

Transcript: PC Leader Doug Ford's Avail Outside Hydro One AGM

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PC LEADER DOUG FORD'S AVAIL OUTSIDE HYDRO ONE AGM

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Station: CP24
Speaker(s): Doug Ford, PC Leader

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DOUG FORD, PC LEADER: ... increase their compensation. Remember folks, if you can relate to this – a part-time job, they were making \$160,000, they gave themselves a pay increase of up to \$185,000. Who does that? Who does that? This is a waste of taxpayers' money. This is the reason the boards going, the CEO is going. That's unacceptable.

Q: How will you do that without wreaking havoc on hydro and causing a lot of losses?

PC LEADER FORD: Cynthia, Cynthia – there's not going to be havoc in hydro. You can either sit there and turn a blind eye while they're gauging the taxpayers, as they're lining their pockets and feathering their nest of all their buddies. Who does that on a part-time job making \$185,000 to show up to what? Six meetings? Seven meetings? That's absolutely ridiculous.

Q: But, the NDP says they have a plan now. What's your plan?

PC LEADER FORD: Their plan is to continue to spending money, taxing people. I'm there to save the taxpayers' money, lower the hydro rates, lower taxes on people, putting money back into people's pockets instead of the government's pocket.

Q: How though?

PC LEADER FORD: This is – very simply, we're going to find efficiencies. We're going to find four per cent efficiencies. Look at the Auditor General. The Auditor General, without even digging into it, said she can find a billion dollars. We're going to find more than a billion dollars. This is unacceptable. The government has been gauging the people of Ontario for the last 15 years and they've stood by and watched it happen, and the NDP – they've stood by and watched it happen. The NDP are just as bad as the Liberals. It's unacceptable. It's about time people start respecting the taxpayers, respecting the hard-earned money that they've been working constantly for and handing it over to the government, and the government, all they do is a \$6 million man gives themselves a \$1.4 million raise and then he gives all his cronies \$14 million of bonuses and we have the highest hydro rates of North America, plus we've lost 14 per cent. The stock has dropped 14 per cent. Who bonuses themselves out when your stock drops 14 per cent? No one does. My friends –

Q: But, the Tories are all about privatization.

PC LEADER FORD: I'm not for that. I don't know why Kathleen Wynne would go and actually sell our best asset. Our best asset is hydro. She went behind the public's back, didn't even mention it in the election and went and sold 53 per cent of it. That's unacceptable. I'm going to first, get rid of the \$6 million man – he's going, and the boards going. We have more than enough capable people of

running hydro. I can assure you that. They're lined up from here to Timbuktu.

Q: And pay them what? [Inaudible] what would they [inaudible]?

PC LEADER FORD: I'll tell you one thing, Cynthia, they aren't going to be giving themselves a 15 per cent raise when people are struggling to pay hydro rates. We have the highest hydro rates in North America. People just have to look at their hydro bills every single month.

Q: But, you're not saying you will or won't buy it back.

PC LEADER FORD: Well, it's a little premature to say that we're going to go in there and buy it back. We got to take a look at the books. All I know is when I crisscross the province, the number one issue is hydro rates for businesses, hydro rates for the public. They can't afford it.

Q: Mr. Ford, last night at your rally in Niagara Falls [inaudible] campaign to get personal [inaudible] high road –

PC LEADER FORD: Well, I'm taking the high road.

Q: Yeah, so but – what I was going to ask, sorry to interrupt – there was one man that yelled twice when you were talking about Premier Wynne and [inaudible] hydro and he yelled, "Lock her up."

PC LEADER FORD: Yeah, I don't believe in that.

Q: So, [inaudible].

PC LEADER FORD: Let me be very clear: I don't condone that. Simple as that. I don't condone it, but there's going to be accountability. There's going to be accountability for the taxpayers for the first time in 15 years.