

QP Briefing - Morning Edition

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Your morning briefing

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Headlines

And in the end, it wasn't even close. PC MPP Sam Oosterhoff, the youngest person ever elected to Queen's Park, left no doubt Tuesday night about who the Tories of Niagara West want as their nominee in 2018. What made the Niagara West nomination notable was that, in an unusual turn, the socially conservative incumbent had been facing a challenge from PC party vice-president Tony Quirk, who had taken shots at Oosterhoff over his age. Oosterhoff, however, obliterated Quirk in a 903-313 nomination victory, ensuring he'll run again for the PCs in 2018. QP Briefing has the story.

In other and far less controversial nomination news, Children and Youth Services Minister Michael Coteau will be running again for the Liberals in 2018. The Premier, whose Don Valley West riding is near Coteau's Don Valley East stomping grounds, even put in an appearance.

After Premier Wynne penned a Toronto Star op-ed about her hydro plan on Tuesday, NDP Leader Andrea Horwath has done the same today. Horwath contrasts the New Democrat and Liberal plans thusly: "My plan helps people. Premier Wynne's plan helps bankers. And Patrick Brown and the Conservatives have no plan at all." Somewhere, a young Tory policy analyst begins typing faster.

Our other stories from yesterday:

- Electricity companies to tinker with time-of-use power prices as parties clash over costs
- Minister ankles amid Tories' call for moratorium on school closings
- Happening: New Democrats add three more candidates to 2018 slate
- Province announces \$4.9M in rebates for small distilleries, cideries

A battle between the province's tomato growers and processors has gotten very bitter indeed. The Toronto Star has the recap, but there have been some new developments as well.

The Ontario Medical Association held a vote yesterday to elect some new leaders. Who could have predicted it would cause conflict among doctors? Everyone?

Ontario's new three-year anti-racism plan was revealed yesterday.

The federal government's budget is coming March 22. Ontario's will come sometime after that.

Niki Ashton is the latest entry into the federal NDP leadership race. And now, your obligatory Jagmeet Watch update:
(Twitter Picture of Jagmeet Singh)

Well, all right then.

In the opinion pages:

- David Reevely says Ontario's liquor laws have the government subsidizing boozemakers now
- Carolyn Ferns suggests how Ontario's child-care "crisis" could be solved
- Chris Selley notes Toronto's transit dreams are but a plaything for Queen's Park
- Luisa D'Amato claims the Liberal government is giving rural Ontario "the shaft"

Bills

Debate resumes on the motion for Second Reading of Bill 68, An Act to amend various Acts in relation to municipalities.

Debate resume on the motion for Second Reading of Bill 89, An Act to enact the Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2016, to amend and repeal the Child and Family Services Act and to make related amendments to other Acts.

Committees

9:00 a.m.

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts will meet for the purpose of report writing. Room No. 151

The Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills will meet for the purpose of report writing. Room No. 1.

1:00 p.m.

The Standing Committee on the Legislative Assembly will meet pursuant to Standing Order 108(g). Room No. 1.

4:00 p.m.

The Standing Committee on General Government will meet to consider Bill 92, An Act to amend the School Boards Collective Bargaining Act, 2014 and make related amendments to other statutes. Room No. 1.

Events

8:10 A.M.

Premier Wynne to participate in the Women and Girls in Sport Strategy Launch and make an announcement, alongside Ministers McMahon and Naidoo-Harris. Varsity Centre, University of Toronto, 299 Bloor Street West, Toronto.

9:30 A.M.

Premier Wynne to deliver remarks at the National Indigenous Women's Summit, alongside Minister Zimmer. Beanfield Centre 105 Princes' Boulevard, Ballroom D, Exhibition Place, Toronto.

12:00 P.M.

Cabinet meeting. Queen's Park.

4:45 P.M.

Premier Wynne to hold a Media Roundtable for regional media to discuss Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan. Queen's Park.

