

Re: For Approval - Facts Still Matter in Ontario - Brown Budget Asks

From: "Bevan, Andrew (OPO)" </o=govon/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=bevan, andrewf93">
To: "Killorn, Bill (OPO)" <bill.killorn@ontario.ca>, "Lazarus, Jordan (OPO)" <jordan.lazarus@ontario.ca>, "MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)" <rebecca.mackenzie@ontario.ca>
Cc: "Ernesaks, Andrea (OPO)" <andrea.ernesaks3@ontario.ca>, Andrew Rudyk <arudyk@liberal.ola.org>, jgomez@liberal.ola.org, "Forgione, Andrew (OPO)" <andrew.forgione@ontario.ca>, "Church Carson, Eileen (OPO)" <eileen.churchcarson@ontario.ca>
Date: Wed, 12 Apr 2017 13:44:19 -0400

Thx

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Killorn, Bill (OPO)
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 1:43 PM
To: Lazarus, Jordan (OPO); MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO); Bevan, Andrew (OPO)
Cc: Ernesaks, Andrea (OPO); Andrew Rudyk; jgomez@liberal.ola.org; Forgione, Andrew (OPO); Church Carson, Eileen (OPO)
Subject: Re: For Approval - Facts Still Matter in Ontario - Brown Budget Asks

Looks good.

From: Lazarus, Jordan (OPO)
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 1:43 PM
To: MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO); Bevan, Andrew (OPO); Killorn, Bill (OPO)
Cc: Ernesaks, Andrea (OPO); Andrew Rudyk; jgomez@liberal.ola.org; Forgione, Andrew (OPO); Church Carson, Eileen (OPO)
Subject: RE: For Approval - Facts Still Matter in Ontario - Brown Budget Asks

Will do, made both of those edits below

Proposed Email

Good Afternoon,

Given Patrick Brown's statements today it's clear that he's still comfortable misleading the public about basic facts about Ontario. His comments today once again show he doesn't believe that Facts Still Matter in Ontario

He claimed: There will be an *"artificial budget balance"*

Fact: Ontario is leading the G7 in economic growth and we are balancing the budget this year, even the FAO confirmed this would be happening.

(Source: <http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/economy/ecaccts/>, http://www.fao.org/en/Blog/media/media_release_EFO_Spring_2016)

He claimed: *"Ontario's debt burden is increasingly hindering our future generations,"*

Fact: The recently released Q3 Finances show interest payments going down and spending on Health care, Education, Children's Services, Post-secondary education going up

(Source: http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/budget/finances/2016/ofin16_3.html#secE)

He claimed: That *"cap and trade...will take \$2 B away from taxpayers"*

Fact: Wrong. Putting a cap on the pollution businesses can release into the atmosphere guarantees emission reductions at the cheapest price possible for people and the economy. It's the best approach forward for Ontario. Every dollar generated through will be deposited in a dedicated account and reinvested into green projects like transit, electric vehicle incentives and housing retrofits that fight climate change. This means every dollar goes back into helping families and businesses successfully make the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Patrick Brown's own carbon tax scheme would cost families and businesses four times more without guaranteeing any reductions. And it doesn't include the investments necessary to reduce costs for families and businesses.

(Source: <https://www.enviroeconomics.org/single-post/2016/05/17/Impact-Modelling-and-Analysis-of-Ontario%E2%80%99s-Proposed-Cap-and-Trade-Program>)

He claimed: We need to introduce *"immediate steps to address...Ontario's hydro crisis"*

Fact: The only party yet to bring a plan forward to address hydro costs is the one led by Patrick Brown. Unlike him, we're moving with our Fair Hydro Plan which will lower bills by 25% on average for families and as many as half a million small businesses and farms. Low-income families in rural and remote areas will see a decrease as high as 40 – 50 per cent. People are already benefitting from an 8% cut, with the rest to come this summer. This is the single largest rate reduction in the province's history, with rates going down and staying down because they'll be held to inflation over the next four years.

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

He claimed: *"Their careless decision to wait until the last moment has resulted in unprecedented inability for families in Toronto and the GTA and Ontario to afford homes."*

Fact: It's Patrick Brown who has waited until the last moment to tip-toe his way into the conversation. Unlike his vague proposals, we've already taken concrete action and have committed to doing more. Recent action, like freezing the municipal property tax on apartment buildings to provide relief to renters and doubling the maximum refund for first time home buyers, is helping right now. More long-term measures, like collecting more data to better understand Ontario's housing market and giving communities the tools through inclusionary zoning to require affordable units to be created and maintained in new developments, will also help. Building on these initial steps, we will soon be introducing a comprehensive package of measures to help more Ontarians find an affordable place to call home. We look forward to announcing more in the near future.

(Source: <https://www.thestar.com/news/queenspark/2017/04/11/wynne-to-meet-mayors-on-housing-affordability.html>)

From: MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)
Sent: April-12-17 1:41 PM
To: Lazarus, Jordan (OPO); Bevan, Andrew (OPO); Killorn, Bill (OPO)
Cc: Ernesaks, Andrea (OPO); Andrew Rudyk; jgomez@liberal.ola.org; Forgione, Andrew (OPO); Church Carson, Eileen (OPO)
Subject: Re: For Approval - Facts Still Matter in Ontario - Brown Budget Asks

Looks good. Maybe at beginning just refer to "statements today" since most of these are from his letter?

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From: Lazarus, Jordan (OPO)
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 1:35 PM
To: Bevan, Andrew (OPO); MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO); Killorn, Bill (OPO)
Cc: Ernesaks, Andrea (OPO); Andrew Rudyk; jgomez@liberal.ola.org; Forgione, Andrew (OPO); Church Carson, Eileen (OPO)
Subject: For Approval - Facts Still Matter in Ontario - Brown Budget Asks

Hi All,

Below please find for approval a Facts Still Matter for Brown's budget asks and comments in question period today

Proposed Email

Good Afternoon,

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He claimed: There will be an *"artificial budget balance"*

Fact: Ontario is leading the G7 in economic growth and we are balancing the budget this year, even the FAO confirmed this would be happening.

(Source: <http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/economy/ecaccts/>, http://www.fao.org/en/Blog/media/media_release_EFO_Spring_2016)

Fact: Patrick Brown voted for the largest budget deficit in Canadian history - \$55 Billion
(Source: <http://www.parl.gc.ca/LegisInfo/Result.aspx?BillLongTitle=Budget%20Implementation%20Act,%202009&BillShortTitle=Budget%20Implementation%20Act,%202009&Language=E&Mode=1>)

Fact: The PC's are very familiar with artificially balancing the budget
(Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ontario-liberals-inherit-5-6-billion-deficit-1.374657>)

He claimed: *"Ontario's debt burden is increasingly hindering our future generations,"*

Fact: The recently released Q3 Finances show interest payments going down and spending on Health care, Education, Children's Services, Post-secondary education going up

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(Source: <https://www.thestar.com/news/queenspark/2017/04/11/wynne-to-meet-mayors-on-housing-affordability.html>)

From: Lazarus, Jordan (OPO)

Sent: April-12-17 1:01 PM
To: Killorn, Bill (OPO); MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO); @OPO-Media Relations and Issues Management
Subject: RE: [PC Release]Ontario PCs Make Important Request for 2017 Budget

We'll work something up

From: Killorn, Bill (OPO)
Sent: April-12-17 12:59 PM
To: MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO); @OPO-Media Relations and Issues Management
Subject: Re: [PC Release]Ontario PCs Make Important Request for 2017 Budget

Great idea.

Let's get it started.

From: MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 12:51 PM
To: @OPO-Media Relations and Issues Management
Subject: Fw: [PC Release]Ontario PCs Make Important Request for 2017 Budget

Facts still matter on this?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Andrew Rudyk <arudyk@liberal.ola.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 12:49 PM
To: Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO); Ernesaks, Andrea (MTO); Bevan, Andrew (OPO); Forgione, Andrew (OPO); Andrew Rudyk; cbanas@liberal.ola.org; Codd-Downey, Beckie (GHLO); McPhail, Blane (OPO); Bossin, Bryan (OPO); Clare Buckley; Foerster, Carly (OPO); Walsh, Chad (OPO); Tomney, Genevieve (OPO); McEachern, Gillian (OPO); jgomez@liberal.ola.org; Lazarus, Jordan (OPO); Moseley-Williams, Kate (OPO); Killorn, Bill (OPO); Richardson, Kyle (OCOC/GHLO); Swaraj Mann; Rowe, Mary (OPO); McIntyre, Moira (OPO); Warda Nasir; MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO); Ahluwalia, Ron (GHLO); Le Guern, Ronan (OPO); Joseph Uranowski
Cc: Moore, Brynne (MOF); Campbell, David (ENERGY); David Mullock; Bouchard, Frédérique (EDU)
Subject: [PC Release]Ontario PCs Make Important Request for 2017 Budget

Ontario PCs Make Important Request for 2017 Budget

April 12, 2017

QUEEN'S PARK – Today, Leader of the Official Opposition Patrick Brown wrote to the Minister of Finance with a list of requests the Ontario PC Caucus would like to see included in the upcoming budget.

"The Ontario PCs look forward to working closely with the Liberal government to ensure the upcoming budget is in the best interest of all Ontarians, from every corner and community of our province. We are making five important requests," said Brown.

"Ontario's debt burden is increasingly hindering our future generations, which crowds out front-line services. Our province is home to the largest debt of any province or state in Canada and the United States. We need to address this."

"Ontario has among the highest energy prices in North America. The Liberals, who have yet to address the system's structural problems, are paving the way for hydro rates to spike again. This needs to be addressed."

"At the same time, we are seeing a housing unaffordability crisis, the Wynne Liberals using cap-and-trade to take \$2 billion away from taxpayers for their own slush fund, and school closures across the province. Let's work together to solve these pressing issues for Ontarians."

The Ontario PCs' requests in the budget include:

- A long-term plan to get Ontario's debt under control
- Immediate steps to address the root of Ontario's hydro crisis. These measures include: stop signing contracts for power we don't need, dismantle the Green Energy Act, stop the fire sale of Hydro One, and rein in exorbitant executive compensation in the energy sector
- Solutions to addressing Ontario's housing crisis, including evidence-based measures to address both supply and demand, the establishment of a panel of industry experts, and an immediate review of the government portfolio
- Immediately making cap-and-trade revenue neutral, where any money generated is returned to hard-working Ontarians
- An immediate moratorium on school closures, and an immediate review of the flawed Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline that determines these closures

Brown is also concerned the Wynne Liberals' plan to table an "artificial budget balance" will only be reached through higher taxes and deeper cuts to health care and education. He referenced previous comments made by both the Auditor General and the Financial Accountability Officer.

"The Ontario PCs want Ontario families who work hard to pay less and get ahead. We expect your Liberal government to include these recommendations in the upcoming budget," concluded Brown. "A province tired of failed Liberal policies demands it."

<http://ontariopc.com/News/Details/Ontario-PCs-Make-Important-Request-for-2017-Budget>