

MYAP Watch List – September 26, 2017

1. Autism
2. Basic Income
3. Income Security Reform
4. Cannabis
5. Energy Issues
6. Ring of Fire
7. Transit/Mx

Autism

School-Based Pilots

- Launch of in-school autism therapy pilots are on hold; are being reexamined in response to feedback from the Ontario Autism Program Advisory Committee.
- EDU sent a memo to the Committee on Wednesday September 20 acknowledging their feedback and committing to re-asses the pilots and get back to them with next steps (attached below.)
- EDU is currently making phone calls to members of the Committee and school boards (calls were made on September 22 and are being made on September 25) to solicit feedback on potential changes that could be made to the pilots as follows:

Feedback from Committee	Potential Change in Response
EDU should consider an alternative to the Geneva Centre for Autism as the provider for Education Assistant training.	Proceed with Geneva Centre for Autism as the training provider for the pilot duration, but require the independent evaluator of the pilot explore alternatives for future roll-out.
Should be more expertise/support from certified professionals in schools during pilots.	Include 1 Board Certified Behaviour Analyst (BCBA) or equivalent in each pilot board.
A separate, dedicated space for the delivery of therapy may stigmatize students with autism.	Require boards (through transfer payment agreements) to report back on how they are promoting equity, inclusion and access to services as part of the pilots, to reduce the stigma from the dedicated space model.

- Ministry to report back following engagement; potential to send a further communication to OAP Advisory Committee outlining next steps.
- To note: even a modified approach would not meet expectations of some stakeholders, who prefer immediate integration of therapy into the classroom; pilots are a first step towards integration.

Basic Income

Phase 1 Enrollment/Implementation

- Ministry had targeted enrolment of 400 in Hamilton and Thunder Bay during Phase 1
 - Currently: 247 (Ham:132/TB:115) individuals enrolled and eligible to receive payment on September 25th
- Increasing enrolment:
 - Targeted outreach sessions in Hamilton and Thunder Bay (and also at the Lindsay Exhibition)
 - Streamlined the package sent to potential applicants.
- Potential Premier's announcement in October (TBC) at six month mark (since April announcement) to highlight progress

Phase 2

- A joint announcement from Ministers Jaczek and Milczyn is planned for October 4th to set stage for Lindsay launch.
- PRSO focused on increasing enrollment, working towards target of 2,000 recipients plus 2,000 individuals in the control group (evenly split between Ham/TB). PO/CO monitoring given Phase 1 experience.
- Launch of the Lindsay BI site in November 2017, with payments beginning to flow in December (targeting a total of 2,000 recipients).

First Nations Pilot

- Pilot to be implemented by February 2018; co-creation process, proposed approach and site location in development
 - Targeting 300 participants
 - Timelines extended to provide time for additional engagement; difficulties scheduling meeting with FN partners could delaying timelines
 - Tracking to Dec 7 MTPRSI / Dec 13 Cabinet

Income Security Reform

Working Groups' Report

- MCSS received a draft copy of the ISR Working Groups final report:
 - outlines the Working Groups' recommendations for reform, significant investments/transformation and a proposed sequence for implementation over 10 years
- October 16 - Tracking to MTPRSI to seek approval to release the report
 - Ministry would report back in December/January with detailed analysis and an implementation plan.
 - Releasing the report publicly could raise expectations for government action
- MCSS directed to develop a phased implementation plan, outlining the short-, medium-, and long-term phases of reform.
 - Short-term phase to focus on modest investments that could be taken within the first three years that will have an impact on clients (expected to include cost estimates over the long-term)

Detailed Report Back

- MCSS seeking direction on when to report back with a detailed implementation plan, and how to sequence with PRRT approvals.
 - The report back would be informed by the public comment period and include analysis of the recommendations and a proposed implementation plan (focused on the first three years).
 - CO will work closely with PO, MCSS and TBS to determine most appropriate approval path, that aligns policy and fiscal approvals.
 - Preference for a December report back timeline.

Cannabis

Recent Developments

- On September 20, the Minister of Finance indicated that potential uniformity of pricing and taxation across Canada is being considered. A potential price point of \$10 per gram was noted in media reports.

Framework Implementation

- Remaining Approvals:
 - Outstanding Policy: SOFA – HESP Sept 26th
 - Legislation: October 16th
 - TB/MBC: October 17th
 - CAB (bundle) Oct 26th
 - ***Intro - earliest - Oct 27th***
- Law Enforcement stakeholders indicate (@standing committee) that they will not be ready for July 2018 implementation.
- Other Milestones
 - Corrections Summit – week of October 16th
 - *May be too late to inform legislation*
 - MCSCS – summit is focused on operational issues, not intended to inform leg

Other Provinces/Municipalities

- New Brunswick: announced that it has created a new Crown corporation to oversee the sale of recreational marijuana, and signed deals with two suppliers; NB Finance Minister signed MOUs with Organigram and Canopy Growth Corp. to secure a supply for the NB market in time for the July 2018 launch.
- September 18, media reports that the City of Toronto's Licensing Committee is expected to recommend Council support the plan announced by Ontario and request support for enforcement and consult on issues including home grow

Energy Issues

LTEP Release

- Cabinet approved the 2017 LTEP initiatives and policy objectives of the IESO and OEB implementation directives (July 26), the LTEP frequency regulation (August 29), and the modelling outlooks (August 31).
- Approval of final LTEP document and OEB/IESO implementation directives tracking to October 16, 2017 LRC and Cabinet for week of October 30 public release.
- On September 21, Energy MO and PO will go through final changes. Energy is working to finalized the LTEP document quickly so it can go for translation and production.

QC-ON Electricity Trade

- Energy, working with IESO, is in discussions with Hydro Quebec (HQ) on an enhanced electricity trade agreement.
- Energy is working with the IESO and IO to undertake internal analysis on potential increases to imports from Quebec and the impact on nuclear refurbishments, Ontario Fair Hydro Plan (OFHP), the potential electricity market renewal commitment and other provincial priorities (e.g., climate change).
- On June 22, HQ tabled an initial offer for a revised energy trade.
- On August 11, the IESO provided HQ with a counter-proposal (i.e., 1,000 MW and 4 TWh/yr starting in 2025 for 10 years for \$46/MWh). Energy reports that the IESO's proposal meets Ontario's policy objectives (i.e., reduces GHG emissions, provides Ontario ratepayers savings and makes best use of our existing electricity systems).
- In September, Ontario's Energy Minister wrote to his Quebec counterpart requesting a response to IESO's proposal by September 29.
- Energy is to report back to Cabinet in fall 2017 on the negotiations and updates on discussions with storage providers and other electricity sector participants.

Ring of Fire

Agreement with FNs

- On August 21, 2017, the Premier made an announcement regarding Ontario's work in partnership with Webequie, Nibinamik, and Marten Falls First Nations to support communities to construct year-round access roads to their communities and to the proposed developments in the Ring of Fire.
 - Following the announcement there were several subsequent news releases from First Nations and industry, with most indicating support. However, the Eabametoong and Neskantaga First Nations' news release expressed their displeasure with Ontario supporting the work of Webequie and Marten Falls First Nations.
- MNDM and MIRR, and affected ministries, continue to work to finalize the language of the Statement of Joint Commitments through the Joint Jurisdiction Working Group with Matawa First Nations – now targeted for completion Jan 2018
- On June 27, 2017, MNDM received approval to implement a willing partners approach to ROF infrastructure discussions, and conditional approval to enter into the Statement of Joint Commitments once finalized.
- Progress on work under the RFA has been limited while discussions at the Joint Jurisdiction Table continue.

Environmental Assessment

- MOECC to present Environmental Approval options for discussion Minister's Table on Ring of Fire (September 25)
- MOECC will be working with MNDM, MTO and MNRF in collaboration with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency as appropriate, to determine the path forward for the road EAs
 - Options include: 1) no individual EA; 2) individual EA; and 3) tailored process by regulation (would still include EA)

Other Approvals/Implementation Issues

- MNDM is working to help coordinate other regulatory approvals as needed with the EA (e.g. permits to take water, work permits, entrance permits, Far North Act and Endangered Species Act requirements, etc.)
- MNDM continues to work with communities to support broadband connection application to the federal government's Connect to Innovate program. Federal conditional approval of applications expected in Oct. after which MNDM will work to finalize details of the provincial contribution and report back to TB/MBC for approvals prior to announcements.
- TPAs with Webequie, Nibinamik, and Marten Falls First Nations now in place to support technical studies to support proposed road infrastructure, among other ongoing initiatives in the region.
- MNDM continues to work with MOI to determine how to advance discussions with the Federal government to match Ontario's \$1 billion infrastructure investment in the ROF. The federal Building Canada Fund is no longer available as a funding mechanism.

Transit

RER procurement

- Procurement for enabling works ongoing until end of 2017 (13 AFP procurements and several traditional procurements).
- On June 14, 2017, Metrolinx issued the Notice of Commencement for the GO Electrification Environmental Assessment Transit Project Assessment Process.

Operator Procurement

- On July 21, 2017 Metrolinx issued an RFQ for RER operation and maintenance services
- On August 15, 2017, Bombardier filed an application with the Ontario Divisional Court claiming that Metrolinx unfairly prohibited them from bidding on this contract. Metrolinx indicated that it excluded Bombardier to avoid a conflict of interest, as one of the duties of the successful bidder will be to carry out an assessment of current operations and service providers.
- The litigation was adjourned on September 13, 2017, as Metrolinx informed Bombardier of the possible change in project delivery model and that, as part of that change, the opportunity to mitigate conflicts of interest of existing service providers would arise.
- On September 15, 2017, Metrolinx issued a notice that outlines possible changes to the RER Operations and Maintenance Request for Qualifications process. Metrolinx is considering a design/build/ finance/operate/maintain (“DBFOM”) project delivery model, and intends to extend the existing RFQ deadline by approximately four weeks. An Addendum to the current RFQ is planned to be issued in late fall.

Hydrogen

- MTO/Metrolinx updating RER procurement strategy and explore viability of alternative propulsion technologies (TB/MBC Fall 2017).
- On September 15, 2017, Metrolinx released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for concept design work to show how a hydrogen

fuel cell system could be integrated into a Bi-level Electric Multiple Unit train. The Hydrail Feasibility Study is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2017.

Rail Rationalization

- Negotiations between Metrolinx and CN for Master Agreement on rail rationalization starting in September 2017 (TBC).
- EA for rail rationalization to begin in June 2018 (TBC).

Regional Transportation Plan

- On September 14, 2017, the Metrolinx Board of Directors adopted and published a draft 2041 updated Regional Transportation Plan. Final plan expected to be adopted in Dec 2017.