

MYAP Priorities

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1. OHIP+

- Current status: MOHLTC has set up biweekly steering committee meetings, led by DM Bell, to guide implementation (CO/PO attend).
 - Based on information shared through regular biweekly meetings, MOHLTC remains confident they will deliver the OHIP+ program for the January 1, 2018 target.
- Key Risks:
 - Program Design:
 - i. Changes in Coverage: While OHIP+ will provide comprehensive drug coverage for more than 4,400 drugs on the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Formulary, MOHLTC has flagged that some private drug plans currently provide coverage for a greater number of drugs than OHIP+. This creates a risk that some individuals could experience reduced drug coverage when transitioning from their existing coverage to OHIP+. MOHLTC is engaging with representatives from the insurance industry to better understand this issue (insurance industry representatives are scheduled to attend the next bi-weekly steering committee meeting on June 8, 2017).
 - ii. Accessing Drugs: MOHLTC has noted OHIP+ will be free for the 4,400 drugs and coverage will be automatic for children and youth up to age 24 with OHIP eligibility. There will be no applications necessary to join the program and no upfront costs to acquire prescribed medication. Those who are eligible for the program would only need to present their health card number to the pharmacist and a valid prescription starting January 1st, 2018. With respect to drugs covered through the Exceptional Access Program (EAP), an application would still need to be submitted by the patient's prescriber. The ministry is working to identify opportunities to streamline the EAP application process for OHIP+ users.
 - The EAP facilitates patient access to drugs not funded on the ODB Formulary, or where no listed alternative is available. In order to receive coverage, the patient must be eligible to receive benefits under the ODB program (which would include OHIP+).

- The Executive Officer, on behalf of the ministry, makes funding decisions for drug products covered under the EAP based on recommendations and guidelines from the ministry's expert advisory committee, the Committee to Evaluate Drugs.
- iii. Distribution of Savings: PO has previously identified interest in ensuring that savings for children/youth from private benefit coverage will go back to patients, but also interested in identifying opportunities to demonstrate savings to employers. As noted above, MOHLTC is engaging with insurance representatives, which will help to better understand this issue and what options may be available for directing savings to individuals vs employers.
- Stakeholder Engagement: MOHLTC has noted they are not consulting with stakeholders on program design (given that the budget direction was clear), but will engage on implementation.
- Implementation/delivery: for example, supporting IT, informing delivery partners/stakeholders of program details; alignment with other government initiatives (e.g. Basic Income).
- Fiscal: proposed to be an open-ended program; financial projections to be re-evaluated during program design.

Key Activities:

07.16 - Public Drug Reform

2. Child Care

- Budget announced proposed investments to support access to licensed child care for 24,000 more children through new fee subsidies and spaces.
- EDU to release a *Renewed Early Years and Child Care Policy Framework and Expansion Strategy* in on June 6, 2017.
- EDU to report back in 2018 on specific components of framework and expansion strategy (e.g. proposal to implement expansion of child care on reserve; compensation study of child care workers).
- EDU will also report back in fall 2017 on proposed measures to address the affordability of licensed child care. The report back will also include options developed with MOF to address the affordability impact of the Changing Workplaces Review.
- High stakeholder/public expectations and delivery risks (e.g., sector capacity, accountability for expansion) and financial risks (further assessment required in context of 2017 Ontario Budget proposed investments).

Key Activities:

04.67 - Early Years and Child Care Plan (including Commitment for 100,000 More Children Aged 0-4 to Access Licensed Child Care)

3. Housing Affordability

- Measures to expand rent control were part of the amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act
 - Introduced on April 24, Second Reading April 25, Standing Committee May 9 & 10, legislation passed May 18 – the Rental Fairness Act, 2017 – with rent control measures retroactively coming to effect on April 20, 2017
- Fair Housing Plan (16 point plan) approved on April 12, 2017 and announced April 20, 2017
 - Tax measures, including non-resident speculation tax, came into effect on April 21, 2017.
 - Establishing an Approvals Round table in June. First meeting scheduled for June 8th. Invitations have gone out from SoC office.
 - Housing Supply Team (formerly referred to as the SWAT team) will be led by the PDF but with a reporting structure to the Minister of Housing. This will focus on specific projects.
 - MHO, working with MOF, continues to develop the targeted DC Rebate Program for New Multi-Residential Construction.
 - Work at this time is to develop the project timeframe, program parameters and consultation strategy
 - In developing parameters and approach for consultation, two key considerations will be:
 - to identify projects that are advanced enough to take advantage of the program in 2017-18 or 2018-19. These types of projects can typically be three years in the project development pipeline.
 - to identify the municipalities that are most in need of this type of housing, are interested in participating, and have a reasonable prospect of developer interest in advancing projects in their community.
- Establishing an Approvals Round table in June. First meeting scheduled for June 8. Invites sent out from DM Leblanc on behalf of SoC last week.

Key Activities:

04.51 - Housing Affordability

4. Basic Income

- Pilot announced April 24:
 - Spring 2017 - Phase 1: up to 400 participants, Hamilton and Thunder Bay areas, payments in late Summer
 - Fall 2017 - Phase 2: full roll out, up to 4,000 participants, including Lindsay
 - Ministries will report back to Cabinet on outcomes from phase 1, before beginning phase 2.
- Current Status: Weekly PO/CO led Steering Committee meeting to support implementation.
 - Participant enrolment:
 - Application packages tracking for issue week of May 29 to first randomly selected addresses. Mail out will be phased with up to 5,000 mail out in the first two weeks.
 - First payments tracking for July 25 (for around 100 participants). Payments will be 25th of month thereafter
 - New participants will come on board each month
 - PRSO working with MOHLTC to ensure BI recipients transitioning from ODSP/OW continue to receive same health benefits. MOHLTC noted some complications with transitioning coverage (required reg changes, IT solutions), however, MOHLTC/PRSO are confident issues will be resolved to coincide with the pilot launch.
 - Governance: OIC appointment intended for appointment of co-chair of Advisory Group (will co-chair with DM Menard). TB/MBC approval and CAB approval required to establish the position and make the appointment. Dates to be confirmed for approvals.
- Key Risks:
 - Delivery/Implementation: quick timeline and some unknowns (e.g. how long it might take to get enough participants).
 - Implementation activities underway: co-creation of First Nation pilot; setting up governance structure; procuring evaluator; and recruiting participants.
 - Evaluation: Evaluator still to be procured, framework developed without evaluator input.

- Next Steps:
 - Next Steering Committee meeting tracking for June 5. This meeting will drill down on upcoming milestones, including mail out, evaluation, governance.

Key Activities:

05.04 – Basic Income Pilot

5. Autism

- Phased implementation of OAP, including a new clinical assessment process and a single point of entry to autism services for children and youth, to begin on June 26th.
- Implementation of EDU pilots (EA training and space in schools for autism therapists) to begin in September 2017.
- The commitment to include a direct funding approach in the new OAP in fall 2017 was announced on May 18. Key events include:
 - May 25 – Minister Coteau holding a Parent Teleconference Roundtable to discuss the new direct funding approach (an echo of the May 18 announcement.)
 - Early-Mid June (date TBD) – Additional announcement by the Minister on the full suite of changes being rolled out beginning in June, including the new clinical assessment process and the impact of the new OAP on different categories of families.
- There are high stakeholder/public expectations and delivery risks, particularly around persisting long wait times for service, the possibility of reductions in service under the new clinical assessment process and the impacts of a new direct funding approach on families currently receiving \$10,000 transitional funding payments.

Key Activities:

04.63 – Ontario Autism Program

6. Digital Health

- MOHLTC planning to release its *10 point Action Plan for Digital Health* in June 2017 (Budget 2017 committed to releasing this in 2017) following TB/MBC approval of final digital health strategy.
- Risks:
 - Timing/Stakeholder expectations: In November 2016, the Minister committed to sharing the government's digital health strategy "in the near future," and Cabinet directed the ministry to release a vision paper within a few weeks (i.e. before January 2017). No vision paper or strategy has been released to date.

Key Activities:

07.09 – Supporting Digital Health in Ontario

7. LHIN Transformation

- MOHLTC provides daily update reports noting any issues, including patient complaints. No major issues reported to date. As of May 26, 2017, six LHINs have completed transition.
- All LHINs will complete transition by June 21, 2017
 - Ministry has calls scheduled with each LHIN 30 days, 27 days, 14 days, 7 days, and 2 days prior to its 'T-day' (transition day), and then 1 day and 2 days after. CO listens in on these calls.
- Risks:
 - Stakeholder perception/experience: ministry managing risk of disruptions to patient care or employees through rigorous pre-transition check-in schedule. There have been only two instances of negative patient feedback, both related to perceptions of increasing bureaucracy rather than disruptions in care/service, and were addressed by LHIN staff using key messaging.
 - Delivery/implementation (e.g. IT issues, payroll issues): ministry working with third party provider to ensure readiness of each LHIN and checking in with LHINs several times in lead-up to transition date
 - Longer-term stakeholder expectations: managing expectations on a broader 'transformation' and improvements in the health care system as a result of transition.

Key Activities:

07.02 – LHIN Renewal – Expanded Role for Local Health Networks

8. Fed-Prov Infrastructure

- The 2017 Federal Budget included more details on the federal government's \$81 billion – Investing in Canada plan.
- Ongoing discussions between MOI and federal officials, including any federal transit allocation formula that adequately accounts for regional needs/Metrolinx's service population.
- Formal negotiations are expected beginning Summer 2017.
 - Federal officials have scheduled an FPT DMs meeting on June 21st to discuss next steps on implementing Phase 2. Meeting could outline key program conditions.
- Port Lands Flood Protection project (matched funding required from federal government, Toronto and ON). Cabinet and TB/MBC approval needed for Ontario's funding (\$417 million)
- Went to FPC May 25

Key Activities:

09.01 - Continued Engagement with Federal Government to Secure Support for Ontario's Priorities

9. Cap and Trade/GHGIP/Green On

- GHGIP release from hold-back approved at TB/MBC May 9, CAB May 17.
- GreenON programs at MTCC May 15 (info), TB/MBC May 30, CAB May 31. Website launch in early June; new program launch in August / September.
- Second Cap and Trade Auction planned for June 2017.
- Subsequent TB/MBC submission in July 2017.
- Continued heightened stakeholder interest, including from the Auditor General and the FAO, in how government invests cap and trade proceeds.

Key Activities:

03.03 - Cap and Trade Program

03.04 - Direct Investments to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Use of Proceeds)

10. NAFTA/Trade Issues

- Considered at FPC May 17
- Initial negotiating mandate tracking to Cabinet May 31
- Broader Trade Strategy tracking to Cabinet on May 31, as an info item
- US Trade Representative (USTR) Robert Lighthizer has been confirmed by the Senate.
- On May 18, 2017 the USTR formally notified the US Congress of the Trump Administration's intent to enter into negotiations with Canada and Mexico for modernization of NAFTA
- This formal notification triggers a 90-day period for US consultation with Congressional Advisory Committees. The Administration will be required to publicly pose negotiating objectives 30 days prior to the start of negotiations (earliest July 17, 2017).
- Canada is now expected to initiate consultations on NAFTA, including a Canada Gazette posting and provincial-territorial (PT) consultation.
- A meeting of federal-provincial-territorial (FPT) officials is scheduled for June 5-6, 2017 in Ottawa, with an FPT DMs meeting on June 19, 2017.
- A meeting of PT First Ministers will be in Edmonton from July 17-19, 2017.
- Softwood lumber: US preliminary countervailing duties (19.98%) applied retroactive to Jan. 28. Final countervailing and anti-dumping duties expected end of 2017/early 2018

Key Activities:

01.11 – Trade Agreements and Measures

01.12 – International Trade Action Plan

11. Cannabis

- Ministers' Meeting May 31 (MAG/MOF/MCSCS/MTO/MOHLTC)
- JEP July 26, Cabinet in August – high level policy (retail, age, possession, places of use, impaired driving) and consultation minute
- MOHLTC: Smoke Free Ontario Strategy modernization consultations (including on medical cannabis exemptions) spring/ summer, and tracking to HESP for approval in early September (legislative amendments, including merging SFOA and ECA, would then track in with broader Cannabis legislation).
- MTO: Vulnerable Road Users tracking to JEP June 15 including impaired driving policy discussion
- September Report Back to JEP/Cabinet with full policy submission and drafting minute
- LRC in late fall with legislation
- LRC in early spring 2018 with regulations

Key Activities:

4.56 - Leading Ontario's Approach to the Legalization of Recreational Cannabis

12. Electricity Rate Mitigation

- Proposed Fair Hydro Plan legislation approved at TB/MBC and Cabinet May 10, introduced on May 11.
- Required regulations to be brought forward in 2 bundles in June to enable July 1 implementation.
- Ongoing work with LDCs and partners on implementation requirements.

Key Activities:

15.21 - Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan

13. Long-Term Energy Plan

- Energy completed extensive public and Indigenous engagement in the fall-winter 2016-17 to inform the development of the province's next LTEP.
- Direct to Cabinet submission on LTEP components for policy approval June 27 (TBC) with weekly PO briefings leading up to the submission.
- Subsequent submission for approval of final LTEP document and OEB/IESO implementation directives anticipated in summer 2017.
- The LTEP functions as a 20 year road map for the province that helps guide decision making during the current planning cycle

Key Activities:

15.11 - Long Term Energy Plan and Related Initiatives

Related Initiatives of recent interest:

Interties and Clean Electricity Trade

- May 8, 2017- IESO published Ontario-Quebec Interconnections Capability Technical Review
- May 29-30 Minister of Energy Meeting with Quebec counterpart to discuss possible new time sensitive opportunities for enhanced clean electricity trade.
- Ongoing work on electricity trade opportunities and connection to Nuclear refurbishments and Electricity Market Renewal.

14. RER/Transit

- MTO sought approval from TB/MBC May 9 and Cabinet May 10 to authorize Metrolinx to proceed with an amended procurement strategy to minimize risks associated with a potential delay in the delivery of LRVs by Bombardier for Toronto transit projects
- Dispute resolution process on Bombardier's LRV contract will take 8-12 months to conclude, after which point MTO will report back with a proposed strategy to minimize risks for the Province, and an assessment of costs
- Procurement for enabling works ongoing until end of 2017 (13 AFP procurements and several traditional procurements)
- TB/MBC in June 2017 (TBC) for off-corridor (stations, parking) and on-corridor (track, signals, vehicles) procurements
- 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)

Key Activities:

13.01.1. - Transit inside the GTHA - GO Regional Express Rail, Including Rail Rationalization

13.01.2 - Transit in the GTHA - Metrolinx Next Wave & Priority Transit Projects

13.03.1 - Transit: Metrolinx First Wave Investments

13.03.2 - Transit: Other Major Transit Investments

13.06 - Other Key Transit and Transportation Initiatives

15. Changing Workplace Review

- Proposal approved at JEP May 15th/Cabinet May 17th
- CWR Report released May 23; P announcement of intent to intro legislation on May 30.
- Legislation tracking to LRC and CAB May 29
- Introduction of legislation on June 1st
- Tight drafting timelines-Minister to sign legislation morning of May 29 (prior to LRC)
- Ongoing discussion on path for legislation once in the house (i.e., referral after 1st reading vs. 2nd reading)

Key Activities:

04.45 - Changing Workplaces Review