: *"this would be \$141 more the people are going to pay a year"*

Fact: Not true. Regardless of the outcome of the OEB's independent process, Hydro One customers will not see an increase to their bills. We've been clear that Ontarians will see a significant decrease in their overall bills this summer through Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan. We've also been clear that the OEB does not approve all applications, and the Fair Hydro Plan will hold any increases to the rate of inflation for four years.

(Source: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontarios-fair-hydro-plan>)

He claimed: *"the day after, the day after the Fair Hydro Plan, they signed 1100 more[energy contracts]"*

Fact: Todd Smith, Patrick Brown's very own PC energy critic, was on the Agenda with Steve Paikin on March 6th, 2017, he admitted this was entirely inaccurate. Here's the exchange:

Steve Paikin: "But they're not signing any new contracts. So the tweet says she signs the next round of bad energy contracts tomorrow is inaccurate, right?"

Todd Smith: "Yeah, Okay. I'll say that's inaccurate."

Seems like Todd and Patrick need to get their stories straight.

(Source: <http://tvo.org/video/programs/the-agenda-with-steve-paikin/wynnes-power-play>, <http://www.ieso.ca/sector-participants/feed-in-tariff-program/overview>)

He claimed: *"her response to me was that's what they pay in corporate America"*

Fact: Not once has the Premier ever said this. However, Patrick Brown has said it three times. On Oct 25th 2016, Nov 23rd, 2015 and Nov 17th, 2015. Feel free to check hansard.

(Source: <http://hansardindex.ontla.on.ca/hansarde.asp>)

He claimed: *"The relief plan is a hoax...no relief for business"*

Fact: Wrong. We expanded the Industrial Conservation Initiative to make even more companies eligible for savings up to 1/3 off their bills. The Northern Industrial Electricity Rate Program provides an approx. 25% decrease for eligible large northern industrials. The Industrial Electricity Incentive program provides further support. And we're eliminating the Debt Retirement Charge for commercial, industrial and all other electricity users next spring. On top of this, 500,000 small businesses and farms will also benefit from our new Fair Hydro Plan.

(Source: <http://www.energy.gov.on.ca/en/incentives-program-for-business/>,
<http://www.mndm.gov.on.ca/en/northern-development/business-support/northern-industrial-electricity-rate-program>)

Please share our website factsstillmatter.ca if you agree that facts still matter in Ontario!